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*No [XI-408](#), 23/07/2009, Official Gazette Valstybės Žinios 2009, No 95-4033 (08/08/2009), i. c. 1091010ISTA00XI-408*

## **LAW**

### **OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA**

#### **ON THE LITHUANIAN RIFLEMEN'S UNION**

*Amendment of the title of the law:*

*No [XI-408](#), 23/07/2009, Official Gazette Valstybės Žinios, 2009, No 95-4033 (08/08/2009), i. c. 1091010ISTA00XI-408*

2 July 1997 No VIII-375

Vilnius

## **PREAMBLE**

The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania,

noting the historic role of the Lithuanian Riflemen's Union and its members in the restoration of the State of Lithuania, defence of its freedom during the wars of independence in 1919–1920, organisation and carrying out of the Klaipėda Revolt in 1923, armed resistance to the occupation by the Soviet Union in 1944–1953 and defence of the re-established independence of the Republic of Lithuania in 1991;

stating that the Lithuanian Riflemen's Union continues activities of the organisation established on 27 June 1919;

assessing the contribution of the Lithuanian Riflemen's Union to the country's national security;

emphasising the need to improve legal grounds for activities of the Lithuanian Riflemen's Union taking into account the changing national security needs, the country's membership in NATO and the European Union;

seeing service in the Lithuanian Riflemen's Union as a way for citizens of the Republic of Lithuania to prepare for exercising their constitutional right and duty to defend the Homeland, as enshrined in Article 139(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania;

seeking to strengthen the Lithuanian Riflemen's Union as a bridge between the society and the Lithuanian army and other armed forces, as the helper of the police and other state authorities, as the civic and national education entity,

adopts this law.

## CHAPTER ONE

### GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### Article 1. Purpose of the law

This law shall establish the status and activities of the Lithuanian Riflemen's Union (hereinafter referred to as the LRU) and members thereof.

#### Article 2. Main definitions of this law

1. **Young rifleman** shall mean a rifleman from 11 to 18 years of age.
2. **Lithuanian Riflemen's Union** shall mean the voluntary paramilitary civil self-defence association that is supported by the state, helps to ensure national security and operates in accordance with this Law and its Statute.
3. **Combat platoons of the Lithuanian Riflemen's Union** shall mean subunits of territorial units formed on a voluntary basis of riflemen who are of full age and fit for active military service but who are not fulfilling it.
4. **Rifleman service** shall mean the execution of the rifleman's rights and duties, training and service tasks set out by this Law, the Statute and internal legal acts of the Lithuanian Riflemen's Union in the implementation of the objectives, tasks, functions and rights of the Lithuanian Riflemen's Union set out by this Law.
5. **Rifleman** shall mean a member of the Lithuanian Riflemen's Union.
6. **Territorial unit of the riflemen** (hereinafter referred to as **the territorial unit**) shall mean a subunit of the Lithuanian Riflemen's Union uniting subunits of the Lithuanian Riflemen's Union operating in centres of higher administrative units and/or in other territories of higher administrative units.

#### Article 3. Legal grounds for activities of the LRU

1. Activities of the LRU shall be based on the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania, the Law on the Basics of National Security of the Republic of Lithuania, this and other laws of the Republic of Lithuania, also the Statute of the LRU, the Code of the Riflemen's Ethics and other legislation.
2. The Law on Associations of the Republic of Lithuania shall apply to the LRU to the extent that it is compatible with this Law.
3. The statutes regulating service in the army shall apply to the combat platoons of the LRU during armed defence against aggression (in wartime) and during training and exercises with elements of the Lithuanian Armed Forces (hereinafter referred to as the army).

#### **Article 4. Statute of the LRU**

1. The Statute of the LRU shall regulate:

- 1) the typical structure of the LRU and its territorial units;
- 2) the procedure for formation of territorial units and their subunits;
- 3) the procedure for convening the Congress of the LRU, election of representatives of territorial units for the Congress and work of the Congress of the LRU;
- 4) the procedure for work of central institutions of the LRU;
- 5) the procedure for appointment and dismissal of commanders of territorial units and their subunits, the procedure for formation and organisation of work of collegial institutions, their competence and responsibility;
- 6) the procedure for control of activities of the LRU;
- 7) the procedure for admission of persons to the LRU, withdrawal and expulsion from the LRU, also grounds and the procedure for suspension of the membership in the LRU;
- 8) the rifleman's oath and the honorary pledge of the young rifleman;
- 9) general rights and duties of the riflemen;
- 10) the rifleman service procedure and discipline;
- 11) service of the young rifleman;
- 12) formation of the combat platoons of the LRU and rifleman service in a combat platoon;
- 13) the procedure for payment of admission and LRU membership fees and targeted contributions;
- 14) riflemen's uniforms and insignia, the procedure for wearing them;
- 15) incentives and awards for the riflemen for the irreproachable and exemplary performance of the rifleman's duties, award of other persons for merit to the LRU;
- 16) disciplinary liability of the riflemen;
- 17) the flag and the badge of the LRU, the procedure for the use of the flag and the badge of the LRU;
- 18) the procedure for approval of standards of flags of territorial units and for the use of the flags;
- 19) the procedure for granting and withdrawing the name of the honorary rifleman, also rights of the honorary riflemen to participate in activities of the LRU;
- 20) relations and cooperation of the LRU with the riflemen living abroad and their associations;
- 21) the registered office of the LRU.

2. The Statute of the LRU shall be approved by an order of the Minister of National Defence. Prior to approving or amending the Statute of the LRU, the Minister of National Defence shall submit a

respective draft to the Congress of the LRU and evaluate proposals submitted by the Congress of the LRU. The draft Statute of the LRU and draft amendments thereto shall be prepared by the Ministry of National Defence together with the riflemen authorised by the Commander of the LRU.

#### **Article 5. Legal status of the LRU**

1. The LRU shall be a public legal entity of limited civil liability. The legal form of the LRU shall be an association. Subunits of the LRU shall not have rights of a legal entity.
2. The Commander of the LRU shall represent the LRU and exercise rights and duties of the LRU as a public legal entity.
3. The Commander of the LRU may, subject to approval of the Central Board of the LRU, authorise deputy commanders of the LRU and commanders of territorial units to represent the LRU as a public legal entity according to their positions and to enter into transactions on behalf of the LRU to the extent necessary to carry out activities of central institutions and territorial units of the LRU.

