ISO 639-3 Registration Authority

Request for New Language Code Element in ISO 639-3

This form is to be used in conjunction with a “Request for Change to ISO 639-3 Language Code” form

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Associated Change request number : 2019.004 (completed by Registration Authority)
Tentative assignment of new identifier : pmg (completed by Registration Authority)

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. Use Shift-Enter to insert a new line in a form field (where allowed).

1. NAMES and IDENTIFICATION

   a) Preferred name of language for code element denotation:
      Pomakish

   b) Autonym (self-name) for this language:
      Pomaški

   c) Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:
      Pomacki

   d) Reason for preferred name:
      The own language of the Pomaks is Pomakish

   e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language (complete individual language currently in use):
      Pomaks, 65-80 000 (Greece), 600-800 000 (Bulgaria), 1-1 200 000 (Turkey) any official data not available for each country, Pomaks in Turkey have mostly lost the language

   f) Preferred three letter identifier, if available: pomak or pom

Your suggestion will be taken into account, but the Registration Authority will determine the identifier to be proposed. The identifiers is not intended to be an abbreviation for a name of the language, but to serve as a device to identify a given language uniquely. With thousands of languages, many sets of which have similar names, it is not possible to provide identifiers that resemble a language name in every case.

2. TEMPORAL DESCRIPTION and LOCATION

   a) Is this a
      Living language
      Nearly extinct/secondary use only (includes languages in revival)
      Recently extinct language
      Historical language

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Ancient language
Artificially constructed language
Macrolanguage

(Select one. See explanations of these types at http://www.sil.org/iso639-3/types.asp)

For individual languages, also complete:

b) Countries where used: Greece, Bulgaria and Turkey

c) Region within each country: towns, districts, states or provinces where used. Include GPS coordinates of the approximate center of the language, if possible:

1. Northern Greece:
   Settlements such as Echinos, Gerakas, Kimmeria, Myki, Kentavros etc. around 80 settlements of Xanthi and also its city center (20 000 Pomaks) is inhabited by Pomaks and settlements have unofficial Slavic secondary names such Kazanovo for Kotyli, Mustafčovo for Myki, Breštene for Oraio, Memkovo for Medousa, Partakovo for Porta, Sadnovica, Balkanovo, Dolovo, Sinikovo, Kostra, Bratankovo, Krusa, Agnilo, Bara etc. Except the last generation Pomaks in Greece speak and understand pomakish. Organi village in Komotini (no data avaible). Center of the language is believed somewhere North of Xanthi.

2. Southern Bulgaria:
   More than 750 settlements around Blagoevgrad, Smoljan, Haskovo, Goce Delčev such as Centar Jakoruda, Avramovo, Bel Kamen, Buncevo, Konarsko, Smolevo, Černa Mesta, Jurukovo in Jakoruda; Babjak, Gálâbovo, Daganovo, Zlatarica, Kuzovo, Orcevo, Čereševo near Belica; Debren, Dolno Drjanovo, Dbnica, Kruševo, Gorno Drjanovo, Lešten, Ognjanovo, Oreše, Ribnovo, Skrebatno, Hvostjane near Grmen. Breznica, Bukovo, Kornica, Lžnica in Goce Delčev; Frgovo, Slašten, Pletena, Osina, Kribul, Kočan, Žiževo, Dolen, Godševo, Višoko, Vlakino, Bogolin, Tuhošt in Satovča; Ablanica, Beslen, Blatska, Teplen in Hadidimovo; Ahrjansko, Žǎltuša in Ardino; Koren, Krivo Pole, Mandra, Malevo in Haskovo; Ablanica, Alendarova, Birkova, Bozova, Butreva, Vranenci, Vsemirci, Gorna Dbeva, Dolna Dbeva, Dragino, Kandovi, Krstava, Medeni Poljani, Pašovi, Rohleva, Sveta Petka, Srnica, Cvetino, Čolakova, Graševo in Velingrad etc. Pomakish is spoken and alive.

