



BILC NATIONAL REPORT 2012

(the national report covers the period May 2011 – April 2012)

COUNTRY: Republic of Bulgaria
INSTITUTION(S): Ministry of Defence
<p>1. TRAINING MANDATE:</p> <p>a. The languages taught in the Bulgarian military educational institutions: the National Defence Academy (Sofia), the National Military University (Veliko Turnovo), the Aviation Faculty (Dolna Mitropolia), the Foreign Languages Department (Shumen), and the Naval Academy (Varna) are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general English courses (levels 1, 2, 3 and 4), - general English refresher courses (levels 1 and 2) - specialized English (Aviation English, Tactical English, etc.), - Arabian (level 1), - French (levels 1 and 2), - German (level 1), - Greek (level 1), - Romanian (level 1), - Serbian (level 1), - Turkish (level 1). <p>b. The number of the groups that attended the language courses at the military educational institutions is 57 for the given period. The personnel of the military units of the NATO declared forces also study English permanently as part of their everyday training.</p> <p>c. The number of the English language teachers in the Bulgarian military educational institutions is 69, 12 are the teachers in the other foreign languages taught and there are also 2 teachers in Bulgarian language who teach Bulgarian for the foreign military students. The number of the English language instructors hired for on-site teaching in the military units is 13.</p> <p>d. The curricula for all courses have been developed in-house.</p>
<p>2. TESTING MANDATE:</p> <p>The English language STANAG 6001 tests for the Bulgarian Armed Forces are developed and administered by the Bulgarian English language STANAG 6001 team consisting of 5 testing experts. Currently the team is part of the Language Education Department of the National Defence Academy. In the period May 2011 - April 2012 about 1400 military and civilian personnel sat for the STANAG 6001 exam. The Bulgarian STANAG 6001 certificates have 3-year validity for work and studies abroad.</p>
<p>3. STANDARDS USED (IN ADDITION TO STANAG 6001):</p> <p>None.</p>
<p>4. COURSES OPEN TO OTHER NATIONS:</p> <p>In 2010, the Foreign Languages Department (FLD) in Shumen (part of the National Military University) was officially recognized as a NATO PfP Training and Education Centre working in the field of English language training. FLD has been included in the Individual Training and Education Programme – ITEP, one of NATO Smart Defence Projects – categorization ‘sharing’. The aim of the project is by sharing capabilities to help the individual training in English language for attaining the standards of NATO for reaching interoperability among NATO countries – members and partners. Up till now about 40 foreign military and civilian personnel have attended the English language courses held at the FLD.</p> <p>The Foreign Languages Department offers for other nations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general English language courses (levels 1, 2, 3, and 4) with duration 15-18 weeks –

twice a year;

- specialized English language course *English Skills for Staff Officers in Multinational Operations* with duration 6 weeks – once a year.

- on request the following courses can be organized at the FLD:

1. Specialized English courses:

- Operational Aviation English;
- Tactical English in Peacekeeping Operations;
- Tactical English for the Land Forces;
- Aviation English – Terminology and Radio Exchange in the Air.

2. Qualification courses held in English:

- Course for Staff Officers for Participation in UN Peacekeeping Operations;
- Preparation for Officers Who Will Participate in EUFOR, KFOR, and ISAF Peacekeeping Operations;
- CIMIC in Multinational Operations;
- Preparation for Military Observers for UN Missions and Operations.

The specialized courses on request can be preceded by short-termed English Language Refresher Courses.

5. CONTACTS:

Emilija Nesheva, state expert, national representative for BILC,
Education and Qualification Department,
Human Resources Management Directorate,
Ministry of Defence,
Sofia,
Republic of Bulgaria
Tel. +35922921035; GSM +359888723427,
e-mail: e.nesheva@mod.bg; emi_nesheva@yahoo.com