#### **Article 6. Symbols of the LRU**

1. The LRU shall have its own flag. The standard of the LRU flag shall be coordinated with the Lithuanian Heraldry Commission. It shall be approved by the Minister of National Defence through approval of the Statute of the LRU.
2. Standards of flags of territorial units shall be coordinated with the Lithuanian Heraldry Commission and approved in accordance with the procedure laid down by the Statute of the LRU.
3. The badge of the LRU shall be the Cross of Vytis. The standard of the Cross of Vytis shall be coordinated with the Lithuanian Heraldry Commission. It shall be approved by the Minister of National Defence through approval of the Statute of the LRU.
4. Standards of riflemen's uniform insignia shall be coordinated with the Lithuanian Heraldry Commission. They shall be approved by the Minister of National Defence through approval of the Statute of the LRU.
5. Symbols of the LRU may not be used during meetings organised by political parties, election and referendum agitation campaigns.

### **CHAPTER TWO**

#### **ACTIVITIES OF THE LRU**

##### **Article 7. Objectives of the LRU**

Objectives of the LRU shall be: to strengthen national security of the Republic of Lithuania by bringing together citizens of the Republic of Lithuania for active contribution to increasing the defensive power

of the state, ensuring public security, civic, patriotic and national education of the society, also to educate self-confident, creative, motivated, disciplined citizens of the Republic of Lithuania who are prepared to defend the Homeland and help others in misfortune.

#### **Article 8. Tasks of the LRU**

In pursuing the objectives set out in Article 7 hereof, the LRU shall implement the following tasks:

- 1) train the riflemen for armed defence of the state and civil resistance, and participate in armed defence of the state and civil resistance during armed defence against aggression (in wartime);
- 2) contribute to voluntary military training of citizens of the Republic of Lithuania and assist the army in selecting citizens of the Republic of Lithuania for professional military service and volunteer military service or other service in the active reserve;

*Amendments to the article's point:*

*No [XI-1523](#), 23/06/2011, Official Gazette Valstybės Žinios, 2011, No 86-4165 (13/07/2011), i. c. 1111010ISTA0XI-1523*

- 3) strengthen public relations with institutions of the national defence system, contribute to increasing the army's authority and the prestige of military service;
- 4) foster and disseminate ideas of the Lithuanian Riflemen's Union, develop civic and national values, foster the national culture, promote healthy lifestyle and participate in the implementation of youth policy;
- 5) assist institutions of the national defence system, other state and municipal institutions and agencies in performing their tasks.

#### **Article 9. Functions of the LRU**

1. In the performance of the tasks set out in Article 8 hereof, the LRU shall:

- 1) organise and carry out military training of the riflemen, also contribute to voluntary military training and exercises for other citizens of the Republic of Lithuania organised by the army;
- 2) promote the army and military service in the society, motivate the riflemen and other citizens of the Republic of Lithuania to choose active military service;
- 3) carry out and participate in the implementation of civic and national education and other non-formal education programmes;
- 4) organise and carry out civic and national education of the riflemen and activities promoting healthy lifestyle;
- 5) render assistance to the army, the police, the State Border Guard Service under the Ministry of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the State Border Guard Service), forces of the civil protection and

rescue system and educational institutions in the cases and in accordance with the procedure laid down herein;

6) cooperate with state and municipal institutions and agencies, sports organisations and clubs, cultural centres, associations and public institutions;

7) protect facilities and territories belonging to the LRU or used by it, also facilities and territories assigned to the LRU by orders of the Minister of National Defence or under contracts.

2. The LRU shall participate in armed defence of the state and civil resistance during armed defence against aggression (in wartime):

1) in the event of mobilisation, the combat platoons of the LRU shall be integrated into military elements of the army and defend the state by arms, and in the event of failure to carry out mobilisation - defend the state by arms acting as independent elements of armed forces;

2) subunits of the LRU and the riflemen unfit for active military service shall perform ancillary defence tasks, also organise and carry out civil resistance.

#### **Article 10. Organisation and carrying out of activities of the LRU**

Activities of the LRU shall be organised and carried out in accordance with the operational strategy of the LRU and with annual operational plans of the LRU and territorial units approved according to the strategy, also with targeted operational programmes and agreements on cooperation with state and municipal institutions and agencies, associations and public institutions.

#### **Article 11. Rights of the LRU**

1. In carrying out its activities, the LRU shall have the following rights:

1) to have bank accounts in accordance with the procedure laid down by laws;

2) to manage, use and dispose of property that belongs to it;

3) to enter into transactions, also agreements on cooperation with state and municipal institutions and agencies, associations and public institutions;

4) to establish enterprises and public institutions in accordance with the procedure laid down by laws;

5) to join unions of associations (confederations) and international non-governmental organisations;

6) to provide personal and property security services in accordance with the procedure laid down by the legislation;

7) to organise, carry out and participate in military training of the riflemen and their training for civil resistance, training of the young riflemen for military service, civil protection and other training;

8) to assist state and municipal institutions and agencies in the preparation and the implementation of civic and national education and other non-formal education programmes;

9) to carry out publishing activities, to have the media;

10) to disseminate information about its activities, national defence and military service;

11) to organise and hold meetings, sports competitions and events, cultural events consistent with the objectives and the tasks of the LRU;

12) to purchase, possess and use firearms, ammunition and special means, also to receive firearms and ammunition, special and technical means from the army and other state institutions and agencies. Firearms and ammunition of the LRU shall be registered, stored, issued to the riflemen and accounted for in accordance with the procedure laid down by the legislation;

13) to receive information necessary to perform the tasks and the functions of the LRU from state and municipal institutions and agencies in accordance with the procedure laid down by the legislation.

2. The LRU shall exercise the rights set out in paragraph 1 of this Article to the extent necessary to achieve its objectives, to implement its tasks and to ensure the performance of its functions.

