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International onomastic projects. Possible themes, practical problems and benefits

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Inchiesta

*International onomastic projects.
Possible themes, practical problems and benefits*

Doreen Gerritzen – Enzo Caffarelli (eds.)

SINTESI. (Progetti internazionali di onomastica. Temi, aspetti pratici e benefici possibili) *Come sviluppo della tavola rotonda tenuta a Zara (Croazia) nel settembre 2004, nell'ambito del seminario "Denominando il mondo. Dal nome comune al nome proprio", su possibilità, difficoltà e vantaggi della realizzazione di progetti internazionali in materia onomastica, la «Rivista Italiana di Onomastica» ha promosso un'inchiesta cui hanno partecipato 31 studiosi di fama di 23 Paesi in rappresentanza di tutti i continenti. Le domande poste erano le seguenti: 1) Quali temi e argomenti onomastici offrono le migliori basi per una collaborazione tra istituzioni e studiosi di vari Paesi? 2) In che modo, da un punto scientifico e organizzativo, si potrebbero promuovere tali progetti? 3) Con quali finanziamenti (istituzioni scientifiche, enti locali, organismi sovranazionali, ecc.)? 4) Ha già avuto esperienza con fondi dell'Unione Europea o di altre istituzioni internazionali che possono finanziare questo genere di progetti? 5) Quali sono gli aspetti più problematici o i maggiori ostacoli alla realizzazione di progetti internazionali? 6) Quali risultati ed effetti positivi si possono attendere da progetti di collaborazione internazionale in campo onomastico?*

Il miglioramento degli scambi e delle collaborazioni internazionali è certamente importante per settori scientifici come l'onomastica. Ma le istituzioni scientifiche non sembrano concedere a questa disciplina grande attenzione. Le risposte degli studiosi indicano che le tematiche su cui impegnare i ricercatori possono essere assai numerose; che le modalità di collaborazione sono potenzialmente molteplici; che accedere a fondi nazionali e internazionali per progetti tra studiosi di Paesi diversi non sembra per nulla semplice, ma che tuttavia in alcuni casi è stato possibile. I risultati sarebbero estremamente utili per conseguire un elevato numero di obiettivi.

Introduction

At an international conference in Zadar (Croatia) in September 2004 ("Naming the World. From common nouns to proper names") a roundtable about international projects was held. About 20 onomasticians from various countries discussed the possibilities of increasing (more) international cooperation in the onomastic world. The organizers of the meeting, i.e. the Institute of the Croatian Language and Linguistics and RION, formulated six questions which were sent to the participants in advance. These questions then structured to the discussion. The meeting was moderated by Dunja Brozović-Rončević and Doreen Gerritzen. After the conference the decision was made to broaden the discussion by asking prominent onomasticians from all over the world to reflect on these six questions. An overview of their answers is presented here.

First of all we asked for possible themes in order to get an idea of the kind of subjects suited for international cooperation. Some scholars approach this question in a general sense, while others have very specific ideas. Both types of answers lead the way to possible projects. Furthermore information on all sorts of practical matters was gathered, such as promotion, organisation, and financial support relating to such future project. A major question concerns the problems and the obstacles which are usually involved in starting an international project. Finally the colleagues were asked to reflect on the positive results of international cooperation.

Improving international exchange is very important for a scientific branch of study such as onomastics. Intensifying international cooperation will provide a serious impulse for new theory, methods and insights. Or, to put it differently, «such collaboration would be of crucial importance regarding the development and the academic/social prestige of onomastics» (István Hoffmann). We hope this overview will inspire onomasticians to initiate and participate in international cooperation.

Thirty-one of the most respected and prominent specialists in 23 countries and in all continents were interviewed by means of our questionnaire. The result is a long-distance roundtable discussion, in five languages (Italian, French, Spanish, English, and German). After the interviews, some conclusions are discussed to synthesize, as far as possible, the rich information uncovered by the survey.

Scholars who have participated in this survey are: **Terhi AINIÄLÄ** (Helsinki, Finland), **Laimute BALODE** (Rīga, Latvia), **Pierre-Henri BILLY** (Toulouse, France), **Enzo CAFFARELLI** (Roma, Italy), **Ana M. CANO GONZÁLEZ** (Oviedo/Uviéu, Spain), **Rita CAPRINI** (Genova, Italy), **Emili CASANOVA i HERRERO** (València, Spain), **Aleksandra CIEŚLIKOWA** (Kraków, Poland), **Elwys DE STEFANI** (Basel, Switzerland), **Sheila M. EMBLETON** (Toronto, Canada), **Jean GERMAIN** (Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium), **Doreen GERRITZEN** (Amsterdam, the Netherlands), **Albrecht GREULE** (Regensburg, Germany), **Milan HARVALÍK** (Praha, Czech Republic), **Isolde HAUSNER** (Wien, Austria), **Botolv HELLELAND** (Oslo, Norway), **Flavia HODGES** (Sydney, Australia), **István HOFFMANN** (Debrecen, Hungary), **Helen KERFOOT** (Québec, Canada), **Adrian KOOPMAN** (Pietermaritzburg, South Africa), **Dieter KREMER** (Trier, Germany), **Jaromir KRŠKO** (Banská Bystrica, Slovakia), **Zhonghua LI** (Shandong, China), **Kay MUHR** (Belfast, North Ireland), **Teodor OANCA** (Craiova, Romania), **Bruno PORCELLI** (Pisa, Italy), **Svavar SIGMUNDSSON** (Gardabær, Iceland), **Jürgen UDOLPH** (Leipzig, Germany), **Willy VAN LANGENDONCK** (Leuven, Belgium), **Mats WAHLBERG** and **Eva BRYLLA** (Uppsala, Sweden).

1) Which onomastic topics, themes or research questions would present the best basis for collaboration between institutions and researches in various countries?

Botolv HELLELAND: There are many possible topics within name research which would have a broader international interest. Looking at the titles of for instance the

papers read at international conferences, it is easy to find approaches of general interest. Possible items: a) name theory; b) name semantics and semiotics; c) old river names; d) national and international name standardization; e) placenames and settlement (or names and history in general); f) names, especially placenames, as an expression of local identity; g) placenames as a cultural heritage (part of world heritage); h) names and regional mobility. Considering this last subject: placenames are fixed to the places where they were coined, whereas people move around in the region or even further. Speaking of personal names it is clear, at least in Norway, that surnames (derived from farm names) reflect the mobility of the population.

