



2020 BILC Professional Seminar



19-23 October



BILC Update

Branka Petek, BILC Chair



Bureau for International Language Co-ordination



- **NATO's consultative and advisory body** for language training and testing issues.
- **Main responsibility:** custodian of STANAG 6001
- **Community** of language teaching/testing professionals from MoDs and defense-sponsored organizations.
- **Mission:** To promote and foster interoperability among NATO and Partner nations by furthering standardization of language training and testing. To support the Alliance's operations through the exchange of knowledge and best practices, IAW established procedures and agreements.
- **Vision:** To achieve levels of excellence where progress made by one is shared by all.
- **Purpose:** To foster cooperative professional support among BILC member nations and to extend support to NATO within the field of language training and education and language assessment.
- **Active participation in BILC activities** from **27 NATO nations** and **more than 20 partner nations**.



BILC Steering Committee

- GBR (1966-1981)
- DEU (1982-1996)
- USA (1997-2008)
- CAN (2008-2014)
- USA (2014-2016)
- BGR (2016-2019)
- SVN (May 2019-May 2022)

Chair
Branka Petek

Senior Advisor
Dr. Ray Clifford

Secretaries
Tadeja Hafner
Martina Grmek

Associate Secretaries

Keith Wert

Peggy Garza

Julie Dubeau

Jana Vasilj-Begovic



Major BILC Events



- BILC Annual Conference in May;
- BILC STANAG 6001 Testing Workshop in September;
- BILC Professional Seminar in October.



2019 BILC Professional Seminar

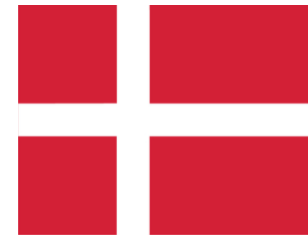
Copenhagen, 6-11 October, 2019



SETTING AND ACHIEVING PROFICIENCY TARGETS: THE “WHATS” AND “HOWS” OF EFFECTIVE TEACHING AND TRAINING

Subtheme/topics:

- Tracing the path from needs/requirements to foreign language courses and learning
- Course design and development based on needs analysis
- General proficiency versus language for specific purpose training
- Designing curricula based on STANAG 6001 language progression
- Designing training plans and lesson specifications
- “Recipes” for developing higher levels of proficiency
- Effective training of hard-to-train skills
- Teaching approaches proven to work
- The role of feedback in teaching and learning
- Developing automaticity in language use
- Evaluation and validation of teaching and learning





2020 BILC Conference

SC meeting online

hosted by Norway and DLIELC



- Report on the BILC visits in the period May 2019 – May 2020:
- Update by nations on their BILC-related projects and international cooperation
- Military terminology project
- Report on BAT2
- Report on STANAG Level 4 writing test development
- Report on French STANAG
- Proposal to create a one-page BILC leaflet for distribution in NATO HQ, NATO ACT and NATO ACO
- Discussion on distance learning / on-line courses in times of coronavirus measures
- Summary of analysis of which teaching & learning activities support second language learning requirements
- Discussion on issues connected with STANAG testing in times of coronavirus measures (certificates required for deployments)
- Update on BILC courses
- Future hosts





2020 STANAG 6001 Testing Workshop hosted by Romania and PLTCE online 8-10 September, 2020



ROADMAP TO TESTING READING

Topics:

- Shared goals of teachers and testers
- Shared item bank project
- Virtual item moderation
- Computer-based testing
- Testing during pandemic
- Testing reading at different levels
- Trialling practices
- Constructed vs. selected response
- Reading test construction
- Text rating and typology
- Statistical analysis of reading tests



Activities:

- 10 presentations
- 8 small group sessions
- 6 item moderation groups
- 5 experts answering questions in Q&A sessions



THE 2020 STANAG 6001 TESTING WORKSHOP





Cooperation between BILC and Defence Education Enhancement Programme (DEEP)



- Clearing House, September 2020
- Online
- Ukraine, Mauretania, Iraq, Armenia
- Invitation to BILC to lead a working group on ELT during the DEEP lessons learned conference in November



BILC Cooperative Visits Sept 2019 – Sept 2020



- Bulgaria and Czech Republic
(for Iraqi delegation), September 2019   
- Iraq, November 2019  
- FDW for Iraq in Istanbul, December 2019  
- FDW Ukraine, January 2020   
- Tunisia, February 2020  
- Bosnia and Herzegovina, June 2020  
- Ukraine DEEP annual review online, May 2020  



1. Language Testing Seminars (conducted at PLTCE):

- Language Testing Seminar, ACT.647, 2 weeks;
- Advanced Language Testing Seminar, ACT.658, 3 weeks;
- Language Standards and Assessment, ACT.648, 2 weeks.

2. BILC Methodology Workshops

- English Teaching Faculty Development Workshop “Teaching Speaking and Writing for Military Purposes”, ACT.659, 2 weeks. Conducted at 3 PTECs PLTCE, Bulgaria and Slovenia.



