

----- Original Message -----

From: Informim MM <informimi_mm@mod.gov.al>

To: 'EBCO BEOC' <ebco@ebco-beoc.org>

CC: tesila.polena@mod.gov.al

Date: 14/11/2022 11:04 EET

Subject: RE: Questionnaire for EBCO's Annual Report 2022

Dear Sir/Madam,

Attached find the information referring to the questions in the EBCO DOCUMENT, "Questionnaire for EBCO's Annual Report 2022".

Best regards,

Ministry of Defense of Albania

From: EBCO BEOC [mailto:ebco@ebco-beoc.org]

Sent: Tuesday, November 1, 2022 2:15 PM

To: informimi_mm@mod.gov.al; fakset@aaf.mil.al

Subject: Questionnaire for EBCO's Annual Report 2022

Importance: High

Dear Sir/Madam,

Attached please find a letter from our President about your country's entry in EBCO's Annual Report 2022.

Yours sincerely,

European Bureau for Conscientious Objection (EBCO)

www.ebco-beoc.org

ebco@ebco-beoc.org

Referring to the questions in the EBCO DOCUMENT, "Questionnaire for EBOC's Annual Report 2022", the answers are as follows;

1. How was the conscription ended? It was suspended or abolished? Which year and by which law/decision? Please share it with us. In case it has only been suspended, what measures are in place to ensure that military service remains on voluntary basis, and what are the plans to finalise its abolition?

- The conscription in the Republic of Albania is suspended by law no. 9047, dated 10.07.2003, "On military service in the Republic of Albania", amended, by law no. 9487, dated 06.03.2006 and by law no. 9999, dated 25.09.2008 (article 42). *(from this point and on referred to as "The Law no.9047, dated 10.07.2003, On military service in the Republic of Albania, **amended**")*.

2. How was the human right to conscientious objection to military service first recognised? Which year and by which law/article of Constitution? Is it recognised in peace time, in general/partial compulsory mobilisation, and in war time?

- The conscientious objection to military service was first recognized in the 1998 Constitution, Articles

166 & 167.

On that regard, the provisions on conscientious objection were included, again on law no. 9047, dated

10.07.2003 "On military service in the Republic of Albania", **amended**, which determine that if a

Citizen, who for reasons of conscience refuses to serve with weapons in the armed forces, is obliged

to perform an alternative service, as provided by law.

3. What is the legal minimum age for voluntary enlistment in peacetime, in general/partial compulsory mobilization, and in wartime?

- The minimum age of voluntary registration in the Armed Forces, in peacetime is **19** (years old) or compulsory Mobilization in time of war, general / partial, is 18 (years old). This is regulated by law no. 9047, dated 10.07.2003 "On military service in the Republic of Albania", **amended**, (article 9).

4. How is the human right to conscientious objection recognised for the professional members of the military? What are the procedures to allow the early release of a serving member of the military who

develops conscientious objections? Please provide for the recent years the number of applications, the number of acceptances, the number of rejections, and, if relevant, the grounds of rejection.

- According to the Constitution and the Law on Military Service, both religious and non-religious grounds for conscientious objection are legally recognized. The Law on Military Service ensures that citizens "who for religious or conscience reasons may not serve armed in the military forces" may fulfil substitute service.

These provisions are stated in articles, 18, 20, 21, 22, in the law. The right to object due to conscience is recognized by members of the Armed Forces.