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PRANË ORGANIZATAVE  
NDËRKOMBËTARE  
VJENË

PERMANENT MISSION  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA  
TO THE INTERNATIONAL  
ORGANIZATIONS  
VIENNA

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### NOTE VERBALE

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Albania to the International Organizations in Vienna presents its compliments to all Permanent Delegations and Missions to the OSCE Forum for Security Cooperation and to the Conflict Prevention Centre of the OSCE and has the honor to transmit herewith Albania's response to the OSCE Questionnaire on the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Albania to the International Organizations in Vienna avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the OSCE Forum for Security Cooperation and to the Conflict Prevention Centre, the assurances of its highest consideration.



Vienna, July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009

**To All Permanent Delegations and Missions to the OSCE  
To the Conflict Prevention Centre of the OSCE**

**VIENNA**

ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY  
AND  
COOPERATION IN EUROPE (OSCE)

## **REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA**



### **INFORMATION EXCHANGE ON THE CODE OF CONDUCT ON POLITICO-MILITARY ASPECTS OF SECURITY**

OSCE, Vienna, 15 of June 2009

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**1. Appropriate measures to prevent and combat terrorism, in particular participation in international agreements to that end (Para. 6)**

**(a) The list of international agreements including all UN Conventions and protocol relating to terrorism, to which the participating state is party.**

Regional and worldwide development of last two decades has created a new strategic environment of security, which in turn has influenced and changed the security policy.

Asymmetric risks pose the greatest new challenges to today's military forces, globally and/or in our country. These threats include international and/or regional terrorism, organized crimes, illegal trafficking of all kinds, environment pollutions, proliferations of weapons of mass destruction, etc.

Albania has fulfilled its obligations as member of international organizations, and as part of coalition of willing in the Global War on Terrorism.

The Republic of Albania is aware of terrorism as a global threat to the world peace and security. This phenomenon has been reviewed through the key state documents dealing with the security and defence issues. The defence policy of Albania considers terrorism as one of the main challenges and risks to the general security in the forthcoming period. It is trying to keep the pace with the modern world in prevention of and fight against the terrorism.

Albania is a state parties to all (12) the UN anti-terrorism conventions, fully ratified by Albanian Parliament (see the list below):

<b>Convention</b>	<b>Party (P) /Signature/ Accession (a)</b>	<b>Ratification/ Entry into force</b>
1. Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft, signed at Tokyo on 14 September 1963	P	1.03. 1998
2. Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft, signed at The Hague on 16 December 1970	P	20. 11. 1997
3. Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation, signed at Montreal on 23 September 1971	P	20. 11. 1997
4. Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 14 December 1973	P (a)	21. 02. 2002
5. International Convention against the	P (a)	21. 02. 2002

Taking of Hostages, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 17 December 1979		
6. Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials, signed at New York and Vienna on 3 March 1980	P (a)	5. 04. 2002
7. Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation, signed at Montreal on 24 February 1988	P	29.05. 2002
8. International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 15 December 1997	P	21.02. 2002
9. International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 9 December 1999	P	10. 05. 2002
10. Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation. Signed at Rome on 10 March 1988	P	17. 09. 2002
11. Protocol for the suppression of unlawful acts against the safety of fixed platforms located on the continental shelf, signed at Rome on 10 March 1988	P (a)	17. 09. 2002
12. Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection, Done at Montreal on 1 March 1991	P (R)	6.03. 2000
13. Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism.	Signed	2005

**(b) Accession to and participation in other multilateral and bilateral agreements or measures undertaken to prevent and combat terrorist activities.**

In 2006, the Albanian Parliament has ratified “Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism” (Law No 9641, 20/11/2006) and “Council of Europe Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism” (Law No 9646, 27/11/2006).

The Albanian Parliament has approved the Law No 7, dated 10 October 2001 titled “Albania is the member of coalition against worldwide terrorism”, which states: “The Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Interior Affairs, the Ministry of Defence and the National Intelligence Service need to review the related legislation and make further improvements for fighting against the terrorism”.

In 2003 was approved the Law NO. 9295 dated 13.03.2003 on the use of land, air and sea space and participation of Albania with a military force in the international coalition in the fight against terrorism.

In 2003 was approved the Law NO. 9074 dated 29.05.2003 on the establishment of the Military Intelligence Service.