### **CHAPTER THREE**

#### **RELATIONS OF THE LRU WITH STATE AND MUNICIPAL**

#### **INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES**

##### **Article 12. Relations of the LRU with the Ministry of National Defence**

1. The Minister of National Defence shall be the manager of appropriations earmarked in the state budget for the LRU.

2. The Ministry of National Defence shall administer cooperation of the national defence system with the LRU. Cooperation of the national defence system with the LRU shall be coordinated by an institution of the national defence system authorised by the Minister of National Defence. At the request of the Commander of the LRU, tasks related to assistance to the LRU in the field of administration of activities may be assigned, in accordance with the procedure laid down by the legislation, to servicemen, civil servants serving in institutions of the national defence system and persons employed at them under employment contracts.

3. In accordance with the procedure laid down herein, the Minister of National Defence shall appoint, dismiss and remove the Commander of the LRU from office, also shall appoint, dismiss and remove deputy commanders of the LRU and commanders of territorial units from office on the recommendation of the Commander of the LRU or shall authorise the Commander of the LRU to appoint, dismiss and remove deputy commanders of the LRU and commanders of territorial units from office, also shall grant pecuniary premiums to the Commander of the LRU, his/her deputies and commanders of territorial units. Where the Commander of the LRU, his/her deputy or a commander of a territorial unit is not a serviceman in professional military service, he/she shall make a fixed-term employment contract with

the Ministry of National Defence in accordance with the procedure laid down by laws and the Minister of National Defence.

*Amendments to the article's paragraph:*

No [XI-1974](#), 17/04/2012, *Official Gazette Valstybės Žinios*, 2012, No 51-2528 (03/05/2012), i. c. 1121010ISTA0XI-1974

No [XII-1687](#), 07/05/2015, published in the RLA on 20/05/2015, i. c. 2015-07665

4. The basic salary, pecuniary premiums to the Commander of the LRU, his/her deputies, commanders of territorial units and deputy commanders of territorial units, also the basic salary, bonuses and additional pays to the riflemen in other continuous rifleman service positions, the list of which shall be approved by the Minister of National Defence, shall be paid from appropriations earmarked in the state budget for the Ministry of National Defence within the limits of salary funds for the LRU.

*Addition of the article's paragraph:*

No [XII-1687](#), 07/05/2015, published in the RLA on 20/05/2015, i. c. 2015-07665

5. Expenses of the LRU or the Ministry of National Defence related to civic and national education activities carried out by the LRU for the implementation of non-formal education programmes on civic and national education, to civic education activities in the field of national defence, expenses for training of the riflemen for armed defence of the state, maintenance costs of buildings used for activities of the LRU (charges for consumed cold and hot water, electricity, natural gas, heat energy and utilities), transport costs and other expenses related to assistance to the LRU with administration of activities shall be covered from appropriations earmarked in the state budget for the Ministry of National Defence. Current tangible assets managed by the Ministry of National Defence by the right of trust that are necessary for civic and national education activities carried out by the LRU for the implementation of non-formal education programmes on civic and national education and for civic education activities in the field of national defence may be transferred by the Ministry of National Defence to the LRU for management and use by the right of trust under a trust agreement.

6. An institution of the national defence system authorised by the Minister of National Defence shall carry out internal audit of the LRU.

*Addition of the article's paragraph:*

No [XII-1687](#), 07/05/2015, published in the RLA on 20/05/2015, i. c. 2015-07665

*Amendment of numbering of the article's paragraph:*

No [XII-1687](#), 07/05/2015, published in the RLA on 20/05/2015, i. c. 2015-07665

7. The Minister of National Defence may entrust the Inspector General for National Defence with the task to check military training carried out by the LRU and its preparation for joint defence actions with



the army, also to investigate possible disciplinary offences of the Commander of the LRU, his/her deputies or commanders of territorial units.

*Amendment of numbering of the article's paragraph:*

No [XII-1687](#), 07/05/2015, published in the RLA on 20/05/2015, i. c. 2015-07665

### **Article 13. Assistance of the army to the LRU**

1. The army shall assist the LRU in:

- 1) planning, organising and carrying out military training of the riflemen, preparation for the performance of ancillary defence tasks and civil resistance;
- 2) promoting national defence, the army and military service, carrying out programmes on civic and national education and on the implementation of youth policy;
- 3) organising and carrying out events of the LRU;
- 4) selecting the riflemen fit for active military service;
- 5) selecting the riflemen who can use firearms and special means, also organising and carrying out their examinations on the rules for the use of firearms and special means;
- 6) providing the riflemen of the combat platoons of the LRU with the field uniform and equipment.

2. The army may assist in providing the riflemen with rifleman's uniforms by a decision of the Chief of Defence.

*Addition of the article's paragraph:*

No [XI-1974](#), 17/04/2012, Official Gazette Valstybės Žinios, 2012, No 51-2528 (03/05/2012), i. c. 1121010ISTA0XI-1974

3. Joint exercises of military elements and subunits of the LRU shall be organised and the riflemen shall also participate in combat readiness exercises of military elements to improve interoperability of military elements and subunits of the LRU.

*Amendment of numbering of the article's paragraph:*

No [XI-1974](#), 17/04/2012, Official Gazette Valstybės Žinios, 2012, No 51-2528 (03/05/2012), i. c. 1121010ISTA0XI-1974

4. Military training territories and infrastructure facilities assigned to the army may be used to carry out activities of the LRU.

*Amendment of numbering of the article's paragraph:*

No [XI-1974](#), 17/04/2012, Official Gazette Valstybės Žinios, 2012, No 51-2528 (03/05/2012), i. c. 1121010ISTA0XI-1974

**Article 14. Assistance of the LRU to the army when the latter renders assistance to other state and municipal institutions and agencies**

1. The LRU shall assist the army when the latter renders assistance to other state and municipal institutions and agencies in the cases referred to in points (1), (2), (3), (5) and (7) of Article 18(1) of the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on the Organisation of the National Defence System and Military Service.

2. When the army renders assistance to other state or municipal institutions or agencies in the cases referred to in points (2), (3) and (7) of Article 18(1) of the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on the Organisation of the National Defence System and Military Service, assistance of the LRU to the army shall be rendered under an order of the Commander of the LRU upon request of the Chief of Defence.

