



Permanent Mission of Hungary to the OSCE, the UN and
other International Organizations
in Vienna

Ref. No.: 67/2023

NOTE VERBALE

The Permanent Mission of Hungary to the OSCE, the UN and other International Organizations in Vienna presents its compliments to all Missions and Delegations of the participating States to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe and to the Conflict Prevention Centre and in accordance with Decision 2/09 of the Forum for Security Co-operation has the honour to submit Hungary's Annual Information Exchange on the Implementation of the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security.

The Permanent Mission of Hungary to the OSCE, the UN and other International Organizations in Vienna avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Missions and Delegations of the participating States to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe and to the Conflict Prevention Centre the assurances of its highest consideration.

Vienna, 24 May 2023

Attachment



**To All Missions and Delegations of the participating States
to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe**

Conflict Prevention Centre

Vienna

OSCE Code of Conduct on the Politico-military Aspects of Security

**Annual information exchange on the
implementation of the
Code of Conduct**

Hungary

Valid as of 15 April 2023

Section I. Inter-State elements

1. Account of measures to prevent and combat terrorism

1.1 To which agreements and arrangements (universal, regional, sub-regional and bilateral) related to preventing and combating terrorism is your State a party?

Hungary condemns all acts of terrorism whatever their motives and is not willing to make any kind of concession to terrorists to ensure that they do not benefit from their acts.

To this end, Hungary works together bilaterally with other governments and multilaterally through international organisations such as the United Nations (UN), the Council of Europe, the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and the European Union (EU).

UN – Multilateral Conventions

The work of the United Nations in the area of international counter-terrorism is fully supported by Hungary. The country has signed and ratified all 13 conventions and protocols on terrorism:

- Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft, signed at Tokyo on 14 September 1963 (promulgated by Law-decree no. 24 of 1971);
- Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft signed at The Hague on 16 December 1970 (promulgated by Law-decree no. 8 of 1972);
- Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civilian Aviation, signed at Montreal on 23 September 1971 (promulgated by Law-decree no. 17 of 1973);
- International Convention against the Taking of Hostages, adopted at New York on 17 December 1979 (promulgated by Law-decree no. 24 of 1987);
- International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings concluded at New York on 15 December 1997 (promulgated by Act XXV of 2002);
- 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 (promulgated by Law-decree no. 22 of 1977);
- International Convention for the Suppression of Financing of Terrorism, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 9 December 1999 (promulgated by Act LIX of 2002);
- Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection, signed at Montreal on 1 March 1991 (promulgated by Act LXVI of 2003, effective for Hungary from 21 June 1998);
- Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, signed at Vienna on 3 March 1980 (promulgated by Law-decree no. 8 of 1987);
- Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation, supplementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation, signed at Montreal on 24 February 1988. (promulgated by Act XXXVII of 2004);
- Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation, done at Rome on 10 March 1988. (promulgated by Act LXVIII of 2003);

- Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf, done at Rome on 10 March 1988. (promulgated by Act LXVIII. of 2003);
- International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, New York, 13 April 2005 (promulgated by Act XX of 2007);
- Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (8 July 2005) (promulgated by Act LXII of 2008);
- United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (15 November 2000) (promulgated by Act CI of 2006).

Hungary has not signed the following conventions and protocols or is not party to these treaties:

- Protocol to the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf (2005)
- Convention on the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Relating to International Civil Aviation (2010, not yet in force)
- Protocol Supplementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft (2010, not yet in force)

Council of Europe Conventions:

Hungary is fully committed to the Council of Europe's work to combat terrorism. The list of instruments drawn up in the Council of Europe which have been signed or ratified by Hungary is attached below. Work is currently underway in Hungary to enable the ratification of the remaining instruments.

Hungary	Signed	Ratified
European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism (CETS No: 090ETS 90)	3/5/1996	6/5/1997
Protocol amending European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism (CETS No: (ETS 190)	15/5/2003	
European Convention on Extradition (CETS No: 024ETS 24)	19/11/1991	13/7/1993
Additional Protocol to European Convention on Extradition (CETS No: 086(ETS 86)	19/11/1991	13/7/1993
Second Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Extradition (CETS No: 098(ETS 98)	19/11/1991	13/7/1993
European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (CETS No: 030ETS 30)	19/11/1991	13/7/1993
Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (CETS No: 099(ETS 99)	19/11/1991	13/7/1993
Second Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters (CETS No:(ETS 182)	15/1/2003	09/01/2018
European Convention on the Transfer of Proceedings in Criminal Matters (CETS No: 0ETS73)	8/11/2001	-
Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime (COETS No: ETS141)	6/11/1997	2/3/2000
Convention on Cybercrime (CETS No: ETS 185)	23/11/2001	4/12/2003
Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism (CETS No: ETS 196)	10/10/2007	21/3/2011

Hungary	Signed	Ratified
Council of Europe Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism (CETS No: ETS 198)	14/4/2009	14/4/2009

Other international treaties relating to terrorism:

Hungary is a party to the following international conventions and treaties relating to terrorism and cross-border cooperation of law enforcement authorities:

- The 1995 Europol Convention (implemented by the Act XIV of 2006);
- Agreement on the cooperation in the fight against cross-border crime in the framework of the Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI) signed in Bucharest, on 26th June 1999 (implemented by the Act CXV of 2000);
- The 1990 Convention implementing the Schengen Agreement of 14 June 1985 between the governments of the States of the Benelux Economic Union, the Federal Republic of Germany and the French Republic, on the gradual abolition of checks at their common borders;
- Interpol Agreement (concluded between the International Criminal Police Organisation (Interpol) and the European Police Office (Europol));
- The 29 May 2000 Convention, adopted by the EU Council of Ministers on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters and its Protocol of 16 October 2001 (implemented by the Act CXVI of 2005);
- The Treaty of Prüm on the stepping up of cross-border cooperation, particularly in combating terrorism, cross-border crime and illegal migration (implemented by the Act CXII of 2007);

These agreements, inter alia, allow for the exchange of information and intelligence between law enforcement authorities, in order to strengthen the co-operation in the fight against terrorism.

Bilateral Agreements:

As Hungary is a committed participant in the fight against terrorism, several bilateral agreements have been concluded with other states on cooperation to combat terrorism, organized crime and illicit trafficking of drugs in the last decade. Among others, Hungary has bilateral agreements in this field with Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, China, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Egypt, Estonia, France, Greece, Croatia, the United Kingdom, the United States, Ukraine, Ireland, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Poland, Latvia, Lithuania, Italy, Malta, Morocco, the Netherlands, Romania, Russia, Slovenia, Slovakia, South Africa, Serbia, Switzerland, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Tunisia and Vietnam.

1.2 What national legislation has been adopted in your State to implement the above-mentioned agreements and arrangements?

The agreements at paragraph 1.1 have been promulgated in Hungarian legislation (see above, the number of Act of Parliament, following the names of the agreements, in brackets.).

