

UNITED STATES BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
Foreign Geographic Names:
Standardization Policy:
Anglicized Names

The Board's Foreign Geographic Names Standardization Principles apply to foreign geographic names in general and form the basis for the Board's foreign names decisions. Additional normative regulations must be developed to address specific geographic and linguistic phenomena peculiar to countries or regional areas. Special classes of place-names, such as high seas features, may also require special analysis and treatment. For this reason, the Board develops supplementary standardization policy and procedure on a country basis, and to address specific standardization issues.

Policy: Anglicized Names:

Definition: Anglicized names are derived by modifying an Approved name to render it more accessible or meaningful to an English-language user. They are not official names, and they may or may not be in local use. Examples include Dubrovnik-Neretva for Dubrovačko-Neretvanska Županija (Croatia), South Kalimantan for Kalimantan Selatan (Indonesia), and Sofia City for Sofiya-Grad (Bulgaria).

Policy: Anglicized names are not official names but rather are a class of unofficial Variant names tailored to the use of an English-language audience. The BGN may create an Anglicized name as a standardized unofficial variant for an Approved name that does not meet the criteria for a Conventional name. All Anglicized names must be approved by the Foreign Names Committee. At the present time, Anglicized names are created for first-order administrative divisions only.