

Proposal for the Generation Panel for the Georgian Script Label Generation Ruleset for the Root Zone

1. General Information

The Georgian scripts are the three writing systems used to write the Georgian language: Asomtavruli, Nuskhuri and Mkhedruli. Mkhedruli (Georgian: მხედრული) is the current Georgian script and is therefore the standard script for modern Georgian and its related Kartvelian languages, whereas Asomtavruli and Nuskhuri are used only in ceremonial religious texts and iconography.

Like the two other scripts, Mkhedruli is purely unicameral. Mkhedruli first appears in the 10th century - the oldest Mkhedruli inscription found is dated back to 982 AD. Mkhedruli is written horizontally following the standard Left-to-Right direction, with the space between words. The modern Georgian alphabet consists of 33 letters, (5 vowels, 28 consonants) with no upper case characters - Georgian script comes in only a single type face.

The first Georgian script was added to the Unicode Standard in October, 1991 with the release of version 1.0.

1.1 Script For Which The Panel Is To Be Established

ISO 15924 – Code: Geor

ISO 15924 – Number: 240

ISO 15924 - Georgian (Mkhedruli)

Geor Unicode Range: U +10A0 – U +10FF [The Unicode Standard 8.0]

The Georgian Generation Panel will consider the subset of code points within this range, which have been shortlisted in MSR-2 (Maximal Starting Repertoire; Version 2)

1.2 Principal Languages Using The Geor Script

Georgian script is used to write Georgian language, which is the official language for Georgia.

Additionally:

- Mingrelian, a South Caucasian language spoken in north-western Georgia by perhaps half a million people.
- Laz, a South Caucasian language closely related to Mingrelian and spoken in Turkey and Georgia by about 33,000 people.
- Svan, a South Caucasian language with about 30,000 speakers mainly in the northwest of Georgia.

- Abkhaz, a Northwest Caucasian language, was also once written with the Mkhedruli alphabet, but is now written with the Cyrillic alphabet.

As these languages are small in speaking population, they are not listed in ISO 639 Code Table. However, the Panel may look at these languages during the analysis.

1.3 Geographic Territories Or Countries With Significant User Communities For The Script

Georgian, a Kartvelian or South Caucasian language spoken by about 4.1 million people mainly in Georgia, and also in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, USA and Uzbekistan.

1.4 Related Scripts

Geor is a unique script, so there are no other scripts visually similar to Georgian. However, the Generation Panel will do detailed analysis to determine similarities with other existing scripts.

2. Proposed Initial Composition Of The Panel

The panel consists of the individuals, who are actively involved in research and development of the Georgian language computing and the maintenance of the DNS in Georgia. Additionally, community members working on Georgian language are also invited to the Panel. The panel members come from government, education sector, ccTLD registry, community and private sector.

2.1 List Of Panel Members

Name	Role	Designation	Organization
Konstantine Karosanidze	DNS / IDNA / Unicode Expert	UNIX System Administrator	Information Technologies Development Centre
Mzia Gogilashvili	Policy Expert	Chief Specialist/International Affairs Coordinator Strategy Development Department	Georgian National Communications Commission
David Birman	Community Representative	Chief Digital Officer	Bank of Georgia
Sophio Elizbarashvili	Generation Panel Chair	PR & social media manager	Information Technologies Development Centre

Malcolm Taylor	XML code Developer	Chief Specialist of System Administration	Information Technologies Development Centre
Marine Beridze	Linguistic Expert	Chief executive of linguistic data digital processing department	Arnold Chikobava State Institute Of Linguistics
Ia Feradze	Registry Expert	.GE Domain Administrator	Caucasus Online

The panel may invite additional members if required.

3. Work Plan

3.1 Suggested Timeline Of Significant Milestones

Activity	Description	Start Date	Duration
Develop Principles	Principles that will be used to determine valid code variants, labels and points		completed
Determine Code points	Choose from 37 code points from MSR Version 2, needed for the root zone.		completed
Determine Variants, if any	Determine any confusing code points from those selected.		completed
Determine Label Rules	Identify any level label constraints in the use of the selected code points.	February 2016	3 months
Public Consultation	Organize and hold a workshop for spreading the Generation Panel results to the public. (community and experts)	June 2016	1 day
Develop Proposal and XML [EXTensible Markup Language]	Write up Root Zone LGR proposal, including references for every code point included, label rules, variants and provide XML file.	May 2016	1 month
Submission	Collect public feedback, summarize and make final corrections for submission.	July 2016	1 week

3.2 Anticipated Support from ICANN

The majority of above listed activities and discussions will be held in face to face interactions, so the Panel will use the materials provided by ICANN for sharing administrative information and discussions. The Panel outcomes will be provided in details to relevant ICANN members and will be published proactively at <http://www.დომენი.გე/პროცედურები>

The panel does not anticipate any additional support from ICANN.

3.3 ICANN Provided Advisors

The panel anticipates that it will not require an additional DNS/IDN expert to interact with the panel.