3. When the army renders assistance to other state or municipal institutions or agencies in the cases referred to in points (1) and (5) of Article 18(1) of the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on the Organisation of the National Defence System and Military Service, assistance of the LRU to the army shall be rendered under an order of the Commander of the LRU or a commander of a territorial unit authorised by him/her upon request of the Chief of Defence or his/her authorised commander of an army unit that operates in a respective county and whose military element renders assistance to forces of the civil protection and rescue system or to the police.

4. Subunits of the LRU rendering assistance to the army under this Article shall be assigned to the operational command of commanders of military elements rendering assistance to state or municipal institutions or agencies. Assistance of the LRU to the army shall be rendered according to plans developed by commanders of territorial units and commanders of army units operating in the respective counties.

5. When the LRU renders assistance to the army under this Article, the riflemen may use special means and arms to the extent necessary to achieve objectives of assistance.

**Article 15. Assistance of statutory institutions of internal affairs to the LRU**

The Police, the State Border Guard Service, the Fire and Rescue Department under the Ministry of the Interior and other statutory institutions of internal affairs shall render assistance to the LRU when the riflemen are trained to perform the functions of the LRU referred to in point (5) of Article 9(1) hereof, which are related to assistance to the police, forces of the State Border Guard Service and of the civil protection and rescue system, under operational programmes related to such training, also other assistance provided for in agreements on cooperation with the LRU.

**Article 16. Assistance of the LRU to the police in ensuring public security**

1. The LRU may assist the police in ensuring public order and implementing individual police measures. Assistance to the police shall be rendered under an order of a commander of a territorial unit upon request of a head or a deputy head of a territorial police office that operates in a respective county.
2. Subunits of the LRU assisting the police in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Article shall be led by a head of a territorial police office or of police headquarters responsible for public order in the area concerned or by a police officer authorised by him/her or by a police officer in charge of a police measure.
3. In cases not referred in paragraph 1 of this Article, the riflemen may assist the police by becoming supporters of the police in accordance with the procedure laid down by laws.
4. The riflemen may warn public order offenders and shall notify police officers of an ongoing public order offence.

#### **Article 17. Assistance of the LRU to the State Border Guard Service**

1. The LRU may assist the State Border Guard Service when it is necessary to carry out urgent operations to ensure protection of the state border of the Republic of Lithuania. This assistance shall be rendered under an order of a commander of a territorial unit upon request of a commander of a territorial unit of the State Border Guard Service operating in a respective county.
2. Subunits of the LRU assisting the State Border Guard Service in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Article shall be led by an officer authorised by the commander of the territorial unit of the State Border Guard Service to which assistance is rendered.

#### **Article 18. Assistance of the LRU to forces of the civil protection and rescue system**

1. The LRU may assist forces of the civil protection and rescue system in eliminating the aftermath of emergency events and rendering assistance to victims, also assist in performing separate tasks during emergencies.
2. Assistance to forces of the civil protection and rescue system referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be rendered under an order of the commander of the territorial unit of the LRU operating in the county, in the territory of which an emergency event has taken place or takes place or an emergency has occurred, upon written request of the Chairperson of the Government Emergency Commission or the Director of the respective municipality administration.

*Amendments to the article's paragraph:*

No [XI-758](#), 13/04/2010, *Official Gazette Valstybės Žinios*, 2010, No 48-2307 (27/04/2010), i. c. 1101010ISTA00XI-758

3. Subunits of the LRU assisting forces of the civil protection and rescue system in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Article shall be led by the commander of the civil protection operation.

#### **Article 19. Assistance of the Ministry of Education and Science to the LRU**

The Ministry of Education and Science shall assist the LRU in cooperation with educational institutions and shall also render other assistance provided for in an agreement on cooperation with the LRU.

#### **Article 20. Assistance of the LRU to educational institutions**

The LRU shall assist educational institutions in implementing civic and national education and other non-formal education programmes, training pupils and students for active military service and civilian resistance, familiarising them with the army and military service.

#### **Article 21. Cooperation agreements**

Cooperation of the LRU with state and municipal institutions and agencies, educational institutions is further regulated by cooperation agreements of the LRU and respective state and municipal institutions and agencies, educational institutions.

#### **Article 22. Duty of the LRU to provide information on its activities to state and municipal institutions and agencies**

1. The LRU shall provide all the information on its activities to the Ministry of National Defence and shall also allow officials authorised by the Minister of National Defence to verify it.
2. The LRU shall provide other state and municipal institutions and agencies with information on its activities that are related to the implementation of cooperation agreements with the respective state or municipal institutions or agencies and to the execution of operational programmes of the LRU financed using state or municipal budget appropriations earmarked for the respective state or municipal institutions or agencies or using assistance from the European Union Structural Funds administered by them.

### **CHAPTER FOUR**

#### **STRUCTURE AND CENTRAL INSTITUTIONS OF THE LRU**

##### **Article 23. Basics of organisation of the structure of the LRU**

1. The LRU shall consist of central institutions of the LRU as well as territorial units and subunits thereof.
2. Central institutions of the LRU shall organise, coordinate and control activities of the LRU throughout the territory of the Republic of Lithuania.

3. Territorial units shall organise, coordinate and control activities of the LRU in centres of higher administrative units and/or in other territory of higher administrative units.

4. Territorial units shall consist of subunits of the LRU (companies, separate platoons and smaller subunits forming them) established according to the administrative-territorial principle.

#### **Article 24. Central institutions of the LRU**

Central institutions of the LRU shall be:

1) the Congress of the LRU;

2) the Commander of the LRU;

3) the Central Board of the LRU;

4) the Central Control Commission of the LRU;

5) the Court of Honour of the LRU;

6) other advisory and subsidiary bodies of the institutions referred to in points (1) to (5) of this Article that have been established by these institutions.

#### **Article 25. Congress of the LRU**

1. The Congress of the LRU shall be the supreme institution of the LRU consisting of congress participants: elected representatives of territorial units and the riflemen who are ex-officio participants of the Congress. The Central Board of the LRU shall, on the proposal of the Commander of the LRU, set in advance the number of representatives of each territorial unit at the Congress, which shall be proportional to the number of the riflemen in territorial units. The Commander of the LRU and his/her deputies, members of the Central Board of the LRU, the Chairperson of the Central Control Commission of the LRU, the President of the Court of Honour of the LRU and commanders of territorial units shall be ex-officio participants of the Congress of the LRU with the voting right.