According to Article 94 of Act CXL of 2021 on the national defence and the Hungarian Defence Forces (hereinafter referred to as National Defence Act), use of weapons is permitted to stop or interrupt terrorist acts as one of the authorities of the Hungarian Defence Forces (hereinafter referred to as HDF).

As the basic legal document of the European Union, the Lisbon Treaty (promulgated by Act CLXVIII of 2007) entered into force in Hungary on 1st December 2009; all its provisions - including those dealing with the prevention and suppression of terrorism, cooperation in this field, active solidarity with the attacked - are to be implemented by different internal legislative measures.

1.3 What are the roles and missions of military, paramilitary and security forces and the police in preventing and combating terrorism in your State?

Preventing and combating terrorism in peacetime is primarily the responsibility of the Ministry of Interior and of the police including its special units and the national security services.

The HDF may participate in certain counter-terrorism tasks of the Police and other Ministry of Interior's organizations only in a declared emergency situation, if the situation could not be properly handled by the aforementioned primarily responsible organizations. Articles 48, 50 and 51/A of the Fundamental Law (the constitution) contain the legal basis for the deployment of HDF in an emergency situation. Article 50 applies in the event that armed acts aimed at overturning the constitutional order or acquiring exclusive power, or serious mass acts of violence threatening life and property committed with arms or in an armed group were to occur. Article 51/A provides that in case of the immediate threat of terrorism and upon a vote of two thirds of members of parliament the state of preventive defence also applies and for a period of up to 15 days the Government has the power to introduce measures by way of derogation from the acts governing the operation of the Hungarian Defence Forces.

1.4 Provide any additional relevant information on national efforts to prevent and combat terrorism, e.g., those pertaining inter alia to:

- *Financing of terrorism;*
- *Border controls;*
- *Travel document security;*
- *Container and supply chain security;*
- *Security of radioactive sources;*
- *Use of the Internet and other information networks for terrorist purposes;*
- *Legal co-operation including extradition;*
- *Safe havens and shelter to terrorists and terrorist organizations.*
- Articles 314-318 of Act C of 2012 on Criminal Code define the terrorist act and criminalizing terrorist activities such as omission to prosecute a terrorist act or financing of terrorism;
- Other criminal law regulations also have specific rules in relation to terrorist activities and the perpetrators thereof;
- Act CXXXVI of 2007 on Obstruction and Prevention the Financing of Terrorism and Money laundering;
- Act V of 2014 on promulgation of Arms Trade Treaty;

- The Act CXXV of 1995 on National Security Services also contains provisions in relation to counter-terrorist activities;
- Anti-terrorism National Action Plan, Enclosure 1 to the Governmental Resolution 2112 of 2004 on Actual Assignments of Fight Against Terrorism;
- Act CIX of 2005 on the authorisation of military goods' production and provision of military services;
- Government decree 156/2017 on the detailed rules of authorisation of military goods' production and certification of enterprises;
- Government decree 160/2011 about the authorisation of the export, import, transfer and transit of military equipment and services, and certification of enterprises;
- Act CXL of 2021 on the national defence and the Hungarian Defence Forces
- Act XCIII of 2021 about the harmonization of defence and security activities about the potential governmental measures under special legal order, e.g. terror emergency.

2. Stationing of armed forces on foreign territory

2.1 Provide information on stationing of your States armed forces on the territory of other participating States in accordance with freely negotiated agreements as well as in accordance with international law.

Hungary is a Party to the Agreement between the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty regarding the Status of their Forces, signed in London on 19 June 1951 (ratified and promulgated by Act CXVII of 1999), and to the Agreement among the States Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty and the other States participating in the Partnership for Peace (PfP), done in Brussels on 19 June 1995 (ratified and promulgated by Act CII of 1995). These international agreements and the related national domestic laws provide the rules during stationing and transit of forces on the territory of NATO and PfP countries.

The Fundamental Law of Hungary regulates the authorization for stationing and troop movements of foreign forces in Hungary or of the Hungarian Defence Forces abroad. The Fundamental Law reserves the prerogative for the Parliament to decide on the stationing of the Hungarian defence forces or the stationing of foreign forces in Hungary if these are not based on NATO or EU decisions, or on the decision of an international organization of defence and security cooperation.

According to Article 47:

„(1) The Government shall decide on any cross-border manoeuvre of the Hungarian Defence Forces and foreign armed forces.

(2) With a two-thirds majority of the votes of its members present, Parliament shall decide on any foreign or domestic deployment and foreign stationing of the Hungarian Defence Forces and on any deployment of foreign armed forces in Hungary or departing from Hungary or their stationing in Hungary, except for the cases defined by Paragraph (3).

(3) The Government shall decide on any deployment of the Hungarian Defence Forces and foreign armed forces under Paragraph (2) based on the decision of the European Union, the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation or on the decision of an international organization of defence and security cooperation, and on any other manoeuvre of the same.

(4) The Government shall immediately report to Parliament, and notify the President of the Republic of, any decision made under Paragraph (3) or made to authorise the participation of

the Hungarian Defence Forces in any peacekeeping or humanitarian activity in a foreign operational area.”

The definition of stationing is specified by Article 3 para 2 of the National Defence Act. According to this definition, stationing is a lasting foreign presence of the HDF – or in the case of foreign armed forces’ presence on the territory of Hungary – exceeding the time of an exercise or the time necessary for the units to transit the country, the purpose of activity being dominantly to be present in the territory. The condition for the term stationing is that the main goal of the activity is to ensure the long-term presence even without any specific additional activity. Activities by armed forces on foreign territory that happen frequently resulting in a permanent presence are also considered to be stationing.

The troop movements as well as the military movements are permitted by the Government in a resolution. The 190/2000 (XI. 14.) Governmental Decree on ‘The governmental tasks in the approval of troop movements involving border-crossing’ gives the detailed definition of troop movements. The Governmental Decree is also applicable to the preparation process regarding the Parliament’s decision. According to the Decree, the Minister of Defence, not later than 15 December each year, submits the list of troop movements planned for the following year – in order to obtain a decision – to the Government. This list includes the troop movements to be submitted to the Parliament as well, although it’s not the Government that will decide in this case.

In the reporting year, the HDF participated and contributed to NATO, EU and UN lead operations and missions on the soils of other OSCE participating States:

- NATO HQ-Sarajevo (NATO-led operation);
- European Union Force in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUFOR ALTHEA, Berlin +, EU-led mission) In 2022 HDF held the EUFOR COS position;
- EU Monitoring Mission in Georgia (EU-led mission) With the amended mandate of the EUMM mission, HUN monitors (3PAX) were temporarily deployed to Armenia first as a part of EU Monitoring Capacity (EUMCAP), and later as a part of EU Planning Assistance Team (EUPAT) in order to prepare the launch of a CSDP mission (EUMA);
- United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UN led mission);
- European Union military operation in the Mediterranean (EUNAVFOR MED IRINI, EU-led mission).

