

Source: Emoji Subcommittee / Rick McGowan

Title: RGI Flag Request Omnibus

Date: 2017/10/19

Proposals have been received by the emoji subcommittee to make certain flags RGI. The appended documents are those that the subcommittee is recommending for now.

- Catalonia
- Brittany
- Basque
- Northern Ireland
- US 50 states

BASQUE FLAG EMOJI PROPOSAL

NAMES: Basque Flag; Basque Country; Ikurrina; Euskal Herria; País Vasco

IMAGE: proposed_0000.png



PROPOSED TAG SEQUENCES:

U+1F1EA U+1F1F0 (EK)

U+1F3F3 U+FE0F U+200D U+2733 (White flag Eight-Spoked Asterisk)

MEANING:

This emoji represents the basque territories in the western Pyrenees, that straddles the border between France and Spain on the Atlantic coast that already recognized by both states, the indigenous people and the ones on the diaspora (mainly USA) , their language and culture:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/French_Basque_Country

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_Basque_Country

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Basque_Country_\(autonomous_community\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Basque_Country_(autonomous_community))

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Basque_Country_\(greater_region\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Basque_Country_(greater_region))

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Basque_language

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Basques>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Basque_cuisine

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Basque_music

SELECTION FACTORS FOR INCLUSION:

A. Compatibility

N/A

B. Expected usage level:

Google displays those numbers when searching for those terms on 31/05/2017

Terms are grouped by reference/symbolism

TERMS REFERING TO BASQUE LANGUAGE

- Euskera: 18.200.000 results
- Euskara: 72.400.000 results
- Vasco: 100.000.000 results
- Basque: 80.100.000 results

TERMS REFERING TO BASQUE COUNTRY AS GEO-POLITICAL ENTITY

- Euskadi: 20.000.000 results
- "Euskal Herria": 7.140.000 results
- "Basque Country": 10.400.000 results
- "País Vasco": 20.300.000 results
- "Pays Basque": 8.030.000 results
- Ikurriña: 348.000 results
- Ikurrina: 191.000 results

TERMS REFERING TO ADJETIVES & PREFIXES MEANING "RELATED TO BASQUE"

- Euskal: 32.500.000 results
- Eusko: 9.810.000 results
- Basque*: 80.100.000 results
- Euskal*: 32.600.000 results
- Eusko*: 14.100.000 results

C. Image distinctiveness

The color and geometry make the flag different from the rest.

D. Completeness

Google Trends show that the following countries and territories, having their own emoji flag, have 'less interest over time' than "País Vasco"

*Countries and territories sharing a flag have been excluded.

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| 1. Antigua & Barbuda | 21. South Georgia & South Sandwich Islands | 40. Solomon Islands |
| 2. Anguilla | 22. Guinea-Bissau | 41. Sierra Leone |
| 3. American Samoa | 23. Kiribati | 42. South Sudan |
| 4. Åland Islands | 24. Comoros | 43. São Tomé & Príncipe |
| 5. Burundi | 25. St. Kitts & Nevis | 44. Sint Maarten |
| 6. St. Barthélemy | 26. Liechtenstein | 45. Swaziland |
| 7. Caribbean Netherlands | 27. Lesotho | 46. Chad |
| 8. Cook Islands | 28. Marshall Islands | 47. French Southern Territories |
| 9. Christmas Island | 29. Northern Mariana Islands | 48. Tajikistan |
| 10. Djibouti | 30. Mauritania | 49. Tokelau |
| 11. Dominica | 31. Montserrat | 50. Timor-Leste |
| 12. Western Sahara | 32. Norfolk Island | 51. Turkmenistan |
| 13. Falkland Islands | 33. Nauru | 52. Tonga |
| 14. Micronesia | 34. Niue | 53. Tuvalu |
| 15. Faroe Islands | 35. French Polynesia | 54. St. Vincent & Grenadines |
| 16. Grenada | 36. St. Pierre & Miquelon | 55. British Virgin Islands |
| 17. French Guiana | 37. Pitcairn Islands | 56. Vanuatu |
| 18. Gibraltar | 38. Palestinian Territories | 57. Wallis & Futuna |
| 19. Gambia | 39. Palau | 58. Mayotte |
| 20. Equatorial Guinea | | |

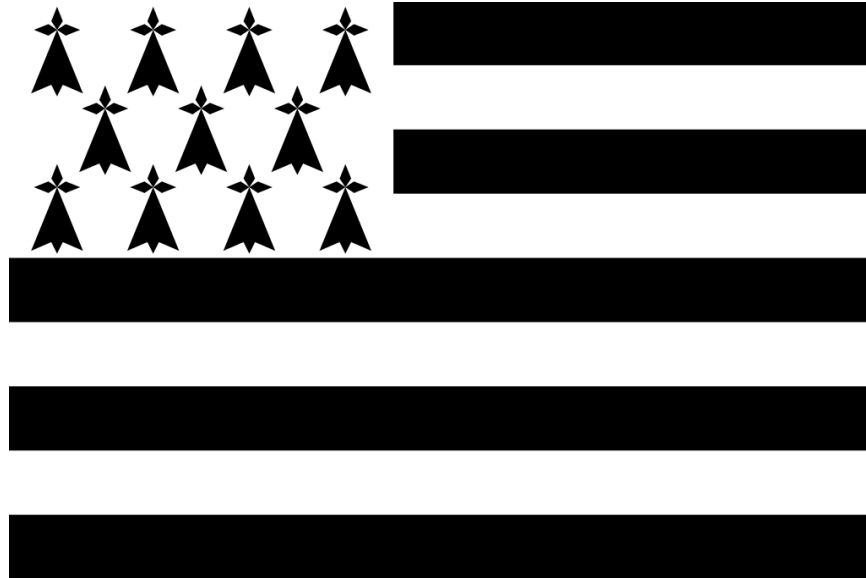
E. Frequently requested

Over 22.736 individuals have signed a petition to "include basque flag on WhatsApp" on Change.org. I guess they do not know what UNICODE is, but please consider it as the popular will: <https://www.change.org/p/whatsapp-emoticono-ikurri%C3%B1a-en-whatsapp>

Emoji Proposal

To: Unicode Consortium | **Submitter:** Letti Hellequin | **Subject:** Gwenn ha du

Date: 19th June 2017



Introduction

This proposal is for the addition of a flag emoji for the *Gwenn ha du*, or “white and black,” the flag of Brittany, a previously-autonomous region known as *Breizh* in the native language and as *Bretagne* in French. Although Brittany is now part of France, the indigenous population is ethnically separate from the French and the region remains of great cultural importance to Celtic people and the Breton diaspora.