2. The Congress of the LRU may be ordinary and extraordinary. Ordinary congresses shall be convened once every three years.

3. The ordinary Congress of the LRU shall be convened by the Commander of the LRU. The extraordinary Congress of the LRU shall be convened by the Commander of the LRU on the proposal of the Minister of National Defence, the Central Board of the LRU or general meetings of at least five territorial units.

4. The Congress of the LRU shall be considered lawfully convened if attended by at least 2/3 of all congress participants. If the Congress is attended by less than 2/3 of participants, the Congress shall be convened for the second time within 10 days. The Congress of the LRU convened for the second time shall be considered lawfully convened if attended by more than half of all of its participants.

5. The Congress of the LRU shall:

- 1) consider the draft Statute of the LRU and draft amendments thereto, submit conclusions on these drafts to the Minister of National Defence;
  - 2) adopt and amend the Code of the Riflemen's Ethics and the Regulation of the Court of Honour of the LRU on the recommendation of the President of the Court of Honour of the LRU;
  - 3) in the cases set out in the Statute of the LRU, adopt other internal legal acts of the LRU regulating activities of the LRU;
  - 4) approve and amend the operational strategy of the LRU on the recommendation of the Commander of the LRU;
  - 5) on the recommendation of the Minister of National Defence, approve or not approve appointment of the Commander of the LRU, and, when expressing no-confidence in the Commander of the LRU, submit a proposal to the Minister of National Defence to dismiss the Commander of the LRU from office before the expiry of his/her term of office;
  - 6) approve the number of deputy commanders of the LRU on the proposal of the Commander of the LRU;
  - 7) elect and dismiss members of the Central Board of the LRU, the Central Control Commission of the LRU and the Court of Honour of the LRU and their deputies in accordance with the procedure laid down by the Statute of the LRU;
  - 8) consider reports and communications of the Commander of the LRU, the Central Control Commission of the LRU and the Court of Honour of the LRU;
  - 9) consider other matters relevant to the LRU and adopt statements, resolutions and other documents in relation to them.
6. All matters at the Congress of the LRU shall be decided by a simple majority of members of the LRU participating in the Congress.

#### **Article 26. Commander of the LRU**

1. The Commander of the LRU shall be the chief official of the LRU in charge of activities of the LRU and representing the LRU. The Commander of the LRU shall ensure the implementation of the objectives and the tasks of the LRU and the performance of the functions of the LRU, also the execution of the operational strategy of the LRU and other decisions of the Congress of the LRU, the internal procedure of the LRU, the lawful and economical use of property and funds of the LRU.
2. A serviceman in professional military service, a serviceman serving in the reserve or a reserve serviceman who has higher education, the rank not lower than a lieutenant colonel (commander) and who is a member of the LRU may be appointed as the Commander of the LRU.

**Note of the RLA.** *The requirements set out in paragraph 2 for the existing military rank shall apply to the riflemen appointed to the respective positions after entry into force of Law No XII-1687 (01/06/2015).*

*Amendments to the article's paragraph:*

No [XI-1523](#), 23/06/2011, *Official Gazette Valstybės Žinios*, 2011, No 86-4165 (13/07/2011), i. c. 1111010ISTA0XI-1523

No [XII-1687](#), 07/05/2015, published in the RLA on 20/05/2015, i. c. 2015-07665

3. The person appointed as the Commander of the LRU shall suspend his/her membership in a political party.
4. The Commander of the LRU shall not engage in any other gainful employment and be appointed to other position without permission of the Minister of National Defence.
5. The Commander of the LRU shall be appointed for three years. The same person may be appointed as the Commander of the LRU no more than twice in a row.
6. The Commander of the LRU shall be appointed by an order of the Minister of National Defence, subject to approval of the Seimas Committee on National Security and Defence and the Congress of the LRU.
7. Where a rifleman appointed to the position of the Commander of the LRU is a serviceman in professional military service, he/she shall be transferred to this position and shall be dismissed from it upon the expiry of the term of office in accordance with the procedure laid down by the Law on the Organisation of the National Defence System and Military Service. The Commander of the LRU who is a serviceman in professional military service shall be dismissed from the position of the Commander of the LRU before the expiry of the term of office by an order of the Minister of National Defence, upon termination of the contract on professional military service with him/her on the grounds set out in the Law on the Organisation of the National Defence System and Military Service, also in the event of withdrawal of the Commander of the LRU from the LRU, his/her expulsion from the LRU or expression of no-confidence in the Commander of the LRU by the Congress of the LRU.
8. Where a rifleman appointed to the position of the Commander of the LRU is a serviceman serving in the reserve or a reserve serviceman, he/she shall make a fixed-term employment contract with the Ministry of National Defence for the period of the term of office of the Commander of the LRU. Upon the expiry of the term of office, the employment contract with the Commander of the LRU shall be terminated and he/she shall be dismissed from the position by an order of the Minister of National Defence. The employment contract with the Commander of the LRU may be terminated and he/she shall be dismissed from the position before the expiry of the term of office by an order of the Minister of National Defence on the grounds set out in the Labour Code, also in the event of withdrawal of the Commander of the LRU from the LRU, his/her expulsion from the LRU or expression of no-confidence in the Commander of the LRU by the Congress of the LRU.

*Amendments to the article's paragraph:*

No [XI-1523](#), 23/06/2011, *Official Gazette Valstybės Žinios*, 2011, No 86-4165 (13/07/2011), i. c. 1111010ISTA0XI-1523

9. Where the Commander of the LRU is a serviceman in professional military service, he/she may be removed from office by an order of the Minister of National Defence in the cases referred to in the Law on the Organisation of the National Defence System and Military Service. Where the Commander of the

LRU is a serviceman serving in the reserve or a reserve serviceman, he/she may be removed from office by an order of the Minister of National Defence in the cases referred to in the Labour Code.

