

REPORT

On the implementation of English language training and testing in Bulgaria in 2006

I. English language training organization

- Structure of the English language training system
- English language training curricula
- English language training and testing procedures
- Training staff

A. STRUCTURE OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING SYSTEM

1. English language training in-country:
 - a. “Rakovski” Defense and Staff College;
 - b. “Levski” National Military University and “Vaptsarov” Naval Academy;
 - c. The language, computer and information technologies training center in Shoumen;
 - d. Training bases of the services of the Armed Forces and the units of the Bulgarian Army;
2. English language training abroad:
 - a. USA- IMET and FMF programs;
 - b. Canada –MTAP and CRTSP programs
 - d. NATO language training institutions – Pfp centers in Hungary and Slovenia.

B. ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING CURRICULA

1. ACADEMIC CURRICULA FOR THE DEFENSE AND STAFF COLLEGE, THE NATIONAL MILITARY UNIVERSITY AND THE NAVAL ACADEMY – regular students and cadets, trained in elementary/ intermediate/advanced general English intensive / non-intensive courses.
2. THE DEFENSE AND STAFF COLLEGE, THE NATIONAL MILITARY UNIVERSITY AND THE NAVAL ACADEMY – officers and NCOs in advanced specialized courses and ESP courses.
3. THE LANGUAGE, COMPUTER AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES TRAINING CENTER – officers, NCOs and enlisted personnel in elementary, intermediate and advanced intensive courses.
4. Professional qualification courses in English.
4. TWO SACs (Resource/Learning Centers) – including distance learning.

C. COURSES

1. General English courses.
 2. ESP courses.
 3. Language training as a component of additional qualification courses
- The English language courses are both intensive and non-intensive.

D. ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING AND TESTING PROCEDURES

1. The courses' types, levels, time-frames and location are set in an annual plan.
2. The personnel staff study and offer the number of employees in categories according to the needs/career development.
3. The General Staff and the MOD select the applicants.
4. The time, location and requirements for applying for STANAG exams are defined by a Regulation.

Testing	Course
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Report (application) ▪ Data base ▪ Setting a date for the exam ▪ Travel order ▪ Test 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Report (application)/personnel staff ▪ Data base ▪ Order for the course ▪ Placement test(if necessary) ▪ Course

E. TRAINING STAFF

Success in training can be achieved only by permanent investment in the training staff. The methodological and ESP qualification courses in-country and abroad are as follows:

1. Test development and administration;
2. Material development for the military;
3. SAC organization and maintenance;
4. Tactical English course;
5. ESP course.

II. TESTING OF ENGLISH

There are two procedures in the testing of English:

1. THE FIRST PROCEDURE tests the knowledge of English of the trainees before, during and in the end of their training. The successful trainees are certified for the level covered. The exams are administered by the teachers in the courses from the language departments or the training organizations.
2. THE SECOND PROCEDURE is applied to define the level of proficiency according to NATO STANAG 6001.

STANAG tests are developed and administered only by the experts from the testing department, which is a structure within the Personnel Policy Directorate in the Bulgarian MoD.

III. TRAINING AND STANAG 6001 TESTING SCORES IN 2006.

1. Trainees in English in 2006

Training institutions	Trained staff							Total
	MoD			Bulgarian Army				
	officers	NCOs	civilians	officers	NCOs	civilians	enlisted	
Military academies and bases	51	12	19	429	168	2	39	700

2. STANAG 6001 testing scores:

Total number of applicants – **1200**;

Successful – **960 (80%)**

Distribution of the successful applicants in levels:

Total	1111	1-2	2222	2-3	3333	3-4	4444
1200	41	404	131	286	88	7	0

The analysis shows that **512 applicants (53%)** have achieved level 2 and higher, which compared to 2005 is a 14% increase.

3. STANAG 6001 scores from all the administered testing sessions 1999- 2006:

Total number of cadre and civilian staff that applied for the STANAG 6001 between **1999 – 2006** and were certified (some have more than one certificate):

Applicants total number	Did not show	Failed	Passed	1111	1-2	2222	2-3	3333	3-4	4444
15197	3826	3131	8240	1028	3984	978	1641	431	169	8

The factual number of employees distributed in categories and levels of English proficiency, acquired between **1999 – 2006**:

Category of personnel	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Total
Generals	16	15	9	1	41
Officers	1837	1073	295	2	3207
NCOs	225	72	5	-	302
Privates	88	45	5	-	138
Cadets	10	10	3		23
Civilians	111	79	41	1	232
Total	2187	1252	358	4	3943