



## NATO STANAG 6001 Level 4 Language Proficiency

### Testing the reading skill

As part of the Level 4 proficiency project, the working group developed a test of reading proficiency. The test was piloted across the three NATO HQs, and the data was analyzed using different statistical tools.

The test format allows the reading skill to be tested via either speaking or writing. In other words, candidates may select the preferred modality. If proficiency is tested via the writing skill, the test can be administered by the national testing team members. In case the candidate requests to be tested via speaking, the test will be administered telephonically or via Skype, dependent on the availability of trained testers.

After the test has been administered, the test-takers' written responses will be scanned and send in an encrypted form to the POC below. The POC will arrange for the test to be rated. Only trained testers/raters can rate the test. If the test is administered telephonically or via Skype, the tester(s) will also be raters. The test will always be rated independently by three raters whose results will be compared before the final rating is communicated to the national testing POC.

The Familiarization Guide (see separate PDF) explains the testing format, as well as what Level 4 reading proficiency means according the STANAG 6001 descriptor. The Guide also allows potential candidates to self-assess their likelihood of passing the test.

The test can only be released to the national testing systems for administration under strictly controlled conditions, and for the exclusive purpose of testing personnel selected for NATO posts that require the Level 4 reading SLP. Such candidates should also have scored high on the Level 3 national reading test. The test **MUST NEVER** be used for any other purpose than the one stated.

For more information, contact the BILC Secretariat through your national representative.