*Amendments to the article's paragraph:*

No [XI-1523](#), 23/06/2011, Official Gazette Valstybės Žinios, 2011, No 86-4165 (13/07/2011), i. c. 1111010ISTA0XI-1523

10. Where the Commander of the LRU is a serviceman serving in the reserve or a reserve serviceman, the amount of the basic salary paid to him/her shall be equal to the basic pay established for a serviceman in professional military service with the rank of a lieutenant colonel (commander) during the first year of service. The amount of the basic salary paid to the person appointed to the position of the Commander of the LRU for the second time in a row shall be equal to the basic pay established for a serviceman in professional military service with the rank of a lieutenant colonel (commander) during the second year of service.

*Amendments to the article's paragraph:*

No [XI-1523](#), 23/06/2011, Official Gazette Valstybės Žinios, 2011, No 86-4165 (13/07/2011), i. c. 1111010ISTA0XI-1523

No [XII-1687](#), 07/05/2015, published in the RLA on 20/05/2015, i. c. 2015-07665

11. On the recommendation of the Central Board of the LRU, the Minister of National Defence may grant a pecuniary premium to the Commander of the LRU who has particularly distinguished himself/herself in service. This premium may be granted no more than once a year and may not exceed the amount of the basic salary established for the Commander of the LRU.

*Addition of the article's paragraph:*

No [XII-1687](#), 07/05/2015, published in the RLA on 20/05/2015, i. c. 2015-07665

12. In the case of absence of the Commander of the LRU or where he/she is unable to perform his/her duties or he/she has been removed from office, duties of the Commander of the LRU shall be temporarily performed by one of his/her deputies. When the Commander of the LRU is dismissed or removed from office, a deputy commander of the LRU shall be assigned to temporarily perform duties of the Commander of the LRU by the Minister of National Defence, in other cases - by the Commander of the LRU.

*Amendment of numbering of the article's paragraph:*

No [XII-1687](#), 07/05/2015, published in the RLA on 20/05/2015, i. c. 2015-07665

13. The Commander of the LRU shall:

*Amendment of numbering of the article's paragraph:*

No [XII-1687](#), 07/05/2015, published in the RLA on 20/05/2015, i. c. 2015-07665



- 1) organise the development of the operational strategy of the LRU and, subject to the consent of the Minister of National Defence, submit it to the Congress of the LRU for approval;
- 2) in accordance with the operational strategy of the LRU, approve annual operational plans of the LRU and organise the implementation thereof, also approve annual operational plans of territorial units submitted by commanders of territorial units;
- 3) approve internal legal acts of the LRU regulating matters on the internal procedure, discipline, structure and activities of the LRU;
- 4) propose to the Congress of the LRU to set the number of deputy commanders of the LRU;
- 5) submit proposals to the Minister of National Defence regarding appointment of deputy commanders of the LRU and commanders of territorial units, their dismissal from office and their suspension or, if authorised by the Minister of National Defence, appoint deputy commanders of the LRU and commanders of territorial units, dismiss them from office and suspend them;
- 6) appoint, dismiss and remove from office deputy commanders of territorial units and the riflemen who are officials of the Staff of the LRU, and in the cases referred to in the Statute of the LRU - other riflemen as well;
- 7) in the cases and in accordance with the procedure laid down in the Statute of the LRU, provide incentives to the riflemen and impose disciplinary sanctions on them and, in accordance with the procedure laid down herein, grant pecuniary premiums to deputy commanders of territorial units;

*Amendments to the article's point:*

No [XII-1687](#), 07/05/2015, published in the RLA on 20/05/2015, i. c. 2015-07665

- 8) be in charge of activities of the Staff of the LRU, convene and chair meetings of the Central Board of the LRU;
- 9) enforce judgements of the Court of Honour of the LRU;
- 10) control activities of commanders of territorial units and other riflemen who are directly subordinate to him/her, consider reports on activities of territorial units submitted by commanders of territorial units;
- 11) approve the annual budget of the LRU on the recommendation of the Central Board of the LRU and submit annual financial statements of the LRU to the Central Board of the LRU for approval;
- 12) submit proposals to the Minister of National Defence regarding appropriations from the state budget for funding of activities of the LRU;

*Amendments to the article's point:*

No [XI-1974](#), 17/04/2012, Official Gazette Valstybės Žinios, 2012, No 51-2528 (03/05/2012), i. c. 1121010ISTA0XI-1974

13) implement recommendations of the Central Control Commission of the LRU, internal and certified auditors;

14) perform other functions set out in this Law and the Statute of the LRU.

14. In exercising his/her powers, the Commander of the LRU shall issue orders binding on all the riflemen and shall control the execution of these orders.

*Amendment of numbering of the article's paragraph:*

No [XII-1687](#), 07/05/2015, published in the RLA on 20/05/2015, i. c. 2015-07665

15. The Commander of the LRU shall form the Staff of the LRU - an administrative institution that is subordinate to him/her and meant for expeditious organisation, execution and control of activities. If necessary, the Commander of the LRU shall form other advisory bodies.

*Amendment of numbering of the article's paragraph:*

No [XII-1687](#), 07/05/2015, published in the RLA on 20/05/2015, i. c. 2015-07665

16. The Commander of the LRU shall be directly subordinate to the Minister of National Defence. He/she shall also be accountable to the Congress of the LRU. The Commander of the LRU shall submit reports on activities of the LRU for each ordinary Congress of the LRU, also for the extraordinary Congress of the LRU if the report on activities of the LRU is included in the agenda of the extraordinary Congress in accordance with the procedure laid down by the Statute of the LRU. The Commander of the LRU shall submit the annual report on activities of the LRU to the Minister of National Defence and the Seimas Committee on National Security and Defence. At the request of the Minister of National Defence and the Seimas Committee on National Security and Defence, the Commander of the LRU shall provide information and answer questions put to him/her.

*Amendment of numbering of the article's paragraph:*

No [XII-1687](#), 07/05/2015, published in the RLA on 20/05/2015, i. c. 2015-07665

17. The Statute of the LRU and internal legal acts of the LRU may set out specific features of rifleman service of the Commander of the LRU in relation to the composition, the duration and the regime of working time. The daily work period of the Commander of the LRU may exceed eight working hours when it is necessary to organise, lead or participate in exercises, training or other events of the LRU.

*Amendment of numbering of the article's paragraph:*

No [XII-1687](#), 07/05/2015, published in the RLA on 20/05/2015, i. c. 2015-07665

## **Article 27. Central Board of the LRU**

1. The Central Board of the LRU shall be a collegial executive institution of the LRU assisting the Commander of the LRU in directing activities of the LRU between Congresses of the LRU.