1) Identification

A) Suggested short names:

Brittany, Bretagne, Breizh, Gwenn ha du, BZH,

An existing name purporting to belong to this flag is FR-BRE, the “Flag for Bretagne” emoji, **however** I can only find this listed on the Emojipedia website, **it does not seem to be a developed emoji** and it does not display as anything other than a black flag.

B) Suggested keywords:

Flag, Brittany, Bretagne, Breizh, France,

2) Images

640px-Gwenn_ha_du_(14_mouchetures).svg.png (public domain)

At the start of this document is a public domain digital image of the flag.
The flag has 11 “ermine” in the top left corner, and 5 black horizontal stripes.

3) Selection Factors – Inclusion

A) Compatibility

The Gwenn ha du is compatible with the existing emoji system, as a flag representing a state and region.

B) Expected usage level

1. Frequency

The Breton flag can be used to express Celtic origins, pride, and during festivals and on May 19th, the day of the patron saint of Brittany, Saint Ivo of Kermartin/ Saint Yves.

2. Multiple usages

The emoji could be used to express someone’s origins, denote travel to the region, support of sports teams, or represent a kind of food or festival.

Below are some images of the flag being used in various circumstances:



On food.



Clothing.



Objects and accessories.



Representation abroad.



At festivals.

3. Use in Sequences

Could be used with other Celtic flags such as Scotland, Wales, and the Isle of Man.

C) Image distinctiveness

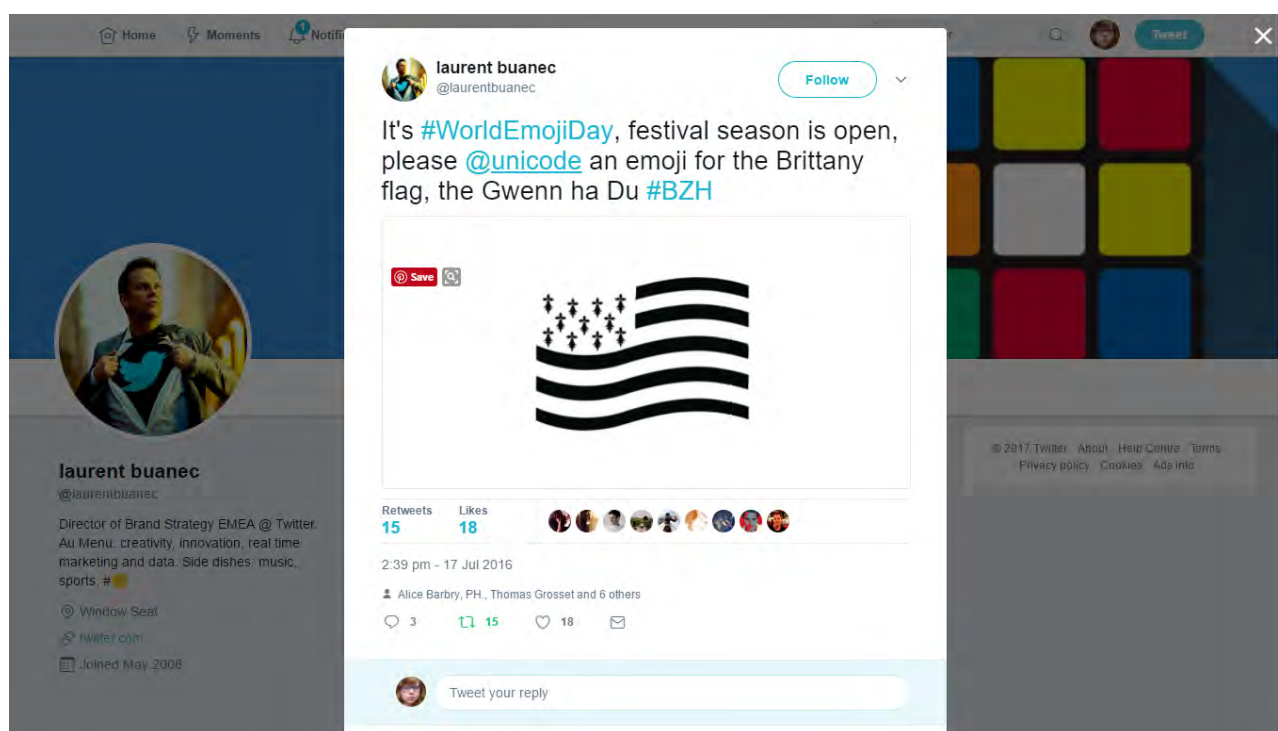
The flag is mostly white, with 11 black ermines in the top left, and 5 black stripes. It is distinct from other country flags and is unlikely to be confused with the chequered flag due to the difference in pattern.

D) Completeness

This emoji would fill a gap in the flag emojis of Celtic nations, by providing one for a Celtic nation outside the British Isles.

E) Frequently requested

People of Breton descent have publicly posted online about the need for a Gwenn ha du emoji. Below is an example.



4) Selection Factors—Exclusion

The Gwenn ha du would not be an overly-specific emoji; it represents a sizeable population and ethnic group within France, as well as a diaspora. There are smaller and less populous places, such as Antarctica and Caribbean islands, that have their flags available as emoji. The concept cannot just be represented by another Celtic country emoji, as they are culturally different places with different linguistic heritages and, while they have strong connections, the people are not the same.

5) Sort location

A) Category

Flags

B) Emoji it should come after in the category

The Gwenn ha du could either come after whichever flag precedes its final emoji name in alphabetical order, or it could come after France's flag or the flags of Scotland and Wales, if these are grouped together.

Flag for Catalonia

Proposal to add flag for Catalonia as a valid emoji tag sequence



Joan Montané (joan@montane.cat)

Original document: 2016-7-18

Revised: 2017-6-28

Introduction

It is currently not possible to represent the flag of Catalonia, called "Senyera",¹ in the Unicode standard. Flags are represented with emoji sequences, pairs of RIS codes, which are based on the ISO 3166-1. If Catalonia had its own code 3166-1, its flag would be represented. Unicode added emoji tag sequences as a mechanism to represent flags of ISO 3166-2 regions, but only a few ones are valid sequences.

The flag from Catalonia already used in international contexts, especially to represent Catalan sports teams, territory of Catalonia and Catalan language.

