

BULGARIA

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NATIONAL POLICY

In its national policy Bulgaria decisively and consistently regards terrorism as one of the most significant threats to international peace and security. Bulgaria acknowledges the importance of the systematic strengthening of the international co-operation on a global, regional and bilateral level as well as the formation of an adequate and coherent reaction with regards to terrorism.

The Bulgaria's **National Security Strategy** adopted by the National Assembly on 08.03.2011 defines national policy as an integral part in the efforts of the global democratic community to extend the zone of stability, co-operation and prosperity through neutralisation of global threats, a key aspect of which is terrorism.

A **National Plan on Combating Terrorism** was adopted by the Bulgaria's Council of Ministers on 26.11.2008. Its goal is to minimize the terrorist threat by strengthening the co-operation between the national competent authorities. The National Plan provides a set of measures focusing on prevention and protection from terrorism. The Plan was amended by the Council of Ministers on 22.07.2010.

The Government of Bulgaria in 2011 adopted a **Strategy for the Prevention of Money Laundering**. Its purpose is aimed at the prevention of money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism through a more efficient use of the mechanisms for detecting the flow of funds obtained by criminal means and connected to the financing of terrorism.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Criminal law

In 2002, the Bulgarian **Criminal Code** (CC) was amended in order to establish special regulations for the punishment of terrorist acts and related crimes. The amendments of 2002 provided for the legal definition of terrorist acts¹ and financing of terrorism². Amendments to the Criminal Code were

also adopted in 2011 by which the Republic of Bulgaria transposed the requirements of Framework decision 2002/475/JHA amended in 2008 with Framework decision 2008/919/JHA. The amendments of 2011 provided for punishment for recruiting or training individuals or groups of people for the purpose of committing a terrorist act³ and enlarged the circle of crimes which should be treated as terrorism. Besides this, the Criminal Code provides for punishment for setting up, leading or participating in organised terrorist groups⁴ as well as for using the territory of Bulgaria for the preparation of terrorist acts abroad.⁵ The Bulgarian Criminal Code also contains specific provisions for the punishment of open incitement⁶ to terrorism and threatening to commit terrorist acts⁷.

Whoever commits any of the crimes mentioned in this provision with the aim of causing disturbance/fear among the population or threatening/forcing a competent authority, a member of the public or a representative of a foreign state or international organisation to perform or omit whatsoever in the circle of his/her functions, shall be punishable for terrorism by imprisonment from five to fifteen years.⁸ Where death has been caused, the punishment shall be imprisonment from fifteen to thirty years, life imprisonment or life imprisonment without a chance of commuting.

Any person who in any way directly or indirectly collects or provides financial or other means for the purpose of perpetrating a terrorist act, and is aware, or assumes, that these means will be used for that purpose, shall be punished by imprisonment of three to fifteen years and a fine shall be imposed upon him/her of up to thirty thousand Bulgarian Leva.⁹

Any person who recruits or trains individuals or groups of people for the purpose of committing a

¹ Article 108a, para. 1 CC

² Article 108a, para. 2 CC

³ Article 108a, para. 3 CC

⁴ Article 109, para. 3 CC

⁵ Article 356b CC

⁶ Article 320, para. 2 CC

⁷ Article 320a of CC

⁸ Article 108a, para. 1 CC

⁹ Article 108a, para. 2 CC

terrorist acts shall be punishable by imprisonment from two to ten years.¹⁰

Article 109, paragraph 3 of the Criminal Code provides punishment for participation in terrorist groups. Item 1 and 2 of the said paragraph 3 of Article 109 provide for punishment for setting up, leading (deprivation of liberty from ten to twenty years) and participating (deprivation of liberty from two to ten years) in organised terrorist groups. Paragraphs 4 and 5 of Article 109 provide for specific measures to encourage the participants in terrorist groups to co-operate with the police and judicial authorities in order to prevent terrorist acts or to collect evidence. In particular, paragraph 5 of Article 109 provides that a participant in an organised terrorist group shall not be punished if he/she voluntarily surrenders to the authorities and reports on the group before the commission of a crime. Likewise, any participant in such a group who surrenders voluntarily and discloses any information he/she has about the group, thus substantially facilitating the detection of and proving the committed offences, should be sentenced on the basis of mitigating circumstances.¹¹

Article 110 provides for punishment of up to six years imprisonment for the preparation of terrorist acts.