If name scholars could bring forward projects in cooperation with other disciplines, like for instance geographical, anthropological and social sciences, it could trigger the interest for onomastics (especially placenames) in general. I am sure that name research can contribute to the well-being of people to a broader extent than we have experienced until now. Everybody is born and bred somewhere, everybody has the memory of a landscape, or rather several landscapes. Europe is more than ever in a “melting pot”, but the placenames are the labels which attach the rapidly changing surface and migration to the region’s history.

Sheila M. EMBLETON: Anything which has a universal aspect to it, but that includes just about anything. Toponyms – even sub-aspects like say hydronyms – are virtually universal; anthroponyms – again even sub-aspects such as surnames, first names, changes of name – are virtually universal, even if not the same, so there is something to compare/contrast; brand names, company names, animal names, all have universal aspects.

Willy VAN LANGENDONCK: General topics (obvious), terminology, theory and synchronic classification of names (although difference in framework may pose a problem); trade and brand names; names in literature...

Pierre-Henri BILLY: Deux aspects pourraient être traités, tous deux complémentaires, qui offriraient le plus d’attrait pour obtenir des subventions d’organismes nationaux ou internationaux: les noms de famille révélateurs de migrations; l’assimilation des noms de famille dans un milieu allogène.

Jean GERMAIN: A mon avis, des projets qui ont un impact direct ou indirect sur la vie civile ou communautaire.

Dieter KREMER: Base commune (noms prélatins, latins, germaniques...); type de peuplement/dénominations toponymiques...

Albrecht GREULE: Am besten eignen sich die Personennamen, teilweise auch die großräumigen geographischen Namen und die Brandnames.

Jürgen UDOLPH: Die besten Voraussetzungen für internationale Projekte sind dann gegeben, wenn es um namenkundliche Vorhaben geht, die mehrere Länder interessieren, d.h. wenn es um grenzübergreifende Projekte geht. Das zeigt sich bei einigen

hier beispielhaft genannten Projekten, wie etwa: a) Slavischer Onomastischer Atlas; b) Hydronymia Europaea (Zusammenarbeit zwischen der Mainzer Akademie der Wissenschaften und der Literatur und der Polnischen Akademie der Wissenschaften). Nochmals betont: das Interesse muß von beiden Seiten (oder bei größeren Projekten: von allen Seiten) vorhanden sein.

Da es sich um grenzüberschreitende Projekte handelt, müssen die Themen über eine Einzelsprache hinaus reichen, wie etwa bei dem Projekt des Slavischen Onomastischen Atlases, dessen Material in einer ganzen Reihe von Ländern bearbeitet wurde und wird.

Für derartige Projekte bieten sich meines Erachtens vor allem folgende Themen an: – Vergleichend angelegte Projekte wie etwa namenkundliche Atlanten zur Hydronymie, Toponymie und Antroponymie; – Strukturtypische Untersuchungen, gekoppelt mit Fragen nach den Bildungsweisen von Namen oder ähnlichen Faktoren; Historisch angelegte Forschungsvorhaben, die die jetzigen Ländergrenzen unbeachtet lassen.

Laimute BALODE: a) Theoretical problems: "From common noun to proper name"; "Semantics of proper names"; b) Socioonomastic themes: "The most widely spread first names"; "The most widely spread family names"; "The most widely spread nicknames" etc.; c) Onomastic dictionaries: "A Dictionary of the largest Rivers (Lakes) of Europe"; "A Dictionary of the largest Cities of Europe"; "One root in the Toponymy of different Indo-European Languages".

Kay MUHR: a) The linguistic significance of topographic terms (not always the same meaning in placenames as in the languages, many shades of meaning in e.g. terms for different types of hills or fords now lost on modern urban dwellers). This would link with dictionaries/etymological history, and maybe geographers, who often borrow their technical terms from other languages. For instance, in Ireland *turlough* (seasonal lake), *drumlin* (glacial hillock) and *clachan* (rural house cluster) appear to be terms borrowed from Gaelic. The terms are used in Britain too – some disagreement from the speakers on one of them: *clachan* is clearly from Scottish Gaelic, but in the actual language it means 'a group of houses clustered round the parish church' – a more prestigious village than the word has been borrowed to mean. b) Placenames and boundaries: what sort of features and names are used? c) Placenames and literature: different cultures may be more or less grounded in their places; d) Migration of surnames etc.: how they change as they move.

Svavar SIGMUNDSSON: International projects dealing with data bases of names is the best basis for international collaboration.

Helen KERFOOT: a) Toponymy, and perhaps other aspects of onomastics, of indigenous and minority groups, for instance, with reference to the relationship to the land, and changes in recent times in what has been largely oral tradition. b) Generic terms in geographical names, comparison of landscape terminology and its usage across regions and languages.

Zhonghua LI: Naming culture is one of the aspects of a national culture, so the comparison and contrast between naming cultures would be very interesting. A nation should understand the naming culture of a foreign nation to understand that other nation. There are various ways to compare and contrast, so there are various possibilities of international collaboration and research.

Mats WAHLBERG – Eva BRYLLA: Bibliographies; terminology; different aspects of personal names of today; dictionaries of personal names; the impact of modern society on the usage and knowledge of placenames in urbanized, formerly rural, areas; urban names; name treatment and name planning – both placenames and personal names.

Doreen GERRITZEN: a) "Names and the globalisation of the world versus the revival of regional and local culture". Various name categories may be compared here, for example first names (the contemporary naming of children) or recently given street names. The rapid geographical expansion of the EU is especially relevant in this respect; b) 'Names and ethnic minorities'; c) "Names in multilingual societies".

Adrian KOOPMAN: One can only be very general here. Firstly, those themes, topics etc., which are relevant in all the various countries where collaborative research is envisaged. There is no point, for example, in researching government interference into personal naming in ten countries where such interference only occurs in five of the ten countries, where in the other five parents may give a child any name they please. Secondly, research would best justify the collaborative approach when there is cross-cultural borrowing (loaning, adopting) of onomastic patterns and onomastic items. Thirdly, collaborative research is justified where a particular onomastic pattern (for example, use of patronymics in daily discourse, or double-barrelled surnames) manifests itself in similar but distinct "sub-patterns" in various cultures and languages.