We are requesting the addition of flag of Catalonia as a valid emoji tag sequence.

Notes:

In this document, we use the terms "flag from Catalonia" and "Senyera" interchangeably.

Important: do not confuse the flag from Catalonia with the flag called "Estelada"². The "Senyera" and "Estelada" are very similar, but second one is derived from first one. "Estelada" is a flag used by supporters of the independence of Catalonia and it is not discussed in this document.

Regions of Spain

Kingdom of Spain has a first-level of political and administrative division, created in accordance with the Spanish constitution of 1978, with the aim of guaranteeing limited autonomy of the nationalities and regions that make up Spain.

The nationalities and regions that make up Spain are not defined anywhere in the Spanish constitution. Therefore, they were gradually defined from 1978 until 1983. Nowadays, Spain is divided in 17 autonomous communities and 2 autonomous cities (Ceuta and Melilla) with an assigned ISO 3166-2 code to each one.³ Note that «Canary Islands» region has an own ISO 3166-1 code too: IC. So emoji of flag from Canary Islands is available by several vendors.

There were 3 regions that were considered historical nationalities (Catalonia, Basque Country and Galicia). These 3 regions were constituted as autonomous communities in a different way, and faster, than the rest of the regions. Curiously, there are 3 cultural TLDs that correspond, roughly, with these 3 called historical nationalities: .cat (approved at 2005), .eus, and .gal (booth approved at 2013).

¹<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Senyera>

²<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Estelada>


³ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ISO_3166-2:ES#Autonomous_communities.3B_autonomous_cities_in_North_Africa

Catalonia

Catalonia is an autonomous community of the Kingdom of Spain, located on the northeastern extremity of the Iberian Peninsula. It is politically designated as a nationality by its Statute of Autonomy and it has around 7,5M inhabitants. The capital and largest city is Barcelona. Catalonia is bordered by France and Andorra to the north, the Mediterranean Sea to the east, and the Spanish autonomous communities of Aragon to the west and Valencia to the south.

Proposal

We propose the addition of flag for Catalonia as valid Unicode flag emoji sequence.

Name	Image (Colour)	ISO 3166-2 Code	Emoji tag sequence
Flag for Catalonia		ES-CT	U+1F3F4 U+E0065 U+E0073 U+E0063 U+E0074 U+E007F

Implementation

Add the following flag emoji sequence  **esct** as valid in Unicode Emoji standard:

<U+1F3F4, U+E0065, U+E0073, U+E0063, U+E0074, U+E007F>

Identification

- CLDR short name: Flag for Catalonia
- CLDR keywords: Catalan, Catalonia, Senyera

Sort location

We propose locate Senyera at flags category and put it at end, like currently its done with Scotland, England, and Wales flags.

Current uses

Territory and sports federations

Even though Catalan sports federations of soccer or basketball are not internationally recognized, there are other sports where Catalan sport federations are recognized: futsal⁴, touch, korfbal, bowling, pitch and put,...⁵

In this context, the “Senyera” is commonly used to represent Catalan players and sport federations, for example on leaderboards or score-sheets. Just like any country flag available at Unicode standard.

The screenshot displays the website of the International Korfbal Federation (IKF). The header is blue with the IKF logo and navigation links: Home, News, Documents, Video, IKF Members, Organisation, and Contact. Below the header, there are several member profiles, each with a flag icon and contact details.

Member Name	Country	Contact	Address	City	Zipcode
Federacao Portuguesa de Corfebol (FPC)	PORTUGAL	Mr Mario ALMEIDA, president	Avenida General Norton de Matos, 69A	Lisbon	
Federacao Corfebol Estado Rio de Janeiro (FCERJ)	BRAZIL	Mr Daniel RIVILLINI		Rio de Janeiro	
Federacion Korfbal Colombia (FKC)		Mrs Angelica Duque SALDARRIAGA - President	Calle 7#35 - 12 apto 201		
Federacio Catalana de Korfbal (FCK)	SPAIN	Ms Silvia MAYO - President	Edison 4 esc.E 1-3	Terrassa	08224
England Korfbal	ENGLAND	office@englandkorfbal.co.uk		Birmingham	

Above: International Korfbal Federation member's webpage

⁴ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/European_Union_of_Futsal

⁵ https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Selecciones_deportivas_catalanas

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2014_UEFS_Futsal_Men's_Championship

Final round [modifica]

Quarter-finals		Semi-finals		Final	
22 May	Russia 9	23 May	Russia 2	24 May	Russia 1
	Israel 1		Belgium (aet) 4		Belgium 1
22 May	Czech Republic 0			24 May	Belarus 2
	Belgium 5				
22 May	Belarus (aet) 4	23 May	Belarus 2	Third place	
	Norway 2		Catalonia 0	24 May	Catalonia 2
22 May	Catalonia (aet) 3				
	Slovakia 2				

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UEFS_Futsal_Men's_Championship

Performance by nations [modifica]

Medal count [modifica]

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	Russia	5	1	3	9
2	Portugal	2	0	1	3
3	Belarus	2	0	1	3
4	Spain	1	2	1	4
5	Belgium	1	2	0	3
6	Slovakia	1	0	1	2
7	Czech Republic	0	4	4	8
8	Catalonia	0	1	1	2
9	Italy	0	1	0	1
10	Morocco	0	1	0	1
	Total	12	12	12	36

Participation details [modifica]

Team	1989	1990	1992	1995	1998	2004	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014	2016	Years
Spain	(8)	(8)	(10)	(10)	(8)	(8)	(10)	(8)	(11)	(9)	(9)	(8)	
Abkhazia	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	11th	x	x	x	1
Armenia	x	x	x	x	x	6th	x	x	x	x	x	x	1
Australia	x	x	x	x	x	x	10th	x	x	x	x	x	1
Basque Country	x	x	x	x	x	x	8th	x	x	x	9th	x	2
Belarus	x	x	9th	8th	4th	1st	x	3rd	4th	5th	1st	5th	9
Belgium	x	x	x	x	8th	5th	4th	4th	2nd	1st	2nd	x	7
Catalonia	x	x	x	x	x	7th	2nd	8th	6th	4th	3rd	x	6
Czech Republic/ Czechoslovakia	3rd	2nd	x	4th	5th	2nd	3rd	2nd	3rd	2nd	6th	3rd	11
England	x	4th	10th	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	2

Above: Final Round of 2014 futsal Men's Championship.
 Above: Performance and Participation details of Futsal Men's Championship
https://en.wikipedia.org/UEFS_Futsal_Men's_Championship.org

Currently it isn't feasible to use the flag for Catalonia natively in messaging systems like Twitter and WhatsApp, but users find alternatives, attaching images or creating stickers.