The confiscation of the property, or a part thereof, of the perpetrators of terrorist offences and of the persons financing their activities is provided by Article 114, paragraph 2 of the Criminal Code.

The court may rule perpetrators of terrorist offences, the persons financing their activities, persons recruiting and training terrorists and persons leading, organising and participating in terrorist groups, deprivation of rights.¹²

Under the general rules of the Criminal Code accomplices aiding and abetting are liable to the criminal sanctions provided for the perpetration of the respective crime.¹³

Paragraph 2 of Article 320 of the Criminal Code provides that the punishment for openly inciting the perpetration of terrorism is up to six years imprisonment. It means that Bulgarian Criminal law considers "incitement to terrorism" as a serious offence.

Besides this, Article 320a of the Criminal Code provides that "a person who threatens to commit a

crime under Article 108a, paragraph 1 (i.e. terrorism) (...) and where such threat might give rise to justified fear of its perpetration, shall be punished by imprisonment for up to two years".

Under Article 308, paragraph 3, item 1 of the Criminal Code a person who draws up a false official document or alters the content of an official document for the purpose of using it when this act is aimed at facilitating an act under Article 108a, paragraph 1 (i.e. terrorism) and/or Article 108a, paragraph 2 (financing of terrorism) is punishable by imprisonment of up to ten years.

Jurisdiction

According to Article 3, paragraph 1 of the Criminal Code, the Code is applicable to all crimes, committed on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria. The Criminal Code is applicable to Bulgarian citizens for crimes committed by them outside the country;¹⁴ to foreign nationals who have committed crimes outside the country, where these crimes affect the interests of the Republic of Bulgaria or of Bulgarian citizens;¹⁵ to foreign nationals who have committed crimes against peace and humanity outside the country and, thus, affect the interests of another country or foreign citizens;¹⁶ as well as other crimes committed by foreign nationals outside the country, when this is envisaged in an international agreement to which the Republic of Bulgaria is a party.¹⁷

When a request for the extradition of a foreign national who has been found on the territory of Bulgaria and who has committed an offence abroad affecting the interests of another state or of a foreign national is for some reason refused, the competent Bulgarian authorities should exercise criminal jurisdiction and accordingly institute criminal proceedings against the foreign national, where this is provided for in an international agreement to which the Republic of Bulgaria is a party (e.g., pursuant to Articles 6 and 7 of the European Convention on Suppression of Terrorism).¹⁸

Procedural rules

There is no special procedure in Bulgaria for sentencing persons suspected of having committed terrorist acts. The rules and principles governing the investigation and prosecution of terrorist related offences are the same as for any

¹⁰ Article 108a, para. 3 CC

¹¹ Article 109, para. 4 CC

¹² Article 114, para. 1 CC

¹³ Articles 17-22 CC

¹⁴ Article 4, para. 1 CC

¹⁵ Article 5 CC

¹⁶ Article 6, para. 1 CC

¹⁷ Article 6, para. 2

¹⁸ Article 6, para. 2 CC and Article 21, para. 3 of the Extradition and European Arrest Warrant Act

other offence. They are laid down in the Bulgarian **Criminal Procedure Code** (CPC). The persons accused of terrorist activity have the same rights as all other accused persons during the preliminary proceedings and the trial and with regard to the conditions for appeal.

Under Article 194, paragraph 1 of the Criminal Procedure Code in the case of an act of terrorism, preliminary criminal proceedings should be initiated. Preliminary proceedings are carried out by investigating magistrates (for offenses under Articles 108a-110 CC), investigating police officers (for offenses under Articles 320 and 320a CC) and investigative agents (when investigating criminal offenses relating to activities assigned by law to the State Agency for National Security) under the control of the prosecutor's office.