Milan HARVALÍK: Especially projects studying national name systems from a common point of view (i.e. motivation and frequency of personal names, motivation and types of toponyms) combined with a contrastive approach. It is necessary to describe the typology and frequency of models and patterns according to which names are created in particular languages, to compare the results, to analyse them and then to interpret correspondences and differences.

Enzo CAFFARELLI: Every kind of topic, because there is a need for comparative analyses in the studies of all the various domains of proper names at many levels (etymon, motivation, morpho-syntaxis, phonetics, areal distribution, relation with the lexicon, etc.). Furthermore we need to confront the methodology of the work done or in progress, the instruments used, the stocks analysed, the interpretations done by scholars of different languages and various linguistic areas. At the same time, some topics seem to allow collaboration more easily and are better suited to raising national and international funding. I am referring to topics of interest to a wider public rather than to a limited scientific community: public administrators, the world of culture, people

who care to promote and save the “heritage” represented by place-, personal and other proper names.

Thus I suggest as main topics: urban placenames i.e. odonyms; commercial trades and brand names; nicknames and domain names on the Internet; first names with special attention paid to the intercultural exchange and to the linguistic integration of immigrated groups. Finally I think also a lexicological/lexicographical issue could be relevant, like the study of the evolution of a language with all the terms derived from proper names (deonymics or deonomastics).

István HÖFFMANN: Historical toponomastics has the longest tradition in European research and also its results are of the most versatile use. From this it follows that it is this branch of onomastics that could give the best results in the foreseeable future. An all-European complex study could seek for very general answers to questions regarding the system of toponyms. Such research would then not aim at collecting and publishing actual language material but it would be interested in the theoretical conclusions that can be drawn. The preparatory work is already done for such a theoretical analysis, based on which the theoretical framework could be formed that would serve as the basis of the research.

As a starting point we could take the fact that place names come about as a result of three factors: the geographical, cultural and linguistic surroundings. These factors are identifiable in the names themselves through actual linguistic forms so the structural analysis of placenames (on the one hand, from a functional-semantic point of view and on the other hand, from a lexical-morphological perspective) can show the presence of these factors. The functionally based structural analysis can make use of the categories of developmental and language change history, which makes it possible to grasp the system of names not in their static reality but also in their changes.

In my view, it would be an important goal of the programme for the researchers to have a consensus on creating such a model. In practice, the most feasible way to do so would be to set up a smaller research group and subject their ideas to debate. Such a model of analysis should be applied to name material from 3-4 different periods of time. These periods would have to be chosen in a way that the researchers have ample material from the given epoch, but also the distance between the various periods should be large enough (e.g. the 12th, 16th and 20th centuries). The analysis can only be successful if it applies to a well definable amount of material. In this respect, two subtypes of toponyms would be the best choice for analysis: water names (especially river names) and settlement names, as from these two groups most data can be collected and these are also the most widely researched name types. Their difference should also be emphasized: whereas settlement names are typically culturally bound, water names are determined by the geographical surroundings in the first place. Thus, doing research on these two names types, the relationship between these two factors can also be better looked at.

Due to the great frequency of these name types, it would be naïve to think that a research could cover the whole of Europe. Consequently, particular places should al-

so be chosen for analysis and linguistic, geographical and cultural factors should also play a role in the choice. By realising such a programme, a new branch of onomastics could evolve: historical comparative toponomastics, which would not only open up new possibilities in describing the internal rules and laws of systems of proper names, but it would also serve as a scientific background for treating actual questions of name politics.

Flavia HODGES: Australia has much in common with the United States of America and with Canada with regard to issues such as the role of state and federal nomenclature authorities, the recording and use of Indigenous placenames, and research into the toponymic heritage of colonial settlement. To this end the Asia-Pacific Institute for Toponymy (based at Macquarie University, Sydney) maintains contact with the United States Board on Geographic Names, the US Council of Geographic Names Authorities, and the Geographical Names Board of Canada.

Furthermore the Asia-Pacific Institute for Toponymy is in the early stages of planning a project, to be carried out in collaboration with the Indonesian surveying and mapping agency BAKOSURTANAL and other institutions, for a comparative study of generic placename elements in the languages of the region.

Aleksandra CIEŚLIKOWA: An up-to-date question, concerning not only the European countries but also the USA, concerns the phenomenon of globalization – including the mass media and the Internet – and its effect on linguistic behavior. We find changes in different categories of proper names, including names that are taken over without being translated or adapted to native languages. Names are taken over in original, foreign spelling as if they were citations. One can observe most changes in the so-called urban space: foreign (not Polish) names on shop signs, foreign names of different firms and commodities. Among the phenomenon of globalization may also be included some names that grow into symbols e.g. World Trade Center. The symbolic function of names was discussed in many Polish elaborations. The function of names depends on the text and the sort of discourse. In texts of recent times proper names fulfill a symbolic function more and more frequently.

In Poland many scientific works concern both historical and contemporary anthroponymy, toponymy, hydronymy and other categories of names. In cooperation with other European countries it would be possible to compile united, all-European corpora of the above mentioned categories of names.

Jaromir KRŠKO: First I have to mention that we are working on hydronymy in Slovakia. The project *Hydronymia Slovaciae* follows the European project *Hydronymia Europaea*. We have prepared one third of the Slovak territory. The project *Hydronymia Slovaciae* is following the project *Hydronymia Europaea*. We will publish various monographies of particular Slovak basins. With this research of Slovak hydronymy we will cooperate with colleagues from Hungary: many Slovak rivers flow into Hungary (Danube). We will cooperate with colleagues from the Czech Republic as well.

We want to realise more international conferences. We would like to start an international project in which representatives from Slovakia, Hungary, and the Czech Republic could present the common results of our work, especially common basins of the rivers in Moravia and Danube. Perhaps this could be done with the financial help of European funds. But funding can only be realized after the basic research has been done. That is why we need to do this basic research before we can think of asking for money from the European funds.

Terhi AINIOLA: Urban toponymy and especially the use of urban placenames would be an interesting onomastic topic for international cooperation. This topic could be rewarding if studied in collaboration between institutions and researchers in various countries. In Finland urban toponymy is now being studied under a cross-disciplinary project. Similar projects could be arranged in various countries under one joint international organization.

