

## **DECISION**

**No. 275, dated 01/04/2015**

### **ON APPROVAL OF THE REGULATION "ON CONDITIONS AND RULES FOR THE SAFETY OF WEAPONS"**

Pursuant to article 100 of the Constitution and articles 15/3, 16/3, 17/4 and 28/4 of Law no. 74/2014, dated 10/07/2014, "On weapons", upon the proposal of the Minister of Interior, the Council of Ministers

#### **DECIDED:**

1. Approval of the regulation "On conditions and rules for the safety of weapons" according to the text attached hereto.
2. All ministries and their subordinate institutions shall be responsible for the follow-up and enforcement of this decision.

This Decision shall enter into force after its publication in the Official Journal.

**PRIME MINISTER**

Edi Rama

**REGULATION**

**ON CONDITIONS AND RULES FOR THE SAFETY OF WEAPONS**

**PART I**

**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**Article 1**

**Purpose**

1. The present regulation aims to define:
  - a) the criteria for the safety of private firearms possessed by entities that are licensed and authorized for permitted weapon-related activities;
  - b) the safety conditions to be met for the transport activity of weapons, parts and ammunition thereof;

b) the safety conditions of the facility for conducting the entity's activity of weapon trade;

c) safety conditions for the construction and operation of civil firing range.

2. The Regulation shall be applicable in accordance with the legislation in force, regulating the controlled use of weapons at home and in weapon storage sites. It sets out conditions to be applicable to the civil firing ranges for shooting and weapon practice training. It further defines safety conditions of the facility for conducting the activity of weapon trade entities, as well as conditions to be met for weapon transport.

## Article 2

### Definitions

For the purpose of this regulation, the terms used shall have the following meanings:

a) "Cable lock" means the device fixed into the barrel and cartridge clip, in order to prevent the loading of the round to the barrel. The cable consists of a steel safety cable covered with rubber material with an external diameter of 8 mm locked at the edges.

b) "Trigger lock" is the device fixed into the trigger safety lock in order to hinder the action of the trigger. The trigger lock is composed of two metallic plates at least 2 mm thick, placed on both sides of trigger lock and locked with a key.

c) "NEQ - Net Explosive Quantity" means only the quantity of explosive material without the quantity of unified ammunition.

ç) "Authorized person", in the context of the present regulation, means the authorized person for the management of ammunitions.

## Article 3

### Scope, risk identification and assessment

1. This regulation shall be applied during the legal activities conducted with firearms, by natural persons and legal entities, in the location area, firearms storage sites, firing ranges, in such a way that the firearms are completely safe to be removed, to prevent the possibility of their use by unauthorized persons.

2. It shall be applied by all legal entities willing to build and manage a business with focus on the civilian firing ranges.

3. It shall be applied by the licensed natural persons and legal entities for transport of firearms, in order to prevent any criminal events during this activity.

4. This regulation shall not only support natural persons and legal entities engaged in these activities, natural persons possessing firearms, legal entities engaged in construction of firing ranges, or conducting transport of firearms, but it shall also support the police units to be

capable of conducting inspections of safety measures regarding the maintenance, firing activities and transport of firearms.

## PART II

### SAFETY CONDITIONS AND CRITERIA ON FIREARMS

#### Article 4

##### General safety conditions of firearms

1. Natural persons and legal entities possessing licensed firearms shall be obliged to store the firearms in the following conditions:

- a) Firearms shall be stored unloaded. In any case, the unloading of the firearm shall be performed outside the inhabited area, shopping facilities or firearm storage site/room for other entities;
- b) Firearms shall be stored in safes/storage rooms , which are locked with armoured doors, cast in concrete or welded, making them immovable. Keys of lockers, safes or storage rooms shall be stored in a safe location. The keys shall be used only by authorized personnel for the use of any firearm/safe;
- c) Firearms and rounds of ammunition shall be preserved separately from each other.

2. The building where firearms and their ammunitions are stored shall be provided with lightning rods, fire protection and rescue equipment.

