ISO 639-3 Registration Authority

Request for Change to ISO 639-3 Language Code

Change Request Number: 2011-139 (completed by Registration authority)

Date: 2011-8-24

Primary Person submitting request: Registration for the Prekmurian Slovene language (Prekmurščina)

Affiliation: Hungary

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Names, affiliations and email addresses of additional supporters of this request:
Marc L. Greenberg prof. dr. USA, Kansas University (grinbelblau at gmail dot com); Franc Kuzmič writer from Prekmurje (franc underscore lainscek at t-2 dot net); Janko Durič teacher from Tišina (janko dot duric at guest dot arnes dot si); mag. Franc Kuzmič from the Regional Museum Murska Sobota and Pastor of the Pentechostal Church (franc dot kuzmic at guest dot arnes dot si); Zinka Zorko, pensioner professor from the Maribor University (zinka dot zorko at uni-mb dot si); Branko Pintarič, Cankova (branko underscore pintaric1 at t-2 dot net)

Postal address for primary contact person for this request (in general, email correspondence will be used):
Name: Ákos Doncecz; Address: 9982-HU, Kétvölgy, Fő utca 2. Hungary; akos.doncs at freemail dot hu

PLEASE NOTE: This completed form will become part of the public record of this change request and the history of the ISO 639-3 code set and will be posted on the ISO 639-3 website.

Types of change requests

This form is to be used in requesting changes (whether creation, modification, or deletion) to elements of the ISO 639 Codes for the representation of names of languages — Part 3: Alpha-3 code for comprehensive coverage of languages. The types of changes that are possible are to 1) modify the reference information for an existing code element, 2) propose a new macrolanguage or modify a macrolanguage group; 3) retire a code element from use, including merging its scope of denotation into that of another code element, 4) split an existing code element into two or more new language code elements, or 5) create a new code element for a previously unidentified language variety. Fill out section 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 below as appropriate, and the final section documenting the sources of your information. The process by which a change is received, reviewed and adopted is summarized on the final page of this form.

Type of change proposed (check one):

1. □ Modify reference information for an existing language code element
2. □ Propose a new macrolanguage or modify a macrolanguage group
3. □ Retire a language code element from use (duplicate or non-existent)
4. □ Expand the denotation of a code element through the merging one or more language code elements into it (retiring the latter group of code elements)
5. ☒ Split a language code element into two or more new code elements (include here a request for a new code element for a divergent dialect of a major language)
6. □ Create a code element for a previously unidentified language.

For proposing a change to an existing code element, please identify:
Affected ISO 639-3 identifier:

Associated reference name:

1. **Modify an existing language code element**
   (a) What are you proposing to change:
       - ☐ Language reference name; generally this is changed only if it is erroneous;
       - ☐ if usage is shifting to a new preferred form, the new form may be added (next box)
       - ☐ Language additional names
       - ☐ Language type (living, extinct, historical, etc.)
       - ☐ Language scope (individual language or macrolanguage)

   (b) What new value(s) do you propose:

   (c) Rationale for change:

2. **Propose a new macrolanguage or modify a macrolanguage group**
   (a) For an existing Macrolanguage, what change to its individual language membership do you propose:

   (b) Rationale for change:

   For a new Macrolanguage proposal, please also complete the form “Request for New Language Code Element in ISO 639-3” (file name “ISO639-3_NewCodeRequest.doc” or “ISO639-3_NewCodeRequestForm.rtf”), which must also be submitted to fully document the intended meaning for the new macrolanguage.

3. **Retire a language code element from use**
   (a) Reason for change:
       - ☐ There is no evidence that the language exists.
       - ☐ This is equivalent to another ISO 639-3 language.