3. Northwestern Turkey:
   Villages such Çoban Çeşme, Altın Taş, Karaca Ali, Mal Tepe in Keşan; Hacı in İpsala; Azatli, Abalar in Havsa; and more than 500 villages in the towns of Şarköy, Saray, Malkara, Hayrabolu, Çorlu in Tekirdağ province; Vize, Pınar Hisar, Pehlivanköy, Lüleburgaz, Kofçaz towns in Kırklareli province; Uzunköprü, Süloğlu, Meriç, Lalapaşa, Enez towns in Edirne province; Yenice, Lapseki, Gelibolu, Çan, Bıga towns in Çanakkale province; Manyas, Gönen, Erdek, Bandırma towns in Balıkesir and numerous villages in Asia Minor Turkey. Almost the elders have a fluent pomakish so one can say that only 10 % of Pomaks in this country able to use it.
d) For an ancient or historical language, give approximate time frame; for a recently extinct language, give the approximate date of the last known user’s death

3. MODALITY AND LINGUISTIC AFFILIATION

a) This language is:  Signed  Spoken  Attested only in writings

b) Language family, if classified; origin, if artificially constructed:
   Southern Slavic

c) Closest language linguistically. For a Macrolanguage, list the individual languages (adopted and/or proposed) to be included in its group. For signed language, note influence from other signed or spoken languages:
   Slavic Macedonian, Slavic Bulgarian

4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers, radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:
   Child books, poetry, narratives, songs. A television broadcast experiment is occurred in Greece

b) Is this language officially recognized by any level of government? Is it used in any levels of formal education as a language of instruction (for other subjects)? Is it taught in schools?:
   Some Greeks politicians accept that there is a Pomakish language. Not taught in school.

c) Comment on factors of ethnolinguistic identity and informal domains of use:
   In daily life is used. On special days such as wedding people prefer to sing and talk in Pomakish because the family members come together. In villages, since there is no others Pomaks continue to talk in the mother language. Also in the market Pomaks people do the conversations in it. The way it is not taught in the school and has no official recognition and standardisation Pomakish could not develop. Thanks to the Pomakish institute and the cultural associations the identity is being appropriated. We have developed an accurate alphabet for the pomakish which is called "Pomaški Alfabet" in 2014
SOURCES OF INFORMATION

You do not need to repeat sources previously identified in the form, “Request for Change to ISO 639-3 Language Code”

a) First-hand knowledge. Describe:
pomaknews.com, pomak.eu, zagalisa.gr, pomaklar.com

b) Knowledge through personal communication. Describe:
Ibrahim Kenar, Hikmet Pala, Saban Korkmaz, Adem Murat Yilmaz, Georgi Zelengora

c) Knowledge from published sources. Include known dictionaries, grammars, etc. (please give complete bibliographical references):
1. Edna Pomaška Obič, a poetry book by Ibrahim Kenar, Pomakish Institute, July 2007 (Pomakish and turkish)
2. Paratkana Lela i Hubavo Momo, a fairytale book by Xanthi Pomakish Association, 2010 (Pomakish and greek)
4. Gledame nagore, a Pomakish themed photography album by Xanthi Pomakish Association, 2010 (Pomakish, greek and english)
5. Türkiye'deki Pomaklar "Pomaks in Turkey", a research book by Georgi Zelengora, 2017 (Bulgarian and turkish)
6. Pomak Kimliği "Pomakish Identity", a research book by Seren Özcan, 2013 (Turkish)

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
Email: iso639-3@sil.org
An email attachment of this completed form is preferred.

Further information:
If your request for a new language code element is supported by the Registration Authority as a formal proposal, you may be contacted separately by researchers working with the Ethnologue or with LinguistList asking you to provide additional information.

**Sources of documentation for ISO 639-3 identifiers:**


LinguistList. Constructed Languages. [http://linguistlist.org/forms/langs/GetListOfConstructedLgs.html](http://linguistlist.org/forms/langs/GetListOfConstructedLgs.html)