

**Table of the situation of military service and conscientious objection in the Council of Europe member states**

<u>Council of Europe member state</u>	<u>Conscription (no more conscription since...)</u>	<u>Duration of compulsory military service</u>	<u>Right to conscientious objection since*</u>	<u>Duration of alternative service</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1. Albania	Yes				
2. Armenia	Yes	18 months		36 months	56000 under weapons + 43000 Russian troops Armenia has a record number of religious conscientious objectors to military service despite a 2004 promise to free these prisoners of conscience, Forum 18 News Service 72 Jehovah's Witnesses are now in jail. Four of these prisoners have been jailed within a month, with an average jail sentence for each of the four young men of just under 12 months. Armenia claims to have a civilian alternative service, but the allegedly "civilian" service is under the complete control of the Armenian General Staff, supervised by the military. Conscientious objectors are under military law, and pacifists are forced to wear uniform provided by the military. Jehovah's Witnesses and Molokans insist that they would be happy to perform a genuinely civilian alternative service – but Armenia does not allow this. The father of a Molokan Protestant Christian conscientious objector told Forum 18 that "we're not satisfied with the current alternative service. It's against our faith to take weapons and to kill people."
3. Austria	Yes	6 months		9 months	
4. Azerbaijan	Yes	18 months	1995 (Constitution)		At the beginning of 2007, the Azerbaijani Parliament made changes in the Law on Conscription Essentials and annulled the draft deferment for the men who care for disabled persons of the second category, those who graduated from University with a bachelor's degree and want to begin studying for their master's degree, as well as for post-graduate students. The altered Law annulled the conscription of young men having two children. Previously, only those who had three or more underage children were released from conscription. In 2007, the Azerbaijani Army completely turned to NATO standards. Therefore, the conscription essentials should also correspond with NATO standards, Novruzov stressed.
5. Belarus	Yes				
6. Belgium	1995		1964		
7. Bosnia-Herzegovina	2006				

8. Bulgaria	2008				
9. Cyprus	Yes	25 months	2005	34 months	
10. Czech Republic	2006		1990		
11. Croatia	2008		1993		
12. Denmark	Yes	4 to 12 months, average 9	1917	Same duration as military service	
13. Estonia	Yes	8 months	1994	12 months	
14. Finland	Yes	180 – 360 days Average 8,5 months	1931	395 days	
15. France	2001		1963/1983		
16. Georgia	Yes				
17. Germany	Yes	9 months	1949/1956	9 months	
18. Greece	Yes	12 months	1997	30 months	
19. Hungary	2006	9 months	1989	18 months	
20. Ireland	No				
21. Iceland	No				
22. Italy	2006		1972		
23. Latvia	2007		1997		
24. Lithuania	Yes	12 months	1990	18 months	
25. Luxemburg	No		1963		
26. Macedonia	2007				
27. Malta	No				
28. Moldavia	Yes		1991		
29. Montenegro	2007				
30. Norway	Yes	12 months	1965	12 months	2006: 12.119 in military service 1.298 conscientious objectors / 798 in service 19.737 no call up
31. Netherlands	1996		1922		
32. Poland	Yes	12 months	1988	18 months	
33. Portugal	2005		1976/1992		
34. Romania	2007		1992		

35. Russia	Yes		2004		
36. Slovak Republic	2006	12 months	1990	24 months	
37. Serbia	Yes				
38. Slovenia	2003		1991		
39. Spain	2001		1978/1984		
40. Sweden	Yes	7,5 months	1920	7,5 months	
41. Turkey	Yes				
42. Ukraine	Yes		1992	double length	2003: average 2000 requests for CO status; only religious objectors recognised
43. United Kingdom	No			1916	

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