Telegram offers a way to represent Catalonia to some extent. In May 2015, the Telegram platform added support for *stickers*.⁶ The Telegram team created, among others one, a sticker set called «Flags of the World», in which emoji country flags are used to represent their respective countries. Within this sticker set, Catalonia was an exception: since June 2015, the soccer ball emoji was associated to a sticker depicting some of the symbols of Catalonia. The “Senyera” is one of them.



Above: Telegram sticker for Catalonia at "Flags of the World" stickers set

Language representation

It's a well-known fact that flags represent territories, not languages. Using flags to represent languages is considered a bad internationalization practice, and a source of problems. It is beyond the scope of this document to discuss this fact. Instead, the aim is to illustrate the use “in the wild” of flags as symbols for languages. It is not uncommon for people and enterprises to use the flag for Catalonia to represent Catalan language. The following are some examples:

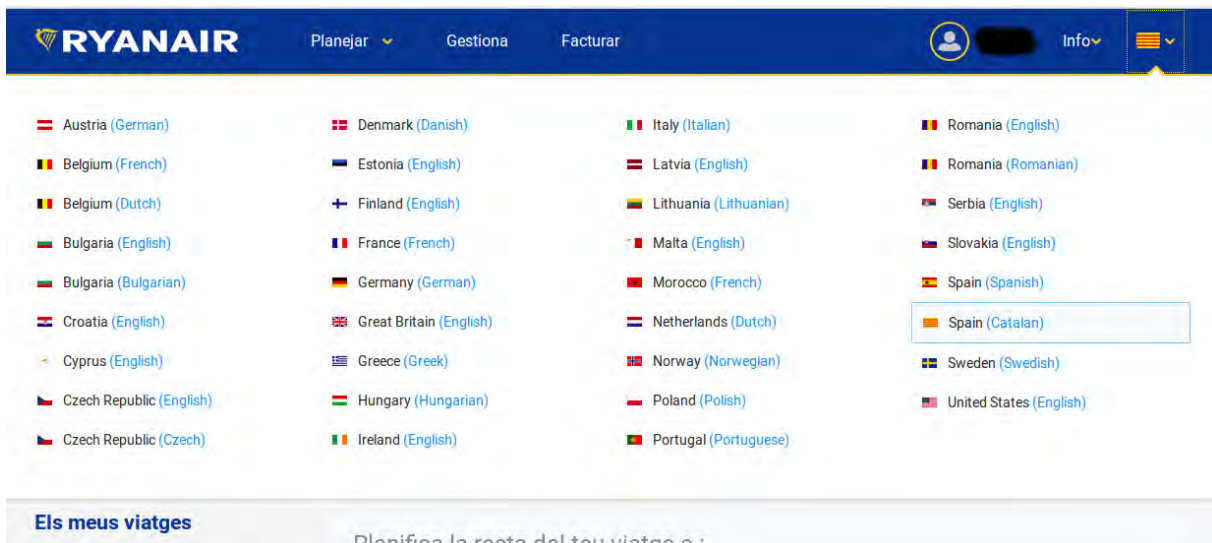


⁶ <https://telegram.org/blog/stickers-revolution>



Cancel·lació gratis a la majoria d'habitacions!

Above: Language selector at Booking.com (<https://www.booking.com>)



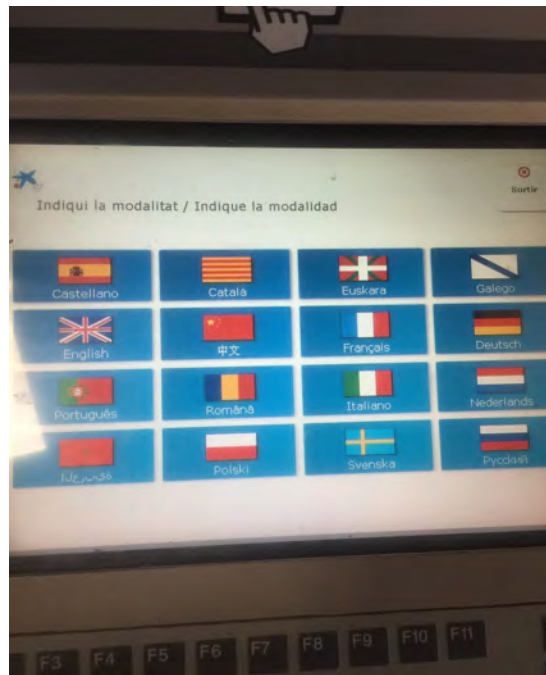
Above: Language selector at RyanAir (<https://www.ryanair.com>)



Above: Courses for Spanish-speaking users available at Duolingo(<https://www.duolingo.com>)



Above: phpBB Language Packs page (<https://www.phpbb.com/languages>)



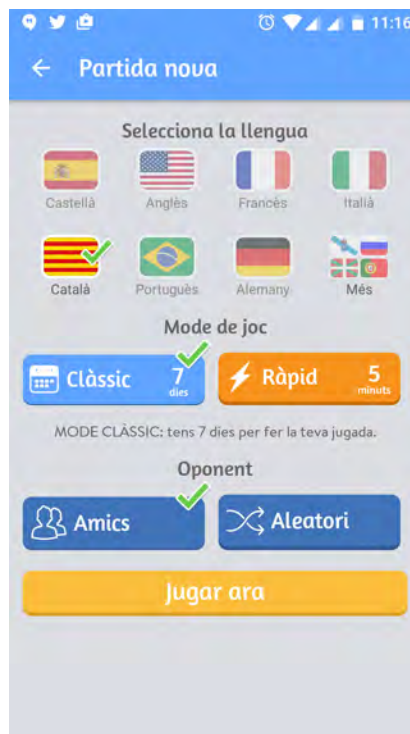
Above: Language selector from an ATM / cash machine, Spain. Note flag from Galicia too.



