

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: 2009-7-15

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Associated Change request number : 2009-060

(completed by Registration Authority)

Tentative assignment of new identifier : ecg

(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:
Ecclesiastical Greek
- b) Autonym (self-name) for this language:
Λογία
- c) Common alternate names and spellings of language, and any established abbreviations:
Patristic Greek, Literary Koine Greek, Atticist Greek
- d) Reason for preferred name:
This is how most linguists call it (exonymically). The alternative names are also used occasionally for denoting specific historical/stylistic periods of the language.
- e) Name and approximate population of ethnic group or community who use this language (complete individual language currently in use):
Mainly Greek people that are Orthodox Christians, since this language is used by the Greek Orthodox Church. Effectively, there is not an official number of users but based on the number of people who are required to know the language in order to be able to read and write the official documents of the Church, we could say that there are roughly 3000 people.
- f) Preferred three letter identifier, if available: ecg

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 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>)

For individual languages, also complete:

- b) Countries where used:
Greece (Autonomous Monastic State of the Holy Mountain), Turkey (Ecumenical Patriarchate), and Israel (Greek Orthodox Patriarch of Jerusalem). It is used as the official and liturgical language of the Greek Orthodox Church.
- c) Region within each country: towns, districts, states or provinces where used. Include GPS coordinates of the approximate center of the language, if possible:
It is very difficult to say in which regions exactly in each Eastern Orthodox country, because it is mainly spoken and written in certain monastic or ecclesiastical regions. The center of its cultural sphere of influence is Istanbul where the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople is located.
- 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
Not applicable.

3. MODALITY AND LINGUISTIC AFFILIATION

- a) This language is: Signed Spoken Attested only in writings
- b) Language family, if classified; origin, if artificially constructed:
Hellenic 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:
Ancient Greek - grc

4. LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND USE

- a) What written literature, inscriptions or recordings exist in this language? Are there newspapers, radio or television broadcasts, etc.?:
Many written documents of the Eastern Orthodox Church are written in this language. The official sites of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchates that are written in Ecclesiastical Greek, as well as the newsletter of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople.

- b) Ecclesiastical sources:
1. Ecumenical Patriarch's message - <http://www.ecclesia.gr/greeknews/default.asp?id=3724>
 2. Petition to the Patriarch of Jerusalem - 3. <http://www.gopoj.org/PetitionOrig.pdf>
 3. Greeting letters (in Ecclesiastical Greek) by the Ecumenical Patriarch and the Patriarch of Jerusalem included in the preface of the translation of the Bible into Modern Greek. ISBN: 960-7847-02-4

Non-ecclesiastical sources (Λογία □λληνική, used in a secular or non-Christian context):

1. In.gr (News site) - <http://www.in.gr/tech/arxaia.asp>
 2. Ακρόπολις (News site; same as above) - <http://www.akwn.net/>
 3. "Υμνος πρὸς Καβείρους - <http://www.rassias.gr/9007.htmlv>
- c) 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?:
It is officially recognized in Hagion Oros. It is being taught in most of the renowned Philological Universities of Greece and there are special graduate courses on the language and its corpus. Moreover, there are certain US colleges where Ecclesiastical Greek is taught, as well (<http://www.hchc.edu/hellenic/academics/faculty/holmberg.htm>). It was also used to be taught in the School of Theology of Halki's seminaries which has been shut down by the Republic of Turkey. (However, the Turkish government, obliged by the EU, has given the promise that the School will soon reopen.)
- d) Comment on factors of ethnolinguistic identity and informal domains of use:
Most of its fluent speakers are Orthodox Christians. There is also a less significant number of university teachers who study and write the language for academic purposes.

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:
1. Ecumenical Patriarchate's official website - <http://www.ec-patr.org/docdisplay.php?lang=gr&id=22&tla=gr> (Including contemporary documents of the Church written in Ecclesiastical Greek.)
 2. Jerusalem's Patriarchate's official website - <http://www.jerusalem-patriarchate.info/gr/welcome.htm>
 3. Hagion Oros's documents - http://pandektis.ekt.gr/dspace/handle/123456789/9045/browse?type=title&sort_by=1&order=ASC&rpp=100&submit_browse=%CE%91%CE%BD%CE%B1%CE%BD%CE%AD%CF%89%CF%83%CE%B7 . (Note: a huge amount of recent documents of Hagion Oros, originally written in Ecclesiastical Greek, are publically available only in translations into Modern Greek that can be found in the editions of the Institute for Byzantine Research; e.g.: Αθωνικά σύμμεικτα 2: Αρχείο Πρωτάτου. ISBN : 9607094387.)
 4. "Ερμηνευτική Πατερικών κειμένων" (The relevant lesson of Patristic Greek as is taught in AUTH's (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki) School of Theology.) - (http://www.theo.auth.gr/a_b_examino.htm)

5. The Divine Service by John the Chrysostom (and its translation into Modern Greek):
(http://www.phys.uoa.gr/~nektar/orthodoxy/prayers/service_litourgy_translation.htm)

- b) Knowledge through personal communication. Describe:
Personal communication with several clergymen, and a researcher at the the Institute for Byzantine Research.
- c) Knowledge from published sources. Include known dictionaries, grammars, etc. (please give complete bibliographical references):
1. Greek literature in the Byzantine period: The Language of Byzantine Literature. ISBN: 041-5937-71-X
 2. A Patristic Greek Lexicon. ISBN-10: 019-8642-13-X
 3. Grammar: Γραμματική Ἑλληνική Ἀκριβεστάτη.
(http://anemi.lib.uoc.gr/php/pdf_pager.php?filename=/var/www/tkl-portal-neo//metadata/2/f/c/attached-metadata-155-0000033/84152.pdf&lang=en&pageno=1&pagestart=1&width=307&height=460&maxpage=368)

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>