#### Article 5

##### Firearms safety storage methods

General conditions for the preservation of firearms and their ammunitions shall be based and vary according to the number of licensed firearms and the quantity of ammunition under the following classification:

- a) one to two firearms;
- b) three to five firearms;
- c) six to fifteen firearms;
- ç) over fifteen firearms;
- d) licensed entities engaged in firearm trade of categories "B" and "C";
- dh) exhibition in firearm fairs;

- e) firearms intended for display at a museum and collectible firearms;
- ë) production of movies, theatre plays and other cultural manifestations;
- f) rounds of ammunition up to 200 pieces;
- g) up to 5 kg of black powder;
- gj) rounds of ammunition (over 200 pieces of rounds of ammunition or more than 5 kg of black powder).

## Article 6

### Firearm safety standards and criteria

Firearm safety standards and criteria shall be defined based on the number of firearms possessed.

#### 1. Storage method for "One to two firearms"

In this case, the firearms shall be preserved by the authorized holder of firearms in a locked place, secured by a key.

All firearms are secured by key locks or cable locks.

Keys/locks are kept by the authorized person.

#### 2. Storage method for "Three to five firearms":

a) The firearms shall be stored in approved safes of up to 150 kg, built with metallic material of no less than 3 mm wide thick and constructed with seamless welding throughout the exterior edges;

b) The safe shall be built with a door thicker than 6 mm, which can move around a hidden axis or mounted from outside, in such a way that the edges of hinges welded in both door and the body of the safe box shall have a space less than 1 mm around the door.

c) The safe shall have a six-lever lock, a locking device, a combination lock without a key, or a lock which interlocks more than three locking devices, if the door of the safe is higher than 1.3 metres;

ç) The safe shall be kept locked all the time;

d) The firearm safes shall be secured by being mounted and screwed on the floor and (enclosed or mounted to the wall) as close as possible to the wall as to prevent any chances of opening or cutting.

#### 3. Storage method for "Six to fifteen firearms"

- a) Firearms shall be stored in approved safes, with a weight of not less than 500 kg;
- b) Safes shall comply with the criteria provided by article 6, point 2;
- c) In this case, the storage site shall be equipped with an alarm and monitoring system.

#### 4. Storage method for "Over fifteen firearms":

- a) Storage and security standards and criteria shall be the same as those provided by point 3, letters "a", "b", "c", of this article;
- b) In addition to the above mentioned storage criteria referred to in letter "a", the storage site in this case shall include video monitoring of the site also;
- c) All doors of the storage site perimeter shall be of solid construction and secured with hinges. Such doors shall be equipped with locking devices;

#### 5. Storage method for exhibition of firearms "for licensed entities engaged in firearm trade"

Storage site safety standards shall meet the following criteria:

- a) Installation of devices containing an alarm and monitoring system;
- b) Installation of video camera equipment;
- c) All doors of the storage site perimeter shall be of solid construction and secured safely with hinges. Such doors shall be equipped with locking devices;
- ç) Firearm exhibition site shall be built with solid wooden or iron materials, and closed with glass panels thicker than 6 mm;
- d) Firearm exhibition shall be constructed by bricks, stone or concrete material and shall be fixed with at least four (4) screws;
- dh) Firearm exhibition site shall be kept locked with a key lock;
- e) In order to avoid their theft, the exhibited firearms shall be secured by using flexible cables sheathed in plastic material or metallic chain thicker than 4 mm, which are placed along the trigger protection or the firearm and mounted on the wall from both edges.

#### 6. Storage method for the exhibition of firearms in museums

The safety standards for the museum of firearms, when storing firearms are considered as such by Law no. 74/2014 "On firearms", shall meet the following criteria:

- a) Installation of devices containing an alarm and monitoring system;
- b) Installation of video camera equipment;

c) All doors of the storage site perimeter shall be of solid construction and secured safely with hinges. Such doors shall be equipped with locking devices;

ç) Protection of the storage site with stationary guards or mobile patrolling guards.

7. Storage method for the safety of firearms for movie and theatre use.

The safety standard for a storage site containing firearms, considered as such by Law no. 74/2014, "On firearms", for movie and theatre purposes, shall apply the three following methods of temporary storage:

a) permanent storage site or room;

b) a contract signed with the natural person possessing a certified storage site;

c) temporary storage site use (for up to 10 working days) and applicable only for a number of up to 15 firearms.

Article 7

General conditions for ammunition storage

Natural persons and legal entities possessing licensed firearms shall be obliged to store their ammunitions as follows:

a) ammunition storage site keys shall be preserved in safe places; They shall be kept only by the authorized person;

b) firearms and rounds of ammunition shall be kept separately from each other;

c) rounds of ammunition shall not be left inside the firearm magazine during the preservation in storage sites.

