

ANNEX 3:

Conscription and related provisions for conscientious objection in Council of Europe member states

State	COE member from:	Conscription imposed	Conscientious objection first recognised in:	
			constitution	legislation
Belgium	Founder	1870–1995		1964
Denmark	Founder	1848–1943; 1945–	1953	1917
France	Founder	1793–2001		1963
Ireland	Founder	never	n/a	
Italy	Founder	1861–2004		1972
Luxembourg	Founder	1944–1969		1963
Netherlands	Founder	1912–1996		1922
Norway	Founder	1866–		1922
United Kingdom	Founder	1916–1919; 1939–1963		1916
Greece	1949	1930–		1997
Sweden	1949	1892–2010		1920
Switzerland	1949	1848–		1995
Turkey	1949	1847–		
Germany	1950	(c1810)–1918; 1934–1945; 1959–	1949	1959
Iceland	1950	no armed forces	n/a	
Austria	1956	?1866–1918; 1955–	1974	1955
Cyprus	1961	1964–		1992
Malta	1965	never	n/a	
Portugal	1976	1910–2004	1976	1985
Spain	1977	1873–2001	1978	1985
Liechtenstein	1978	no armed forces	n/a	
San Marino	1988	never	n/a	
Finland	1989	1922–		1931
Hungary	1990	1938–2004		1989
Poland	1991	1919–1939; 1944–2009	1997	1988
Bulgaria	1992	1939–2007	1991	1998
Czech Republic	1993	1918–1939; 1945–2004	1992	(1990)

State	COE member from:	Conscription imposed	Conscientious objection first recognised in:	
			constitution	legislation
Estonia	1993	(1945)–	1991	2000
Lithuania	1993	(1945)–2009		(1990)
Romania	1993	1868–1945; 1947–2006		1996
Slovakia	1993	(1918)–2004	1992	(1990)
Slovenia	1993	(1919)–2003		(1989)
Andorra	1994	no armed forces	n/a	
Albania	1995	1944–2009	1998	2003
Latvia	1995	(1945)–2007		(1991)
Moldova	1995	(1918)–		1991
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	1995	(1919)–2007		(1989)
Ukraine	1995	(1922)–	1996	1992
Croatia	1996	(1919)–2007	1990	(1989)
Russian Federation	1996	1874–1917; 1918–	1993	2002
Georgia	1999	(1922)–		1997
Armenia	2001	(1922)–		2003
Azerbaijan	2001	(1922)–	1995	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2002	(1919)–2005		1996
Serbia	2003	(1919)–	2003	(1989)
Monaco	2004	no armed forces	n/a	
Montenegro	2007	voluntary service only since independence		(1989)

Notes and sources

Dates in brackets are of legislative provisions which applied in the territory concerned but predate the present state.

Dates for the introduction of conscription before the First World War are given only for states which existed as such at the time. Often the transition to a system of conscription was a process with several stages which has not for the present purpose been studied in detail. The dates quoted should therefore be treated as indicative rather than exact.

The date for the end of conscription is the last on which conscripts could be found in the armed forces of the state concerned.

The following sources were used in compiling the table:

For the dates of accession to the Council of Europe, the website of the Council of Europe at <http://www.coe.int/aboutcoe/index.asp?page=47pays1europe&l=en>

For the other information:

Cinar, O. H. and Usterci, C., *Conscientious Objection: Resisting militarised society*, London: Zed Books, May 2009

Conscience and Peace Tax International (www.cpti.ws), *Military Recruitment and Conscientious Objection: A Thematic Global Study*, Geneva, 2006

European Bureau of Conscientious Objection (<http://ebco-beoc.eu>), Reports to the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs of the European Parliament:

Conscientious Objection in Europe 2007 (Brussels, November 2008)

Conscientious Objection in Europe 2008 (Brussels, September 2009)

Conscientious Objection in Europe 2009 (Brussels, July 2010)

Horeman, B. and Stolwijk, M., *Refusing to Bear Arms*, London: War Resisters International, 1998

Mjøset, L. and van Holde, S. (eds), *The comparative study of conscription in the armed forces* (Comparative Social Research, Volume 20), Oxford: Elsevier Science, 2002

Moskos, C. C. and Chambers, J. W., *The New Conscientious Objection: From sacred to secular resistance*, New York/Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1993

Prasad, D. and Smythe, T., *Conscription – A World Survey: Compulsory military service and resistance to it*, London: War Resisters' International, 1968

Stolwijk, M., *The Right to Conscientious Objection in Europe: A review of the current situation*, Brussels: Quaker Council on European Affairs, 2005

The dates of constitutional provisions and/or legislation are those of the earliest identified from these sources as having contained an explicit reference to conscientious objections to military service or some equivalent concept. In many cases the initial recognition granted was very limited – for example, concerning only specific denominations or unarmed military service. No implication is intended that the provisions concerned were adequate or effectively implemented from the date cited.