   (b) If equivalent with another code element, with which ISO 639-3 code element (identifier and name) is it equivalent:

   (c) Rationale for change:

4. **Expand the denotation of a code element through merging of one or more code elements**
   (a) List the languages (identifier and name) to be merged into this code element and retired from use:
5. Split a language code element into two or more code elements

(a) List the languages into which this code element should be split, or the major language and the divergent variety (or varieties) for which a new code element is being requested:
Prekmurian Slovene language (prekmurščina, prekmürščina, prekmörščina)

By the language identification criteria set forth in ISO 639-3, the simple fact of distinct identities is not enough to assign separate identifiers. The criteria are defined in the standard as follows:

For this part of ISO 639, judgments regarding when two varieties are considered to be the same or different languages are based on a number of factors, including linguistic similarity, intelligibility, a common literature (traditional or written), a common writing system, the views of users concerning the relationship between language and identity, and other factors. The following basic criteria are followed:

- Two related varieties are normally considered varieties of the same language if users of each variety have inherent understanding of the other variety (that is, can understand based on knowledge of their own variety without needing to learn the other variety) at a functional level.
- Where intelligibility between varieties is marginal, the existence of a common literature or of a common ethnolinguistic identity with a central variety that both understand can be strong indicators that they should nevertheless be considered varieties of the same language.
- Where there is enough intelligibility between varieties to enable communication, the existence of well-established distinct ethnolinguistic identities can be a strong indicator that they should nevertheless be considered to be different languages.

(b) Referring to the criteria given above, give the rationale for splitting the existing code element into two or more languages, or for requesting a separate identifier for the divergent variety:
The prekmurian Slovene language is the language of the Prekmurje region in Slovenia, and the Hungarian Slovenes. Ágoston Pável (1886-1946) writer, ethnologist, linguist and historian wrote in 1942: the Prekmurian language "belongs to the group of South Slavic languages. It is in fact a large, autonomous dialect of Slovene, from which it differs mostly in stress, intonation, consonant softness and – due to the lack of a significant language reform – a scarceness of vocabulary of modern terms." The Prekmurian Slovene literature was born in the 16th century, 1715 appear to the first printed book Ferenc Temlin: Mali katechismus (Small cathecism) in 1771 and 1780 István Kúzmics Lutheran pastor and Miklós Kúzmics catholic dean translate to the Bible and standardized the prekmurian language. István Kúzmics's opinion: "Since every person – from any nation, speaking any language – has to know God's truth, which brings salvation through the Holy Bible, and as nobody should be excluded from reaching this cognition, we must not be envious or deny anybody the tool which leads him to it. Instead we should make sure that everybody gets this tool. This is the wish of God… He also encouraged some people from these nation to translate the Holy Bible into their mother tongue. It suffices to focus only on the people of Carniola and Styria, who were – we believe – together with Slovenes in Hungary in the counties Vas, Zala and Somogy the remainders of those Vandals who went to the Vlachian and Spanish states in the 5th century ad from where they sailed to Africa.
Who will disallow those Slovenes who live between the Mura and the Raba the right bank to translate these holy books into the language, in which they understand God talking to them through prophets and apostles’ letters? God tells them too read these books in order to get prepared for salvation in the faith of Jesus Christ. But they cannot receive this from Trubar’s (Truber), Dalmatin’s, Frencel’s (Frencel), or other translations (versio). The language of our Hungarian Slovenes is different from other languages and unique in its own characteristics. Already in the aforementioned translations there are differences. Therefore, a man had to come who would translate the Bible and bring praise for God and salvation for his nation. God encouraged István Küzmics (Stevan Küzmics) for this work, a priest from Surd, who translated – with the help of the Holy Spirit and with great diligence – the whole New Testament (Nouvi Zákon) from Greek language into the language you are reading and hearing. (Foreword in the Küzmics’s New Testament, 1771)” The Prekmurian language was constantly coming to the Central Slovene language, Marko Jesenšek and Martina Orožen say, that the Prekmurian language and Slovene language united in the 1870s, but this opinion is wrong. Other researchers Vilko Novak, Franc Kuzmič, Ivan Škafar, Zinka Zorko, Jožef Smej, Franc L. Greenberg, Mária Bajzé Lukács, Franci Just etc. and the documents justify, that the Prekmurian standard language in the second half of the 19th century take to over Slovene words (terms), but the inflection and others was tipically prekmurian. The Slovene-party prekmurians also wanted to preserve their language. After the World War I the region was occupied by Yugoslav troops and incorporated in the newly established Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes. József Klekl politician desired autonomy in the Prekmurje, but the attempt was unsuccessful. The Slovene policy (primarily the communistic dictatorship) tried to transform the traditional Prekmurian Slovenian identity, while the Hungarian propaganda tried to exploit this identity, that the Prekmurians is not Slovenes. Unfortunately, very often the Hungarian-Slovene political conflict: the nationalist Hungarians believed, the Prekmurians identified the Hungarians and the Slovenes deny the Prekmurian identity. But the Slovene civilians feel, that the Prekmurje is not part of Slovenia. Evald Flisar writer from Prekmurje said in 2007: “The homeland regards Prekmurje not as a part of Slovenia but something peculiar within its borders… It is unthinkable for two Prekmurians to speak with each other in anything but Prekmurian. I used to meet the former President of the Republic Milan Kučan at public events quite often. We always spoke Prekmurian, it would have felt odd to use literary Slovenian, since he is from Prekmurje too. Others joked about us, asking why are we so secretive. When I met a compatriot in Australia, Africa or America, we immediately started to talk in our own language. This is our language.” In 2010 Feri Lainšček writer has also been brought to rural disadvantage in Slovenia, because there is actually a kind of gap between the Prekmurje and Slovenia. Prof. Zinka Zorko also claims to the special authonomy of the Prekmurian.