Fulfilling of the legal framework on antiterrorism and drug traffickers, as described in Article No. 230 of the Penal Code of the Republic of Albania, which states: "Performance of the violence acts against life and health of people, kidnapping and their freedom, mass frightening and insecurity in the public order, are condemned to jail not less than 15 years up to life imprisonment.

In cooperation with the Ministry of Interior of Italy, to fight against criminality, has been conducted joint investigations on criminal matters, such as drug trafficking, weapon smuggling, human trafficking, stolen cars trafficking, followed by arrests and extradition in both countries.

The European Convention on the suppression of terrorism, concluded at Strasbourg on 27 January 1997, ratified by the Albanian parliament on 21.09.2000, entry into force on 22.12.2000;

The European Convention on Extradition with the two additional protocols, ratified on 19 May 1998;

The European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, ratified on 4 April 2000;

Since, June 2007 the Republic of Albania is among the partner countries which are participating on "The Global Initiative to Counter the Nuclear Terrorism".

On 2 May 2003 the Republic of Albania has signed the Adriatic Chart with USA, FYROM and Croatia and considers it as a contribution for security in the region and at large especially after the enlargement of this Chart by two new regional members: Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro;

On 20 November 2008, the Republic of Albania with all Western Balkan Countries, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding "the Exchange of Statistic Data and Early Warning for Illicit Migration and their Helpers".

Albania and Greece have established an agreement that facilitates cooperation focused on the trafficking of human beings, drugs, illegal migration, border management, etc.;

The cooperation with FYROM consists on signing legal instruments to discuss the trans-border issues, on preventing illegal activities;

The cooperation with Montenegro has been effective for fighting against human trafficking, smuggling of goods between the borders, and stolen vehicles trafficking;

The cooperation established between Albania and UNMIK in the past, that has been focused in the exchange of information, resulting in the arrest of the perpetrators, identifying the stolen vehicles, and verification of documents, is continuing with the institutions of the Republic of Kosovo;

Close cooperation with Interpol and police force of other countries is established to fight against terrorism;

**(c) National measures to include pertinent legislation taken to implement the international agreements, conventions and protocols cited above**

Republic of Albania as a new NATO member country, has taken appropriate measures in fulfilling the requirements of the international agreements to prosecute or extradite terrorists, as well as prevents and combats terrorism such as:

-In cooperation with EU, NATO and our neighbour countries, the priority of Albanian Government, was designed to improving the national legislation and legal procedures, first determined the gaps in the national laws, amending the existing laws or/and developing the new ones in order to enhance the national capacities and the efficiencies of Albanian executive and legal institutions in fighting against terrorism, the organized crimes and the illegal trafficking.

-The Parliamentary Law No. 9074, dated 29.05.2003, for the National Intelligence Service responsibilities is focused on matters of fighting against terrorism.

-The Parliamentary Law No. 9295, dated 13.03.2003, for the use of sea ports, airports, airspace and other facilities of the Albania for contribution to the joint international coalition in the fight against international terrorism.

-The establishment of the Regional Center for fighting against illicit trafficking, drugs, smuggling, and illegal emigration.

-Increasing border control, in order to prevent whatever international terrorist elements from entering the country.

-Restructuring of both Interior Police Force and the Military Police Force;

-Establishing anti-terrorist and drug units within the Ministry of Interior;

Albanian Government is committed directly in the fight against terrorism and has taken appropriate measures such as:

- contributes forces on company level and Joint Medical Team to Afghanistan under the ISAF command and control.

The restructure of the Albanian Armed Forces foresees a strong support in the fight against terrorism, this in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior and other institutions.

The fight against illicit trafficking is one of the main priorities of the Government. It considers it as the main support in combating terrorism. The Government is exercising control against the human trafficking.

The Air and Naval Observation Systems will be adopted in the way of meeting the needs to prevent and fight terrorism.

The Naval Forces are being designed as a coastal guard service as a part of Joint Force Command.