In the reporting year, the HDF contributed to the following international operations and missions:

- Kosovo force in Kosovo (NATO-led operation. Hungary handed over the leadership of the operation KFOR after 1-year long period and took over the DCOM position. Between 01JAN2022 and 31DEC2022 Hungary provided over-the-horizon operation reserve battalion with 500 PAX to KFOR's forces.);
- European Union Training Mission Mali (EU-led mission);
- United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL, UN-led mission);
- United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO, UN-led mission);
- NATO Mission Iraq (NATO-led operation);
- NATO Operation Allied Solace;
- International Coalition against the Islamic State in the Republic of Iraq (Operation Inherent Resolve).

3. Implementation of other international commitments related to the Code of Conduct

3.1 Provide information on how your State ensures that commitments in the field of arms control, disarmament and confidence- and security-building as an element of indivisible security are implemented in good faith.

Beyond the provisions of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe, Hungary provides information on all changes of the Treaty limited equipment and continuously notifies reduction activities.

In accordance with the provisions of Vienna Document 2011, inspectors conducting Specified Area Inspection in Hungary are always offered the possibility to visit the units within the area. They receive information on the units' designation, peacetime location, subordination, personnel strength, equipment, training- and firing ranges, current activities and their questions are openly answered.

Hungary is a signatory and depository of the Treaty on Open Skies. Hungary is obligated to receive four observation flights a year over its territory by the States Parties, and may conduct four observation flights a year over the territory of States Parties as well. Based on the Treaty, Hungary makes the imagery collected from its Open Skies missions available to any State Party upon request for the cost of reproduction.

3.2 Provide information on how your State pursues arms control, disarmament and confidence- and security-building measures with a view to enhancing security and stability in the OSCE area.

Based on Chapter X. "REGIONAL MEASURES" of the Vienna Document 1994, Hungary established a bilateral agreement with Ukraine, based on Chapter X. "REGIONAL MEASURES" of the Vienna Document 1999 a bilateral agreement with Serbia, and bilateral cooperation with Cyprus. In the framework of these agreements and cooperation, the Participating States have additional possibilities to conduct inspections within a specified area, evaluation visits and to invite representatives to observe certain military activities below VD 2011 thresholds. In 2021 Hungary joined to the arms control cooperation originally formed by the Czech Republic, Germany and South Korea. The aim of this agreement is to improve mutual military relations throughout arms control training activities and exchange of ideas. In the framework of this cooperation, the Parties have possibilities to delegate instructors and participants to each other for arms control related trainings and courses. Additionally, whenever Hungary, the Czech Republic or Germany organizes any CSBM event pursuant to the Vienna Document, they also invite South Korea.

Section II.

1. National planning and decision-making process

1.1 What is the national planning and decision-making process in determining/approving military posture and defence expenditures in your State?

The military posture:

Defence is a national priority. The National Defence Act contains provisions concerning the role of the Parliament, the Committee on Defence and Law Enforcement of the Parliament, the President of the Republic, the Government, the Minister of Defence.

The Act XCIII of 2021 contains further instructions on the harmonization of defence and security activities.

Defence expenditures:

Defence expenditures are determined as a part of the central budget of Hungary. The annual defence budget proposal is compiled along the lines of a Planning Document published by the Ministry of Finance. The Central Budget proposal is submitted to the Parliament where it is discussed in the appropriate committees and at plenary sessions of the House. After considering amendment proposals, the Parliament approves the defence budget as a chapter of the Central Budget Act. The government is committed to increase the defence budget to at least 2% of the GDP by 2024 and keep at that level from 2025 onwards, which is set in the modified 1273/2016 Government Resolution. (Hungary has achieved the 2 % threshold already in 2023.) Furthermore, responding to the changing security environment, the Government may grant additional central funds for specific military tasks above this level. The budget proposal, amendments, the approved annual budget and the aforementioned Government Resolution are all publicly disclosed documents.

1.2 How does your State ensure that its military capabilities take into account the legitimate security concerns of other States as well as the need to contribute to international security and stability?

The Government of Hungary considers NATO as the cornerstone of Trans-Atlantic security. A dynamic development of the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy is in the interest of Hungary, and at the same time, we are strengthening the strategic partnership between the EU and NATO. Hungary is a constructive member of the European Union and NATO. An important task of the Hungarian defence policy is to support new member countries and those with a chance for integration. Therefore, extending - and increasing the efficiency of - bilateral and multilateral military cooperation with neighbouring countries is in the strategic interest of Hungary. In the framework of the Visegrád Group (V4) cooperation and the Central European Defence Cooperation (CEDC), Hungary and the other participating states promote defence cooperation amongst each other to contribute to a peaceful Central Europe.

In addition to the pre-eminent role of the United Nations (UN), Hungary attaches great importance to the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) from the aspect of maintaining international peace and security, and participates in the actions and international operations conducted by these organizations.

2. Existing structures and processes

2.1 What are the constitutionally established procedures for ensuring democratic political control of military, paramilitary and internal security forces, intelligence services and the police?

Military forces:

The Hungarian Government decided in 2018 to reorganize the command and control structure of the HDF. The Defence Staff (DS) was an integral part of the Ministry of Defence (MoD) from 1 September 2001 to 31 December 2018, therefore the MoD had a central part in command and control of the HDF. It was decided to terminate the integrated character of the MoD, in parallel with the establishment of the Hungarian Defence Forces Command (HDFC), as a separated supreme military command led by the Commander of HDF, through the unification of the DS and the Joint Force Command. A concept regarding the reorganization was adopted in November 2018 and the separated MoD and HDFC became operational on 1 January 2019. As the result of the reorganization, responsibilities regarding the command and control of the HDF has been sharply separated between the MoD and the HDFC. According to Article 6. § of the National Defence Act, the HDF is managed by the Minister of Defence responsible for control and by the Commander of the HDF responsible for command. Consequently, the Commander of the HDF performs its tasks under the control of the Minister of Defence.

The Fundamental Law of Hungary and the National Defence Act prescribe wide-ranging obligations for the Minister and the Government to inform and report to the plenary session and the Defence and Internal Security Committee of the Parliament, which completes the effectiveness of democratic control. Defence expenditures are approved by the Parliament as a chapter of the annual Central Budget Act (as of 2023, the Central Budget Act XXV of 2022).

Paramilitary forces:

Hungary does not have paramilitary forces.

Internal security forces:

Hungary does not have internal security forces

Intelligence services:

Hungary has five national security services. The statutory basis for all the four bodies is the Act CXXXV of 1995 on National Security Services. The national security services specified by the National Security Act are the Information Office, the Constitution Protection Office, the Special Service for National Security, the Counter-terrorism Information and Criminal Analysis Centre (hereinafter: civil security services) and the Military National Security Service.

All national security services are organisations operating with independent budget and nationwide jurisdiction under the direction of the Government. As budget planning authorities, all of them are authorized to make their own decisions on the application of the material and financial resources allocated to them.

The governmental direction of the national security services is exercised through a designated Minister (Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade for the Information Office; Minister of Interior for the Constitution Protection Office, the Counter-terrorism Information and Criminal Analysis Centre and the Special Service for National Security; Minister of Defence for the Military National Security Service).