Investigative measures

The Criminal Procedure Code provides for the use of technical means for gathering evidence (special intelligence means).¹⁹ Special intelligence means may be used for the investigation of serious criminal offences including terrorism and related crimes. According to the **Special Intelligence Means Act**, special intelligence means (shadowing, telephone tapping, monitoring of electronic correspondence, penetration of premises, marking and controlled delivery) can be used only after authorisation by the court at the request of the main structural units of the Ministry of Interior (Directorate General "National Police", Directorate General "Border Police", Directorate "Internal Security", specialised directorates and regional directorates of the Ministry of Interior), the basic structural units of the State Agency for National Security, the Military Information Service and the Military Police Service to the Minister of Defence, the National Intelligence Service and the competent supervising prosecutor in the pre-trial phase.

Other relevant legislation

Protection of Witnesses

The Criminal Procedure Code regulates witness protection.²⁰ Such protection can be provided by keeping the identity of a witness a secret (anonymous witness) or by providing physical protection both to the witnesses themselves and to their families, relatives or other close persons.

The witness protection measures are taken when the proceedings are instituted. The protection measures may continue after the proceedings.

Witnesses and their families may be also included in the protection programme subject to the conditions and procedure of the **Protection of Individuals at Risk in Relation to Criminal Proceedings Act** upon request of the prosecutor or the judge-rapporteur.

Compensation of Victims

Under the Bulgarian Criminal Procedure Code victims and their successors, institutions and legal entities, having sustained damage as a result of a criminal offence, may bring a civil action for damages in the criminal proceedings and before the criminal court hearing the case, and may thus enter the criminal proceedings as civil plaintiffs.²¹ A civil claim in the criminal proceedings may be brought either against the defendant or against any other party that should be held liable under civil law for the damage caused by the crime.

In the course of criminal proceedings, the courts play an active part in protecting the interests of those affected by acts of terrorism.

The Bulgarian Criminal Procedure Code puts the court and the pre-trial authorities under an obligation to explain to any victim that he or she is entitled to bring a civil action to seek redress for the damage caused by the offence. At the request of the victim made at the pre-trial stage, the competent court of first instance should order a provision of collateral to secure the claim, in line with the Code of Civil Procedure.

It should be mentioned that in accordance with the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code, the victim may choose to bring a civil action for compensation for damage suffered in the criminal proceedings (i.e. constituted as a civil claimant under the Criminal Procedure Code) or to claim compensation for the damage suffered in separate proceedings under the Civil Procedure Code (i.e. before a civil court). If the victim has not filed a claim for compensation for damage suffered neither under the Criminal Procedure Code nor under the Civil Procedure Code, then the victim may claim compensation under the **Crime Victim Assistance and Financial Compensation Act**.

¹⁹ Articles 172-177 CPC

²⁰ Article 123 CPC

²¹ Articles 84-88 CPC

Preventive measures

Measures against the financing of terrorism

In 2003 the National Assembly adopted the **Measures against the Financing of Terrorism Act**, which has been the subject of several amendments reflecting the changes in the institutional framework in Bulgaria, as well as ensuring full compliance with international standards with regard to measures against the financing of terrorism. Furthermore, measures aimed at freezing assets and financial restrictions to counter terrorism, adopted by the European Union under the **Common Foreign and Security Policy** are directly applicable in Bulgaria, as a member state of the EU.

The measures (blocking/freezing of funds, financial assets and other property; prohibition to provide financial services, funds, financial assets or other property) provided for in the Measures against the Financing of Terrorism Act, apply to individuals and organisations included in a List approved by the Council of Ministers. The List can be modified by a proposal of the Minister of the Interior, the Chairman of the State Agency for National Security or the Attorney General. The categories of organisations or individuals who should be included in the List are those identified by the Security Council of the United Nations as being related to terrorism or subject to sanctions for terrorist, persons against which the Bulgarian authorities have undertaken procedures in relation to terrorism, financing of terrorism and related crimes, as well as those identified by the competent authorities in other EU countries. The List is published in the State Gazette and on the websites of the Council of Ministers, the Ministry of Interior and the State Agency for National Security. The persons concerned may appeal to the Supreme Administrative Court the decision of the Council of Ministers under which they had been added to the List.

