

The Law on the Use of Weapons by Armed Forces in Necessary Cases

Article 1 - Armed agents subject to this law, who are authorized to carry and use weapons for the purpose of establishing order and security, preventing the escape of suspects or criminals, conducting investigations and uncovering crimes, enforcing judicial decisions, or other assigned missions, are required to observe all the regulations and provisions of this law when using weapons in necessary cases.

Note - Armed agents of the Ministry of Intelligence are covered by this law in the execution of their legal duties related to the use of weapons.

Article 2 - Armed agents subject to this law must meet the following conditions:

1. Physical and mental health appropriate for the assigned mission.
2. Possession of necessary training for the assigned missions.
3. Full proficiency in the use of the assigned weapon.
4. Full knowledge of the laws and regulations related to the use of weapons.

Article 3 - Law enforcement officers have the right to use weapons in the following cases:

1. For self-defense against someone who attacks them with a cold or hot weapon.
2. For self-defense against one or more individuals who attack without weapons, but the situation is such that self-defense without using a weapon is not possible.
3. If the mentioned agents observe that one or more individuals have been attacked, and their lives are in danger.
4. For the arrest of a thief, highway robber, or someone who attempts assassination, sabotage, or explosion and is fleeing.
5. In cases where a detained or imprisoned person escapes from the detention facility or prison, or is in the process of escaping, and other measures for their arrest or detention have been unsuccessful.

Note - The executive regulations of this paragraph will be prepared by the Ministry of Interior and Justice and will be implemented after approval by the Council of Ministers.

6. For the protection of law enforcement facilities (headquarters, command center, station, base, weapon or ammunition depot, and training center).

7. For the protection of the weapons assigned to them for mission execution.
8. For the protection of classified places, especially vital and sensitive locations, against any attack for the purpose of assassination, destruction, arson, looting of documents and property, hostage-taking, and occupation.
9. To prevent and confront individuals who intend to enter or exit unauthorized borders and do not pay attention to the warnings of border guards.
10. For the protection of military and law enforcement installations, equipment, and facilities.

Note 1 - In the above cases, prior warning is mandatory if conditions require.

Note 2 - Armed forces are authorized to use weapons in cases where they have a mission within the framework of the mentioned paragraphs.

Note 3 - Armed agents are authorized to use weapons in all cases specified in this law only when there is no alternative to using weapons. Additionally, if possible, they must observe the following procedures:

- a. Warning shots
- b. Shots fired downward
- c. Shots fired upward

Article 4 - Law enforcement officers have the right to use weapons, under the command of the operations commander, to restore order and control illegal demonstrations, suppress riots, and quell unrest that cannot be subdued without the use of weapons, provided the following conditions are met:

- a. Other means have been previously used in accordance with regulations and have not been effective.
- b. Prior to using weapons, arguments with intruders and rioters regarding the use of weapons have been exhausted.

Note 1 - The determination of unrest under Article 4 is the responsibility of the head of the provincial and county supply council and, in their absence, their deputies. If the governor does not have a political deputy, this responsibility will be assigned to one of the members of the supply council.

Note 2 - In cases where military forces, in accordance with legal regulations, have a mission to restore order and security under this article, they are subject to the regulations on the use of weapons in this article.

Note 3 - The executive regulations of this article will be prepared by the ministries of interior, justice, defense, and support of the armed forces and will be implemented after approval by the Council of Ministers.

Article 5 - Military and law enforcement officers are authorized to use weapons to restore order and security in illegal armed demonstrations and armed riots. The mentioned officers are obliged, under the command of the operations commander, to immediately and without delay take action to restore order and security, disarm individuals, collect weapons, and arrest individuals, presenting them to judicial authorities.

Article 6 - Shooting at vehicles to stop them by the officers subject to this law is authorized in the following cases:

- a. If the vehicle is suspected or confirmed to be carrying stolen goods, individuals in hiding, stolen property, smuggled goods, narcotics, or unauthorized weapons and ammunition.
- b. If the vehicle has been used for a deliberate attack on officers or the public.

Note 1 - The mentioned officers are required to install warning signs (such as barriers, signs, flashing lights) at inspection stations and checkpoints as needed.

Note 2 - The mentioned officers can shoot at vehicles only if, in addition to performing the actions of Note 1, they have audibly and clearly signaled the driver to stop, and the driver has not heeded the warning.

Article 7 - Officers subject to this law must aim their weapons as accurately as possible when using them, taking care to ensure that their actions do not result in fatalities and that third parties not involved in the incident are not harmed.

Note - The care and attention to the condition of the wounded are the responsibility of law enforcement officers, and they must transport them to medical centers at the earliest opportunity.

Article 8 - Heads and commanders concerned are required to inform the officers of their authorities and responsibilities before deploying them.

Article 9 - Officers who have not received sufficient training on the weapon assigned to them must inform their commander. If a mission is assigned to such individuals, the commander will be responsible for the consequences, provided that the officer has acted within the commander's orders.

Article 10 - The weapon assigned to officers under this law must be proportionate to the nature of their mission and duty.

Article 11 - Military and security forces, when collaborating with the law enforcement forces in accordance with the law and assigned missions, shall use weapons according to the regulations of this law.

Note - The executive regulations of this article will be prepared by the ministries of interior, intelligence, defense, and support of the armed forces in coordination with the General Staff of the Armed Forces and will be approved by the Council of Ministers.

Article 12 - Officers who, in accordance with the regulations of this law, initiate the use of weapons shall not have any criminal or civil liability for this action.

Article 13 - If officers use weapons in accordance with the regulations of this law, and as a result, innocent individuals are killed or injured, or financial damage is incurred, the compensation and damages will be the responsibility of the relevant organization. The government is obliged to allocate an annual budget for this purpose and provide it to the armed forces as needed.

Note - The provisions of this article also apply to individuals who committed the mentioned acts before the approval of this law.

Article 14 - The armed forces may, in cases they deem necessary, provide financial assistance to the armed officers who have incurred damages, including life-threatening injuries and financial losses, in the performance of their duties under this law, in addition to compensating for the incurred damages.

Article 15 - The method of providing and paying the amounts mentioned in Articles 13 and 14 will be determined by regulations prepared by the ministries of interior, intelligence, defense, economic affairs and finance, and the Organization of Planning and Budget, in coordination with the General Staff of the Armed Forces and will be approved by the Council of Ministers.

Article 16 - If an officer uses weapons contrary to the regulations of this law, they will be subject to punishment according to the laws and will be prosecuted accordingly.

Article 17 - From the date of approval and promulgation of this law, all conflicting laws and regulations are repealed.

This law, consisting of seventeen articles and thirteen notes, was approved in the session of the Islamic Consultative Assembly on Monday, the 18th of Dey, 1373 (January 8, 1995), and was confirmed by the Guardian Council on 1373.10.28 (January 18, 1995).

Speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly - Ali Akbar Nategh-Nouri