The Parliament exercises oversight over all the national security services through its Committee on National Security (CNS). The chairman of the Committee on National Security - according to the Fundamental Law of Hungary - is always an MP of an opposition party.

The civil security services are merely accountable to the Committee on National Security, while both parliamentary committees (CNS, Committee on Defence and Law Enforcement) are competent authorities concerning the Military National Security Service.

The national security services may carry out concealed information collection activities and use secret methods, in certain cases subject to external authorisation granted by a judge or the Minister of Justice.

There are additional methods of the parliamentary control that are exercised by the Ombudsman. The previous Office of the Parliamentary Commissioner – including the Office of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Citizen Rights, the Office of the Parliamentary Commissioner for National and Ethnic Minorities Rights, and the Office of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Future Generations – was replaced by the Office of the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights, by the new Act CXI of 2011 on the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights, as of 1 January 2012.

Police:

Democratic control of the police (including the border guard, which was integrated into the police structure in 2007) is ensured by the Fundamental Law of Hungary. According to the Fundamental Law of Hungary, the basic task of the Police is to protect internal security and public order. The Police - within the framework of their policing duty - provide for the protection of the national border, the control of border traffic and the maintenance of order on the borders. It has been granted by the adoption of Act XXXIV of 1994 on the Police that ensures its oversight by the Parliament, local governments and the public.

The Minister of Interior as a member of the Government is accountable to the Parliament for all issues concerning the police and the border guard. The Minister accounts to the Parliament including appearance, as requested before the plenary session of the Parliament and before the relevant parliamentary committees. The Parliament accepts the budget of the Police and the border guard annually in separate titles under the chapter of the Ministry of Interior.

According to section 4 of paragraph 8 of the Act on the Police, the head of the local police reports annually to the local governing authority (council) on demand on the public safety situation of the area of jurisdiction, on measures taken to the benefit of public safety, on the duties connected as well as relations between the police and the local council. The Act on the Police provides numerous other opportunities for the co-operation of the police and the local government:

- The body of representatives can make observations concerning the decisions, measures of the police or their omission;
- The local government can conclude contracts with the head of local council especially to perform duties concerning the local public security to enhance the co-operation between local authorities and the police to establish, enlarge and upgrade the local police;

- The heads of the local police and the local government can establish a crime prevention and public safety committee to assist and oversee the duties connected to public safety.

2.2 How is the fulfilment of these procedures ensured, and which constitutionally established authorities/institutions are responsible for exercising these procedures?

The Supreme Commander of the Defence Forces is the President of the Republic. According to Article 48 and Article 49 of the Fundamental Law, in a state of emergency, the National Defence Committee is to be established, which is headed by the President of the Republic, and consists of the Speaker of the Parliament, the Prime Minister, the ministers, the leaders of the parties represented in the Parliament and the Chief of Defence Staff with the right of consultation.

2.3 What are the roles and missions of military, paramilitary and security forces, and how does your State control that such forces act solely within the constitutional framework?

Military:

According to Article 1 and Article 7 (para 59) of the National Defence Act and Article 45 of the Fundamental Law, the mission of the defence forces is to defend the territory, independence, citizens and material wealth of the country against external attack, to guard and defend the borders of the country, to fulfil military obligations deriving from alliance and international agreements, to participate in international crisis management efforts, guard installations of defence importance that require enhanced protection, accomplish civil protection tasks, disaster relief, provide humanitarian aid/relief, etc. The Government and the Ministry of Defence are subject to the authorisation, control and reporting provisions defined by the Fundamental Law of Hungary and the National Defence Act; these regulations ensure that the military acts solely within the framework of the Fundamental Law of Hungary. Beyond reporting provisions, a two third majority is required in order to strengthen the control.

Paramilitary forces:

Hungary does not have paramilitary forces.

Security forces:

Hungary does not have internal security forces.

3. Procedures related to different forces' personnel

3.1 What kind of procedures for recruitment and call-up of personnel for service in your military, paramilitary and internal security forces does your State have?

Military forces:

The general compulsory conscript system – except in war time – has been suspended in Hungary since November 2004.

According to the National Defence Act, active military service personnel include professional, contract and voluntary reservist soldiers in peacetime. The introduction of the voluntary reserve system is an ongoing process. Previously 20.000 voluntary reserve statuses had been built up. The voluntary reserve system consists of three elements: voluntary defence reserve, voluntary operational reserve and voluntary territorial defence reserve. These statuses are for peacetime and wartime tasks as well. The voluntary defence and operational reservists have the same limit for service age as the professional officers for active military duty.

The other two categories of the reserve system are the trained reserve and the potential reserve (which are compulsory conscripts when it is re-established) for the wartime readiness only. Any Hungarian citizen who is a graduate of a civilian or military secondary school can voluntarily apply for a professional officer rank in military service. The contract soldier serves professionally and voluntarily for a definite period of time. Currently professional and contracted soldiers and voluntary reservists serve in the HDF.

According to the Act CXCIX of 2011 on Civil Servants and the Act CXXV of 2018 on Governmental Administration (implemented on 1st of January in 2019), which regulates the employment of government officials in the ministerial structure, there is not any distinction based on gender. There is special regulation due to maternity leave in favour of women.

Paramilitary forces:

Hungary does not have paramilitary forces.

Security forces:

Hungary does not have internal security forces.

3.2 What kind of exemptions or alternatives to military service does your State have?

National Defence Act CXL of 2021 (paragraph 37) and the Government Decree No. 614 of 2022 (paragraph 20) determines the cases of exemptions from military service:

Exemptions from military service e.g. the person

- who is under 18 years of age;
- who is not capable for military service;
- who takes care of three or more children, or takes care his/her relative alone, or provides for his/her child under 18 years of age alone; or takes care of his/her relative in the direct ascending line or spouse, unmarried partner reliant on care alone;
- who takes care of his/her dependants living in his/her household alone;
- who is already a professional or contracted soldier of the HDF, or the Police;
- whose spouse carries out military service;
- who has accomplished the civilian service;
- who has been registered as candidate for parliamentary, European parliamentary, municipal representative, mayor, minority representative or elected as such (until the duration of nomination or mandate expires);
- on the 31st day of December of the year in which the person who is potential for military service reaches the age of 50.

The HDF started to set up a Volunteer Reserve Force in 2010 with the authorization of the Parliament.

Before this decision, the HDF had very few soldiers in reserve. The major step towards setting up a reservist system was taken when the National Defence Act CV of 2004 was replaced by National Defence Act CXIII of 2011, later replaced by the National Defence Act CXL of 2021.

The National Defence Act renewed elements in other fields as well (elements of legal status of the personnel, re-introduction of administrative secretary and deputy secretary positions, structure of the HDF Command, means of regulation etc.), as a result of the new governmental structure set up by different new acts, following the parliamentary elections of 2010.

