

## “Bulgarian Sign Language [bqn] (A language of [Bulgaria](#))

- **Alternate Names:** Balgarski žestomimicen ezik, BŽE
- **Population:** 37,000 (2014 IMB). 50,000 sign language users (2014 EUD).
- **Location:** Scattered.
- **Language Status:** 5 (Developing).
- **Dialects:** None known. Different sign languages are used in school and by adults outside.
- **Typology:** One-handed fingerspelling (Cyrillic script).
- **Language Use:** Since 1920. Primary schools for deaf people since 1898. Allowed in school since 1945. Interpreters are required in court; some available for college students.
- **Language Development:** Films. TV. Videos. Dictionary.
- **Other Comments:** 200 working sign language interpreters (2014 EUD). Instruction for parents of deaf children available. Christian (Orthodox).”

Lewis, M. Paul, Gary F. Simons, and Charles D. Fennig (eds.)  
2015. Ethnologue: Languages of the World, Eighteenth edition. Dallas, Texas: SIL  
International. Online version: <http://www.ethnologue.com>.

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