(c) Does the existing language code element represent a major language in which there already exists a significant body of literature and research? Are there contexts in which all the proposed separate languages may still be considered the same language—as in having a common linguistic identity, a shared (or undistinguished) body of literature, a written form in common, etc.? Please comment. Between the 16th century and 1715 were created manuscripts in Prekmurian language, but there are other manuscripts of the 20th century. Also Marko Jesenšek analizy in details the Prekmurian literature. Above all Vilko Novak revealed in detail in the literature: the Prekmurian literature is very-very rich. There are religious, literary and scientific works. Miklós and István Küzmics, and János Kardos translate the Bible, József Kossics wrote
history book, Imre Augustich published the first prekmurian newspaper Prijátel (Friend) and wrote literary works. After the World War II until 1991 paused in the literature, today Feri Lainšček, Milan Vincetič, Branko Pintarič, Jože Fičar, Ali Kardoš, Milan Zrinski in Slovenia; Károly Holecz, Irén Barbér (1939-2006), Károly Krajczár, Ferenc Mukics in Hungary try to maintain the Prekmurian literature. Jesenšek believes that the current Prekmurian literature is no more than the other attempts in other Slovene dialects, but other dialects have no real roots, as the Prekmurian literature until 1945 maintained (and see also Evald Flisar's opinion). Vincetič's roman Šift v idini (Sailor in the buckwheat) is very modern literary work. Miki Roš and Feri Lainšček prepared films in Prekmurian: Petelinji zajtrk (Rooster breakfast) in 2007 and Oča (Father) in 2010. The Oča included also in the Venice Film Festival. The Evangelic and Pentechostal Church in the mass use the Prekmurian language, the Catholic Church in Hungary. I am also writing in Prekmurian and i try in new Prekmurian language translated the Bible. My plan support the Prekmurian writers and Hungarian Slovenes. Branko Pintarič also openly, that the Prekmurian is a language because of the literature and history.

In order to complete the change request, the form “Request for New Language Code Element in ISO 639-3” (file name “ISO639-3_NewCodeRequestForm.doc” or “ISO639-3_NewCodeRequestForm.rtf”) must also be submitted for each new identifier that is to be created. That step can be deferred until this form has been processed by the ISO 639-3 registrar, provided that sufficient information on the rationale is given in (b) above.