Article 8

Safety storage standard and criteria for ammunition

1. The method for the quantity of up to 200 rounds of ammunition for each firearm with rifling barrels:

a) the rounds of ammunition shall be stored in the storage site separately from the firearms;

b) the rounds of ammunition may be kept separate from the firearm safe or in a separate shelf of the safe;

c) the ammunition safe shall be made of solid metallic material. The safe shall be kept locked with a key.

2. The method for recharging powder up to 5 kg (for hunting firearms rounds):

- a) the powder shall be stored in secure safes, away from any other items which may cause fire;
- b) the environment and the safe of the storage site of the procedures for recharging the firearms has the same safety standards as the firearm storage sites with safe metallic doors.

3. Storage method for “Over 200 rounds of ammunition”

The special safety criteria are the same as the storage site for the storage of over 15 firearms; the storage room requires an alarm and camera monitoring system.

## Article 9

### Safety distances for ammunition storage sites

1. Ammunition storage sites shall have a safety distance from the inhabited centres because of their explosive and combustible material compound. The distance shall be calculated based on the concentration of explosive material in the ammunition quantity.

2. This table shows the distances of the ammunition storage site from inhabited areas. Distances shall be based on the Net Explosion Quantity.

The following table shows the number of the rounds of ammunition equal to the NEQ in kg.

3. Natural persons and legal entities possessing licensed firearms shall be obliged to apply the following standards for their safe storage:

NEQ (kg);	Distance in (m);	No. of rounds of ammunition 9 mm Parabelium (pieces)
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0.1-250	0	625.000
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250-300	1	625.000 - 750.000
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400-450	5	1.000.000 - 1.125.000
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1000-1100	16	2.500.000 - 2.750.000
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1900-2000	30	4.750.000 - 5.000.000
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4. Calculation of net explosive quantity shall be done in all storage sites and approved by the competent authority before allowing for the classification of the storage site.

## Article 10

### Inspection of the firearm storage and maintenance

Based on the Law no. 74/2014 "On firearms", in all cases of any doubts, the authorized police officer shall be entitled to conduct inspections of the natural persons and legal entities that are holders of licensed or authorized firearms, in their houses, storage sites and during the transportation of firearms and ammunition.

### PART III

#### SAFETY CONDITIONS TO BE APPLIED DURING TRANSPORTATION ACTIVITY OF FIREARMS, THEIR SPARE PARTS AND AMMUNITION

##### Article 11

###### Transport of firearms

Transport of firearms, their spare parts and ammunitions shall be done by legal entities seated in the Republic of Albania, licensed by the State Police authorities for this purpose.

##### Article 12

###### Transport conditions

Licensed entities for the transport of firearms, their parts and ammunition of "B1", "B4", "C" and "D" categories shall apply the following conditions:

- a) Possess the "Vehicle Approval Certificate" according to ADR, issued by authorized institutions according to article 37, Law no 118/2012, "On transport of hazardous materials", certifying that the specific vehicle for transport of hazardous materials is in accordance with related technical requirements in force, based on the agreement mentioned in item 1, article 5 of this law.
- b) Possess a "Training Certificate" issued to the person that has passed an examination approved by responsible authority for the transport of hazardous materials (according to the Law no. 118/2012, "On hazardous materials");
- c) Possess a valid ADR Certificate of the driver of the vehicle which shall provide transport of firearms, their parts and ammunition (according to the Law no. 118/2012, "On hazardous materials");
- ç) Possess a valid certificate of professional skills of the driver of the vehicle for the category of the vehicle providing transport of firearms, their parts and ammunition;
- d) Possess a vehicle equipped with functional GPS, in order to check and document all the itinerary of transportation for the entity providing the transportation.

##### Article 13

Technical rules and conditions to be met by the vehicle for the transport of firearms and ammunition



1. The vehicle and driver to transport firearms, ammunition and weapon spare parts shall have ADR (licensed, technically completed and physically secured).
2. During the transport of firearms and ammunition, the vehicle shall be supplied with a signboard on the risk level.
3. The vehicle shall be equipped with fire extinguishers, covered and exhaust pipes with spark extinguisher.
4. The ammunition shall be well-placed, bonded together and packaged.
5. In cases when the vehicle transporting firearms and ammunition has sideboards, the placement of cases of firearms, spare parts and ammunition higher than the car sideboards shall be prohibited.
6. Transport of firearms, ammunition and weapon spare parts by passenger vehicles shall be prohibited.
7. If more than two vehicles are used for the transport of firearms and ammunition, escort by the Private Security Services shall be provided.

