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To: ebco@ebco-beoc.org
CC: IG-INTERVENTION-RESPONS@mil.be
Date: 07/12/2022 16:41 EET
Subject: 22IG6517 Request for Information - Questionnaire for EBCO's Annual Report 2022 (HRM-IMC 2995/2022)

Dear,

The conscription has been suspended (not abolished) in Belgium for an indefinite period by a law of 1993. But it was not until February 9, 1995 that the Council of Ministers had decided to send back to their homes from the following March 1 all the militiamen still under arms.

The decision to abolish the conscription does not fall within the competence of the Belgian Defense, but is a political decision. To our knowledge, such a decision is not on the agenda. Although military service has been suspended, legislation relating to military service and conscientious objectors still exists. The procedure for being recognized as a conscientious objector is described in the laws on the status of conscientious objectors, coordinated on February 20, 1980. Legislation concerning conscientious objectors falls within the competence of the Federal Public Service Interior (www.ibz.be/fr/contact). For any questions on this subject, I can only advise you to contact this public service (www.ibz.rrn.fgov.be/fr/faq/population/objecteur-de-consciencemilice , Phone: 02/518.21.16, email: helpdesk.belpic@rrn.fgov.be)

The minimum legal age to join the Defense as a soldier is 18, the age at which compulsory schooling ends.

The status of conscientious objector can only be requested by militiamen. There is therefore no longer any application for conscientious objector status that has been processed by the Belgian Defense since the suspension of military service.

Sincerely,

Dany Humfryes
ADJ

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DG HR

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