



Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

THE GLOBAL GOALS For Sustainable Development

Target

Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels.

Indicators

Diversity in representation in key decision-making bodies (legislature, executive, and judiciary).

Names offer
universal access
to maps



The standardized international nomenclature of the surface features of planetary bodies.

The place-names of planetary surface features are approved by the International Astronomical Union; its Gazetteer is maintained by the United States Geological Survey and supported by NASA. These three organizations ensure that the names that appear on the maps of planets, moons and asteroids provide an equal representation of humanity for the foreseeable future. Today, names are taken from more than 355 nations and cultures from Algeria to the Virgin Islands.

However, when most planetary features on the near side of the Moon and on Mars got their names in the 17-19th centuries, they were named by individual astronomers in Europe. At that time the most universally accepted and neutral pool of

names was the ancient world and mythology. This tradition was continued by IAU, and many of these names are also used today. Astronomers also used the names of scientists, to commemorate their achievements, a tradition also kept today. Since the early 20th century this system is standardized: only one name is accepted officially and all names must be approved by IAU. There are few disputes, however, for example, the Russian names of catenae on the far side of the Moon, the name "Mount Sharp" NASA uses for "Aeolis Mons" at the landing site of the American Curiosity rover. Even the pronunciation can suggest meaningful differences: Charon may be pronounced as "Sharon", following its discoverer's intention, and

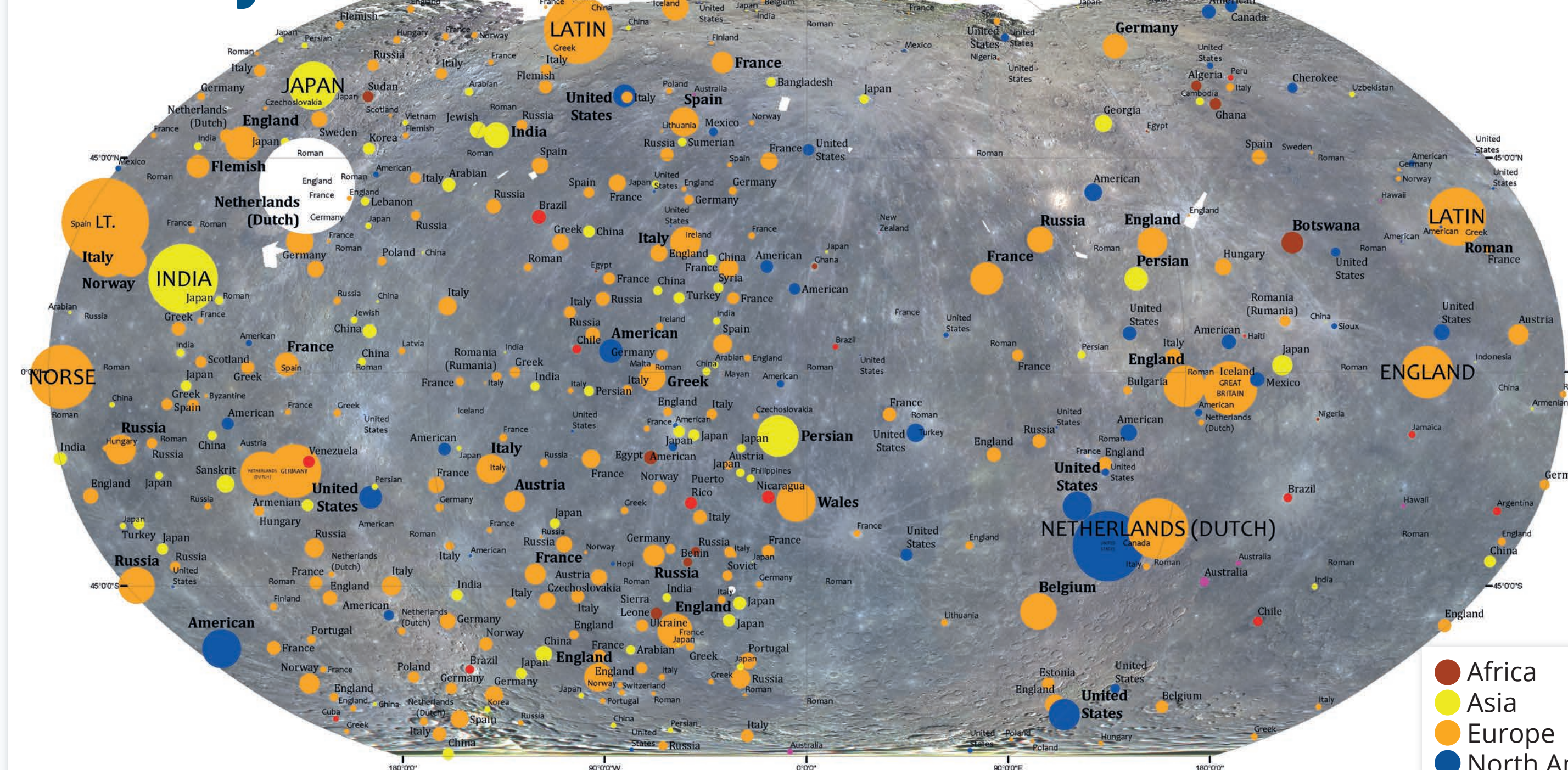
referring to his wife, Charlene; or as "Kharon", referring to the Greek mythological ferryman of the underworld, as preferred by IAU.