Above: Welcome sign at «El Corte Inglés», one of the biggest department stores in Europe. Example of running text using flag for Catalonia as language identifier



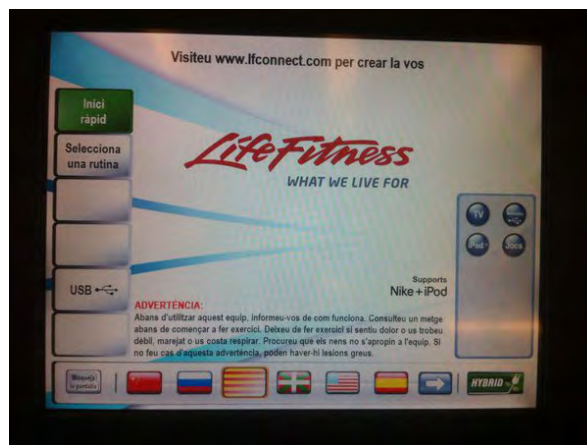
Above: Barcelona tourist guide in several languages using flags as language identifier. Example of flag for Catalonia used in running text.



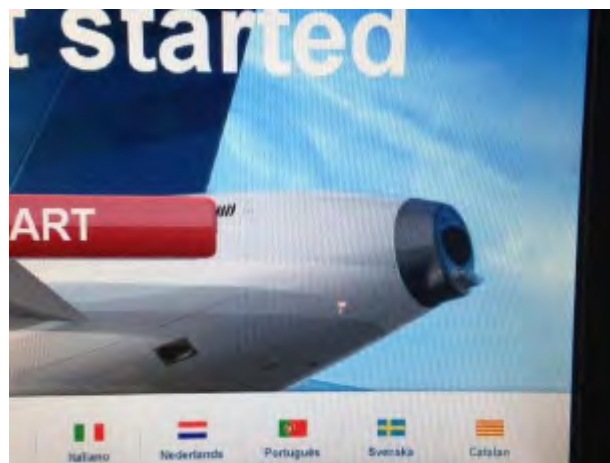
Above: Game language selector for Aworced, an Scrabble clone game. Note flag from Basque Country and Galicia too



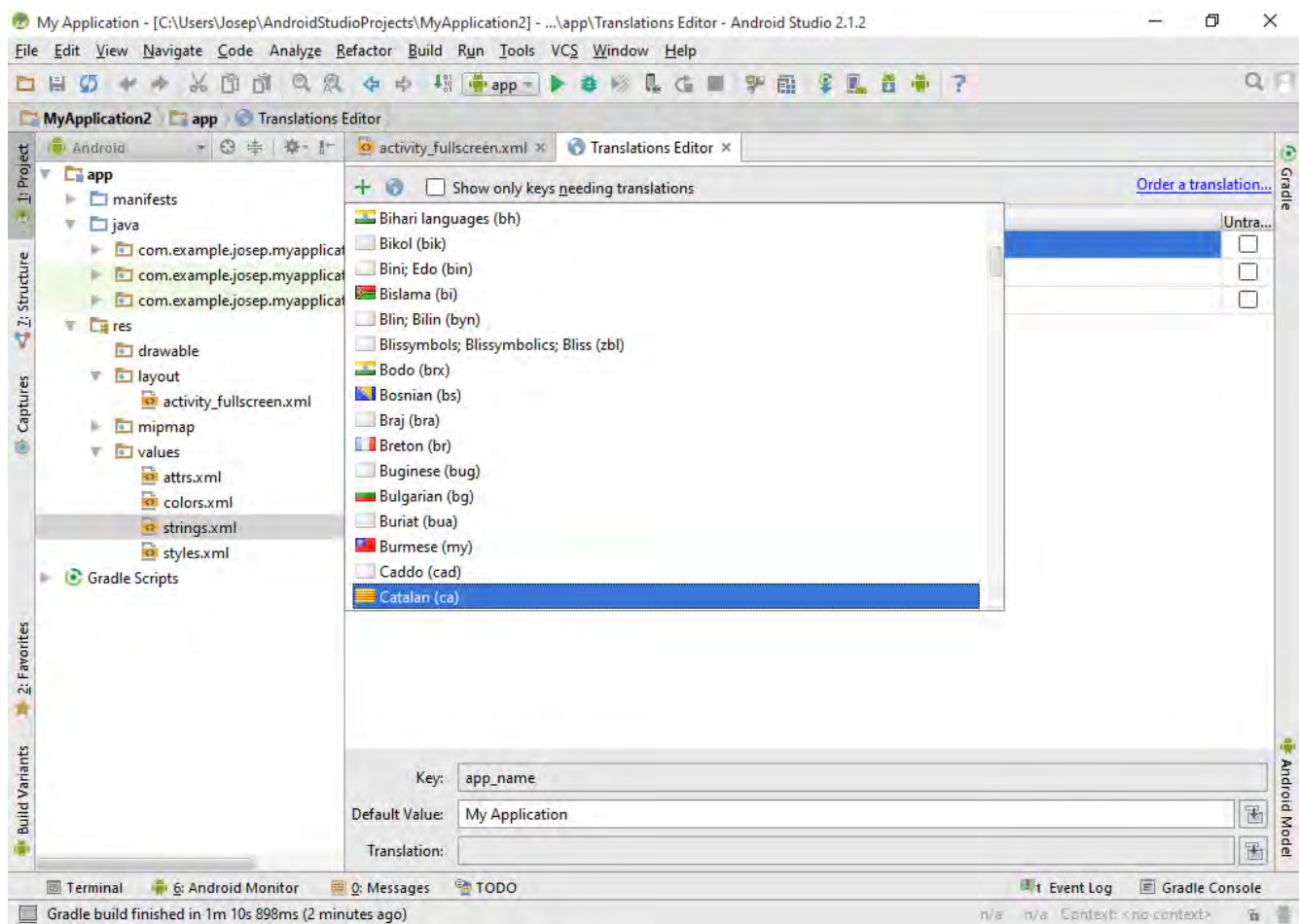
Above: A restaurant sign using flags as language identifiers, Barcelona



Above: Gym-machine menu, Shanghai, PRC. Note the flag from Basque Country



Above: US Airways checking machine, Washington-Dulles Airport, USA



Above: Android Studio language resources selector

Demand

Emojipedia

Searches on Emojipedia for flag from Catalonia and related terms show a demand for proposed flag. This data is for direct searches on Emojipedia.org. Data is for June 2016.

- Germany/German: 1,181
- Spain/Spanish/Espana: 705
- Catalonia/Catalan/Catalunya/Senyeria: 86

Twitter

Demand for this flag is shown on Twitter on a recurrent basis, with tweets requesting emoji flag for Catalonia.





