

## Online Multinational Moderation Models

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This presentation shared two models of multinational moderation: The Shared Item Bank Project and the STANAG 6001 Testing Support for Ukraine, though the sole focus of the briefing was to explain the second model. For this testing support project, two experts from Bulgaria, one from Romania, and two from PLTCE provided testing support and expertise for the Ukrainian testing team in their goal of moderating L2 and L3 reading items for pre-testing purposes. The project took part in three phases, outlined below:

- Phase 1—The panel discussed STANAG 6001 Testing Best Practices; the UKR testing team presented on their test item development practices; the panel provided recommendations on the UKR test specifications
- Phase 2—L2 items were presented by the UKR team and moderated using the BILC Item Review Checklist; online multinational moderation took place and panel recommendations along with final items were presented to the UKR team
- Phase 3—The panel presented on a way to use the Dr. Herzog Tutorial by taking one L3 reading text from the UKR team and illustrating the step-by-step development of a L3 reading item; the UKR team worked on a practical activity in text edition; online multinational moderation for the L3 items occurred and panel recommendations as well as final items were presented to the UKR team

During this process, which occurred over several months, both the panel of experts and the UKR team realized the benefits of such a collaboration. However, there were limitations to working online. The list below represents some take-aways of the benefits and limitations:

BENEFITS	LIMITATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Time effective under restrictive conditions</li><li>• Participants can be from different locations at the same time</li><li>• Cost effective: no travel or special logistics</li><li>• Number of meetings/project</li><li>• Allows enough time to amend, rework, rethink items</li><li>• Can record the sessions for later review</li><li>• Can be conducted at national or international levels</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Technical limitations (connection, sound, image)</li><li>• Time zone differences</li><li>• Panel size should be limited</li><li>• Scheduling challenges due to work obligations</li><li>• Reduced time length for meetings</li><li>• Interaction limited</li><li>• Tiredness – screen exposure</li><li>• Spontaneity</li></ul>

From these lists, the panel was able to reflect on the collaboration and concluded that while there are some inherent constraints to a project such as this, online multinational collaboration is ultimately a benefit to all involved. Therefore, the aim is to develop “best practices” for online multinational moderation and create an “implementation plan” document to help guide future endeavors. BILC is currently looking for volunteers willing to participate in this project.