Although the names are taken from many nations, they have only one official form, using the latin alphabet. Our commission is working on collecting, providing access and helping standardize the names in other writing systems, from Cyrillic to Chinese to Arabic, to ensure that the names will be really felt to belong to all, regardless of which alphabet their language uses.

In the future, when planetary surfaces could be regarded as industrial resources, this peaceful and neutral situation may change.

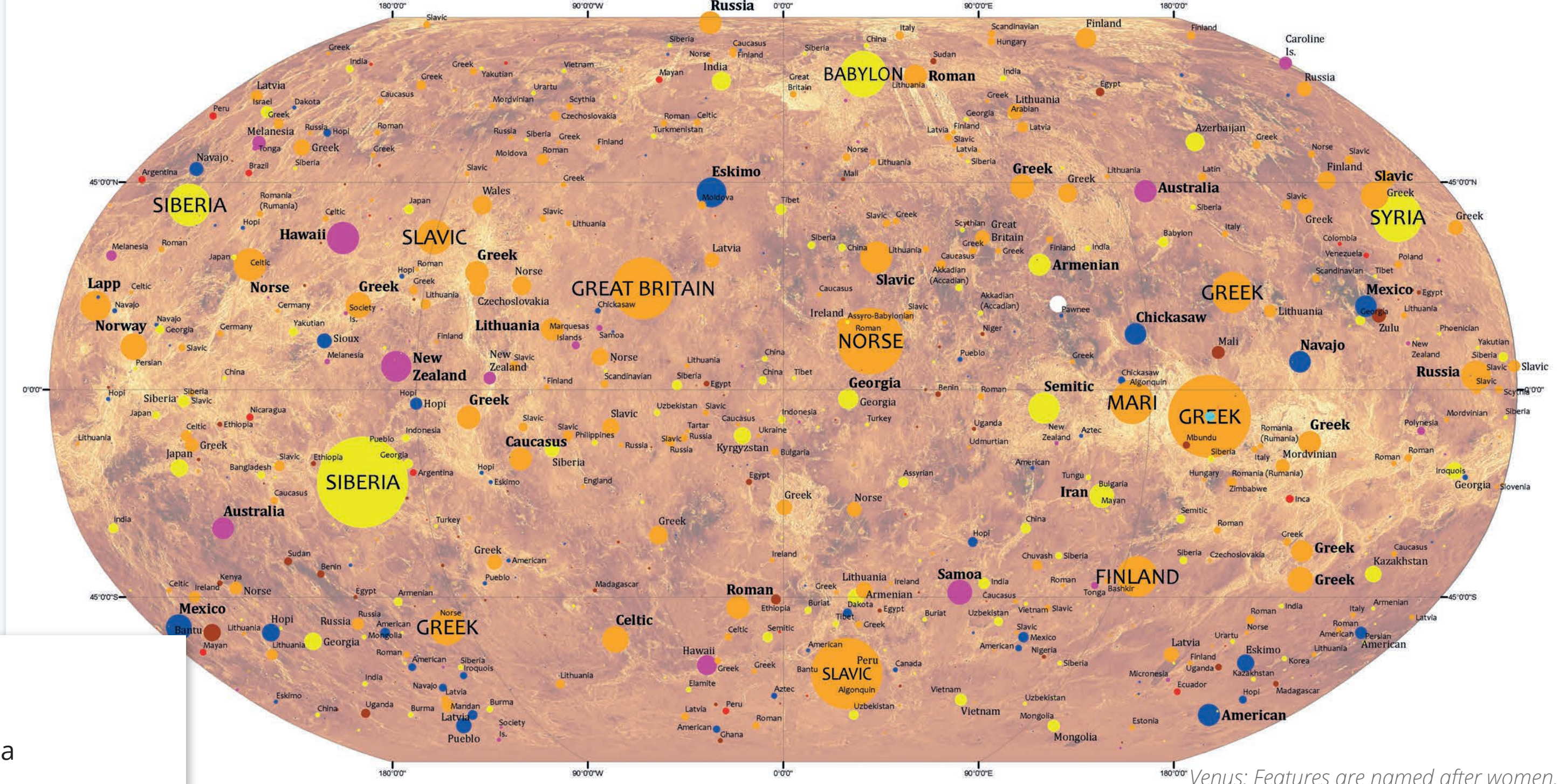
Ethnicities, languages or geographic origin of the placenames of the major surface features of Mercury, Venus, the Moon, Mars.

