EALTA
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European Association for Language Testing and Assessment

EALTA Guidelines for Good Practice in Language Testing and Assessment

Revised version 2026

Acknowledgements

The first version of EALTA's *Guidelines for Good Practice* in Language Testing and Assessment was launched in 2006 and subsequently expanded in 2014. This document has been a highly valued tool used in a variety of contexts over the years. It has supported numerous activities related to both pre-service and in-service teacher education, as well as informing stakeholders involved in test development, implementation, and use for different purposes and at different educational levels.

The evolving landscape of language assessment and its integral role in shaping effective teaching and learning practices have drawn increased attention to issues such as equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI), as well as the implications of technology, particularly generative AI. Consequently, the guidelines required revision to reflect developments in assessment theory and practice that have taken place over the past two decades. To this end, a special task force was established to review the guidelines and propose revisions. The task force consisted of six members:

Cecilie Carlsen, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences
Kathrin Eberharter, University of Innsbruck
Ari Huhta, University of Jyväskylä (Chair)
Benjamin Kremmel, University of Innsbruck
John Pill, Lancaster University
Richard Spiby, British Council

The task force proposed four main recommendations: (1) reordering and renaming the main sections of the document; (2) adding a new Section A focusing on test use and consequences; (3) introducing new subcategories and content under Section B to foreground theoretical concepts, practical work, and ethical considerations; and (4) incorporating references to AI and digitalisation in testing and assessment.

EALTA members were invited to respond to the proposed revisions through an online survey administered in early 2026. Based on their feedback, which included minor modifications, additional information, and requests for clarification, the revised guidelines have been finalized and presented at the Annual General Meeting held during the EALTA Conference in Siena, Italy. A process of regular review will be established to ensure that the guidelines continue to reflect future developments in the field.

On behalf of EALTA, I would like to thank the members of the task force members and all colleagues and EALTA members who contributed to this process.

Slobodanka Dimova
President of EALTA