

National Report – Hungary

Language training

The Hungarian Defence Forces has one basic integrated language teaching institution, which belongs to the Miklós Zrínyi National Defence University, its new name is,

The Institute for Foreign Languages Studies,

On January 1st, the Institute of Foreign Language and the Pfp Military Language Training Centre merged and an integrated language institute was established. Now the Institute for Foreign Language Studies comprises two centres: Pfp Military Language Training Centre (MLTC) and Centre for Training General and Special Military Language (CTGSML). The two language training centres have a staff of 61 with 54 permanent teachers and 60 part-time teachers. Approximately 1500 students are provided with language training every year. This year we have 11 groups for intensive language studies, 40 STANAG courses at level 2 and 3, and 31 non-intensive courses in 6 different foreign languages.

The primary mission of the two centres is to ensure the language training of both commissioned, and non-commissioned officers, civil servants, and public administrators of the Hungarian Defence Forces in commonly taught European languages.

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Centre for Training General and Special Military Language

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There are various forms of training at the Centre for Training General and Special Military Language. Full-time students learn foreign languages in a way similar to other institutes of higher education.

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In addition to this there are ten-month-long intensive courses, 300-class courses preparing for NATO STANAG 6001 language examinations at STANAG levels 2222 and 3333, and eight-class per week – basic, intermediate and advanced level – in-service courses where English, French, German, Russian, Italian, Spanish as well as some of the languages of the neighboring countries such as Croatian and Ukrainian can be learned. Hungarian as a second language is taught to foreign officers and cadets.

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Both centres have a very close co-operation with the Testing Centre of the Zrínyi Miklos National Defence University and prepares students for the ARMA military language examinations in English, German, French, Russian and Italian and STANAG 6001 exams.

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The present situation

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The importance of language skills is gaining wide spread recognition both in the military and in the public sector in general. NATO-compatible military English instruction is top priority as the Hungarian Defence Forces has announced it. The field of language training co-operation with foreign and domestic partners has always been regarded important, therefore native speakers and advisors from the UK, USA as well as from Germany and France provide assistance to our staff and students to achieve good results in language training.

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The Future¶
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The growing participation of Hungary in different UN and NATO-led missions, Peace Support, Humanitarian, and Search and Rescue Operations increases the language requirements in teaching and quality control of NATO compatible military language.

Due to the downsizing of the Hungarian Defence Forces and the increasing involvement of the HDF in international missions, students find it increasingly difficult to get away from their regular assignments in order to spend time on language training.

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Therefore English courses should be adapted to the needs of students by intensifying classroom training with the aid of enhanced technological standards and focusing on self-study phases during and after courses.

In the field of teaching material development, projects ought to be designed to provide general and mainly military language self-study materials. Distance language learning should be encouraged as well.

The Partnership for Peace Military Language Training Center

At the MLTC intermediate or higher level students are taught in only three languages: the two official languages of NATO, (English and French) and German.

Students who study with us fall into three main categories:

1. The majority of the Hungarian students come from Regional Military Language Centres. In the Regional Military Language Centres, the students study general English for 26 hours per week in small groups of 7-12 students with a standard course length of ten months during which the students have approximately one thousand contact hours a year. After a year of language studies they take a state exam at intermediate level. In case of a successful language examination, these students are allowed to continue their language studies at the MLTC for an additional three months. The MLTC also introduces them to the most basic military language material.
2. The MLTC also receives students from the Zrínyi Miklós National Defense University (ZMNDU) Centre for Training General and Special Military Language. These students have studied general and military English either in an intensive course for a year or in a non-intensive language course for two-years. They have passed a specialised military state exam and possess basic military English language so the MLTC can teach them advanced military language skills.
3. The third group of students comes from NATO and PfP countries. The number of international students is constantly growing and now half of our three hundred students arrive from PfP countries.

Certain courses are tailored to the specific needs of the students. We offer students NATO-oriented military English in the following fields:

NATO STUDIES

- Origins and history
- Command, organisation and structure
- Strategic concept
- Infrastructure, administration and financial control
- Communication and information systems
- Tasks of Alliance-availability and readiness of forces
- Support services and preparedness
- Scientific and environmental factors
- National defense policy, planning and management
- Indigenous factors applicable to the host country

OTHER MILITARY STUDIES

- General information on land or air forces

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- Command, organisation and structure of each of the above forces
- Administration, support services and logistics of each of the above
- Courses focusing on any speciality to be designed as needed

The classes are based on the use of authentic materials dealing with NATO related subjects. Students concentrate on developing the interactive communication skills required by their future assignments.

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ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: Students must have a high school diploma from a school in their own country and an intermediate or higher level of proficiency in the language to be studied.

At the end of the course both our Hungarian and international students are provided to with the opportunity of taking a STANAG 6001 language examination. The usual STANAG level is 2222 but a number of our students reach a 3333 STANAG level and pass their language examinations at this level.