**(d) Information on national efforts to prevent and combat terrorism including appropriate information on legislation beyond United Nations conventions and protocols (e.g. pertaining to financing of terrorist groups);**

Albania, as a factor of peace and stability in the region, does not support terrorist acts of all its forms, and will continue to devote its efforts for strengthening of the regional and European security. Albania is aligned with the coalition forces and is already committed to the antiterrorist campaign with all of its assets and capabilities. In this framework, recently the Albanian Parliament has approved the Law No. 9917, 19/05/2008 “To Prevent Money Laundering and Terrorism’s Funding”. In order to implement this Law, the Albanian Government, has issued a normative act no. 1140, 30/07/2008 to approve “The Interdepartmental Strategy to Combat Organized Crime, Illicit Trafficking and Terrorism”;

**(e) Role and mission of armed forces and security forces in preventing and combating terrorism**

Terrorism as an extremist tool of violence constitutes a real, imminent risk with trans-national character for the security of the Republic of Albania. As an international danger, terrorism is spreading to a broader geographic area. The geo-strategic position of Albania represents an added element that terrorist groups might use as coordinative base. Militant and extremist groups are a serious risk for the citizen’s life security and state functioning.

War on terrorism directly engages specialized structures of State Police, State Intelligence Service and the Armed Forces. They are adopted to use of their capability to find out and act in timely manner terrorist actions.

Military intelligence and information have important tasks and are responsible for terrorist act prevention. This enables timely and proper reaction against these phenomena.

Increased emphasis is being given to restructuring parts of the navy into a coast guard service and the air and naval observation system is being developed to improve capabilities against illicit trafficking and as part of anti-terrorist measures. The restructuring of the armed forces is being accelerated and has a higher visibility because of the increased awareness of the risk posed by terrorism. A higher priority is also being given to measures against illicit trafficking of people and the armed forces have been tasked to exercise control against human trafficking.

The Ministry of Interior Affairs dedicates special importance to the regional cooperation, in terms coordination of activities on the fight against crime and to exchange experiences of the agencies involved.



## **2. Description of the national planning- and decision-making process – including the role of the Parliament and Ministries – for the determination/approval of:**

### **(a) The military posture**

Development of the Armed Forces is the responsibility of high civilian and military leadership, which is based on the objectives and principles of the Defence Policy, in developing a military force capable of guaranteeing the defence of the country.

The armed forces are prepared and modernized according to the mission and tasks defined in Constitution and Defence Policy.

Transformation and modernization of the armed forces is based on the modern military thought and technology, NATO standards, interoperability, and development of flexible, adaptive forces, principle valuing personnel quality and retention, as well as transparency of the armed forces to the civil society of the Republic of Albania and partner countries.

Based on article 12 of the Constitution, our Armed Forces maintain neutrality regarding to political matters and come under democratic political control. Albania maintains effective guidance to and controls its military and security by constitutionally established authorities vested with democratic legitimacy.

The Parliament of the Republic of Albania controls all the activities of the armed forces and determines the power and commanding authority for peacetime, state of emergency and the state of war. The President of the Republic of Albania is Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces.

### **(b) Defence expenditures**

According the Albanian Constitution, the defence budget is part of state budget, which is annually approved by Parliament after it has been reviewed and approved by the Parliamentarian Commission of Finance and Parliamentarian Commission of National Security.

The defence budget of 2009 is 21,633 billion Lek and represents 2% of GDP. 72.7% of the total defence budget is planned for operating costs and 27.3% for procurement and infrastructure. 67% of the operating costs, or 55.2% of the total defence budget is allocated for personnel costs (food, clothes, travel and per diem and miscellaneous cost), and 33% of the operating costs, or 17.7 % of the total defence budget for operations and maintenance. 5.3% of the 2009 defence budget is allocated for missions abroad, participation in NATO structures and exercises, and other international activities. In 2009, more attention is given to the Force Goals as we plan to commit almost all of the equipment procurement funds towards their implementation.

The completed and planned improvements in resource management and the increase in budget allocation aims to ensure that the resources needed to maintain the ongoing reform programs and the additional funds for NATO membership. It has been a challenge for the AAF to effectively plan and execute the considerable increase in the Defence Budget allocated for the past two years. However, the Long Term Development Plan for 2008-2020 and the Strategic Planning Guidance (Minister's Guidance) provides sufficient lead time for adequate planning. These improvements are supported by the Three Year Mid-Term Budget Program.

The 2006 budget addressed seven budget programs: Planning, Management and Administration; Defense Security; Education; Health Support, Culture and Sport; Technical Support and Scientific Research, and Social Support for Military Personnel. In 2007, the MOD went to eight budget programs: Planning, Management and Administration; Combat Forces; Military Education & Training; Health Support; Combat Support Forces; Central Support Forces; Social Support for Military Personnel and Civil-Military Cooperation.

