



**Disambiguating country  
names with {countrycode}**



# Disambiguating country names with {countrycode}





# Why are country names complicated?

There are 3 reasons that country names might vary between datasets:

- Abbreviations
  - UK/United Kingdom, US/USA/United States, N. Cyprus/Northern Cyprus
- Alternative (not disputed) names, i.e. formal vs informal
  - Netherlands/Holland, Kingdom of Bahrain/Bahrain, People's Republic of China/China
- Disputed territories



# Country codes are better than country names

The only true way to disambiguate is to use country codes.

	ISO-3 character	ISO-3 number	Eurostat	International Olympic Committee
Finland	FIN	246	FI	FIN
Lithuania	LTU	440	LT	LTU
Togo	TGO	768	TG	TOG
Monaco	MCO	492	MC	MON
China	CHN	156	CN	CHN



# My Turn

I'm going to use `{countrycode}` to disambiguate country names in a toy dataset and then use that to create a choropleth.



# (RStudio Coding Slide)



# Your Turn

Combine the `rnaturalearthdata::countries110` dataset with `gapminder_2007` and create a choropleth comparing country populations.

- Use `countryname()` to add a column to `gapminder_2007` that contains the ISO3C country codes
- Join together the `countries110` and `gapminder_2007` dataset using your new column
- Use `mapview()` to visualise the `lifeExp` column