#### Article 14

##### Prohibitions

The following activities shall be prohibited during the transport of ammunition:

- a) supply or extract fuel from the vehicle's tank;
- b) combined transport of ammunition together with fuel, oils, grease, chemical components or easily combustible substances and materials;
- c) stationing of ammunition loaded vehicles in inhabited areas.

#### PART IV

##### LICENSE FOR CIVIL FIRING RANGES

#### Article 15

##### Civil firing ranges

The firing ranges are:

- a) indoor (covered) firing range
- b) outdoor firing range (on-site, uncovered);

- a. 1. indoor firing range is a facility (building) constructed on the basis of a design of special material and supplied with specific equipment for training and shooting by firearms;
- b. 1. outdoor shooting range is a piece of land (territory) selected and prepared in accordance with the standard criteria for training and shooting by firearms.

## Article 16

### Rules for construction and use of outdoor firing ranges

The firing range built outdoors shall meet the following requirements:

- a) To be far from inhabited areas and the direction of fire shall have an opposite direction with the buildings;
- b) In the shooting direction the firing range shall be secured within more than three kilometres by aerial distance and the same distance on both sides at an angle of 90 degrees with the shooting direction;
- c) The shelter shall be 2.2 meters deep, starting from the land surface and 1.5 meters wide while the length shall depend on the size of signs to be installed. The walls shall be covered with stones or bricks. The shooting side of the shelter shall be higher, covered with concrete blocks and above with soil lump. The rear section shall have friable soil and shall not have tough objects enabling the ricocheting of bullets;
- ç) When the targets are mechanically displayed (a mechanism by rope and cable) and pulled by the target carrier, he shall wear bullet-proof protection cap and shall stay at the bottom of shelter in the shooting direction.

## Article 17

### Rules for construction and use of indoor firing ranges

#### 1. Technical requirements of the indoor firing range.

##### a) Firing range surface area:

shall be not less than 500 m<sup>2</sup> for firing events with pistols of 9 mm calibre, bullets of 9x19/9x21 mm and in a distance of 25 meters.

##### b) Compartments of facilities in the shooting ranges.

Every firing range shall have:

-its registration room protected from bulletproof glass;

-its command room from which actions are monitored during shooting, two compartments with three shooting lanes.

c) Protective equipment of the firing range. Every firing range shall ensure:

-acoustic protection through a layer;

-protection to reduce the bullet speed by a layer of appropriate rubber, synthetic material;

-protection from poisonous gases, avoiding gas emitted during shooting, equipment for refreshing polluted air shall be installed.

#### Article 18

Training class and armament and ammunition storage rooms

The firing range shall have:

a) training classes with a capacity of up to 25 participants;

b) armament and ammunition storage rooms.

#### Article 19

Construction materials of firing ranges, their composition and technical qualities

1. Technical qualities for the construction of firing ranges shall ensure:

a) protection from involuntary shots:

i) firing ranges shall be covered with E 22 mm and E 43 mm regupol rubber tiles and with a thickness of 50 and 20 mm;

ii) front section and ceilings of the firing range facilities shall be covered with 5 mm thick metallic tiles;

iii) side walls of the firing range facilities shall be covered with 1 mm thick iron profiles;

iv) masonry of the shooting range facilities shall be of 7x12x25 cm high density.

b) For protection from noises:

Firing ranges are covered with one of the following materials:

i) AMF mineral fibre tiles;

ii) wooden tiles;

iii) mineral glass wool;

iv) acoustic industrial tiles.

c) For fire protection:

Firing ranges:

i) shall be covered in fireproof paint;

ii) fireproof doors and windows shall be installed;

iii) smoke detectors and a central alarm system shall be installed for fire detection;

iv) fire-resistant brick laying and of high density shall be provided in separating and surrounding walls of the firing range facilities.

Article 20

Specific equipment in the firing range

Some specific equipment shall be also installed in the firing range:

1. Ventilation equipment

The firing range facilities shall be supplied with a ventilation, aeration and air conditioning system.