Three images above: Searches such as “Catalunya emoji” “senyera emoji”

Searching “(“senyera” emoji) OR ((bandera OR flag) (catalana OR catalunya OR catalonia OR catalan OR catala OR catalonian) emoji)”⁷ at Twitter shows an long time demand for flag from Catalonia.

⁷ <https://twitter.com/search?f=tweets&vertical=default&q=%22senyera%22%20emoji%29%20OR%20%28%28bandera%20OR%20flag%29%20%28catalana%20OR%20catalunya%20OR%20catalonia%20OR%20catalan%20OR%20catala%20OR%20catalonian%29%20emoji&src=typd>

Signature campaigns and Facebook

A Facebook Group called “Volem la Bandera Catalana al Whatsapp”⁸ (We want flag from Catalonia in Whatsapp) has 1,223 members.

There are several campaigns at Change.org. We found two campaigns⁹
¹⁰demanding “Senyera” emoji (with 5,123 and 4,123 signatures) and another one demanding “Estelada” emoji (with 19,537 signatures).

Tourism and business

Catalonia and Barcelona is a tourist destination and important business city. Many travelers use flags to indicate the destination. In this case, the flag is a symbol very appropriate and requested.



Above: Traveller using Spanish flag because there isn't Catalonia flag emoji

Journalists and media

Catalonia is on the agenda of many international media, for political reasons but also for sports and tourism. It stands to reason that once they can represent the flag from Catalonia used in tweets, emails and written articles about news related to Catalonia and Barcelona.

⁸ <https://www.facebook.com/Volem-la-Bandera-Catalana-al-Whatsapp-221131488093346/>

⁹ <https://www.change.org/p/whatsapp-inc-incloure-la-senyera-de-catalunya-a-whatsapp>

¹⁰ <https://www.change.org/p/whatsapp-senyera-al-whatsapp>

Politics

We cannot escape the political issue. There is an independence movement in Catalonia. And it is very likely that Catalan pro-independence people demand and use emoji flag for Catalonia. In the same way that, in comparison, the Scottish pro-independence people demanded and now can use emoji flag for Scotland. This fact does not mean that Unicode is conveying support for neither of these pro-indy movements. Actually, the flag for Catalonia “Senyera” of the current proposal is not a pro-indy flag. Unlike the Scots, the Catalan pro-indy supporters use a different flag called “Estelada”. Therefore, adding “Senyera” in Unicode estandard doesn’t mean support for any pro-indy movement.

Alternatives

The flag for Catalonia is not associated to an object nor animal. There is no easy alternative to the flag. In social networks, it is common to use the hashtag #Catalunya¹¹, #Catalonia¹², or sport-related hashtags, for example #futbolcat (for soccer) or #bàsquetcat (for basketball). Some users also insert pictures or stickers of the flag for Catalonia in messages, provided that the messaging platform supports it.

As noted in this document, if flags are used to represent languages, then Senyera is used to represent Catalan language. In this case, one could use the flag for Andorra, the only country with an ISO 3166-1 code where the Catalan language is official. However, Andorra has an estimated population of 80,000 people, very small compared to the population of Catalonia (7.8 million).

Thus, there is no acceptable alternative in the Unicode standard for the flag for Catalonia for the current and demanded use cases.

¹¹ <https://twitter.com/search?f=tweets&vertical=default&q=%23Catalunya&src=typd>

¹² <https://twitter.com/search?f=tweets&vertical=default&q=%23Catalonia&src=typd>

Selection Factors

Factors for Inclusion

Compatibility

There is no compatibility issue with flag for Catalonia emoji yet.

Expected Usage Level

Frequency

Expected usage frequency for this emoji is high.

- Statistics show a demand for this emoji on Twitter, signature campaigns, and Emojipedia.
- Other emoji flags see considerable use, especially during national or international events

Multiple usages

Flag for Catalonia may be used in a variety of context:

- Sporting events
- National or cultural days
- Travel and tourism
- Language representation

Image distinctiveness

The flag for Catalonia is distinct to other flags or emoji available at Unicode standard.

Completeness

The flag of Catalonia is one of the few flags territories that can not be represented in the Unicode standard but have a use and are easily recognized internationally. It is comparable to the flag of Scotland and Wales, except for not having a soccer team participating in international official tournaments.

Looking flags of Spanish autonomous communities, Senyera is the flag with a greater international expected use, followed by flag from Basque Country and Galicia. It's beyond the scope of this document but, in a Spanish context, the flags from Basque Country, Galicia, Valencia and Asturias have similar use cases to the flag from Catalonia presented in this document.

Frequently requested

As indicated, the flag from Catalonia is asked regularly to social networks or campaigns to collect signatures.

Factors for Exclusion

Overly specific

This flag is not overly specific, and will be used by millions of people within, travelling to, and talking about, Catalonia, Barcelona, and Catalan culture.

Open-ended

The flag for Catalonia is one of the most prominent European flags that does not have emoji representation at Unicode.

Already representable

Attempts to represent Catalonia with existing emoji characters is not an alternative.

Logos, brands, UI icons, signage, specific people, deities

This flag is not a logo, brand or UI icon.

Transient

This flag is not transient, any more than other country or region flag.

Acknowledgments

Jeremy Burge (Emojipedia) who provided Emojipedia data of this document.



Northern Ireland Flag Emoji Submission

To: Unicode Consortium

From: Simon Todd (simontodd83@gmail.com)

Date: March 17, 2017

Abstract

This is a request for the inclusion of a Northern Ireland flag emoji. Other member countries of the United Kingdom (England, Scotland and Wales) have recently had emoji flags included following a proposal by Jeremy Burge and Owen Williams. They did not request the inclusion of a Northern Ireland flag in their proposal.

Introduction

Northern Ireland is a member country of the United Kingdom, it's capital city being Belfast. Northern Ireland has a population of just over 1.8 million people and was created on 3rd May 1921. Northern Ireland football team recently participated in the Euro 2016 finals. Northern Ireland has produced many sporting greats such as George Best, Carl Frampton and many more. It is absurd that places like Ascension Island (population 806) and Isle of Man (population 86,000) have emoji flags and Northern Ireland does not.