The military training of the reservists had already started in November 2011. The new type of Volunteer Reserve System was officially established in Hungary on 1 January, 2011 and has been progressing since. The recruitment of reservists started at the end of 2010, when the number of reservists guarding the HDF objects increased to over two thousand. Security guards changed their legal status to voluntary defence reservist at fifty-seven objects and military compounds of the HDF.

By setting up this volunteer reserve system, disaster recovery tasks and protection of the military 'critical infrastructure' can be effectively accomplished. In emergency situations the reservists can be deployed immediately. Moreover, they can carry out host nation support tasks. Force protection capabilities will also be improved in Hungary with their help. The red sludge disaster and floods in Hungary revealed that there was a great need for reservists by 2010. By setting up a reserve system, HDF is able to accomplish disaster management more effectively.

Introducing the system, Hungary has taken an important step to fulfil its commitments to the EU and NATO.

3.3 What are the legal and administrative procedures to protect the rights of all forces personnel as well as conscripts?

Members of the defence forces have similar legal and administrative procedures and opportunities to protect their rights to those of civilians'. Additional regulations mentioned before contain measures of guarantees and remedial procedures to enforce their rights in special situations related to actions in service.

These regulations are incorporated in acts of Parliament, such as the Act CCV of 2012 on the Status of Military Personnel (hereinafter: Status Act), which provide for the protection of rights within the forces and by civilian organisations outside the forces and the right to appeal to courts as well. This Act ensures the right for the organised way of protecting rights through trade unions and representation of interests.

Personnel of the HDF consist of professional and contract soldiers, voluntary reservists, officer cadets and non-commissioned officer cadets, government officials and defence civilian employees. The pay rates of the military and civilian staff of the HDF are defined in the relevant laws on their legal status. These laws are promulgated in the Official Gazette of Hungary, i.e. they are available for the public. All payments and allowances are defined and paid according to legislative regulations applicable to the above-mentioned forms of employment, which

precisely determine all relevant details of the payment process, of salaries and other allowances including the amount and deadline of payment.

4. Implementation of other political norms, principles, decisions and international humanitarian law

4.1 How does your State ensure that International Humanitarian Law and Law of War are made widely available, e.g., through military training programmes and regulations?

Pursuant to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and Additional Protocols I and II of 1977, the HDF implements the dissemination of the Conventions as well as other applicable rules of international humanitarian law. The training programs vary based on the age, qualifications, rank and responsibilities of the trainees. In military higher education, there are various levels of training programs, including undergraduate and postgraduate programs, reserve officers' training courses, BSc and MSc levels, accordingly to the Bologna process. The curricula of these are organized to provide an extensive understanding of the rules of the armed conflicts.

At university level, students take separate courses dedicated to international law and the rules of armed conflicts. In addition, special courses for high-ranking military officers focus on the theoretical questions of security policy and national security, including the enforceability of the rules of the armed conflicts and the role of senior officers in their enforcement.

The ministries concerned with the issues of international humanitarian law have regular contacts with each other, and have close relations with other governmental or non-governmental organisations such as the National Advisory Committee on the Dissemination of the International Humanitarian Law, the Hungarian Society of Military Law and the Law of War and the Hungarian Red Cross.

The MoD and the HDF have legal advisors who advise the superiors, including the Minister and the HDF Commander on international humanitarian law.

TRAINING IN THE FIELD OF LAW OF WAR AND INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW AT THE LUDOVIKA -UNIVERSITY OF PUBLIC SERVICE ON THE FACULTY OF MILITARY SCIENCES AND OFFICER TRAINING:

On Military Leadership Branch (BSc) training:

<u>Law of Home Defence</u>	<u>1st semester</u>	<u>28 classes</u>
<u>International Humanitarian Law</u>	<u>3rd semester</u>	<u>28 classes</u>
<u>Law of War</u>	<u>3rd semester</u>	<u>14 classes</u>

On Military Logistics (BSc) training:

<u>Law of War</u>	<u>2nd semester</u>	<u>14 classes</u>
<u>International Humanitarian Law</u>	<u>4th semester</u>	<u>28 classes</u>

On Military Info-communication (BSc) training:

<u>Law of War</u>	<u>2nd semester</u>	<u>14 classes</u>
<u>International Humanitarian Law</u>	<u>4th semester</u>	<u>28 classes</u>

Major in each Military Branch (MSc) training:

<u>Law of War</u>	<u>2nd semester</u>	<u>28 classes</u>
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On faculty of Law of Armed Conflict:

<u>each semester</u>	<u>64 classes</u>
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Major in Defence and Security Policy (MSc level):

<u>International Law of War I</u>	<u>2nd semester</u>	<u>4 classes</u>
<u>International Law of War II.</u>	<u>3rd semester</u>	<u>4 classes</u>

PhD studies at the Doctoral School of Military Sciences: eleven subjects are available in the field of „*protection of social sciences issues*“:

Subject code	Title of Course	Study hours
HHDIDAL25A	National security	20
HHDIDAL17A	Social Science Issues of Defence	30
HHDIDAL32A	War and ethics	20
HHDID2KO22A*	Psychology of Religious Extremism, its Formation and Activities in western Democratic Societies	20
HHDID2KO23A*	The Vatican's Diplomacy for the Protection of the Christians Living in Crisis Zones	20
HHDID2KO30A*	The Leadership Aspects of Crisis Response Operations	20
HHDID2KSZ43A*	Armed Forces Maintained on a Voluntary or Conscript Basis	20
HHDID2KSZ44A*	Auftragstaktik, Mission Command	20
HHDID2KSZ08A*	Crisis Response Operations and Social Sciences	20
HHDID2KSZ12A*	Psychology of Religious Extremism, its Formation and Activities in Western Democratic Societies	20
HHDID2KSZ14A*	The Security Situation of Christians in Crisis Areas	10
HHDID2KSZ31A*	Propaganda analysis	20

*Optional for PhD students in the 1-4th semester if it is needed to their research subject.

PhD studies at the Doctoral School of Military Engineering: three subjects are available:

Subject code	Title of Course	Study hours (Full time training 20 hours/ part time training)
HKDID4202A	Chemistry of toxic substances	30/10
HKDID4208A	Non-proliferation actions against the weapons of mass destruction	30/10
HKDID4215A	Technologies of monitoring and extermination of weapons of mass destruction	30/10

4.2 What has been done to ensure that armed forces personnel are aware of being individually accountable under national and international law for their actions?

Due to the modification of the basic training system, the basic training program has changed partially in its content and partially in its methodology. Under the new program the trainees become acquainted with the basic rules of the battlefield, with special emphasis on the rules concerning the protection of civilian population and prisoners of war. An extract of International Humanitarian Law and Law of War – as an enclosure – is a part of the Service Field Manual of HDF, thus the opportunity to get immersed in the topic is widely available for all soldiers.

In addition, NATO STANAG 2449 on the training of law of armed conflict has been introduced officially into the available official legal training materials.

