

Comments received for
ISO 639-3 Change Requests
2006-084, 2009-060, & 2009-081

Outcome: Rejected

Effective date: October 31, 2023



SIL International ISO 639-3 Registration Authority

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Registration Authority decision on Change Request nos. 2006-084, 2009-060, and 2009-081

These three Change Requests (2006-084, 2009-060, and 2009-081) make different proposals for creating subdivisions of the existing code element [grc] Ancient Greek (to 1453). They are rejected because none of them offers a full solution to the problem of subdividing [grc] Ancient Greek (to 1453).

These requests were suspended for an extended period while questions involving the interaction of parts 2 and 3 of ISO 639 were under review during the revision of the ISO 639 standard. There was no precedent for treating a historical language as a macrolanguage and splitting it, but this was determined to be in scope in the redrafting of the standard, thus removing one obstacle to the adoption of requests like these. However, there is another reason why these requests have languished, namely, the lack of consensus among them. While all three point to the need for subdividing Ancient Greek prior to 1453, each of them has a different proposal for a subdivision that is intermediate between Classical Greek and Modern Greek. But there is not yet a code element for Classical Greek in the standard. Therefore a successful Change Request for subdividing [grc] Ancient Greek (to 1453) would need to promote [grc] to a macrolanguage and propose two or more historical languages that fully subdivide [grc].

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04/17/2007 10:24 AM

To <iso639-3@sil.org>

cc

bcc

Subject Change request 2006-084

Dear Colleagues,

I completely agree with the suggestion to separate Greek spoken during the Middle Ages from Ancient and Modern Greek and assign it a special code GKM. But I would like to note that the more common term used in Greek linguistics to refer to this stage of Greek is "Medieval Greek" rather than "Middle Greek", so may be it would be better to use the term "Medieval Greek" in ISO too.

Best wishes,

Anastassia

Anastassia Loukina

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