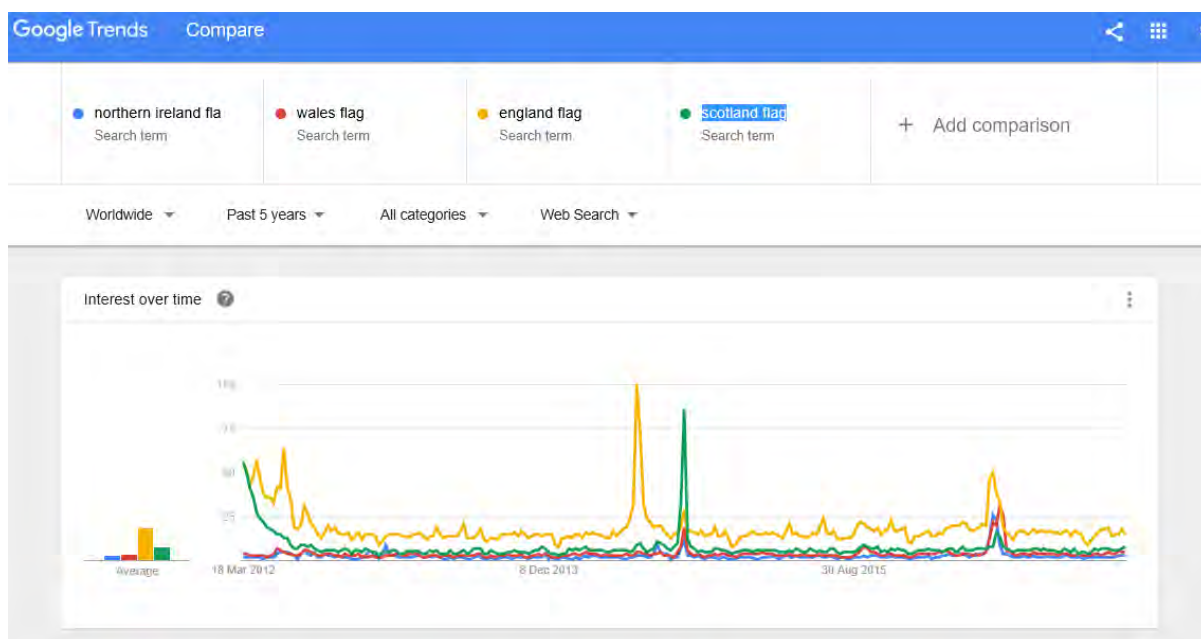
Compatibility

This is required for compatibility with high-use emoji in existing systems such as Whatsapp and Twitter. A proposal detailed in the following blog <http://blog.emojipedia.org/emoji-flags-for-england-scotland-and-wales/> was submitted to the Unicode consortium and accepted. The flags of England, Scotland and Wales are in use on existing systems such as Whatsapp and Twitter. Northern Ireland flag emoji would complete the set.

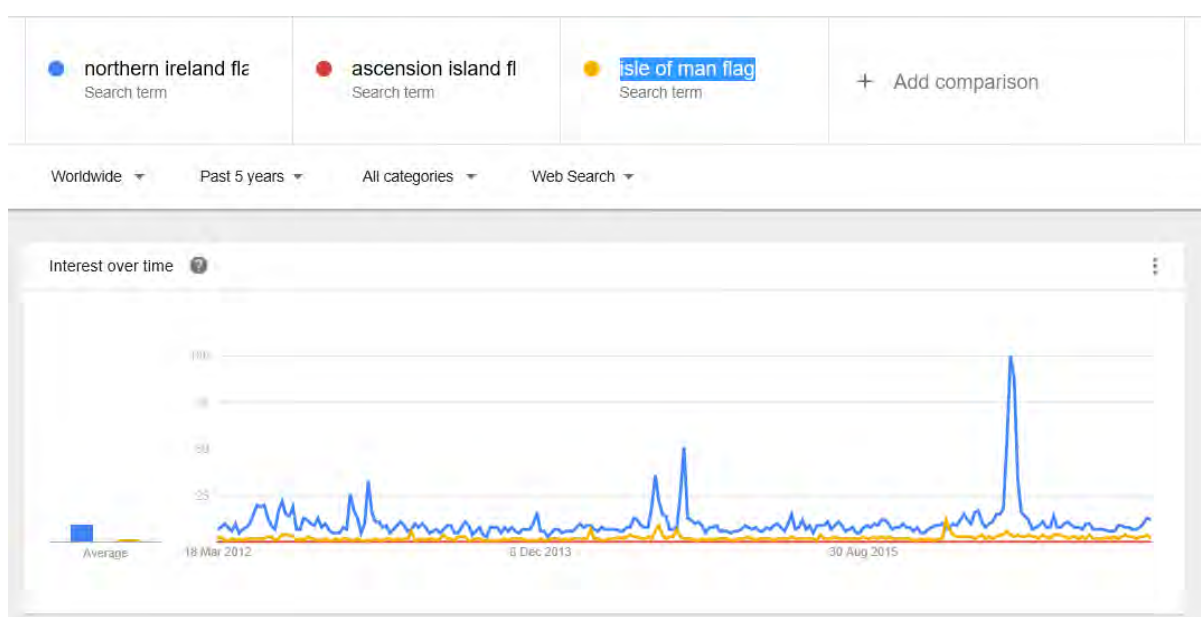
Expected Usage Level

Frequency

The expected usage of the A Google trends comparison of existing United Kingdom country flag emojis reveals that 'Northern Ireland' is basically equal with Wales, which already has a flag emoji.



Compared to Ascension Island (population 806) and Isle of Man (population 86,000), which both already have emoji flags, you can see clearly that Northern Ireland flag is much more popular:



Northern Ireland Flag Emoji Proposal

Multiple Uses

The Northern Ireland flag emoji could be used by someone referring to their country of birth, in reference to a sporting event or indeed on important Calendar dates.

Use in Sequences

A Northern Ireland flag could and would likely be used in sequence with the existing England, Scotland and Wales emoji flags when discussing the member countries of the United Kingdom, for example in sporting events or remembrance day.

Image Distinctiveness

The Northern Ireland flag is clearly distinct enough from other emojis

Frequently Requested

There are many examples of the demand for a Northern Ireland flag emoji having been expressed across the internet and social media, examples as below.

I have myself also sent many tweets to Jeremy Burge and Emojipedia, which Jeremy comments on in this article <http://www.newstalk.com/Why-is-there-no-Northern-Irish-flag-in-the-new-Emoji-update>

Jeremy Burge clearly states that the flag for Northern Ireland is a valid sequence in Emoji 5.0 and that vendors can support it.