According to the Measures Against the Financing of Terrorism Act anyone who knows that certain operations or transactions are intended to finance terrorism must report them to the Minister of Interior and Chairman of the State Agency for National Security. Banks and other reporting entities in accordance with the **Measures against Money Laundering Act** must notify the Financial Intelligence Directorate at the State Agency for National Security of any suspected terrorist financing. In terms of potential financing of terrorism, the persons required to report have a responsibility for "identification and verification" in accordance with the Measures against Money Laundering Act. The requirement for the reporting

entities includes notifying the competent authorities about attempts to perform operations and transactions, as well as the detection of all cash flows that are suspicious of being connected or used for terrorist acts or by terrorist organisations or individual terrorists. Reporting organisations have a duty to include in their internal rules criteria for the identification of suspicious transactions or customers related to terrorist financing. Disclosure of such information cannot be prevented on the basis of references to official, bank or commercial secret. The competent authorities after receiving the information are required by law to maintain the confidentiality of the reporting person's identity and to ensure that the information is used only with the purpose of combating crime.

The Measures against the Financing of Terrorism Act creates a preventive administrative mechanism, thereby creating the necessary conditions for the detection of acts which may constitute crimes related to terrorism.

The **Non-profit Legal Persons Act** determines the goals for which the funds of non-profit organisations can be used for public benefits. Non-profit Legal Persons are obliged to keep accounting records. Charitable organisations annually provide all their accounting records to the Central register at the Ministry of Justice. Moreover, the Financial Intelligence Directorate at the State Agency for National Security and the Bulgarian National Bank perform inspections based on the List of the Security Council of the UN, EU decisions and requests from other countries.

In accordance with Article 2, paragraph 7 of the **Bulgarian National Bank Act**, the Bulgarian National Bank regulates and supervises the activities of the operators of payment systems, payment institutions and electronic money institutions in the country. The **Payment Services and Payment Systems Act** regulates the terms and conditions for non-cash payments which can be made only by banks.

Under the **Postal Services Act**, remittances are part of the universal postal services and their performance requires a licence by the Commission for Communications Regulation (Article 15, paragraph 1, item 2, letter "b" and Article 19).

Refusal of entry into the country for persons suspected for committing terrorist acts.

According to the **Foreigners in the Republic of Bulgaria Act**, foreign nationals, for whom information exists, that are preparing a terrorist act, or are suspected of committing, planning or

carrying out a terrorist act and pose a threat to the national security of the Republic of Bulgaria cannot be admitted to the territory of the country. According to Article 10, paragraph 1, item 3 of the Act, a visa and entry clearance shall be refused to a foreigner if there are indications that he/she is a member of a criminal group or organisation or is involved in terrorist activity. In addition, a foreigner is refused the right to stay in the country and faces expulsion when his presence in the country is a threat to national security.

According to the **Asylum and Refugees Act**, Refugee status shall not be granted to an alien for whom there are serious grounds to assume that he/she commits or incites towards acts contrary to the goals and principles of the United Nations (Article 12, paragraph 1, item 3).

The **Bulgarian Personal Documents Act** governs the terms and conditions for issuance, use and storage of Bulgarian personal documents. In recent years, increased measures have been taken to protect and prevent counterfeiting and falsification of Bulgarian personal documents that could be used by individuals to penetrate the country, respectively the EU, in preparation or commission of terrorist activity. In addition to the provided technical elements for the protection of Bulgarian personal identity documents, it should be emphasized that ID cards are now issued with additional biometric data. There are time limits for notifying the competent units of the Ministry of Interior for loss, theft, damage and destruction of Bulgarian personal documents, and administrative penalties in case of breach of these terms.