Moreover, all Hungarian soldiers sent to missions abroad are given extra lectures (depending on the specification of the given mission) on the topic mentioned above, focusing mainly on the Rules of Engagement. The topic is partly covered by other interrelated lectures as well (Code of Conduct; Conflict Related Sexual Violence; Child Protection; Women, Peace and Security; Protection of Civilians etc.).

The Status Act CCV of 2012 and Defence Ministerial Decree No. 9/2013 and No. 10/2013 regulate the individual legal liability of defence forces personnel regarding disciplinary and damages liability.

4.3 How does your State ensure that armed forces are not used to limit the peaceful and lawful exercise of human and civil rights by persons as individuals or as representatives of groups nor to deprive them of national, religious, cultural, linguistic or ethnic identity?

According to the Fundamental Law of Hungary, the defence forces may be used within the territory of Hungary, if the use of the police is proven insufficient solely in the case of state of emergency (in the event of armed acts aimed at the overturning of the constitutional order or at the exclusive acquisition of power, and of serious mass acts of violence threatening life and property, committed with arms or in an armed manner or in the events of natural, industrial disasters, humanitarian catastrophes or state of war in adjacent countries; Fundamental Law Article 50 and 51). Furthermore, the HDF may also be used in the case of unexpected attack (National Defence Act, Article 108), mass migration crisis (Law on Asylum, Article 80/G),

health emergency crisis (Law on Healthcare Article 229), national defence emergency (National Defence Act, Article 107), and in coordinated defence measures (Act XCIII of 2021 on Coordinated Defence and Security Measures, Article 76).

Restrictive actions against the rights of citizens may be carried out by the HDF solely according to the provisions of the National Defence Act (requires two-thirds majority). This Act provides legal remedy to all restrictive actions.

4.4 What has been done to provide for the individual service member's exercise of his or her civil rights and how does your State ensure that the country's armed forces are politically neutral?

The Fundamental Law of Hungary regulates that professional members of the HDF, the Police and the national security services may not be members of political parties and may not engage in political activities. Restrictions on the political activities of non-professional members of the HDF may be established by a statute passed by a majority of two-thirds of the votes of the Members of Parliament present.

The Status Act CCV of 2012 regulates the fundamental rights of military personnel and the limitation of their rights e.g. the practice of the right of assembly subjects to the permission of employer. The Status Act and other ministerial decrees, orders provide the legal provisions in order to maintain the political neutrality of military command and defence forces as an institution.

In accordance with the Ethical Code of Conduct the soldier shall respect the human and civil rights. In compliance with the Military Code of Ethics the soldier shall tolerate and take cognizance of the human diversity with special regard to the dignity. Furthermore, during the performance of duty he/she shall not put anyone in an unpleasant, humiliating or unfair situation. The commander shall strive for the fulfilment of the gender equality. He/she shall negotiate in an accurate manner that is suitable to maintain the authority of the leadership, but at the same time is polite and well-mannered and does not offend one's human dignity, personal rights and self-esteem.

The right to join a political party: The professional member of the Hungarian Defence Forces shall not be member of a political party and he/she may not pursue political activities.

The contracted member shall suspend his/her party membership in the course of the performance of duty.

The right to freedom of association: The military personnel may not join organisations which are at variance / not compatible with the task and the functions of the HDF. The military personnel shall report in written form to the superior if he / she is a member of an organization whose goal is not linked to the goal of the HDF. The joining and the maintenance of the membership may be prohibited by the employer in case of incompatibility.

4.5 How does your State ensure that its defence policy and doctrine are consistent with international law?

According to the Fundamental Law of Hungary, the legal system of Hungary adopts the generally recognized rules of international law, and shall further ensure the harmony between domestic law and the obligations assumed under international law.

National Defence Act provides in its preamble a reference to UN Charter and also provides that one of the tasks of the defence forces is the performance of obligations following from alliance and other international treaties, especially collective defence, peacekeeping and humanitarian missions.

Section III: Public access and contact information

1. Public access

1.1 How is the public informed about the provisions of the Code of Conduct?

The Hungarian Ministry of Defence Press Department provides information about the provision of the Code of Conduct via e-mail: sajto@hm.gov.hu, if it is requested.

1.2 What additional information related to the Code of Conduct, e.g., replies to the Questionnaire on the Code of Conduct, is made publicly available in your State?

Further information on the HDF and MoD is available at the official homepage: <https://kormany.hu/honvedelmi-miniszterium>

- **PR-Strategy**

MoD Press Department makes individual Public Affairs (PA) Strategies and plans related to different issues or events, like Hungarian commitment to NATO/EU operations, recruitment system, National Defence and Armed Forces Development Program, volunteer reserve system, defence sport association, cadet system for high school students.

- **Tasks/range of activity**

MoD Press Department main tasks are the following ones:

- Develops PA strategy, guidelines and plans of the MoD.
- Provides accurate, truthful and timely information to internal and external audiences to gain public support.
- Plans, organises, coordinates, directs, controls and leads internal and external communication.
- Plans and conducts communication activities with NATO, EU and other partners.
- Prepares key leaders for media engagements.
- Develops communication plans for contingency and crisis events.
- Plans and organises press conference and other types of media events.
- Keeps contact with media representatives, provides answers to media queries.

- **Public access to information and documents related to the armed forces**

Information is available on the official website of the Hungarian Ministry of Defence (<https://kormany.hu/honvedelmi-miniszterium>) and on the official website of the military press (<https://honvedelem.hu> or <https://defence.hu>).

For any further information please contact to the MoD Press Department: sajto@hm.gov.hu.

- **Public access to parliamentary debates:**

Events and transcripts on parliamentary decisions and debates are available on the official website of the Hungarian Parliament (<http://www.parlament.hu/en/web/house-of-the-national-assembly>). For any further questions related to MoD/HDF regulations, please turn to the MoD Communication Department: sajto@hm.gov.hu.

- **Exhibitions/ Shows/ Demonstration of new weapon and equipment**

Open Door Days in multiple locations.

- **Possibilities to visit the troops (Events, Open Door Days)**

Having personal information and experience on the HDF unit(s) in town for local population is an important part of the MoD/HDF PA strategy. Units regularly organise events of public interest (e.g. military music festival, sports, heritage/tradition programmes).

- **Engagement in public schools:**

In the capital, the staff of the Ludovika - University of Public Service carry out visits to universities. Since 2018, MoD maintains partnership with several institution of higher education (13 universities till 2022). Within this frame, the students have the opportunity to attend the course “Basics of National Defence” on a voluntary basis, for ECTS points, built into the curricula of the institutions. The course provides the civilian students with a perspective about security policy and national defence in general, the structure and function of HDF, and the legislative and international background of its work. Learning material is provided and constantly updated by the Faculty of Military Science and Officers Training, Ludovika – University of Public Service.

Officers of the HDF Military Administration and Central Registry Command visit classes of secondary grammar schools and universities providing information about the HDF.

Parallel to the activities above, the national defence education of the youth of Hungary happens in two stages and only on voluntary basis.

The general defence education program includes common defence topics and activities integrated in the national curriculum and in the higher education programs. This education program also includes adventurous summer camps for students, sports activities, intellectual contests, sports trainings and tournaments (self-defence, shooting, orienteering, etc.).