The MOD will continue to conduct an evaluation of its program-based defence resources management and budget structure with the aim to ensure the best planning and use of defence resources.

The 2009 Defence Budget focuses on improvement of recruitment by increasing the payment of military personnel, the quality of military life, modernization of equipment, improvement of training infrastructure, increase of operational capability, support of training and exercises, and augmentation of participation in NATO operations.

As of last year, funding for professional soldiers payment and security insurance is totally supported by the Defence Budget and not from MOD internal revenues as it was done earlier. The Personnel Spending allocation aims to ensure an increase in the number of professional soldiers to guarantee the planned transition to a professional army. The Goods and Services allocation provides the financial support necessary to fund Peacekeeping Missions, Albania's missions to the various NATO structures, pay of NATO fees and expenses for maintenance of combat equipment, and general operational expenses.

The Expenses for Investment allocation provides financial support for Albanian Armed Forces modernization, to include the completion of the Maritime Surveillance Project, procurement of Coastal Patrol Boats, Communication Information Systems and, notably, procurement of Individual Combat Equipment and Transport Helicopters.

### **3. Description of:**

#### **(a) Constitutionally established procedures ensuring effective democratic control of the military, paramilitary and internal security forces, as well as intelligent service and the police.**

The Republic of Albania has institutionalized civilian democratic control of the Armed Forces in its Constitution, and has built by Law a command system by high civilian authorities at the strategic level, whereas at the operational and tactic levels, command and control is by high military authorities.

Strategic decisions for security and defence issues are made by legitimate organs, as designated in the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Albania.

The Parliament of the Republic of Albania controls the activity of the Armed Forces and designates the Command and Control power and authorities, in peace and crises time.

The President of the Republic of Albania is the General Commander of the Armed Forces.

He is also the Chairman of the National Security Council (NSC), which has a consultative and advisory role on security and defence issues.

The President of the Republic of Albania, in peacetime, exercises leadership of the Armed Forces through the Prime Minister and Minister of Defence. The General Commander of the Armed Forces in wartime leads the Armed Forces through the Commander of the Armed Forces.

The President of the Republic of Albania approves the organizational structure and positioning plan of the Armed Forces; the Action Plan of the Armed Forces in peacetime and in cases of an extraordinary state (emergency measures), as well as the decisions of the Commander of the Armed Forces regarding military actions of the Armed Forces in wartime.

The Prime Minister is responsible for the leadership, development, and the state of the Armed Forces in peacetime.

The Council of Ministers is the highest executive body. It proposes laws on defence, executes the laws approved by the Parliament, defines the main approaches of national policy, and issues normative acts with temporary legislative power. The Council of Ministers manages the activity for the accomplishment of the tasks in the defence field, in accordance with the constitution laws and decisions of the National Security Council.

The Minister of Defence is responsible to the Parliament, President and Prime Minister for the development and execution of defence policies.

The Minister of Defence is a member of the Council of Ministers and the National Security Council. He is the highest authority of the Ministry of Defence. The Minister of Defence is responsible for the headship and control of the Armed Forces, the accomplishment of their mission, the management of the defence budget and the fulfilments of defence policy objectives.

The Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces is responsible to the President of the Republic, Prime Minister, and Minister of Defence for the preparation and combat readiness, filling with personnel, and the organization and headship of military and non-military operations of the Armed Forces.

The Chief of General Staff is the highest military position and holds the highest rank in the Armed Forces. The Chief of General Staff is the top military advisor to the Minister of Defence, Prime Minister and President.

The Commander of Joint Forces Command is the highest military leader for the Land, Navy and Air Components, and is responsible for the joint operational readiness to the Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces.

### **(b) Constitutionally established authorities/institutions responsible for the Democratic control of military, paramilitary and security forces**

The authority and responsibilities of various positions and structures of the national level are shortly as follows:

The Parliament is the highest legislative authority on major defence issues such as:

- National Security Strategy,
- Defence Policy and Military Strategy,
- Defence Laws,
- Defence Budget

The Parliament approves the laws on the Armed Forces organization and activity, the size of the forces, the defence budget and the development programs. Parliamentary Commissions, especially the Security and Defence Commission are “the eyes and the ears” of the Parliament on defence issues.

