

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

Date: 2008-9-10

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Associated Change request number : 2008-043

(completed by Registration Authority)

Tentative assignment of new identifier : ekk

(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:
Standard Estonian
- b) Autonym (self-name) for this language:
Eesti kirjakeel (from which possible code "ekk" can be derived, see 1f, as "ste", "ets" etc. are occupied and "eek" will confuse with currency EEK, Estonian crown)
- c) Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:
North Estonian, Northern Estonian
- d) Reason for preferred name:
Standard Estonian is preferred because it is more precise and fits better to the modern written standard of Estonian. North Estonian can be understood more as name of the historical North Estonian or Tallinn literary language which is predecessor of modern Standard Estonian.
- e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language (complete individual language currently in use):
Estonians, about one million people. Also large number (at least hundred thousands) of Russian-speaking population of Estonia.

f) Preferred three letter identifier, if available: ekk

Your suggestion will be taken into account, but the Registration Authority will determine the identifier to be proposed. The identifier 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
- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Living language |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Nearly extinct/secondary use only (includes languages in revival) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Recently extinct language |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Historical language |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Ancient language |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Artificially constructed language |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Macrolanguage |

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

For individual languages, also complete:

- b) Countries where used:
Estonia (also spoken in Australia, Canada, Finland, Latvia, Russia (Europe), Sweden, United Kingdom, USA).
- c) Region within each country: towns, districts, states or provinces where used. Include GPS coordinates of the approximate center of the language, if possible:
- 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:
Standard Estonian belongs to the Baltic-Finnic branch of the Finno-Ugric language family.
- 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:
Linguistically closest languages are: Votic, Võro, Finnish

4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

- a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers, radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:
All kinds of modern media and literature.

- 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?:
Standard Estonian is the national/state/official language of Estonia used on all levels of society and all levels of education for all subjects.

- c) Comment on factors of ethnolinguistic identity and informal domains of use:
Today, most Estonians not only write but also speak Standard Estonian (or a language variant almost identical to Standard Estonian) as their everyday language. Dialects are almost entirely assimilated into Standard Estonian. Only South Estonian language Võro (included Seto) is today clearly distinct from standard Estonian.

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:
I'm a native bilingual Võro-Estonian speaker, teacher (Tartu University) and researcher (Võro Institute) of Võro and Estonian languages.

- b) Knowledge through personal communication. Describe:
Võro and Estonian are the languages of my everyday communication (work, community etc.) and Estonian is the closest related language to my main research subject Võro.

- c) Knowledge from published sources. Include known dictionaries, grammars, etc. (please give complete bibliographical references):
Erelt, Mati (editor) 2003: Estonian language. *Linguistica Uralica*. Supplementary series. Teaduste Akadeemia Kirjastus 2003.

Sutrop, Urmas 2004: The Estonian Language. Estonian Institute
online: <http://www.einst.ee/publications/language/language.html>

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
ISO 639-3/RA web site: <http://www.sil.org/iso639-3/default.asp>
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:

Gordon, Raymond G., Jr. (ed.), 2005. Ethnologue: Languages of the World, Fifteenth edition. Dallas, Tex.: SIL International. Online version: <http://www.ethnologue.com/> .

LinguistList. Ancient and Extinct Languages. <http://linguistlist.org/forms/langs/GetListOfAncientLgs.html>

LinguistList. Constructed Languages. <http://linguistlist.org/forms/langs/GetListOfConstructedLgs.html>