The **Religious Denominations Act** states that freedom of religion shall not be used against national security, public order, public health and morality, or against the rights and freedoms of others. The Law provides corresponding administrative penalties in case of violation of this provision. In addition, the provision of Article 35, item 5 of the Law provides that the Religious Denominations Directorate to the Council of Ministers provides opinions on requests for stay in the country of foreign religious officials who have been invited by the management of registered religious denominations. This prohibits the entry of foreign religious officials whose activity is marked by the preaching of radical ideas.

The **Ministry of Interior Act**, the **Weapons, Ammunition, Explosives and Pyrotechnical Products Act**, the **Defence-Related Products and Dual-Use Items and Technologies Export Control Act** are also related to the prevention of terrorism.

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

At a senior management level, coordination of the fight against terrorism is carried out by the Security Council to the Council of Ministers, which organises and coordinates the activities of the ministries and agencies in relation to national security, including the fight against terrorism.

Regarding the investigation and prosecution of crimes related to terrorism, competent are the relevant authorities of the judiciary, the National Investigation Service, the Ministry of Interior and the State Agency for National Security in the discharge of their statutory tasks.

Work on counter-terrorism in Bulgaria is a prerogative of the State Agency for National Security, the successor of the National Security Service from 01.01.2008. The State Agency for National Security is a specialised body of the Council of Ministers for implementation of the policy of national security. The Agency was established by the State Agency for National Security Act and it integrates several specialised structures - the National Security Agency, the Protection of the Means of Communication Directorate, part of the administration of the Security: Military Police and Military Counterintelligence Service, the Financial Intelligence Agency and the General Directorate for Combatting Organised Crime.

The State Agency for National Security has prerogatives such as the protection of national security in relation to offences regarding the independence and sovereignty of the Republic of Bulgaria, the territorial integrity, the national interests, the country's established constitutional order and fundamental rights and freedoms of citizens. These activities are related to the fight against international terrorism and extremism, as well as the funding for the same activities. The Agency carries out analytical, predictive, control, coordination and methodological activities with private information and information from other public authorities relevant to national security. The State Agency for National Security has the responsibility to carry out criminal investigations in exercise of its statutory tasks (Article 4 of State Agency for National Security Act).

The Financial Intelligence is a specialised administrative directorate of the State Agency for National Security. The directorate receives, stores, studies, analyses and discloses any information obtained under the terms and provisions of the Measures against Money Laundering Act, the Measures against the Financing of Terrorism Act and the State Agency for National Security Act.

The Financial Intelligence Directorate is the financial intelligence unit of the Republic of Bulgaria within the meaning of Article 2, paragraph 1 and 3 of the **COUNCIL DECISION of the EU of 17 October 2000 concerning arrangements for cooperation between financial intelligence units of the Member States in respect of exchanging information.**

The **National Plan on Combating Terrorism** establishes the leading role of the Coordination Centre for Combating International Terrorism to the State Agency for National Security as the national contact point in regards to the fight against international terrorism. The Centre coordinates its activities with the ministries and agencies in the country, as well as interacts with the specialised structures of the European Union, NATO and the UN. According to the Plan, the overall activities of all national authorities, having jurisdiction in the area, are coordinated by the Centre.

The main tasks of prevention, protection and response to acts of terrorism are a priority of the authorities of the State Agency for National Security, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Defence and the National Intelligence Service.

The activities of the State Agency for National Security in the field of counter-terrorism are concentrated in the following areas:

- To not allow the execution of a terrorist acts in the country and against Bulgarian citizens, sites and representations abroad.
- To not allow the infiltration of influence from radical ideas and their disseminators among groups and communities in the country as a basis for attracting terrorists.
- To strengthen the organisation of the specialised administrative structures in order to effectively counter the methods and tools aimed at causing mass casualties used by international terrorist organisations.
- To protect the critical information affecting the country from acts of terrorism.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

Mutual assistance in criminal matters and extradition

The mutual legal assistance and extradition in criminal matters, including in terrorist cases, can be afforded to the extent provided for by international instruments (bilateral treaties and multilateral conventions) and national legislation.