2. The Central Board of the LRU shall be formed for three years. The Commander of the LRU and his/her deputies shall be ex-officio members of the Central Board of the LRU. The other nine members of the Central Board and their deputies shall be elected by the Congress of the LRU. They may not be appointed as commanders of territorial units and their deputies.

3. The Central Board of the LRU shall be headed by the Commander of the LRU.

4. A meeting of the Central Board of the LRU shall be considered lawfully convened if attended by at least 2/3 of members of the Central Board. Decisions of the Central Board of the LRU shall be adopted by a majority of its members attending a meeting. Unless otherwise stated in this Law and the Statute of the LRU, decisions of the Central Board of the LRU shall be of a recommendatory nature for the Commander of the LRU.

5. The Central Board of the LRU shall:

1) consider drafts of the operational strategy of the LRU, annual operational plans of the LRU and territorial units, internal legal acts of the LRU, the annual budget of the LRU, proposals regarding appropriations from the state budget for funding of activities of the LRU;

*Amendments to the article's point: No [XI-1974](#), 17/04/2012, Official Gazette Valstybės Žinios, 2012, No 51-2528 (03/05/2012), i. c. 1121010ISTA0XI-1974*

2) approve annual financial statements of the LRU;

3) consider results, conclusions and proposals of checks carried out by the Central Control Commission of the LRU, internal and certified auditors;

4) consider and evaluate activities of territorial units and their management institutions;

5) set the amount of admission and LRU membership fees and lay down the procedure for setting targeted contributions;

6) perform other functions set out in this Law and the Statute of the LRU.

## **Article 28. Central Control Commission of the LRU**

1. The Central Control Commission of the LRU shall be a collegial institution performing functions of internal control of the LRU, including its financial control.

2. The Central Control Commission of the LRU shall be formed for three years. It shall consist of five members with higher education. Normally, at least two members of the Central Control Commission and at least two of their deputies shall have higher economic, managerial or legal education. The Commander of the LRU and his/her deputies, commanders of territorial units and their deputies, members of the Central Board of the LRU and their deputies, members of the Court of Honour of the LRU and their deputies may not be members of the Central Control Commission and their deputies.

3. Three members of the Central Control Commission of the LRU and their deputies shall be elected by the Congress of the LRU, two members and their deputies shall be appointed by the Minister of National

Defence. The Chairperson of the Central Control Commission of the LRU shall be appointed by the Minister of National Defence.

4. A meeting of the Central Control Commission of the LRU shall be considered lawfully convened if attended by more than half of members of the Central Control Commission. Decisions of the Commission shall be adopted by a majority of its members attending a meeting. Decisions of the Central Control Commission of the LRU shall be mandatory for consideration at institutions of the LRU.

5. The Central Control Commission of the LRU shall:

1) check activities of the Staff of the LRU and the condition of property of the LRU at least once a year;

2) check annual financial statements of the LRU and accounting documents;

3) check the compliance of activities of the LRU with the legislation;

4) perform other checks of activities of the LRU on the instructions of the Congress of the LRU or the Commander of the LRU;

5) consider and evaluate the implementation of the operational strategy, annual operational plans and operational programmes of the LRU;

6) submit recommendations to the Commander of the LRU on the improvement of activities of the LRU and of their control, on elimination of identified shortcomings and errors;

7) prepare and submit annual internal control reports of the LRU to the Commander of the LRU and three-year internal control reports of the LRU to the Congress of the LRU.

#### **Article 29. Court of Honour of the LRU**

1. The Court of Honour of the LRU shall be an institution of the LRU hearing cases on the riflemen's disputes related to activities of the LRU and on disciplinary offences of the riflemen, including breaches of the riflemen's ethics and the rifleman's oath or the honorary pledge of the young rifleman. In the event of a dispute as to whether a certain case can be heard by the Court of Honour of the LRU, this matter shall be decided by the Court of Honour itself.

2. The Court of Honour of the LRU shall consist of six riflemen of good repute. Normally, at least 1/3 of members of the Court of Honour and their deputies shall have legal education. The Commander of the LRU and his/her deputies, commanders of territorial units and their deputies, members of the Central Board of the LRU and their deputies, members of the Central Control Commission of the LRU and their deputies, members of courts of honour of territorial units and their deputies may not be members of the Court of Honour of the LRU and their deputies.

3. Members of the Court of Honour of the LRU and their deputies shall be elected by the Congress of the LRU which shall elect three members of the Court of Honour and three of their deputies every three years. The President of the Court of Honour of the LRU shall be elected for three years by members of the Court of Honour.

4. A session of the Court of Honour of the LRU shall be considered lawfully convened if attended by at least four members of the Court of Honour. Judgements of the Court of Honour of the LRU shall be adopted by a majority of at least four members of the Court of Honour. A member of the Court of Honour may not hear a case that contains a complaint against his/her actions or that aims to establish whether he/she has committed a disciplinary offence.

5. The Court of Honour of the LRU shall:

1) handle complaints of the riflemen against actions of the Commander of the LRU and his/her deputies, the riflemen of the Staff of the LRU, members of the Central Board of the LRU and their deputies, members of the Central Control Commission of the LRU and their deputies, members of the Court of Honour of the LRU and their deputies, commanders of territorial units and their deputies or regarding their possible disciplinary offences;

2) hear cases on disciplinary offences related to a possible breach of the rifleman's oath or the honorary pledge of the young rifleman that have been referred by courts of honour of territorial units;

3) hear other cases referred by the Commander of the LRU, the Minister of National Defence or the Inspector General for National Defence;

4) handle complaints against judgements of courts of honour of territorial units;

5) summarise the case-law of courts of honour of the LRU and submit recommendations forming it to courts of honour of territorial units;

6) approve and amend the model regulation of courts of honour of territorial units;

7) prepare the draft Code of the Riflemen's Ethics and amendments to the Code of the Riflemen's Ethics.

6. Judgements of the Court of Honour of the LRU in cases heard by it shall be binding on other institutions of the LRU and all the riflemen.