The Albanian Government considers the democratic civilian control over the military, paramilitary and internal security forces, as well as of National Intelligence Service and the police as an important element of stability and security. This democratic civilian control over the military has been achieved through President (politically impartial), Prime Minister and Minister of Defence.

Democratically elected civilians have both the authority and the responsibility for Armed Forces developments. On one hand, they are authorized by law to exercise control of the military; on the other hand, they are responsible for providing co-operation and support for the accomplishment of their constitutional missions.

Strategic command of the Armed Forces is vested in civilian authorities. The highest authorities of the Armed Forces are civilians voted into government's service by the people through democratic elections. They are representatives of the civilian institutions and political parties. In order to avoid any negative impact with regard to normal functioning of defence organization in case of

political changes, a special law defines the legitimate powers and responsibilities of strategic and operational level authorities.

**(c) Roles and missions of military, paramilitary and security forces as well as controls to ensure the day act solely within the constitutional framework.**

The Armed Forces of the Republic of Albania conduct their mission as defined in the Constitution of the Republic for the protection of constitutional order, defence of territorial integrity of the country and the implementation of a number of tasks such as: support of civilian population in emergencies or natural disasters, participation in the fight against terrorism as well as peacekeeping missions.

The armed forces include Joint Forces Command (three main components: the land, the air and the navy), as well as supporting commands. The Joint Force structure has a brigade structure in the land component and comprises a rapid reaction and support forces. The supporting commands consist of a joint logistic command, training and doctrine command. The armed forces also provide support and cooperation to the Border Police Forces, under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Interior Affairs, in the execution of their mission.

**(d) Public access to information related to the armed forces**

Public access to the information related to the Armed Forces is more and more present in the military issues. Albanian Parliament approves the defence expenditures and exercises constrains and limitations in military expenditures. The Ministry of Defence provides transparency and public access to information related to the Armed Forces. A directorate level information and press is operational in the Ministry of Defence. All documents of strategic level such as: National Security Strategy, Defence Policy, National Military Strategy, Membership Action Plan, etc. are open to the public opinion.

**4. Stationing of armed forces on the territory of the other participating states in accordance with the freely negotiated agreements as well as in accordance with international law**

Recently we have a NATO Head Quarter stationed in Tirana and no other forces stationed in territory of Republic of Albania.

In the framework of partnership for peace (PfP), and based on the legal acts approved by the Parliament, always in full accordance with the SOFA (Status of Forces Agreement No. 8003), Albania accepts stationing of the Armed Forces of NATO and the partner countries in its territory for training and peacekeeping operations, as well as it may station its armed forces on the territory of another participating state, for peacekeeping missions. This is described in the law No. 8139, ratified by the Parliament on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 1996.

On the 31 of March 1999 Albanian Parliament approved the law which gives authorization to the NATO forces to use the Albanian airspace, seaports and airports, and on the 7<sup>th</sup> of April 1999, Albania Parliament also approved another

law for stationing of NATO forces in the territory of Albania. In 2003 Albania gave full access to USA and coalition forces to use airspace and ground facilities (military and civilian airfields, seaports and training centres).

As a member of NATO, the Republic of Albania is a party to the Agreement by the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization on the Status of their Forces since April 2009. However, the Republic of Albania concludes the Status of Forces Agreement on a multi or bilateral basis when Albanian Armed Forces are going to be stationed on territories, where NATO – SOFA does not apply.

## **5. Description of:**

### **(a) Procedures for the recruitment and call-up of personnel for service in the military, paramilitary, security forces if applicable**

The basis for military service is the Albanian Constitution (1998) and the Law of Military Service, Nr.9047, April 7, 2003. More, the Council of Ministers Regulation No. 65, dated 02.02.1996, serves as a administrative regulation and the legal procedure “On the call-up of the citizens for active and/or duty service”;

The Regulation of the Council of Ministers No. 65, dated 02.02.1996 “On the call-up of the citizens for active and/or duty service”;

- The Parliamentary Law No. 9047, dated 10.07.2003, compulsory service
- The Law No. 9171, dated 22.01.2004, on the ranks and military hierarchy
- The Regulation of the Council of Ministers No. 39, dated 22.01.2004, on the function of the commission of alternative service
- The Regulation of the Council of Ministers No. 69, dated 20.01.2004, on the criterions for excluding from the military service
- Regulations of the Ministry of Defence on recruitment system

The Regulation of the Council of Ministers No 109, date 02.02.1996 “On the function of the military medical boards at the mobilization branches of the districts”.