2. Command equipment during firing events

Every firing facility shall be supplied with a command post supplied with an audio system for the command and instruction of participants during firing events.

3. Signalling means

There are signalling means near the sign installation shooting facility under the three-coloured model:

a) orange (ready for shooting);

b) green (fire);

c) red (stop the fire).

4. The front section of the firing range shall be constructed in such a way as to:

a) Provide the containment of the bullet from the firing range below a 60 degree angle;

b) A strip of barrier material with a thickness of not less than 30 centimetres is build, supplied with a space of not less than 30 cm, filled with friable soil or sand. Then a brick wall shall be built with a distance of 1 meter, followed by the building wall.

## 5. Signalling in firing ranges

The firing ranges (indoor or outdoor facilities) shall be clearly and legibly specified in written signboards:

- a) starting line
- b) fire line
- c) the facility accommodating the personnel during the shooting
- ç) place of ammunition supply;
- d) medication facility
- dh) armament cleaning area
- e) guard posts and observation posts

## Article 21

### Standard regulation on firing ranges

The technical safety conditions during shooting in firing ranges, duties of firing range security personnel, duties of shooting personnel and firing range documentation shall be set out in the standard regulation on firing ranges, approved by virtue of the act of the General Director of State Police.

## PART V

### SAFETY CONDITIONS OF THE FACILITY FOR THE ACTIVITY OF WEAPON TRADE ENTITY

## Article 22

### Safety conditions in the construction of the facility

1. The following safety conditions shall be met for the construction and operation of facilities serving as sites for weapon trade:

- a) the building shall be constructed by brick or grouted stone materials;
- b) all doors and windows across the warehouse surface area shall be composed of solid material and shall be supplied with shutters or tightly wall-mounted metallic grids.

2. Conditions and criteria for the security of weapons, subject to commercial activity, are those provided for in the second part of the present regulation.

## Article 23

### Safety conditions inside the facility

The facility that serves the domestic trade of weapons shall be supplied with:

- a) secure safes according to the quantity of weapons as in cases specified in the present regulation for weapons of "B" category;
- b) ammunition facility that is separate from the site of other weapons;
- c) lockers or exhibition stands for weapons with security elements specified in the present regulation.

## Article 24

### Safety conditions outside the facility

1. The external facility security shall be provided by an alarm system and visual surveillance equipment, and private security guards. The facility shall be fully lighted from outside.
2. The alarm system equipment shall meet the following requirements and have:
  - a) an external siren of not less than 100 db and an alarm light;
  - b) a set code and noise functions (including long-distance controls);
  - c) control panel with backup batteries;
  - ç) gate interrupter;
  - d) operation of cutting lines or similar lines commissioning the system, if the phone line is not operational;
  - dh) components supplied with anti-tampering breakers;
  - e) logbook of all events (not less than 20 events);
  - ë) monitoring of the programmable area (the entire building/residence);
  - f) not less than three (3) motion detectors;
  - g) single point igniter per area;
  - gj) 24-hour monitoring from the outdoor facilities;
  - h) keyboard for code access and alarm functions (including external controls);

i) control panel with backup batteries;

j) door breaker

3. Visual surveillance equipment to meet the following requirements:

The building shall be protected by video surveillance system. The video surveillance system shall also have the following characteristics:

a) be CCTV or DVR;

b) possess a sufficient number of cameras to monitor all external points of the facility view and all external walls around the windows;

c) cameras shall have infra-red capacity or be supported as an option through light motion sensors;

ç) shall be able to record on 24-hour basis;

d) shall be connected with the recording equipment, without taking into account if it is a DVR, computer or video-recorder;

dh) each camera shall be supplied independently with power.

## Article 25

### Administration, monitoring and recording of events

1. Every facility realizing the sales of weapons shall also:

a) keep the events log in the facility;

b) have the programmable area monitored (the entire building/residence);

c) have 24-hour monitoring from out of the location.

2. Copies of surveillance/record tapes shall be kept for not less than 14 days.

## Article 26

### Final Provisions

1. The Regulation shall be binding on all Albanian and foreign citizens located within the territory of Albania, as well as subjects licensed for weapon activities.

2. The Ministry of Interior, State Police shall be responsible to request and supervise the implementation of procedural rules set out in the present regulation.

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