Facilitators: BILC teaching & testing experts from 24 nations.





Shared Item Bank Working Group



Presentation on Wednesday...



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Benchmark Advisory Test (BAT) Initiative



History of BAT – started in 2003 at the BILC Conference in Harrogate.

- Purpose: to provide an external measure against which nations can compare their national STANAG 6001 test results and to standardize testing across the nations.
- 8 nations collaborated on the BAT development.
- Contract awarded by NATO for the BAT delivery to ACTFL.
- In 2009, 11 NATO nations participated, with up to 20 tests each .



BILC WG proposed a possible resurrection of the BAT after the 2016 BILC Conference in Riga.



- Evidence for the Validity Roadmap (Brno, Sept 2016);
- Discussed by the WG on Portability and Recognition of STANAG 6001 Certificates (Bled, Sept 2016);
- Survey of interest by BILC Secretary (fall 2017) - 21 nations responded favorably.
- In 2018 two BAT Writing & Speaking Forums took place (9-13 July and 6-10 August 2018) at PLTCE, Garmisch Partenkirchen. Some of the Participants were encouraged to receive certificates as interlocutors/raters.
- The certification process began a month after the forums.
- BAT 2 administration: November 2018 – June 2019
- Report September 2019, Tours, BILC Testing Workshop



BILC SharP

Bureau for International Language Coordination Sharing Platform



COMMUNIQUÉ 3 - WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE?

JULY 2018

Welcome to BILC SharP POCs.

Good day from the Australian Defence Force School of Languages. You received this communiqué because you have been appointed as the Point of Contact for your institution. Congratulations to all newly appointed POCs!

If you are no longer the POC for your country, please forward the details of the new POC to us.

What is BILC SharP?

SharP is an abbreviation for Sharing Platform. Presented in April 2015 at the BILC Conference in Madrid, Spain, BILC SharP is an on-line sharing platform hosted by the Australian Defence Force School of Languages (DFSL). It is a Moodle-based site DFSL offers through its Learning Management System (LMS), which operates in the Australian Defence Education Learning Environment (ADELE).

BILC SharP is for all members of BILC and it serves as an online repository of resources from all participating countries. The spirit behind this initiative is for everyone to share materials which have worked well in our respective institutions, so that other BILC members can benefit from our successfully-trialled resources and save their institutions some design, development and piloting time.

What is in BILC SharP?

BILC SharP is organised into 9 folders: Course Design Materials, Assessment Materials, Planning Tools, Inter Cultural Awareness, Language Learning Strategies, Teaching Materials, Useful Links, BILC Presentations and Communiqués & Database.



What's your role in BILC SharP?

Upon initial login, you will be asked to change the system-generated temporary password. Please ask your staff to choose a password they can easily remember to avoid any delays in accessing the site.

As your organisation's POC you will need to take care of several things:

1. Provide us with enrolment details like full name (first name last name), city, country and official/work email address.
2. Collate any resources your organisation wishes to share with fellow BILCers.
3. Forward to us those resources via email or post.
4. Inform us if any of your staff leave their job/posting so that we can de-activate their account.
5. Disseminate information to your staff and colleagues if needed.

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"BILC SharP is an online sharing platform for all BILC members"

"The spirit behind BILC SharP is to share our successfully-trialled resources...and save... some design, development and piloting time."

"Any staff member of your organisation can gain access to BILC SharP."

132 users

16 countries

56 pieces of useful resources

9 Folders:

Course Design Materials, Assessment Materials, Planning Tools, Inter Cultural Awareness, Language Learning Strategies, Teaching Materials, Useful Links, BILC Presentations and Communiqués & Database

What's up?

We currently have 132 users from 16 countries accessing BILC SharP. To all BILCers who have already shared their resources with us, a BIG THANK YOU! After all BILC's motto is "Progress made by one is shared by all." In BILC SharP, under the "Communiqués & Database" folder, you'll find a "Database of Docs Contributed to BILC SharP - 12 July 2018".

There are 56 pieces of useful resources there currently.

Have you checked out the Forum Discussion?

There are now 2 new Forum Discussions set up in BILC SharP, as a follow up to the findings of two working groups during the 2018 BILC Conference in Lisbon, Portugal:

- a. SLP Identifier Tool - This topic will be facilitated by Michael Aduabato.
- b. Technology for Learning - This topic will be facilitated by CMDR David Goble from the Australian Defence International Training Centre.

Be in the know, be heard and be enlightened.

This is your forum and you are the SME in your area, so please share your thoughts, opinions and suggestions.



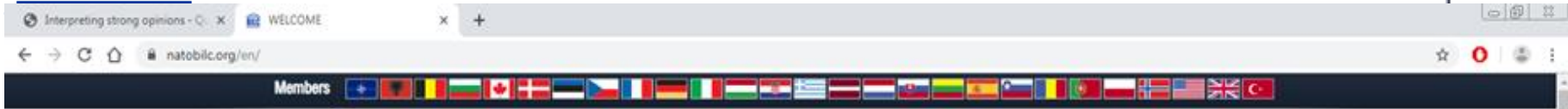
Bureau for International Language Coordination Sharing Platform

BILC Forum





BILC site – www.natobilc.org



Bureau for International Language Co-ordination
www.natobilc.org



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WELCOME

Mission

To achieve levels of excellence where progress made by one is shared by all.