The Criminal Procedure Code contains a separate section on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters, the provisions of which take into consideration the international standards in the field of judicial co-operation. Unless otherwise provided for in any international agreement to which Bulgaria is a party, the above rules will apply. Judicial assistance may also be implemented on a reciprocal basis if no international agreement has been signed.

Mutual assistance rules are set out in the Section on "Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters".²² These provisions deal with grounds and contents for mutual legal assistance (international treaty or reciprocity), scope of letters rogatory, grounds for refusal (prejudice to sovereignty, security, public order or other essential interests protected by law), appearance of witnesses and experts before foreign judicial authorities, interrogation of individuals through a video or phone conference, contents of the request, competent authority (Ministry of Justice unless otherwise stipulated by an international treaty), execution of the request, and expenses.

The relevant provisions of the Bulgarian legislation concerning mutual legal assistance are applied unless otherwise stipulated in an international treaty or convention.

Bulgaria is able to extradite foreigners on the basis of its national **Extradition and European Arrest Warrant Act**. The cited law determines the conditions and procedure for effecting extradition with third countries, as well as the conditions and procedure for the issuance and execution of a European arrest warrant within the Member States of the EU. The part of the law dealing with European arrest warrant transposed the Framework Decision 2002/584/JHA of 13 June 2002 on the European arrest warrant and the surrender procedures between Member States and established a judicial procedure based on mutual recognition of court decisions, which helps to strengthen judicial co-operation, particularly on action against terrorism.

Additionally, Bulgaria is party to more than 20 bilateral agreements and most of the multilateral treaties on the matter, including the **1957 European Convention on Extradition** and its **two additional protocols** and the **1959 European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters** and its **two additional protocols**.

²² Articles 471-477 CPC

The Extradition and European Arrest Warrant Act and the treaties are applicable to requests in terrorist cases. The **1977 European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism**, which Bulgaria has signed and ratified, facilitates the extradition of persons having committed acts of terrorism. Bulgaria has also ratified the **Amending Protocol** to this Convention as well as the **Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism**.

Police co-operation

Under the Council of Ministers' Decree № 85/17.04.2007, the State Agency for National Security has a leading role in the preparation of national positions on issues and initiatives in the area of the uniform policy of the European Union for Counter-Terrorism, discussed in the Council's Terrorism Working Group (TWG), as well as in implementing already adopted instruments and mechanisms in this area.

The State Agency for National Security has a direct contribution to the participation of Bulgaria in the European Commission's initiative "Radicalisation Awareness Network", aimed at detecting and countering forceful radicalisation.

At a regional level, the Agency takes part in the Conference of the Heads of the Intelligence Services of the Countries in South-Eastern Europe (SEEIC) and the Central European Conference (MEC), where issues of common interest are discussed between the States' departments by identifying threats to national security, including terrorism.

Within the framework of bilateral co-operation with foreign partner agencies the State Agency for National Security maintains an active exchange of information on individuals and groups suspected of involvement in terrorist organisations or individual planning terrorist attacks on the territory of the country and abroad.

Measures at international level

United Nations

In the area of security and in particular in the line of counter-terrorism, it should be noted that Bulgaria has an interest in the intensification of multilateral diplomacy. In this context and in relation to Bulgaria's membership in the UN, Bulgaria has ratified the main "sectoral" conventions developed and concluded under the auspices of the UN in the field of counter-terrorism, aviation security, countering the financing of terrorism and money laundering.

Efforts are being made of legal and practical nature for the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/RES/60/280) adopted by the General Assembly on 08.09.2006. Bulgaria is engaged in the negotiations on the Comprehensive Convention against International Terrorism.

Globally, the country's efforts are directed towards the implementation of the resolutions of the Security Council of the UN. A priority for the EU and Bulgaria, as a member state, is the refinement of the procedures related to the inclusion, the appeal of inclusion and exclusion of individuals, groups and organisations from the restrictive lists of the UN in order to improve the transparency of the procedures and to strengthen the safeguards concerning the rights of persons affected by the measures. For the individuals included in the restrictive lists a special information pool has been generated and the information is brought to the attention of the competent national authorities to take the measures referred to in the resolutions of the Security Council of the UN.

