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 : 2021-001 (completed by Registration Authority)
Tentative assignment of new identifier : isv (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:
Interslavic

b) Autonym (self-name) for this language:
Medžuslovjansky, Меджусловјанскы

C) Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:
"Interslavic" (sometimes: "Inter-Slavic") is the English name and can be translated into any language, f.ex. Межславянский язык (Russian), Міжслов'янська мова (Ukrainian), Язык междусловяинский (Polish), Mezislovanština (Czech), Междуславянски език (Bulgarian),
Interslavisch (Dutch, German), Διασλαβική γλώσσα (Greek), Interslava lingvo (Esperanto), etc.
Sometimes "Slovianski" and "Neoslavonic", the names of the projects that Interslavic was originally based on, are still used.
Another name that pops up sometimes in the press is "Slavic Esperanto".

d) Reason for preferred name:
Interslavin is a zonal constructed language, intended for communication with/among speakers of different Slavic nationalities. The name was chosen in 2011 as a common moniker for its two predecessor projects.

e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language (complete individual language currently in use):
Community of ca. 6000 users and sympathizers, including several hundreds of proficient users.

f) Preferred three letter identifier, if available: ISV

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
- Ancient language
- Artificially constructed language
- Macrolanguage

(Select one. See explanations of these types at [http://www.sil.org/iso639%2D3/types.asp](http://www.sil.org/iso639%2D3/types.asp))

For individual languages, also complete:

b) Countries where used:
Mostly countries in Central and Eastern Europe, especially Poland, Serbia, Croatia, Macedonia, the Czech Republic, Russia, Slovenia, Ukraine, Slovakia, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Montenegro and Belarus. A few users in other countries (USA, Germany, Britain, Sweden, France, Netherlands, Japan, India, etc.).

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

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
n/a
3. MODALITY AND LINGUISTIC AFFILIATION

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

b) Language family, if classified; origin, if artificially constructed:
   Indo-European > 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:
   Interslavic is essentially a modernized and simplified form of Old Church Slavonic, modified to be intelligible for speakers of any Slavic language without prior learning. Lexically, it is a combination of common inherited vocabulary from Proto-Slavic (run through regular sound changes) and international vocabulary.

4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers, radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:
   Interslavic is mostly used on the Internet for direct communication between members of the community as well as communication with other Slavs.
   It is used in hotels and other touristic locations with many Slavic visitors, and there are plans to use Interslavic for the development of e-democracy applications in Central and Eastern Europe.
   Interslavic is used on various websites, including a news site (izvesti.info) and a wiki (isv.miraheze.org), as well as several private and commercial websites.
   Interslavic has an extensive and continuously growing text corpus, including a translation of "The Little Prince", an anthology of Interslavic texts ("Čitateljnik"), and a collection of shorter texts (both translations and original work) to be found at "Vikisbornik"). A translation of "Alice in Wonderland" is in preparation.
   Since 2016 a peer-reviewed scientific journal has appeared ("Slovjani.info"). It is included in the CEEOL database and regularly archived by the National Library of the Czech Republic. Another scientific journal, "Ethnoentomology", provides its articles with abstracts in Interslavic.
   Sound recordings exist from the 2017 and 2018 Conferences on the Interslavic Language (CISLa) and from radio broadcasts in Interslavic (http://www.tyflonet.com/siciliano/dupa/). Various other samples of spoken Interslavic can be heard on Youtube.
   Interslavic was the main language of Václav Marhoul's film "The Painted Bird", the Czech candidate for the 2020 Oscar nominations for the Best International Movie.

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?:
   No official recognition on government level. However, the language is endorsed by several non-governmental institutions, such as the Slavic Union (Prague), the Forum of Slavic Cultures (Ljubljana), the Khovansky Foundation (Voronezh), the Ecumenical Eastern Orthodox Church of Constantinople and the Czech Orthodox Church.
   Interslavic is not taught in schools yet, but there are plans for a basic curriculum, primarily in Poland.
   Courses and workshops have been given at various universities, including summer
courses in Prague (financed by Grundtvig programme of the European Union) as well workshops in Bratislava and Łódź).

c) Comment on factors of ethnolinguistic identity and informal domains of use:
Mostly Slavic people with an interest in other Slavic cultures and people who travel in Slavic countries; some people with an interest in interlinguistics. For the rest, mostly communication via the Internet.
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:
   See Change Request

b) Knowledge through personal communication. Describe:

c) Knowledge from published sources. Include known dictionaries, grammars, etc. (please give complete bibliographical references):
   See Change Request

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:
