

NAME

`bind_textdomain_codeset` – set encoding of message translations

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <libintl.h>
```

```
char * bind_textdomain_codeset (const char * domainname,  
                               const char * codeset);
```

DESCRIPTION

The **bind_textdomain_codeset** function sets the output codeset for message catalogs for domain *domainname*.

A message domain is a set of translatable *msgid* messages. Usually, every software package has its own message domain.

By default, the **gettext** family of functions returns translated messages in the locale's character encoding, which can be retrieved as **nl_langinfo(CODESET)**. The need for calling **bind_textdomain_codeset** arises for programs which store strings in a locale independent way (e.g. UTF-8) and want to avoid an extra character set conversion on the returned translated messages.

domainname must be a non-empty string.

If *codeset* is not NULL, it must be a valid encoding name which can be used for the **iconv_open** function. The **bind_textdomain_codeset** function sets the output codeset for message catalogs belonging to domain *domainname* to *codeset*. The function makes copies of the argument strings as needed.

If *codeset* is NULL, the function returns the previously set codeset for domain *domainname*. The default is NULL, denoting the locale's character encoding.

RETURN VALUE

If successful, the **bind_textdomain_codeset** function returns the current codeset for domain *domainname*, after possibly changing it. The resulting string is valid until the next **bind_textdomain_codeset** call for the same *domainname* and must not be modified or freed. If a memory allocation failure occurs, it sets **errno** to **ENOMEM** and returns NULL. If no codeset has been set for domain *domainname*, it returns NULL.

ERRORS

The following error can occur, among others:

ENOMEM

Not enough memory available.

BUGS

The return type ought to be **const char ***, but is **char *** to avoid warnings in C code predating ANSI C.

SEE ALSO

gettext(3), **dgettext(3)**, **dcgettext(3)**, **ngettext(3)**, **dngettext(3)**, **dcngettext(3)**, **textdomain(3)**, **nl_langinfo(3)**, **iconv_open(3)**