

United States Board on Geographic Names
Foreign Names Committee
Statement Regarding the Decision on the Name 'Kyiv'

In October 2006 the Foreign Names Committee of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) approved the spelling '*Kyiv*' as one of the BGN official standard forms of the name of Ukraine's capital. Official U.S. Government documents may continue to refer to the city using the conventional spelling '*Kiev*' when context calls for that spelling.

The Board based its decision on recommendations from the Department of State that 'Kyiv' is the locally-preferred Latin-alphabet rendering of the place name and should be available for official use in order to better assist the people and Government of Ukraine to promote that country's national identity.

Congress established the U.S. Board on Geographic Names in its present form in 1947 with the express mandate to standardize geographic nomenclature for official US Government use.