The name of the Finnish project is “Transformation of onomastic landscape in socio-linguistically diversifying neighbourhoods of Helsinki”. The founding idea of the project is to investigate the current onomastic landscape of Helsinki from the viewpoint of place names (both official and unofficial) in use within various social segments of the population. The theoretical background of the project derives from the new, inherently cross-disciplinary approach it adopts to urban toponymy. Thus, the project combines the methodological and theoretical strengths of linguistics and geography in the study of everyday uses and meanings of urban toponyms, used by the interviewed socio-cultural groups.

Results would be scientifically valuable and unique. Information about how people in various countries use urban placenames could be achieved in a reliable and comparable way. Similarities and differences between the use of urban names could be found and reasons for them analyzed.

Isolde HAUSNER: From my point of view a transnational project group, made up of countries which participate in the Alps, could work on a common cultural-historical project researching the names, the languages and the cultivation of the Alps on the whole.

Rita CAPRINI: Almeno in teoria, gli ambiti che offrono le basi migliori per una collaborazione internazionale mi sembrano la raccolta e la descrizione del patrimonio onomastico, specie di lingue affini (quelle europee, per esempio). In realtà sono lavori che richiedono un buon numero di ricercatori nei vari Paesi e la possibilità di discutere a intervalli regolari i risultati. Purtroppo recenti esperienze di questo tipo, che non occorre qui nominare, hanno dimostrato le notevoli difficoltà di tali imprese. Se si esce poi dall'Europa, e ci si avvicina a sistemi onomastici molto diversi, le difficoltà sono destinate ad aumentare.

Teodor OANCA: In ciò che riguarda la toponomastica, la tematica può essere basata sulla ricerca interdisciplinare; lo studio dei nomi di luogo presuppone il loro trattamento almeno dalla prospettiva storica e geografica; evidenza le interferenze linguisti-

che al livello della lingua comune, in seguito al contatto diretto tra i parlanti di varie lingue. Da questo punto di vista, lo studio dei nomi di luogo può essere affrontato in due direzioni principali: a) lo studio dei toponimi formati da voci del lessico, prese in prestito da lingue con cui la lingua base è venuta in contatto (nel caso della Romania, penso ai toponimi creati con parole romene di origine straniera: bulgara, ungherese, serba, turca, ucraina, ecc.); b) lo studio dei toponimi di origine straniera su un dato territorio.

In ciò che riguarda l'antroponomastica, val la pena tenere in considerazione, per realizzare studi comparati, più direzioni di ricerca: a) l'identificazione dei criteri di formazione dei nomi di persona, dei soprannomi, dei cognomi; b) per gli antroponimi creati dal lessico, appartenenti a microsistemi lessicali ben individualizzati, come i nomi di mestieri, nomi etnici, nome di incarichi pubblici, nomi di animali e di piante, ecc., la possibilità di stabilire una comparazione in base alle voci e alla loro frequenza tra i sistemi antroponimici delle varie lingue.

Bruno PORCELLI: Rispondo relativamente all'onomastica letteraria, in cui mi sento più competente per l'esperienza di ricerca che normalmente conduco. Credo che progetti di collaborazione internazionale nel campo dell'onomastica letteraria debbano mirare innanzi tutto (non soltanto, ovviamente) alla creazione di repertori delle pubblicazioni realizzati attraverso un censimento dell'esistente e suddivisi secondo le varie aree critiche nazionali/culturali (critica negli Stati Uniti, negli altri Paesi di lingua inglese, ecc.) e secondo le varie letterature oggetto d'esame onomastico (letteratura biblica, letteratura greca, ecc.). Bisognerà dare anche evidenza sia all'ordine cronologico e all'ordine alfabetico degli autori esaminati dai critici sia all'ordine cronologico e all'ordine alfabetico dei critici. Conciliare tante cose non è facile, ma per repertori di tale ampiezza sarebbe necessario. Essi devono fornire molteplici chiavi di ricerca.

Ana M. CANO GONZÁLEZ: Los de caracter más general y común a las diferentes lenguas y culturas. Habría que buscar la afinidad mática. En toponimia, por ejemplo, todo lo relacionado con la realidad física de un territorio, sobre todo cuando esas realidades son parecidas. En antroponimia, todo lo relacionado con el acto de la imposición del nombre, la motivación, la moda, etc. Si se trata de lenguas genealógicamente afines, creo que PATROM (Patronymica Romanica) es un buen ejemplo.

Emili CASANOVA i HERRERO: La toponimia procedente del territorio como la oronimia, la hidrografía, la botánica, la fauna, etc., podrían y deberían ser estudiados con una visión, por lo menos, románica (europea, sería más complicado por la dificultad de conocer todas las lenguas). Muchas dudas históricas y etimológicas se corregirían con una visión general, y sobre todo se aprovecharían mejor los recursos y las aportaciones de los investigadores de distintos países, ya que en el fondo la toponimia es la misma para todos. La antroponimia, de nombres y apellidos e incluso de apodos debería ser completada después de la experiencia del PATROM. Se debería también crear un observatorio para estudiar la creación de nuevos nombres.

Elwys DE STEFANI: Non vedo nessuna restrizione tematica cui si dovrebbe piegare la collaborazione internazionale.

2) How could these projects be promoted from a scientific point of view?

Sheila EMBLETON: Through congresses and publications, such as we are all doing. Through more media awareness, and making that media awareness not just on the level of interesting anecdote, but showing (without details, obviously) that there is a whole scientific study/basis underpinning it. In other words, we are not just about anecdotes (this is a view that a number of scholars have about us too, unfortunately). So we have to continually show our solid scholarship behind everything we do.

Albrecht GREULE: Vorausgehen muss immer eine möglichst international aus-geschriebene und besetzte Tagung (Symposium), um Aufmerksamkeit in der Öffent-lichkeit und in der scientific community zu bekommen.

Willy VAN LANGENDONCK: Researchers should agree on the specific areas to investi-gate and the methods to follow.

Elwys DE STEFANI: Incontri tra studiosi nell'ambito di convegni internazionali. E in-cremento dei contatti tra centri di studio di onomastica.

Teodor OANĂ: A seconda della tematica per la quale si ha un'opzione, potrebbero crearsi gruppi di lavoro misti, formati da ricercatori di vari Paesi, preferibilmente vicini. Tali gruppi potrebbero operare in base a un protocollo di collaborazione in cui siano ben fissati obiettivi e metodi di ricerca, condizioni di finanziamento e finalizza-zione dei risultati conseguiti.

Aleksandra CIEŚLIKOWA: All projects should be reviewed and evaluated by an inter-national body of competent scholars.