The advanced national defence education program of the MoD manifests in the national accredited education program called “Defence Cadet Program”, for secondary school-level students (in high schools and vocational schools). The number of attending secondary school is 125 till March 2023. In the frame of this program, cadets learn about national defence topics and skills on a higher, more intensive level. The participants of the program are not obligated to join the HDF and they do not participate in any form of military training.

The defence cadet vocational secondary school training, is an extended, more intensive defence educational program. Those vocational schools participating in the program do not function as military secondary schools and also, there is no compulsory living in attached dormitories.

The defence-related secondary school education program is practised in the “Kratochvil Károly Honvéd” Defence Secondary School and Dormitory in Debrecen and also in its member institute the “vitéz Mikecz Kálmán Honvéd” Defence Dormitory in Nyíregyháza, Defence Secondary School and Dormitory in Hódmezővásárhely, and Defence Dormitory in Szolnok.

The defence-related vocational secondary school training provides seven different qualifications:

- Motor vehicle mechatronics technician
- Electronics technician
- National defence administration clerk
- IT communications networking and operating technician
- IT systems and applications operator
- Environmental technician
- Logistics technician

The curriculum contains advanced level physical education (6 lessons per week), advanced level English as second language education (including military terminology), cartographical-, security policy-, international military law-, theoretical rifle practice- and basic military technology education and training. After graduating a defence-related vocational secondary school, students receive extra points in case they apply for admission to NCO Academy or Ludovika – the University of Public Service. If students do not intend to join HDF they have the opportunity to obtain a civilian qualification.

The new NCO education system - provided by the “Steel Cube” Training System is organized exclusively by the HDF and was launched in September 2019 - is a non-military vocational training program to military positions.

To support the planned NCO career system, the HDF built up a 5-level education system consisting the following levels:

- sub-unit leader course
- basic NCO course
- advanced NCO course
- integrated warrant officer course
- joint NCO leader course

• **Seminars, workshops, presentations:**

In cooperation with the Ludovika - University of Public Service and Hungarian Military Science Association, the MoD and the HDF organise seminars, workshops and presentations on policy/professional issues. These events are usually open for the public.

For further details please visit the Ludovika - University of Public Service website: <http://www.uni-nke.hu>.

- **Press releases/ Press conferences and public discussions**

MoD Press Department releases press-announcements about the activities of the HDF and the Ministry of Defence, and organises press conferences on important policy/professional issues.

- **Publications (journals, newspapers, annual reviews)/ CD-Rom/ TV**

Ministry of Defence has its own printed periodicals related to military and security and defence policy issues:

- Honvédségi Szemle (bi-monthly periodical)
- Honvéd Altiszti Folyóirat (bi-monthly periodical) www.honvedelem.hu
- Katonai Logisztika (quarterly periodical) <https://www.mkle.net/katonai-logisztika/megjelent-szamok/>
- Defence Review <https://honvedelem.hu/kereses?q=defence+review>
- Magyar Honvéd (monthly magazine)
- Haditechnika (bi-monthly magazine)
- Honvédorvos (quarterly magazine) <https://www.mhek.hu/honvedorvos-katonaorvosi-szakfolyoirat.html>

The magazines and periodicals are available for the public as well.

The Ludovika - University of Public Service also operates many different periodicals related to military, security, and defence policy and law enforcement issues:

- AARMS – Academic and Applied Research in Military Science (quarterly periodical);
Internet: <https://folyoirat.ludovika.hu/index.php/aarms>
- Pro Publico Bono
Internet: <https://folyoirat.ludovika.hu/index.php/ppb>
- Acta Humana – Emberi Jogi Közlemények
Internet: <https://folyoirat.ludovika.hu/index.php/actahumana>
- Európai Tükör
Internet: <https://folyoirat.ludovika.hu/index.php/eumirror>
- Pro Publico Bono – Magyar Közigazgatás
Internet: <https://folyoirat.ludovika.hu/index.php/ppbmk>
- Public Governance, Administration and Finances
Internet: <https://folyoirat.ludovika.hu/index.php/pgaf>
- Nemzet és biztonság (quarterly periodical);
Internet: <https://folyoirat.ludovika.hu/index.php/neb>
- Nemzetbiztonsági Szemle
Internet: <https://folyoirat.ludovika.hu/index.php/nbsz>
- Hadmérnök (quarterly periodical);
Internet: <https://folyoirat.ludovika.hu/index.php/hadmernok>
- Hadtudományi Szemle (quarterly periodical),
Internet: <https://folyoirat.ludovika.hu/index.php/hsz>
- Műszaki Katonai Közlöny (quarterly periodical);
Internet: <https://folyoirat.ludovika.hu/index.php/mkk>

- Magyar Rendészet (quarterly periodical).
Internet: <https://folyoirat.ludovika.hu/index.php/magyrend>
- Repüléstudományi Közlemények
Internet: <https://folyoirat.ludovika.hu/index.php/reptudkoz>

The magazines and periodicals are available for the public as well.

- **Radio/ Internet (websites)**

The MoD and the HDF have official websites, social media channels and an intranet site. Relevant and up-to-date information on the official engagements and statements of the Minister of Defence is available on his official Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/szalay.bobrovniczky.kristof>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/szalay.bobrovniczky.kristof/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/SzBobrovniczky>

For daily updated information about the events of the MoD and the HDF please visit the official webpage: <https://kormany.hu/honvedelmi-miniszterium>

For more MoD/HDF related news, please visit the online magazine (www.honvedelem.hu, www.defence.hu).

In December 2011, MoD launched the HDF 'Forces' social media channels on Facebook and YouTube. For more information please visit www.facebook.com/magyarhonvedseg
https://www.instagram.com/magyar_honvedseg
www.facebook.com/HonvedelmiMiniszterium
https://www.instagram.com/honvedelmi_miniszterium/
<https://www.youtube.com/user/amagyarhonvedseg>

1.3 How does your State ensure public access to information related to your State's armed forces?

The Hungarian Parliament adopted the Act CXII of 2011 on Informational Self-Determination and Freedom of Information (the new Data Protection Act of 2011), the domestic implementation of the European Data Protection Directive (95/46/EC) which entered into force by 1 January 2012. The new Act replaced the Act LXIII of 1992 on the Protection of Personal Data and Public Access to Data of Public Interest (the Data Protection Act of 1992).

Due to the regulation, a new body has been established within the Ministry of Defence Office of Authorities for the related tasks. MoD Office of Authorities Data, Labour, Fire, Environment Protection Directory is responsible for overview the public access to all information of HDF, which is under the regulations of new Data Protection Act, the Act XXII of 2022 on the data handling of the military and administrative tasks regarding certain military obligations, and the 2/2019 MoD order.

2. Contact information

2.1 Provide information on the national point of contact for the implementation of the Code of Conduct.

Contact place/ contact person (answering letters, calls, est.)