Mercury



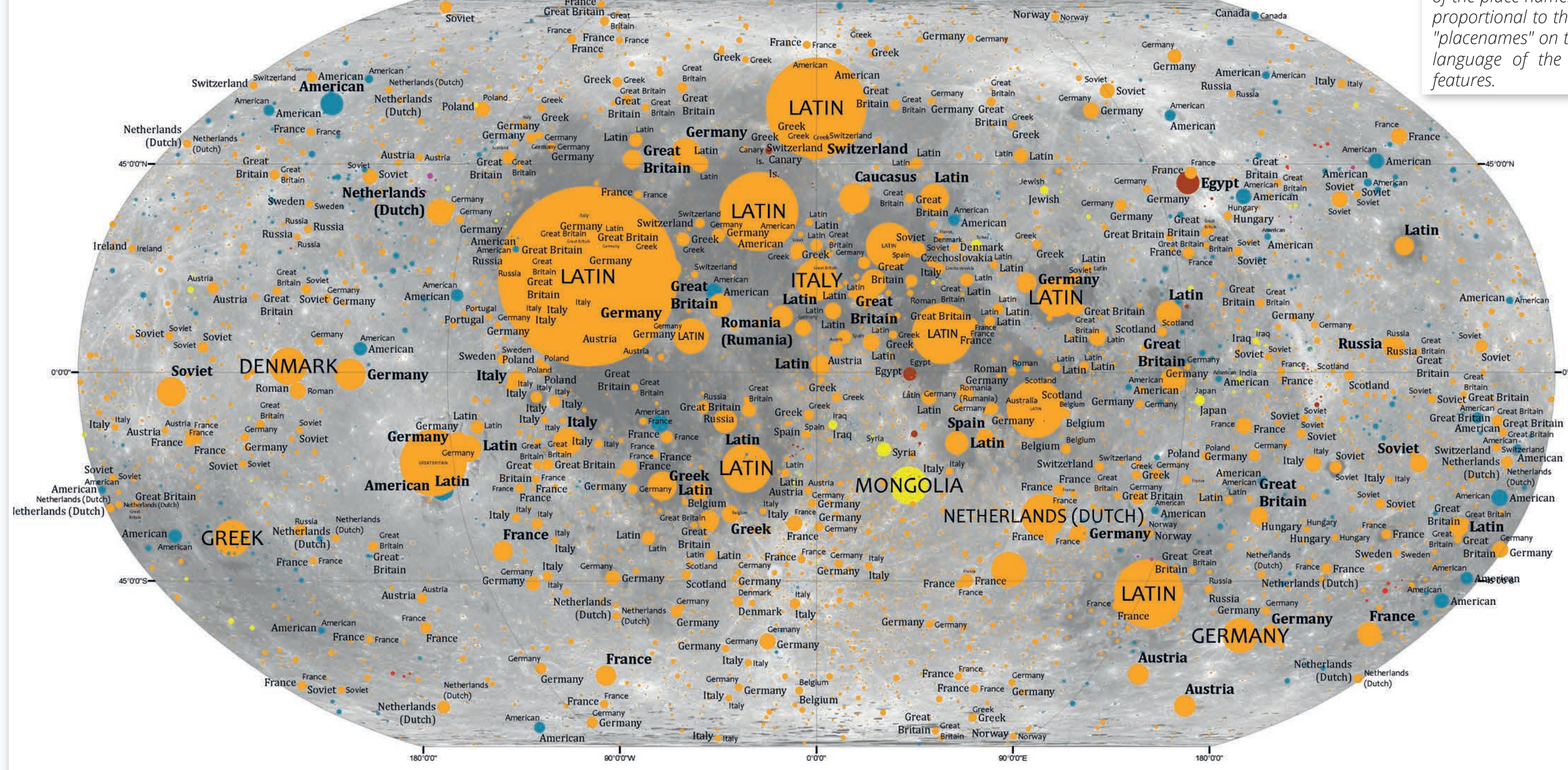
Mercury: Features are named after artists on Earth.

Venus



Venus: Features are named after women.

Moon



Moon: Features are named after scientists.

Mars



Mars: Craters are named after either scientists or towns.

From the UN Outer Space Treaty (1962):

Outer space is not subject to national appropriation by claim of sovereignty, by means of use or occupation, or by any other means.

From the IAU Gazetteer of Planetary Nomenclature Rules:

- Solar system nomenclature should be international in its choice of names.
- Recommendations submitted to the IAU national committees will be considered, but final selection of the names is the responsibility of the International Astronomical Union.

The main goal of the ICA **Commission on Planetary Cartography** aims Strengthen Education and Public Outreach activities through the series of Multilingual Maps of Terrestrial Planets and their Moons and development of derived products.

- Where appropriate, the WGPSN strongly supports an equitable selection of names from ethnic groups, countries, and gender on each map; however, a higher percentage of names from the country planning a landing is allowed on landing site maps.
- No names having political, military or religious significance may be used, except for names of political figures prior to the 19th century.

Data and Information Sources:

Mercury: Messenger mosaic,
Venus: Magellan Radar,
Moon: Clementine albedo,
Mars: MOLA topography, NASA.
Data on nomenclature: IAU Working Group for Planetary System Nomenclature

ICACI



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WE MAPS

INTERNATIONAL MAP YEAR 2015–2016

International Cartographic Association
Association Cartographique Internationale