Botolv HELLELAND: Any project must be based on motivation and the conviction of scientific relevance, also outside the onomastic circles. Bilateral projects within uni-versities may be possible, especially between universities which have agreements on cooperation and exchange.

Perhaps members of ICOS should be asked quite simply if they are working on or planning projects that they would like to see followed up in bilateral or multilateral contexts. Another idea: should ICOS take an initiative in the direction of EU (Com-mission)?

Helen KERFOOT: To initiate a project and to disseminate it afterwards are both realms of activity of interest to the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN).

Pierre-Henri BILLY: Par le biais des Universités, de tels projets peuvent être présentés devant les institutions nationales (Ministères des Affaires Etrangères notamment) et internationales (European Foundation for Sciences...).

Jean GERMAIN: En Europe, en faisant reconnaître des thèmes ou des projets reconnus comme d'utilité publique et citoyenne.

Dieter KREMER: Collaboration entre spécialistes des régions/langues considérées; un seul centre directeur/organisateur...

Emili CASANOVA i HERRERO: Creo que el modelo del PATROM podría servir para rea-lizar estos trabajos, si se acotan bien los objetivos, los medios y las fechas de entrega. Por lo menos, aunque luego algunos territorios o lenguas no terminaran su trabajo, el empuje onomástico para los otros sería tal que se podría hablar de un estado toponí-mico anterior y posterior al proyecto. Debería ser coordinado por los mejores investi-gadores en el seno de las universidades y centros de investigación, pero con la colabo-ración de los magníficos estudiosos no universitarios que pueblan nuestra geografía. Para asegurarse el éxito se podría trabajar por módulos, es decir, 4 años para la hidro-nimia, 4 para la oronimia, etc, y así se podría contar con expertos en las distintas espe-cialidades como asesores. Y debería crearse un comité general y otro por cada territo-rio, lingüístico o nacional. Se debería atender a la toponimia sincrónica y a la diacróni-ca, de manera que en el proyecto deberían trabajar filólogos, historiadores y geógrafos.

Kay MUHR: Often scholars in other fields need wooing on a one-to-one basis until they see that names studies can make a serious contribution to understanding the wider issues in their own field.

Svavar SIGMUNDSSON: With collaboration of scientists, name researchers and data experts, both in universities and research institutions (academies), through working groups and conferences.

Terhi AINIALA: A common leading group consisting of researchers from various countries and organisations would be the best solution. Researches working in the project should follow the principles and researchers methods agreed to the project.

Zhonghua LI: As people of the world are going toward globalization in various ways, there will be more and more awareness that mutual understanding is increasingly im-portant. That awareness, I would say, is an important basis.

Jürgen UDOLPH: Die Erfahrungen der letzten Jahre haben – zumindestens in Deutsch-land – gezeigt, daß derartige Vorhaben recht gut an den Akademien angesiedelt werden können, da es sich nicht selten um langfristige Unternehmen handelt, die die Laufzeit etwa der durch die Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft geförderten Projekte erheblich überschreitet.

Adrian KOOPMAN: Research supervised by qualified onomastic scientists linguists, etc.; research done within the framework of established institutions; research done as part of post-graduate degree study research published in established and authoritative journals and other outlets.

Enzo CAFFARELLI: All institutions interested in international collaboration could create at least a little section, with a small budget, in order to reach the goal. Administrative skills in the field of international research and fund-raising and management of projects are strongly recommended.

Rita CAPRINI: Occorrono soldi. In questo momento non vedo da dove si potrebbero prendere: nella mia Università compro regolarmente io stessa la carta per fotocopie e spedisco la posta a mie spese...

Doreen GERRITZEN: I would like to stress the importance of a shared methodology. A close integration into the academic world (including onomastic institutions) is a condition for success. For good promotion it is also important to present the ongoing projects at national and international conferences (not only the onomastic ones, but also linguistic, sociological, etc. conferences). Of course, to have a high quality, up-to-date website is also relevant.

Isolde HAUSNER: These projects can be promoted by the Academy of Sciences in the various countries or by the Universities related to this kind of research.

Milan HARVALÍK: It is important to consider the project thoroughly and to make a detailed plan of works. The quality of a project depends on the quality of its preparations and on the qualities of its collaborators. For this reason it is necessary to involve highly regarded experts and eminent scholars into the project.

3) Which national funds could support these projects (scientific institutions, local funding)?

Ana M. CANO GONZÁLEZ: Habría que contar con financiación de todo tipo, pero si el proyecto es internacional, además de los recursos locales o nacionales, habría que buscar una fuente de financiación internacional.

Sheila M. EMBLETON: As is of course no surprise, funding agencies only support their own priorities. So local history can usually find local funding, toponymic or anthroponymic databases can often find national-level government funding, and so on. Research funds exist, but are harder to come by and smaller in amount, for the scholarly aspect of the research.

Jürgen UDOLPH: Wir waren zwar in letzter Zeit bei der Einwerbung von finanziellen Mitteln bei lokalen Organisationen (staatlichen Stellen, Banken, Sparkassen u.ä.) er-

folgreich, aber diese Institutionen unterstützen im allgemeinen lieber lokale, örtliche Projekte wie etwa das Ortsnamenbuch eines Kreises oder einer Region.

Albrecht GREULE: Erfahrungsgemäß unterstützen solche Projekte die „national funds“ nicht. Infrage käme die Wirtschaft; darin habe ich aber noch keine Erfahrung.

Milan HARVALÍK: Such projects can be supported especially by universities, institutes, academies of sciences, grant agencies.

Enzo CAFFARELLI: First of all, we have to know if our institutions are able and interested to invest in these kind of projects. Secondly, considering the “heritage” topic, the EU Commission, with all its project lines, could be the ideal source of financing. Thirdly, local institutions like municipalities, autonomous provinces and regions, etc. are more interested in promoting their heritage and their proper names as cultural value than the national institutions. In this case, of course, every project could confront restricted (local) onomastic stocks and realities. But with enough homogeneity good results of international standing could be assured.

Doreen GERRITZEN: I do not think it is realistic to apply for money to pay researchers. We should concentrate on possibilities to finance conferences and publications. If we can find a few national institutes or universities willing to invest in an international project, it should become easier to apply for EU money. But first of all we need a good description of a project and the names of some researchers with an excellent reputation to participate.