Another example of demand can be found at <https://www.change.org/p/apple-why-isn-t-there-an-northern-ireland-flag-emoji-let-s-ensure-apple-knows-we-exist>





John MacPhee @Long_Straight · Jan 27

In **emoji** news UK 🇬🇧 nations Scotland England Wales are to join Uzbekistan 🇺🇿 in having a **flag**. Poor old **Northern Ireland**.



Mark Davis 🗨️ @mark_e_davis

We just agreed to add 3 UK flags to Unicode emoji 5.0β. Thanks to @jeremyburge and @OwsWills.



Southern FAIL @southern__FAIL · Feb 26

Replying to @WarrenLumsden1 @jeremyburge @TEDxEastEnd

Did he mention the urgent need for a **Northern Ireland flag emoji**?



Mick Johnson @Mr_Kinnie · Mar 23

Apple: Why isn't there an **Northern Ireland flag emoji**?

Let's ensure Apple knows we exist! - Sign th... change.org/p/apple-why-is... via @UKChange



Apple: Why isn't there an Northern Ireland flag emo...

When will we see a Northern Ireland flag emoji? How can Apple ignore the a country of approx 1.9 million people with a GDP of approx \$50B, the home of many World...

change.org



Overly Specific

The Northern Ireland flag is not overly specific if Ascension Island is not overly specific.

Open Ended

It is not just one of many and there is no reason to favour it over others of that type – in fact it is the only flag being neglected in terms of emoji representation.

Already Representable

The Northern Ireland flag cannot be represented by another emoji or sequence.

Logos/Brands

The Northern Ireland flag is not a company brand or logo and is therefore suitable for encoding as a character

Transient

The usage level is highly likely to continue into the future and increase.

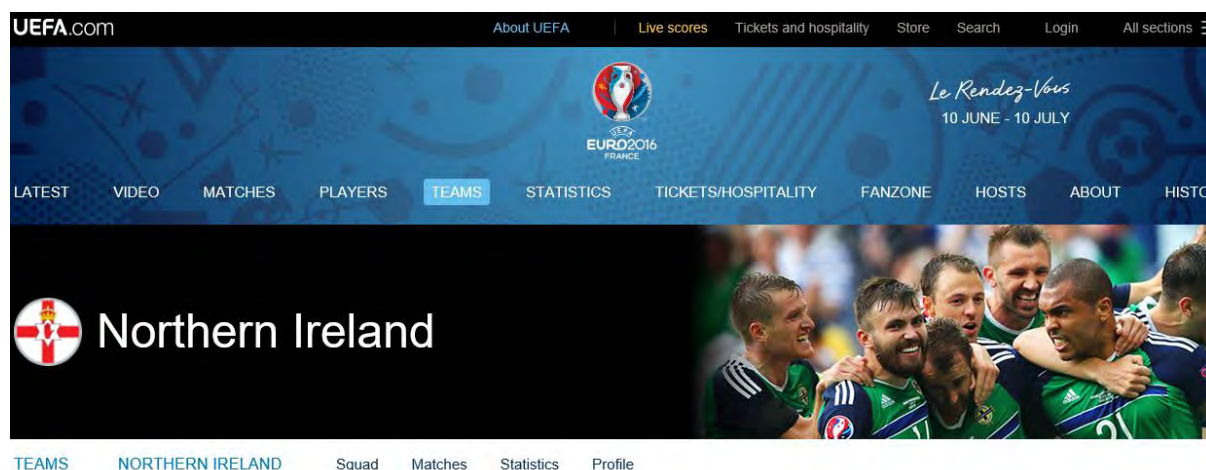
Sort Location

GBNIR

Conclusion

There really is no excuse for continuing to not have a Northern Ireland flag. I hope you will consider this proposal and look forward to hearing from you. Some people may use the argument that Northern Ireland 'does not have an official flag'. As you will see from the images below, it is used by UEFA, Official World Golf and many more. Some people may argue that a Northern Flag is controversial. One could argue the same about an Israel flag – which already has an emoji. One could also argue that the Republic of Ireland flag is used controversially by Irish Republicans – yet this flag has an emoji. How can the EU (not even a country) have a flag – which could also be used controversially in the wake of the Brexit vote etc.

<http://www.uefa.com/uefaeuro-finals/season=2016/teams/team=63/index.html>



<http://www.owgr.com/ranking>

This Week	Last week	End 2016	Ctry	Name	Average Points	Total Points	Events Played (Divisor)	Points Lost (2017)	Points Gained (2017)	Events Played (Actual)
➤ 1	1	3		Dustin Johnson	12.9269	620.49	48	-98.36	270.80	48
➤ 2	2	2		Rory McIlroy	8.8349	362.23	41	-98.57	47.79	41
➤ 3	3	1		Jason Day	8.6568	346.27	40	-111.36	21.05	40
➤ 4	4	6		Hideki Matsuyama	8.0866	420.50	52	-66.00	97.63	53
➤ 5	5	4		Henrik Stenson	7.7451	364.02	47	-87.86	43.26	47
➤ 6	6	5		Jordan Spieth	7.5614	393.19	52	-127.28	110.25	52
➤ 7	8	22		Justin Thomas	5.4978	285.89	52	-41.92	121.06	56
➤ 8	9	12		Rickie Fowler	5.4410	282.93	52	-72.66	102.24	52
➤ 9	7	7		Adam Scott	5.3432	240.44	45	-59.25	18.15	45
➤ 10	10	9		Alex Noren	5.0827	203.31	40	-34.56	23.77	39
➤ 11	11	13		Sergio Garcia	5.0431	221.90	44	-47.66	65.97	44
➤ 12	14	107		Lucas Perez	4.6887	197.59	42	-8.89	118.48	38

U.S. State Flag Emojis

Please review this document I am presenting to the UTC. I am requesting for all 50 U.S. states to have their own flag emoji (Apple iPhone preferred). Emoji users have fun cheering on their country in world-wide events with their [country's] emoji. What if I said they wanted an emoji for their state as well.

The “expected usage level” is Unicode 9.1-9.2. I will include some images either on the bottom of this document or on page 2. I am not aware if this proposal has been submitted multiple times, please forgive me if it has been.

Also, there has been a petition made by a former South Vietnamese native for Apple and Unicode to accept the South Vietnamese flag emoji. Here is the link: https://www.change.org/p/apple-unicode-representation-vietnamese-heritage-and-freedom-flag-emoji?recruiter=543912713&utm_source=petitions_show_components_action_panel_wrapper&utm_medium=copylink&recurrut_context=copylink_long