European Union

Bulgarian experts in 2011 took part in the preparation on an EU level of a methodology for determining risk-countries from which goods are sent by air. Currently, the country's participation continues via opinions in the process of implementing the methodology in other areas of aviation.

An interagency **National Programme** for the implementation of the Action Plan on Strengthening Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Security in the European Union was developed and adopted in 2012. The Program was developed in full compliance with the EU Plan and covers all of its goals. The strategic objective of the National Programme is the protection of the public from chemical, biological, radioactive and nuclear accidents of casual, natural and intentional nature.

The logistics required for the coordination and administrative supervision over the implementation of the restrictive measures imposed on an EU level have been made by the national authorities. Additional measures have been taken based on the implementation of the UN Security Council's resolutions and on further decisions to include certain organisations and entities as terrorist and taking restrictive measures against them.

Necessary measures at a national level have been taken to transpose the provisions of the Council Framework Decision 2008/919/JHA, supplementing

and amending the Framework Decision 2002/475/JHA on combating terrorism.

Council of Europe

Bulgaria's National Assembly ratified the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism in 1998. In addition, in 2006 Bulgaria ratified the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of

Terrorism aimed at improving the conduct of the parties at preventing terrorism and its negative effects on the full exercise of human rights. On a national level Bulgaria adopts the basic guidelines of the Convention in regards of its national policy for the prevention of terrorism (international co-operation, concepts related to terrorism, etc.).

Relevant Council of Europe's conventions – Bulgaria	Signed	Ratified
European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism (ETS 90)	11/9/1997	17/2/1998
Amending Protocol (ETS 190)	15/5/2003	26/2/2004
European Convention on Extradition (ETS 24)	30/9/1993	17/6/1994
First Additional Protocol (ETS 86)	30/9/1993	17/6/1994
Second Additional Protocol (ETS 98)	30/9/1993	17/6/1994
European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (ETS 30)	30/9/1993	17/6/1994
First Additional Protocol (ETS 99)	30/9/1993	17/6/1994
Second Additional Protocol (ETS 182)	8/11/2001	11/5/2004
European Convention on the Transfer of Proceedings in Criminal Matters (ETS 73)	9/10/2003	30/3/2004
European Convention on the Compensation of Victims of Violent Crimes (ETS 116)	-	-
Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime (ETS 141)	28/9/1992	2/6/1993
Convention on Cybercrime (ETS 185)	23/11/2001	7/4/2005
Additional Protocol concerning the criminalisation of acts of a racist and xenophobic nature committed through computer systems (ETS 189)	-	-
Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism (ETS 196)	17/11/2005	31/7/2006
Council of Europe Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism (ETS 198)	22/11/2006	25/2/2013

Relevant United Nations conventions – Bulgaria	Signed	Ratified
Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents (New York, 1973)	27/6/1974	18/7/1974
International Convention against the Taking of Hostages (New York, 1979)		10/3/1988
International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings (New York, 1997)		12/2/2002
International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism (New York, 1999)	19/3/2001	15/4/2002
International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (New York, 2005)	14/9/2005	-
Convention on Offenses and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft (Tokyo, 1963)		28/9/1989
Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft (the Hague, 1970)	16/12/1970	19/5/1971
Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation (Montreal, 1971)	23/9/1971	28/3/1973
Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (Vienna, 1971)	23/6/1981	10/4/1984
Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (Vienna, 2005)		17/3/2006
Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation, Supplementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation (Montreal, 1988)	24/2/1988	26/3/1991
Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation (Rome, 1988)	10/3/1988	8/7/1999
2005 Protocol to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation (London, 2005)	11/9/2006	7/10/2010
Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf (Rome, 1988)	10/3/1988	8/7/1999
2005 Protocol to the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf (London, 2005)	11/9/2006	7/10/2010
Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection (Montreal, 1991)	26/3/1991	8/9/1999