Svavar SIGMUNDSSON: First and foremost scientific institutions but local funding is also imaginable. The name of the national research fund in Iceland is Rannís – The Icelandic Centre for Research. A scientific institution at the University of Iceland is the Centre for Research in the Humanities.

Aleksandra CIEŚLIKOWA: In Poland projects can only be supported by grants allocated by the State Committee for Research Work or by the Ministry of Education. Such a grant was allocated to us for the preparation of the two-volume work *Slavic Onomastics Encyclopedia*. In this project scholars of twelve Slavic countries worked together.

Laimute BALODE: The only linguistic scientific project financed by the EU in the Baltic countries known to me, concerns an exhibition of Baltic dialects (which involved Latvia, Lithuania and Germany) in 2004.

Botolv HELLELAND: National research councils, like the Norwegian Research Councils, as the authorities are in favour of international research projects.

Mats WAHLBERG – Eva BRYLLA: “Private”: Vitterhetsakademien, Svenska Akademien, Kungliga Gustav Adolfs Akademien, Riksbankens jubileumsfond. “State”: Vetenskapsradet.

Emili CASANOVA i HERRERO: El financiamiento hoy no es un problema si se organiza por módulos concretos y por objetivos a cumplir en períodos de tiempo estipulado, por lo menos para España. Aparte de los ministerios y organismos regionales responsables de la investigación se pueden conseguir fondos de los institutos cartográficos y de las instituciones locales. Y se pueden pedir becas de investigación por temas, zonas y épocas. Y sobre todo la UE tiene ayudas para coordinación de equipos y proyectos de esta envergadura.

Willy VAN LANGENDONCK: In Belgium no funding will be possible.

Rita CAPRINI: Speriamo nell'Unione Europea... Ma da anni non ricevo nemmeno i fondi per la ricerca "di base" dalla mia Università.

Dieter KREMER: Illusoire, dans une grande mesure...

Jean GERMAIN: Les institutions européennes ne vont financer, je pense, que des projets d'harmonisation onomastique, du type de ceux déjà en cours au sein de l'ONU comme le GENUNG (gestion toponymique, étude des exonymes). Je les vois mal s'intéresser à des études de microtoponymie et d'éléments celtiques dans la toponymie. Les co-financements nationaux resteront longtemps encore une solution, mais ils sont difficiles à harmoniser quand on voit l'expérience de PATROM (où le CNRS français n'a pas suivi). Tout cela est souvent une question de personnes et d'influences "politiques" au sein des organes de décision.

Kay MUHR: We have considered applying to EU IT funding to put information on names as "cultural information of interest to the citizen" on the web – but so far have not found partners willing to put in the work to apply. Ordnance Survey N.I. (Northern Ireland), our current supporters, may have the resources to take this further. So I suppose we have the mapping agency here interested, but at a more popular level than academic backers would like.

Terhi AINIALA: In Finland the Academy of Finland could support a project like this.

Isolde HAUSNER: In the case of Alpine research all countries which signed the Alpine Conventions committed to support the research of the Alps on a broad level and for this undertaking national funds have been installed.

Teodor OANĂ: Il finanziamento di queste ricerche può essere assicurato dalle università, da istituzioni scientifiche di ricerca, Queste sono in grado di pagare con risorse proprie o di ottenere fondi dall'UE, in base ai protocolli firmati dai collettivi misti di ricerca.

Pierre-Henri BILLY: Les modes de financement peuvent être trouvés à trois échelons: région administrative, Etat, Europe/UNESCO.

Elwys DE STEFANI: Fondi di ricerca nazionali e associazioni culturali locali.

Flavia HODGES: For specific collaborative projects the most promising avenue of funding is through the Australian Research Council's "Linkage International" awards, which are designed to build links between researchers, research teams and research centres of excellence in Australia and overseas by funding extended collaborations. However, funding is available only to the Australian-based researchers and only towards the direct costs of the collaboration.

4) Have you any experience with various EU and international funds that could support these international projects?

Many correspondents indicated that they do not have such experience. However, some mention their ideas or could give their efforts in this respect.

Mats WAHLBERG – Eva BRYLLA: Yes, but it was complicated and time consuming. There is also the problem that the EU finances only one half.

Jean GERMAIN: Non, l'expérience avec la «Human sciences Foundation» de Strasbourg a été un échec dans le cadre de PATROM, probablement parce que les intérêts pour les projets en concurrence divergent selon les pays.

Emili CASANOVA i HERRERO: Sí, para proyectos similares de traducción entre lenguas de la UE, para normalización lingüística, etc.

Dieter KREMER: Jamais réussi, malgré l'intervention massive de la Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft.

Sheila M. EMBLETON: My only EU or international funding experience has involved student mobility and/or Masters level programs. Perhaps via Masters programs something could start? If there were a Masters level program (one of these international EU Masters, involving three institutions) and all project work/theses were directed to a common goal?

Aleksandra CIEŚLIKOWA: In the Polish Language Institute of the Polish Academy of Sciences there is a person who knows in what way it is possible to gain appropriate funds for scientific projects from the EU.

Jaromir KRŠKO: I tried to get some support from the grant called V-4 (Vissegrad fund) but realization of international projects is very difficult. I have not yet tried to get a grant from the EU.

István HOFFMANN: Unfortunately, I have no experiences hitherto as for the conditions of receiving EU funds. I am positive that after the first steps had been taken, we would be able to find Hungarian national funds supporting the project: we would

have good chances of being supported by the Hungarian Scientific Research Fund, which is also supporting the “Onomastica Uralica” programme.

Doreen GERRITZEN: I have been involved in organising funds for an international project in cooperation with Bertie Neethling (South Africa). Sponsoring was provided by one of the three major financiers of academic research in the Netherlands (NWO: Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek). My impression was that it is important to choose a subject of particular relevance to society today.

5) Which are the most problematic aspects and major obstacles in the realization of these international projects?

Sheila M. EMBLETON: Time and distance, not all of which can be overcome merely with funds, even if we had them. I do not think any different approaches or incompatibility of approach, or language barriers, etc. are the main problems.

Aleksandra CIEŚLIKOWA: The major obstacle in the realization of international projects consists of finding a coordinator for the project and of creating an appropriate research collective.

Botolv HELLELAND: Lack of readiness to involve oneself, bureaucracy, time-consuming planning.

Albrecht GREULE: Die Nationalsprachen und die Entfernungen. Teilweise auch die Brüsseler Bürokratie. Sprachunterschiedliche Terminologie und unterschiedliche Fachkulturen.