BILC has the following responsibilities:

1. The dissemination of information on developments in the field of language training to participating countries.
2. The convening of an annual conference and a professional seminar during which participating nations review the work done in the co-ordination field and in the study of particular language topics.

Upon request from NATO and nations, BILC has expanded its roles and responsibilities over the years to include advice on language proficiencies as defined in job descriptions and has initiated training and co-ordination within the field of language testing and included other languages than the official NATO languages.

[BILC - March by Michael Kotay](#)
[BILC March - notes](#)

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BILC SharP
Bureau for International Language Co-ordination Sharing Platform

[read more >>](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS!





BILC site – www.natobilc.org



- Materials on Level 4 (WG on L4 is working on development of a prototype writing test)
- Resources in French
- Presentations from 2020 STANAG Testing Workshop



**Bureau for International Language
Co-ordination (BILC)
2020 Calendar**

Date	Event
10 - 21 February	Language Testing Seminar (LTS), <i>ACT.647.17</i> Partner Language Training Center Europe; Garmisch, Germany
25 February – 5 March	English Teaching Faculty Development Workshop, <i>ACT.659.12</i> School of Foreign Languages; Poljče, Slovenia
2 – 20 March	Advanced Language Testing Seminar (ALTS), <i>ACT.658.4</i> Partner Language Training Center Europe; Garmisch, Germany
24 - 28 May	BILC Conference, <i>ACT.212.42</i> Location: Oslo, Norway Theme: <i>Language Use in Military Contexts: Real vs. Classroom World</i> CANCELLED
28 April – 7 May	Language Standards & Assessment Seminar (LSAS), <i>ACT.648.11</i> Partner Language Training Center Europe; Garmisch, Germany CANCELLED
1 - 12 June	Language Testing Seminar (LTS), <i>ACT.647.18</i> Partner Language Training Center Europe; Garmisch, Germany CANCELLED
30 June - 9 July	English Teaching Faculty Development Workshop, <i>ACT.659.13</i> Foreign Languages Department; Shumen, Bulgaria CANCELLED
20 – 31 July	Language Testing Seminar (LTS), <i>ACT.647.19</i> Partner Language Training Center Europe; Garmisch, Germany CANCELLED
8 – 10 September	STANAG 6001 Testing Workshop, <i>ACT.212.43</i> ONLINE Theme: <i>Roadmap to Testing Reading</i>
15 - 24 September	English Teaching Faculty Development Workshop, <i>ACT.659.14</i> Partner Language Training Center Europe; Shumen, Bulgaria CANCELLED
18 – 22 October	BILC Professional Seminar, <i>ACT.212.44</i> Location: Lisbon, Portugal Theme: TBD
1 – 10 December	Language Standards & Assessment Seminar (LSAS), <i>ACT.648.12</i> Partner Language Training Center Europe; Garmisch, Germany



Date	Event
8-19 February	Language Testing Seminar (LTS), <i>ACT.647.20</i> Partner Language Training Center Europe; Garmisch, Germany
16-25 February	English Teaching Faculty Development Workshop, <i>ACT.659.15</i> School of Foreign Languages; Poljče, Slovenia
1-19 March	Advanced Language Testing Seminar (ALTS), <i>ACT.658.5</i> Partner Language Training Center Europe; Garmisch, Germany
May	BILC Conference, <i>ACT.212.43</i> Location: TBD / Theme: TBD
4-13 May	Language Standards & Assessment Seminar (LSAS), <i>ACT.648.13</i> Partner Language Training Center Europe; Garmisch, Germany
7-18 June	Language Testing Seminar (LTS), <i>ACT.647.21</i> Partner Language Training Center Europe; Garmisch, Germany
29 June - 8 July	English Teaching Faculty Development Workshop, <i>ACT.659.16</i> Foreign Languages Department; Shumen, Bulgaria
13-22 July	Language Standards & Assessment Seminar (LSAS), <i>ACT.648.14</i> Partner Language Training Center Europe; Garmisch, Germany
2-13 August	Language Testing Seminar (LTS), <i>ACT.647.22</i> Partner Language Training Center Europe; Garmisch, Germany
September	STANAG 6001 Testing Workshop, <i>ACT.212.48</i> Location: Germany / Theme: TBD
14-23 September	English Teaching Faculty Development Workshop, <i>ACT.659.17</i> Partner Language Training Center Europe; Garmisch, Germany
October	BILC Professional Seminar, <i>ACT.212.49</i> Location: TBD / Theme: TBD
30 November-9 December	Language Standards & Assessment Seminar (LSAS), <i>ACT.648.15</i> Partner Language Training Center Europe; Garmisch, Germany



Questions?



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