

Government Decree 499/2020 (13 November)
on duties of the Hungarian Defence Forces to be performed in hospitals during the
period of state of danger

The Government,
acting on the basis of authorisation under section 81 (1a) of Act CXIII of 2011 on national defence, the Hungarian Defence Forces and measures applicable during special legal order,
acting, with respect to section 5, within its original legislative power laid down in Article 53 (2) of the Fundamental Law, having regard to section 51/A of Act CXXVIII of 2011 on disaster management and amending certain related Acts,
acting, with respect to section 7, within its original legislative power laid down in Article 53 (3) of the Fundamental Law, on the basis of an authorisation by the National Assembly pursuant to section 2 (1) of Act CIX of 2020 on the containment of the second wave of the coronavirus pandemic,
acting within its function laid down in Article 15 (1) of the Fundamental Law, decrees as follows:

Section 1 On the basis of section 36 (1) *k*) of Act CXIII of 2011 on the Hungarian Defence Forces and measures applicable during special legal order (hereinafter “Hvt.”), during the period of state of danger introduced by Government Decree 478/2020 (3 November) on the declaration of state of danger (hereinafter “state of danger”), with a view to ensuring the undisturbed operation of hospitals and assisting healthcare workers, the Hungarian Defence Forces contribute, in particular, to

- a*) tasks relating to admission with checking body temperature,
- b*) tasks relating to instructing patients and giving directions,
- c*) tasks relating to escorting patients,
- d*) administrative tasks,
- e*) tasks relating to transporting materials between healthcare institutions,
- f*) logistical tasks, including tasks related to transporting medicinal products, protective equipment, other medical substances, and food for inpatients, and related warehousing tasks,
- g*) package delivery tasks,
- h*) material handling tasks,
- i*) computer data recording,
- j*) packaging, labelling, crating and preparation for transportation of samples relating to SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus, and
- k*) disinfecting.

Section 2 (1) During the period of state of danger, the Hungarian Defence Forces shall perform the tasks under section 1 on the basis of

- a*) a decision by the Member of the Government in charge of eliminating the consequences of the coronavirus pandemic,
- b*) a decision by the Member of the Government responsible for national defence,
- c*) a call by the Operational Corps established on the basis of section 1 of Government Decree 286/2020 (17 June) setting out the responsibilities of the Operational Corps operating during the period of state of epidemiological preparedness (hereinafter “Operational Corps”),
or
- d*) a call by the Member of the Government responsible for disaster management concerning a hospital specified in a decision under point *a*) or *b*), or a call under points *c*) to *d*).

(2) A decision or call under paragraph (1) shall specify the number of personnel to be made available from the personnel of the Hungarian Defence Forces for a certain hospital.

(3) The hospital commander or the head of the hospital may, by way of the chief hospital commander or the Minister responsible for healthcare, respectively, request the Operational Corps to issue a call under paragraph (1) *c*) regarding the hospital concerned.

Section 3 (1) In the performance of tasks under section 1 by the Hungarian Defence Forces, members of the personnel under section 1 (1) of Act CCV of 2012 on the legal status of soldiers (hereinafter “Hjt.”) and volunteer reserve soldiers on active service may be involved.

(2) A soldier referred to in paragraph (1) shall perform his duties on the basis of deployment under section 49 (1) of the Hjt.

(3) A soldier referred to in paragraph (1) shall not perform any tasks requiring vocational or professional healthcare qualification.

(4) Upon determining other tasks additional to those set out in section 1 for a soldier referred to in paragraph (1), the hospital commander or hospital director shall inform the national hospital commander and the Commander of the Hungarian Defence Forces accordingly.

Section 4 (1) The head of the hospital of the performance of the task shall provide for the following with respect to soldiers contributing to the performance of tasks under section 1:

- a*) placement and, if required, quartering,
- b*) catering,
- c*) provision with healthcare protective equipment, and
- d*) healthcare safety preparation and provision of related information in connection with the tasks to be performed.

(2) The preparation and information referred to in paragraph (1) *d*) shall be provided to the soldier before he commences the task to be performed; the performance of the task shall not commence without such preparation and information provision.

Section 5

Section 6 (1) With the exception specified in paragraph (2), this Decree shall enter into force on the day following its promulgation.

(2) Section 7 shall enter into force on the fifteenth day following the promulgation of this Decree.

Section 7