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THE FUTURE: The MLTC is increasingly focusing on the teaching of specialised military English. This year the Centre offers the students the following courses:

- Air Operational English (under NATO code):
- Advanced Air Operational English (under NATO code):
- Peace support Operations (revised):
- Military Medical English:
- Teacher Training Seminar for the Language Trainers of Military Schools in PfP Countries:
- Air Force English for Prospective Gripen Personnel (air/ground crew) – for Hungarian military only.

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In 2006 further special courses are to be launched. These are as follow:

- Staff Officers Military Terminology Training Course (under NATO code):
- Teacher Training Course (under NATO code):
- Advanced Teacher Training Course (under NATO code).

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As it can be seen, both the CTGSML and the MLTC do their best in order to meet the new challenges resulting from Hungary's NATO accession, focusing on the increased language teaching requirements and quality control of NATO compatible military language.

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New teaching materials in English:

Tool for STANAG

Political And Military Issues STANAG 3.3.3.3.

Tool for STANAG (Teacher's Book)

Border Line

Textbook for Border-Guard Officers

Basic Military English

Textbook

CD-based multimedia self-study material – STANAG level 1.1.1.1.

CD-based multimedia self-study material – STANAG level 2.2.2.2.

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NATO STUDIES¶

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Origins and history¶
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General information on land or air forces¶
Command, organisation and structure of each of the above forces¶
Administration, support services and logistics of each of the above¶
Courses focusing on any speciality to be designed as needed¶

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At the end of the course we offer a STANAG level 2222 or a STANAG level 3333 exam.¶

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Air Operational English (Under NATO code)¶
Peace support Operations ¶
Military Medical English¶

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Language Testing Centre

The Language Testing Centre was set up as an independent organisation in 2001 after the accreditation of our military language exams.

We organise three types of examinations:

- STANAG 6001,
- General language exams (English, French, German, Italian, Russian and Hungarian as a foreign language).
- Military language exams (which we call ARMA) in English, French, German, Italian, Russian, Croatian, Serbian, Slovakian and Ukrainian.

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To meet graduation requirements, the Hungarian university system stipulates that students must sit and pass a language exam at the intermediate level. The same holds true for students at the National Defence University. One exception is that students of Security and Defence Policy Department are required to pass an advanced language exam in English or French and an intermediate exam in any other languages.

Since October 2001, 6,500 candidates have taken the ARMA military examinations, approximately 2,500 candidates have taken STANAG exams, and 3,200 candidates have taken the general language exams.

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Number of permanent staff of the Language Testing Centre is 7 people including administrative personnel. About 50 teachers from the Language Institute and contract teachers are involved in testing.

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In January 2005 the STANAG 6001 exam was accredited by the National Accreditation Board and was recognized by the Ministry of Education. The STANAG 6001 exam became a state exam. Besides ARMA exams students can take STANAG 2.2.2.2. to meet graduation requirements. STANAG exam is compulsory for the military students.

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which proved to be successful.

Now special attention is paid to specific professional and especially linguistic skills. Due to the growing involvement of the Hungarian Defence Force in international peace support operations the need for English for Special Purposes has increased.

The Partnership for Peace Military Language Training Center (PfP/MLTC) instructs military and civilian government personnel who need to refresh or improve their skills in English, French or German.

The MLTC is a part of the Zrínyi Miklós National Defence University (ZMNDU).

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These centres are part of a network, which provides a convenient location for Hungarian military personnel to learn English in different areas of our country. The regional centres are organised where we have both military units and language teaching facilities.

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NATO STUDIES

Origins and history

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Strategic concept

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Communication and information systems

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Support services and preparedness

Scientific and environmental factors

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OTHER MILITARY STUDIES

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Command, organisation and structure of each of the above forces

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At the end of the course we offer a STANAG level 2222 or a STANAG level 3333 exam.

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Air Operational English (Under NATO code)
Peace support Operations
Military Medical English

As can be seen both the Language Institute and MLTC try to meet the new challenges resulting from Hungary's admission to NATO. Membership in the Alliance further increases the language teaching requirements and quality control of NATO compatible military language.

Language Testing Centre

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We organise three types of examinations:

STANAG 6001,

General language exams (English, French, German, Italian, Russian and Hungarian as a foreign language),

Military language exams which we call ARMA exams in English, French, German, Italian, Russian, Croatian, Serbian, Slovakian and Ukrainian.

To meet graduation requirements, the Hungarian university system stipulates that students must sit and pass a language exam at the intermediate level. The same holds true for students at the National Defence University. One exception

is that students of Security and Defence Policy require to pass an advanced language exam in English or French and an intermediate exam in any other languages.

Since October 2001, we have tested some 1800 candidates using the ARMA military examinations, approximately 1300 candidates took STANAG exams, and about 1000 candidates sit for the general language exams.

Number of permanent staff of the Language Testing Centre is 7 people including administrative personnel. Teachers both from the Language Institute and MLTC take part in the examination process.