In the case of a minority language that has been considered in some contexts to be a dialect of a major language, yet is divergent enough to be unintelligible to speakers of the standard variety of the major language, it may be more beneficial for the users of the ISO 639-3 and 639-2 code sets to create a new code element for the divergent language variety without splitting the existing code element of the major language. The ISO 639-3 Registration Authority may make this determination when considering a request involving a major language and a highly distinct “dialect.” If such a course is followed, the rationale for the decision will be published in a comment by the Registration Authority on approval of the requested addition for the divergent variety.

6. Create a new language code element

(a) Name of missing language:

(b) State the case that this language is not the same as or has not been included within any language that already has an identifier in ISO 639-3:

In order to complete the change request, the form “Request for New Language Code Element in ISO 639-3” (file name “ISO639-3_NewCodeRequest.doc” or “ISO639-3_NewCodeRequestForm.rtf”) must also be submitted to more fully document the new language.

Sources of information

Please use whichever of the points below are relevant in order to document the sources on which you have based the above proposal.

(a) First-hand knowledge. Describe:
   Marc L. Greenberg: Ágost Pável's Prekmurje Slovene grammar. Slavistična revija 37/1-3
(b) Marc L. Greenberg: Circumflex advancement in Prekmurje and beyond / O pomiku
praslovanskega cirkumfleksa v slovenščini in kajkavščini, s posebnim ozirom na razvoj v
(http://kuscholarworks.ku.edu/dspace/bitstream/1808/5605/1/MLGreenberg_circumflex_ad
v_SS_1992.pdf)

c) Marc L. Greenberg: Prekmurje grammar as a source of Slavic comparative material.
Slovenski jezik 7 (2009), 28-44.
(http://kuscholarworks.ku.edu/dspace/bitstream/1808/5268/1/2Greenberg.pdf)

d) The Nouvi Zákon and Knige 'zoltárszke from 1883
(http://www.christusrex.org/www1/pater/wolf3-pdf/prekmurian-nt.pdf)

e) Society for Slovene studies, 1979
(http://books.google.com/books?id=C0IMAQAAMAAJ&q=%22prekmurian+dialect%22&dq=
%22prekmurian+dialect%22&hl=en&ei=vfH4TefnKov3sgbezq2KCQ&sa=X&oi=book_result
&ct=result&resnum=4&ved=0CDUQ6AEwAw)

f) Slovenian Lutheran Clergy: János Kardos, Mihály Bakos, Mihály Barla, György Czipott,
Ferenc Temlin
(http://books.google.com/books?id=rjJlcAAACAAJ&q=%22prekmurian+dialect%22&hl=en
&ei=vfH4TefnKov3sgbezq2KCQ&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=5&ved=0CDkQ
6AEwBA)

(g) Society for Slovene studies, 1997
(http://books.google.com/books?id=xClpAAAAMAAJ&q=%22prekmurian+language%22&d
q=%22prekmurian+language%22&hl=en&ei=afL4Ta7yFs_OsgbFgaWKCQ&sa=X&oi=book
_result&ct=result&resnum=2&ved=0CCwQ6AEwAQ)

(h) Slavistična revija, 2004
(http://books.google.com/books?id=WhULAQAAMAAJ&q=%22prekmurian+language%22&d
q=%22prekmurian+language%22&hl=en&ei=afL4Ta7yFs_OsgbFgaWKCQ&sa=X&oi=book
k_result&ct=result&resnum=4&ved=0CDMQ6AEwAw)

(i) "Zame prekmurščina ni narečje, temveč jezik"
(http://web.vecer.com/portali/vecer/v1/default.asp?kaj=3&id=2008072105345345)

(j) Domača beseda - domanja rejč v Porabju (http://www.p-inf.si/aktualno/pomurje/domaca-
beseda-domanja-rejcv-porabju/)

(k) "Oča" film in prekmurian language, direct by: Vlado Škafar and Miki Roš
(http://www.pomurec.com/vsebina/516/Prekmurski_film_Oca_se_danes_predstavlja_sveto)


(m) Kalendar srca Jezušovoga 1904-1944
(http://www.dlib.si/v2/Results.aspx?query='keywords%3dKalendar+szrca+Jezusovoga'&pageSize=20)