Pierre-Henri BILLY: Problèmes et obstacles sont indissolublement liés. D'une part, l'intérêt que peuvent porter les instances aux sciences humaines (d'où la nécessité de se tourner vers les noms de famille allogènes, sociologie à la mode oblige), d'autre part l'état des finances publiques (prétexte à de nombreux refus de subventions).

Jean GERMAIN: La compétition entre projets nationaux, d'inspirations diverses et de traditions différentes. Il convient de développer un très fort “lobbying”.

Dieter KREMER: La renommée (bien réduite) et l'ignorance assez générale des études onomastiques et de leur importance dans les divers pays/disciplines; le manque de chercheurs sérieux et préparés, ne suffisant pas la bonne volonté...

Jaromir KRŠKO: Major obstacles are that the international grants cover only 50% of the costs and the rest must be financed in another way (national grants, etc.). In general national grants are limited. Another problem is too much bureaucracy and that the projects are too general.

Ana M. CANO GONZÁLEZ: Los derivados de la necesidad de contar con personas de diferente formación, de diferente tradición cultural, etc.; la falta de homogeneidad

metodológica; el tiempo que esas personas puedan dedicar al proyecto; el problema lingüístico; y la financiación.

Emili CASANOVA i HERRERO: Los aspectos más problemáticos són encontrar profesores e investigadores que se dediquen a la onomástica el tiempo adecuado – la mayor parte de universitarios dedican a la onomástica sólo un tiempo de sus obligaciones – y que puedan comprometerse a dirigir y realizar los trabajos en el tiempo establecido.

Helen KERFOOT: This deserves a very lengthy and well thought out response, but in brief: people's time and appropriate funds!

Zhonghua LI: Understanding has not reached each others and so there are problems and obstacles. Understanding is extremely important.

Mats WAHLBERG – Eva BRYLLA: For us at SOFI: finding time and money – we have so many other things to do, that we cannot also be fully engaged in international projects, if we cannot engage “new” researchers for those projects. Traveling expenses.

Kay MUHR: Convincing funders that different languages, histories, cultures are worth comparing at this level.

Elwys DE STEFANI: In tempi in cui si privilegiano le cosiddette *life sciences*, l'onomastica si trova nella situazione sgradevole di dover convincere eventuali sostenitori e finanziatori dell'utilità della ricerca in questo campo.

Doreen GERRITZEN: A group of people with different backgrounds, various kinds of knowledge and from different onomastic cultures have to agree on the research question and the methods used. From a practical point of view it is also very important to use one language, a language that every scholar is supposed to be able to communicate in: English.

Willy VAN LANGENDONCK: Differences in approaches, languages and toponymic areas; funding of course.

Terhi AINIHALA: I find the economical aspects most problematic: financing the projects is always quite difficult. If the funding can be arranged, I guess problems arise with finding suitable researchers and assistants (students etc.) in various countries.

Jürgen UDOLPH: Es ist ein Zeitproblem. Die Durchsetzung und Durchführung derartiger, meist groß angelegter Projekte ist für Hochschullehrer neben ihrer „normalen“ Tätigkeit in der Hochschule kaum möglich. Da zudem keineswegs sicher ist, ob die finanzielle Unterstützung für das Vorhaben wirklich erlangt werden kann, zögern nicht wenige Kolleginnen und Kollegen damit, derartige Projekte überhaupt in Angriff zu nehmen.

Milan HARVALÍK: It is important to gather a team of skilled and enthusiastic collaborators and to have well elaborated theoretical and methodological backgrounds for

the work, which may be, due to different theoretical approaches and various stages of onomastic research in particular countries, rather difficult. Unfortunately, sometimes the most difficult task is to find funds that can financially support the project.

Rita CAPRINI: Per la mia esperienza, che riguarderà soprattutto gli atlanti linguistici, il problema è che bisogna tenere continuamente “sotto pressione” la macchina, e non è semplicissimo.

Enzo CAFFARELLI: I do not see real obstacles, except for the lack of interest by our institution for these kind of projects. Of course, to get funds is not easy.

6) Which positive results could be expected from this kind of international collaboration?

Aleksandra CIEŚLIKOWA: One of the most important results of international scientific collaboration will be the enrichment of research material. This collaboration will also produce new theoretical insights, show the similarities and dissimilarities in methodologies and promote common terminology.

Botolv HELLELAND: Better understanding of the shared past, better understanding of naming processes, which in its turn reveals mental processes.

Rita CAPRINI: Una maggiore conoscenza, dal punto di vista linguistico e sociale, dei sistemi di nomi propri nel mondo, visti senza la lente deformante dell’onomastica occidentale.

Jean GERMAIN: Des résultats d’ordre pratique essentiellement, comme des normes toponymiques, des corpus supra-nationaux, etc.

Pierre-Henri BILLY: De tels projets sont un moyen de mettre en pratique les liens déjà existants entre les chercheurs de différentes nations, de créer d’autres liens, de faire progresser la collaboration internationale qui est, pour l’instant, plus une addition de travaux qu’une collaboration pour un travail précis et commun.

Ana M. CANO GONZÁLEZ: La realización de estudios comparados y exhaustivos que de otro modo son prácticamente inabarcables.

Dieter KREMER: Résultats “secondaires” pour d’autres disciplines (linguistique, histoire socio-culturelle, etc.)...

Laimute BALODE: Coordination of the onomastic research in different countries. International card indexes could be collected, and made available on a website.

Helen KERFOOT: For instance, tangible materials: databases of common interest crossing national boundaries (e.g. Saami toponyms in Norway, Sweden and Finland,

or circumpolar indigenous toponymy) and multilingual glossaries of terms, just example of communication tools that could become available on the web.

Sheila M. EMBLETON: Perhaps some more visibility and progress as we train the next generation, if we can do something with EU international Masters programs.

Mats WAHLBERG – Eva BRYLLA: A broader outlook, wider perspectives, new perspectives on national names.

Willy VAN LANGENDONCK: For terminology it would be obvious (if people can agree). As to theory, we would have an inventory of approaches, and maybe see what advantages there are in having such and such an approach. At least, contacts between researchers would be furthered.

Albrecht GREULE: Die Überwindung nationaler Grenzen; der wissenschaftliche Gedankenaustausch wird über die nationalen Grenzen erweitert und verbessert.