Conscription is obligatory for all male citizens of Albania between the ages of 18 and 27 and lasts 12 months (except the graduated university students). Individuals may relief from military service by paying a fee as specified in the Basic Law on Military Service; this law was reviewed in the MOD at the end of 2002 and also covers special elements such as an alternative (social) service. This law is approved by Parliament in July 2003. Future arrangements for a more selective conscription system have yet to be developed. A plan is being developed to increase the number of short-term volunteers to support the defence restructuring process.

Recruitment or call-up of personnel for service in military and security forces in Albania is consistent with the obligations and commitments in respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Service Law is approved in the Parliament last year which eliminates the requirement for one month of training for university graduates, reflecting the

firm Alliance advice two years before that this was a waste of scarce resources. Conscripts, called for military duty, who object because of family, conscience, or other grounds, may perform alternative service.

According to the Law, reserve duty service is compulsory for all citizens who have completed the compulsory active duty service.

For females, aged 19 to 45, this service is not compulsory. It is voluntarily, and applicable to some army specialties only.

Call-up for general mobilization is subject to the Parliament and proposed by the President.

Recently the reserve component in our country does not exist, due to the political decision 2 years before.

Paramilitary service in our country does not exist. There is no law, rules or regulations for the recruitment of paramilitary forces.

As it is mentioned above the final goal pertinent to conscription service is that by end of 2010 all Albanian Armed Forces to be fully developed as professional force.

The transformation of AAF to a volunteer military service system will be accomplished by end of 2010, and because of that no conscripts will be recruited after 2009.

#### **(b) Exemptions or alternatives to compulsory military service if applicable**

Exempted from the military service are all citizens who:

The Constitution, the organic laws and other legal documents define the rights and duties of citizens and the armed forces personnel. Exemption from military service is also envisioned in some cases when citizens:

- Due to reasons of consciousness, do not accept to serve as armed soldiers; alternative public service is for these cases, obligatory;
- Are declared not suitable for military service, notified by the medical board of the Central Military Hospital;
- Are imprisoned;
- Pay in cash the total amount of money, which is as much as the cost of a voluntary soldier.

Based on the designated legal documents the government provides social economic aid to all those citizens, called-up for military service, families of which live in below the minimum of economic conditions.

Albania provides appropriate legal administrative procedures to protect the rights of all its forces personnel. These legal administrative procedures are based on the Constitution of the Republic of Albania.

**(c) Legal and administrative procedures protecting the rights of all forces personnel**

The Status of the Armed Forces, according to the law No. 7496, dated 03.07 1991. (On February 2004 has been approved by Albanian Parliament the Status of Military Personnel);

The Decree of the President No. 58, dated 01.02.1994 “On the social care of the military”;

The Law No.7978, dated 26.07.1995 “On the Armed Forces of the Republic of Albania”;

The Law No. 9171, dated 22.01.2004, “On Ranks and Military Career in The Armed Forces of Republic of Albania”;

The Regulation of the Council of Ministers No. 58, dated 02.02.1996 ”On the material and financial security of the families of the military personnel, called-up for military service in war time”;

The Regulation of the Council of Ministers No. 59 dated 02.02.1996 “On the obligations of the local government on military aspects”;

**6. Instruction on international humanitarian law and other international rules, conventions and commitments governing armed conflict included in military training programs and regulations**

Albanian armed forces are commanded, manned, trained and equipped in ways that are consistent with the provisions of international law, obligations and commitments related to the use of armed forces in armed conflict, including the Hague Conventions of 1907 and 1954, the Geneva Conventions of 1949, as well as the 1980 Convention on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons.

Albanian armed forces personnel is instructed in international humanitarian law, rules, conventions and commitments governing armed conflict and they are aware that they are individually accountable under national and international law for their actions.

Albanian armed forces personnel vested with command authority are trained to exercise it in accordance with relevant national as well as international law and are made aware that they can be held individually accountable under those laws for the unlawful exercise of such authority and that orders contrary to national and international law must not be given.

Albanian Defence Policy and Doctrine are consistent with international law related to the use of armed forces, including in armed conflict and the relevant commitments of the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security.

Any decision taken to assign Albanian military forces to international security missions is arrived at in conformity with constitutional procedures.