(n) Marijin list 1904-1941
(http://www.dlib.si/v2/Results.aspx?query='keywords%3dMarijin+list'&pageSize=20 –
http://www.dlib.si/v2/Results.aspx?query='keywords%3dNevtepeno+poprij%c3%a9ta'&pageSize=20)

(o) Môrszka krajina 1922–1927
(http://www.dlib.si/v2/Results.aspx?query='keywords%3dM%c3%b6rszka+krajina'&pageSize=20)

(p) Dober pajdás kalendárium
(http://www.dlib.si/v2/Results.aspx?query='keywords%3dDober+pajd%c3%a1s'&pageSize=20)

(q) Franc Kuzmič: Stranke v Prekmurju med obema vojnama
(http://www.dlib.si/v2/Details.aspx?query='keywords%3dFranc+Kuzmi%c4%8d'&pageSize=20&URN=URN%3aNBN%3aSI%3aDOC-V5MCRVlC)

(r) Karlo Vratarič: Prekmurje je še vedno podrejeno in zapostavljeno
(http://www.pomurec.com/vsebina/289/Prekmurje_je_se_vedno_podrejeno_in_zapostavljeno)

(s) Knowledge through personal communication. Describe:

(t) Knowledge from published sources (please give complete bibliographical references):


(v) Vilko Novak: Slovenska krajina zbornik, Beltinci 1935. Tiskala Mariborska Tiskarna

(w) Anton Trstenjak: Slovenci na Ogrskem, Narodopisna in književna črtica, objava arhivskih


The change proposal process

A request to change the code set goes through a six-step process:
1. A user of ISO 639-3 proposes a change and submits it to the ISO 639-3 Registration Authority (ISO 639-3/RA) using this form.

2. The ISO 639-3 registrar processes the change request to verify that the request is compatible with the criteria set forth in the standard and to ensure that the submitter has supplied all necessary information. This may involve rounds of interaction with the submitter.

3. When the change request proposal is complete in its documentation (including all associated New Code Requests), the change request is promoted to “Proposed Change” status and the ISO 639-3 registrar posts the request on the official web site of the ISO 639-3/RA. Also at this time, an announcement is sent to anyone requesting notification of new proposals matching their specified criteria (region and/or language family of interest). Periodically, a message may be sent to the general LINGUIST discussion list on Linguist List (http://linguistlist.org/issues/index.html), and other appropriate discussion lists, inviting individuals to review and comment on pending proposals. Anyone may request from the ISO 639-3 registrar to receive notification regarding proposals involving languages in a specific region of the world or specific language family.

4. Individuals may send comments to the ISO 639-3 registrar for compilation. The consensus of early reviews may result in promotion to “Candidate Status” (with or without amendment), or withdrawal of the change request, if the conclusion is that the request is not in keeping with the stated criteria of the ISO 639-3 standard.

5. Three months prior to the end of the annual cycle of review and update, a new notice is posted on the official web site of the ISO 639-3/RA, and an announcement listing the Candidate Status Change Requests is posted to the LINGUIST discussion list and other discussion lists, as requested by their owners. All change requests are then open to further review and comment by any interested party for a period of three months. A Change Request received after the start of Candidacy phase must wait until the next annual cycle for consideration. The purpose of this phase is to ensure that a minimum of three months is allotted for the review of every proposal.

6. At the end of the formal review period, a given Change Request may be: 1) adopted as a whole; 2) adopted in part (specific changes implicit in the whole Change Request may be adopted separately); 3) rejected as a whole; or 4) amended and resubmitted for the next review cycle. All change requests remain permanently archived at the official web site of the ISO 639-3/RA.

Please return this form to:
ISO 639-3 Registrar
SIL International, Office of Language Information Systems
7500 West Camp Wisdom Road
Dallas, Texas 75236 USA
E-mail: iso639-3@sil.org

An email attachment of this completed form is preferred.

Sources of documentation for ISO 639-3 identifiers: