



BILC NATIONAL REPORT 2012

COUNTRY: Sweden
INSTITUTION(S): Swedish National Defence College (SNDC) Swedish Armed Forces (SwAF)
<p>1. TRAINING MANDATE:</p> <p>All students (tri-service) at the Swedish National Defence College (SNDC) in Stockholm receive Military English training on a regular, usually weekly, basis. The SNDC has eight fulltime English teachers (one also teaches French) and one French teacher is employed on a freelance basis. Curricula are developed in-house for all the following courses.</p> <p>a. Officer Programme (OP) (approximately 270 cadets). The Officer Programme is a three-year course (6 terms) for officer cadets and is equivalent to 180 credits (European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)). Military English is obligatory throughout the course. Terms 1 to 3 and Term 6 are carried out at the Military Academy Karlberg (MHS-K), Stockholm and Terms 4 and 5 are completed at service/branch schools all around the country. At MHS-K, military English is closely integrated with the theoretical content of war studies, whereas during Terms 4 and 5, it is more practical and related to professional work.</p> <p>b. The Staff Course (SC) (approximately 80 captains). The Staff Course lasts one or two terms, depending on the students' speciality and future appointment, and does not render credits. It prepares officers for duties in a range of appointments in units, centres and national and international staffs. French can be studied by students who have previously studied the language for at least three years.</p> <p>c) The Advanced Staff Course (ASC) (usually approximately 40 majors or equivalent (75 in 2012)). The course awards 50-100 ECTS at advanced level, depending on whether students attend the regular two-year course or the technical course, which is six months longer. The aim is to prepare officers for senior command or staff appointments in units and national or international headquarters. Military English is taught during the first year and is integrated into all subjects and military exercises and forms part of the learning outcomes of all course plans.</p>
<p>2. TESTING MANDATE:</p> <p>The SNDC is the official STANAG testing centre for the SwAF. Tests for the four language skills are written every year and trialled on various audiences. Standardization training for testers and raters is carried out every year prior to the tests. Each year approximately 150 OP cadets are tested and senior officers are tested on request from SwAF and can number up to 50. The STANAG test is valid for 3 years.</p>



3. STANDARDS USED (IN ADDITION TO STANAG 6001): Officers attending SC and ASC are required to pass an English test compiled by SNDC, comprising vocabulary, reading comprehension and grammar. The SC students require a standard of Level 2+ on admittance and ASC Level 3. During the courses, students undergo continual assessment based on oral presentations/briefings and submitted written tasks, e.g. briefs, essays, reports.	
4. COURSES OPEN TO OTHER NATIONS: There are no language courses at SNDC open to other nations. However, there is an agreement between the Scandinavian and Baltic countries as well as Germany, Switzerland and South Korea for officers to study at the SNDC. <i>Military English for Multinational Staff Work</i> is a course open to other nations at SWEDINT (The Swedish International Training Centre), which was designed in cooperation with the Defence School of Languages in Beaconsfield, UK. It runs for a week biannually and is delivered by teachers from the SNDC.	
5. RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO REQUESTING NATIONS: We are prepared to share our ideas on curriculum design, teaching materials and STANAG testing on request. Our students are willing to be used for trialling of other nations' (STANAG) tests and materials.	
6. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES: We are in the process of purchasing translation software in order to be able to produce more accurate and consistent translations as well as improve efficiency. Sharing translation vocabulary and terminology will benefit other areas of our work at the college.	
7. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:	
8. CONTACT: a. Ms Ingrida Leimanis Swedish National Defence College Head, Foreign Languages Section Ingrida.leimanis@fhs.se +46 8 553 429 30 +45 708 294 525	