Zhonghua LI: One of the positive results is better and deeper understanding between peoples of the world. That is one of the aims international collaboration should work for.

Teodor OANĂ: La colaborazione internazionale può portare a ottenere risultati buoni per: a) conoscere le influenze reciproche tra varie lingue (specialmente voci a carattere regionale che spiegano l’origine di vari antroponomi o toponimi); b) spiegare tramite materiali onomastici numerosi aspetti della storia di un popolo nelle varie epoche; c) identificare i criteri di organizzazione strutturale che caratterizzano l’onomastica di una certa zona geografica.

Elwys DE STEFANI: La collaborazione internazionale permetterebbe di avviare studi contrastivi tra lingue diverse. Spesso – soprattutto nella ricerca antroponomastica – si tende a enfatizzare il ruolo attribuito ai nomi nella costituzione di un’identità sociale, per cui vengono evocate presunte specificità dei nomi correnti in una determinata zona. Sarebbe importante, invece, individuare modelli di denominazione al di là dei limiti socioculturali che le diversità linguistiche sembrano imporci.

Kay MUHR: Sometimes comparative study can give a morale boost to minority language groups whose contribution has otherwise been neglected.

Svavar SIGMUNDSSON: A more accurate and reliable comparison of names to work with in the field of name typology.

Jürgen UDOLPH: Es ist keine Frage, daß jede Art von Zusammenarbeit, gleichgültig, ob im nationalen oder im internationalen Rahmen, fruchtbar ist. Allerdings erfordert auch die Umsetzung des Vorhabens Zeit, es müssen Besprechungen und Konferenzen abgehalten haben, Reisen durchgeführt werden und Forschungsvorhaben abgestimmt werden.

Doreen GERRITZEN: Onomastics, like any other science, can benefit enormously from more international collaboration and exchange. Traditionally there is too much concentration on nationally or even regionally orientated research. Since the number

of onomastic scholars is limited in most countries, this leads to an introverted kind of science, which turns away from innovation and progress.

Adrian KOOPMAN: Quality research outputs from a combination of ideas, skills and experience; personal growth among participants as a result of exposure to the ideas, skills and experiences of others; network-building which will benefit future undertakings as well the general day-to-day benefits of academic cooperation such as extending ones network of potential referees, external examiners, etc.; learning about research initiatives in, and the research capabilities of, other countries and institutions; and more.

Milan HARVALÍK: International projects enable to cross borders of national research which can (and, in fact, must) be restricted to some extent and allow to achieve results that cannot be obtained on the basis of individual or national work. These kind of activities will prove a good basis for studies that can stimulate further elaboration of onomastic theory.

Emili CASANOVA i HERRERO: Los resultados serán con seguridad buenos. Por una parte, los proyectos incitarán a crear equipos de investigación en zonas donde no ha habido hasta ahora, potenciarán la instalación de asignaturas de onomástica en los planes de estudio y en los doctorados, se realizarán con mayor perspectiva las investigaciones locales y se realizará la importancia de la materia delante de los ciudadanos y sus dirigentes; por otra, permitirán tener una visión transfronteriza y románica (o europea) de las tendencias onomásticas, de los topónimos y nombres concretos existentes, de las explicaciones de su evolución histórica que se le dan en los diversos sitios y estos conocimientos iluminarán los de otros sitios.

Enzo CAFFARELLI: First of all, a growing interest in the onomastic field both from administration and from the general public. To be financed, projects have to produce a cascade of information and interaction; so a bottom-up reaction is expected and should be welcomed. Secondly, the scientific community could take some profitable advantage from comparative studies. And finally, the academic institution, which benefits from the success of this initiative, could invest more money and pay more attention to didactics and research in the onomastic field. How many chairs of Onomastics are established at the universities in Europe? Less than five, I presume. Hoping for a better situation in the future.

Discussion

The answers to the first question – *1) Which onomastic topics, themes or research questions would present the best basis for collaboration between institutions and researches in various countries?* – make clear that there is not one theme that is generally considered as most appropriate. However, some subjects are mentioned more than once, like name theory, terminology and dictionaries. Also general themes like place-names and settlement,

generic terms in geographical names, the system of toponyms and names among indigenous and minority groups are in favour to use for international projects. A specific suggestion comes from Jürgen Udolph where he mentions the possibility of doing historical research which ignores present-day boundaries. Globalisation and urbanisation cause changes in society which have influence on naming. Since these phenomena affect all countries it is interesting to compare this influence. Another modern theme is the study of brand names, which have universal aspects too. Several name scholars indicate that a contrastive approach shows the advantages of international cooperation.

The answers to the next question – *How could these projects be promoted from a scientific point of view?* – show that a forum for the exchange of ideas is an important part of international cooperation, mainly in the form of conferences, but also through websites. Another important aspect is a group of highly regarded experts to supervise the project. And of course the involved researchers should agree on the principles and research methods. A simple but inspiring idea comes from Botolv Hellesland when he suggests that ICOS could take an initiative by asking their members if they are working on projects that are suited for international cooperation.

The third question concerns the financial aspect: *Which national funds could support these projects (scientific institutions, local funding)?* The answers show that it will not be easy to get national funds for an international name project. There are however some optimistic messages as well. In Finland, in Norway, and in Spain, for example, it is not impossible to get money for international projects. Furthermore there are ways and reasons to believe that the EU could provide support.

The responses to the fourth question – *Have you any experience with various EU and international funds that could support these international projects?* – make clear that there is not a lot of such experience in the onomastic world. If people have tried it, they found out that it takes a lot of time and effort. Another problem is that the EU finances only a part of the costs.

The answers to the fifth question – *Which are the most problematic aspects and major obstacles in the realization of these international projects?* make clear that lack of time, bureaucracy and finding money are the main obstacles. We should convince funders that different languages, histories, cultures are worth comparing at this level, as Kay Muhr says.

Despite all these problems we can end with a positive sound. The last question – *Which positive results could be expected from this kind of international collaboration?* – shows that onomastics can profit when international contacts are intensified through joint research. «As to theory, we would have an inventory of approaches, and maybe see what advantages there are in having such and such an approach», Willy Van Langendonck answered. It would also promote common terminology or at least produce multilingual glossaries of terms. We would develop new perspectives on national names and learn a lot from the ideas, skills and experiences of other onomasticians. And if we are successful we will have a better chance to raise money for – national or international – projects in the future.