For further questions, please contact MoD Defence Policy Department at the following email address: hm.vpf@hm.gov.hu

Address: H-1055 Budapest, Balaton utca 7-11.

Postal Address: H-1885, Budapest P.O. Box. 25.

Telephone: +36 1 474 13 26

Section IV

Issues pertaining to women, peace and security

1. Prevention

1.1 Measures to increase armed forces personnel understanding of the special needs and contributions of women in conflict

Considering peacekeeping training, gender related topics are part of the pre-deployment training for all Hungarian military leaders and soldiers.

Depending on the type of pre-deployment training the gender related topics are covered by specific gender lectures and partly by other interrelated lectures (Cultural awareness; Local Religions; Code of Conduct; Law of armed conflicts; Conflict Related Sexual Violence; Child Protection; Women, Peace and Security; Protection of Civilians etc.). The curriculum of the gender lectures is based on current NATO, EU and UN gender guidelines, publications and training materials.

In any case of gender discrimination and/or sexual harassment, one can require help from the union organizations, and from the commander of the unit (averting the command chain), also the soldiers have the opportunity to appeal to the equality rapporteurs.

1.2 Measures to address the violation of the rights of women and girls, in line with international standards

The Hungarian Ministry of Defence accepts and follows the recommendations of UNSCR 1325 and the subsequent nine resolutions¹. Issues concerning equal treatment and gender equality are involved in fundamental documents of recruitment, training and employment. In accordance with the Act CXXV of 2003 on equal treatment and the promotion of equal opportunities, selection, employment, payment and promotion of female soldiers is based on same

¹UNSCR 1820; UNSCR 1888; UNSCR 1889; UNSCR 1960; UNSCR 2106; UNSCR 2122; UNSCR 2242; UNSCR 2467; UNSCR 2493

expectations as in the case of male soldiers. Further documents focus on the rights and obligations, norms and standards of conduct for both sexes are the following:

- Act CCV of 2012 on the Status of Military Personnel of the HDF and the 9/2013 (VIII. 12.) Defence Ministerial Decree on the Implementation of the Act CCV of 2012;
- Act CXL of 2021 on National Defence and the Hungarian Defence Forces [National Defence Act];
- Decree no. 24/2005 (VI.30.) of the Minister of Defence on issuing the service regulations of the HDF;
- Order no. 67/2003 (HK 18.) of the Minister of Defence on publication of the Military Ethics Code of Conduct and establishment of the Military Ethics Council.

The Ministry of Defence prepared an equality plan by the Order no. 5/2013. (I. 21) of the Minister of Defence. A new and actualized equality plan is in the making process which will have effect in all organizations of the MoD, HDF and in all related organizations. According to the designations of the equality plan, equality rapporteurs operate in the MoD. The improvement and upgrading of the network for equal opportunities is coordinated by the equality rapporteur of the MoD.

The Hungarian Ministry of Defence has not prepared the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda yet but considers it is important to formulate guidelines on the subject. Regarding the implementation, all procedures are underway so is the development of the Hungarian National Action Plan which is being developed. We good development in some areas (CIMIC, PSYOPS). Further development is possible in case of intensive gender training and education.

2. Participation

2.1. Measures to increase the number of women in general and in decision-making positions in the armed forces and the ministry of defence

Due to the high number of female soldiers in the HDF (20 %), gender related topics remain important.

As of 01 March 2023, there are 3806 servicewomen in the HDF and in the MoD all together. This strength involves professional (cca. 52%) and contract (cca. 48%) troops. Focusing on ranks, there are 1173 female officers, while the number of non-commissioned officers and warrant officers is 1894. Rank-and-file female soldiers consist of 739 people and there are 78 female cadets (officer + NCO). Within female soldiers 11% are in decision-making positions, and among military leaders 13% are female.

Due to the high number of female soldiers in the HDF, which marks the general popularity of military profession among women, there is no need to target women via special campaigns. Nevertheless, such initiatives as accredited teaching programs for pupils and students called “Defence Cadet Program” or lectures, training programs about the HDF organized for secondary grammar schools and universities might foster young women to join the HDF. Online magazine (www.honvedelem.hu), related presence in social media (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube) and „Open Days” of military bases also helps to reach female candidates.

The Hungarian Ministry of Defence has more ongoing projects which indirectly contribute to higher rates of female soldiers in deployment (e.g.: endeavor for atypical employment or flexible working conditions, projects for creating better work-life balance).

Number and percentage of women in the military forces disaggregated by rank

As of 01 March 2023, number and percentage of female soldiers can be summarized by the following numbers of the chart:

Rank	Number of female soldiers	Percentage within rank (%)
Colonel General	0	0
Lieutenant General	0	0
Major General	0	0
Brigadier General	1	5
Colonel	13	5
Lieutenant Colonel	161	16
Major	269	24
Captain	218	25
First Lieutenant	267	30
Second Lieutenant	244	30
Chief Warrant Officer	0	0
Second Warrant Officer	227	35
Warrant Officer	472	27
Sergeant First Class	502	22
Staff Sergeant	282	20
Sergeant	411	24
Corporal	150	7
Private First Class	148	12
Private (PV2)	335	17
Private (PV1) (does not exist)	-	-
Common soldier	106	21
Officer + NCO cadets	78	14

Number and percentage of discrimination and sexual harassment complaints that are referred, investigated and acted upon

There was no case with final judgment closed last year.

The legal document which aims to regulate the protocol and processes of this area is being actualized.

Number and percentage of women in peacekeeping forces disaggregated by rank

Hungarian female soldiers take part of international peacekeeping missions under the auspices of NATO, EU and UN. The related data provided by the Hungarian Defence Forces General Staff are summarized in the chart below.

Stakeholder	Only active duty military personnel	Total number	Total (%)	Ranks ²									
				OF-6 and higher		OF 3-5		OF 1-2		OR 5-9		OR1-4	
NATO	Army	132	8,63%	0	0%	5	7,35%	35	17,59%	44	8,71%	48	6,35%
	Air Force	12	0,78%	0	0%	1	1,47%	3	1,51%	7	1,39%	1	0,13%
Total		144	9,41%	0	0%	6	8,82%	38	19,10%	51	10,10%	49	4,48%
EU	Army	43	10,59%	0	0%	2	4,35%	5	8,62%	18	13,53%	18	10,78%
	Air Force	2	0,49%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	0,75%	1	0,60%
Total		45	11,08%	0	0%	2	4,35%	5	8,62%	19	14,29%	19	11,38%
UN	Army	3	3,95%	0	0%	1	7,14%	2	16,67%	0	0%	0	0%
	Air Force	2	2,63%	0	0%	1	7,14%	0	0%	1	3,45%	0	0%
Total		5	6,58%	0	0%	2	14,29%	2	16,67%	1	3,45%	0	0%

Number and percentage of international missions where gender advisors were appointed

Special gender advisors were not appointed in international missions.

²Ranks in accordance with NATO STANAG 2116, 1992 (Edition 5),
<https://www.natoschool.nato.int/multimedia.asp>