7. Cases may be heard by the Court of Honour of the LRU by way of written and oral proceedings or only written proceedings. The procedure for hearing cases shall be established by the regulation of the Court of Honour.

8. The competence of the Court of Honour of the LRU established in paragraph 5 of this Article shall not limit statutory rights of the Minister of National Defence, the Inspector General for National Defence, commanders (superior officers) of the national defence system to ensure discipline of servicemen who are members of the LRU, to investigate their disciplinary offences and to impose disciplinary sanctions on them. The competence of the Court of Honour of the LRU established in paragraph 5 of this Article shall also not limit rights of the Minister of National Defence and the Inspector General for National Defence to investigate disciplinary offences of the Commander of the LRU, his/her deputies and commanders of territorial units and to institute disciplinary proceedings against these persons.

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **RIFLEMEN**

### **Article 30. Membership in the LRU**

1. Only citizens of the Republic of Lithuania who are of good repute and know the state language may be the riflemen. Persons may not be considered to be of good repute if at least one of the conditions referred to in points (3), (4), (5), (6), (7) or (8) of paragraph 3 of this Article has been identified.

*Amendments to the article's paragraph:*

No [XII-1687](#), 07/05/2015, published in the RLA on 20/05/2015, i. c. 2015-07665

2. A written consent of parents or the parent with whom a child lives, carers or guardians shall be necessary when admitting young riflemen who have not been declared as having full active legal capacity to the LRU.

3. Citizens of the Republic of Lithuania may not be the riflemen if they:

1) are younger than 11 years of age;

2) have been declared legally incapable or of limited active capacity within the judicial procedure;

3) have participated in activities against the State of Lithuania, also they are former staff employees of the USSR State Security Committee and secret collaborators with the USSR special services;

4) are members of organisations prohibited in accordance with the procedure laid down by laws;

5) have been convicted of premeditated crimes;

6) within the last five years, have been removed from the office of a state politician, dismissed from active military service or civil service or expelled from a military training establishment for the reasons relating to a breach of the oath;

*Amendments to the article's point:*

No [XI-1523](#), 23/06/2011, Official Gazette Valstybės Žinios, 2011, No 86-4165 (13/07/2011), i. c. 1111010ISTA0XI-1523

7) within the last 10 years, have been expelled from the LRU for serious disciplinary offences;

8) in accordance with the procedure laid down by the legislation, have been recognised as having committed an offence that may discredit the LRU or besmirch the name of the rifleman if less than one year has passed since imposition of an administrative or disciplinary penalty for such an offence or imposition of a penalty for a misdemeanour or have been recognised by a final court judgement as having committed a criminal act and the conviction has not expired yet or has not been expunged.

*Addition of the article's point:*

No [XII-1687](#), 07/05/2015, published in the RLA on 20/05/2015, i. c. 2015-07665

4. The membership in the LRU may expiry upon withdrawal from the LRU, expulsion from the LRU, death of the rifleman and in the case referred to in Article 31(5) hereof.

5. A person shall be expelled from the LRU in the event of:

1) loss of citizenship of the Republic of Lithuania;

2) emergence or discovery of the existence of any of the circumstances referred to in points (2) to (6) of paragraph 3 of this Article;

3) in accordance with the procedure laid down by the Statute of the LRU, entry into force of an order of the Commander of the LRU or his/her authorised commander of a territorial unit to expel the person from the LRU for a serious disciplinary offence or entry into force of a judgement of a court of honour of a territorial unit or the Court of Honour of the LRU upholding validity and legitimacy of such an order of the Commander of the LRU or his/her authorised commander of a territorial unit;

4) entry into force of a judgement of the Court of Honour of the LRU recognising that the person has broken the rifleman's oath or the pledge of the young rifleman;

5) in relation to the Commander of the LRU, his/her deputy or a commander of a territorial unit - an order of the Minister of National Defence to expel from the LRU for a serious disciplinary offence or confirmation of the conclusion of the Inspector General for National Defence that the person in the position of the Commander of the LRU, his/her deputy or a commander of a territorial unit has broken the rifleman's oath;

6) failure to pay the membership fee for the period of more than one year;

7) in accordance with the procedure laid down by the Statute of the LRU, recognition that the person has committed an offence discrediting the LRU or besmirching the name of the rifleman.

*Addition of the article's point:*

No [XII-1687](#), 07/05/2015, published in the RLA on 20/05/2015, i. c. 2015-07665

### **Article 31. Rifleman's oath and honorary pledge of the young rifleman**

1. Every full-aged citizen of the Republic of Lithuania joining the LRU shall take the rifleman's oath. The rifleman's oath shall also be taken by members of the LRU who have attained their majority.

2. Citizens of the Republic of Lithuania to be admitted to the LRU as the young riflemen shall take the honorary pledge of the young rifleman. A member of the LRU shall be considered the young rifleman until he/she takes the rifleman's oath upon attainment of his/her majority.

3. By taking the rifleman's oath or the honorary pledge of the young rifleman, the riflemen swear to be faithful to the State of Lithuania, to defend and protect its independence, territorial integrity and constitutional order, to observe the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Lithuania, to

conscientiously perform the rifleman's duties. The text of the rifleman's oath and the honorary pledge of the young rifleman shall be established by the Statute of the LRU.

4. The person who has refused to take the rifleman's oath or the pledge of the young rifleman, has taken the rifleman's oath or the pledge of the young rifleman with reservations may not be admitted to the LRU.

5. Where the young rifleman who has attained his/her majority refuses to take the rifleman's oath or takes it with reservations, his/her membership in the LRU shall expire.

### **Article 32. Right of the riflemen to use firearms and special means**

1. The riflemen fulfilling rifleman service specified in point (7) of Article 9(1) and in Article 14 hereof shall have the right to use firearms and special means on the grounds set out in Article 8 of the Statute on Use of Military Force.

*Amendments to the article's paragraph:*

No [XII-1444](#), 16/12/2014, published in the RLA on 29/12/2014, i. c. 2014-20785

2. Only the riflemen who are of full age and passed examinations on the rules for the use of firearms and special means shall have the right to use firearms and special means, except in the case of self-defence.

### **Article 33. Rights and duties of the riflemen when the LRU renders assistance to the police, the State Border Guard Service and forces of the civil protection and rescue system**

1. When the LRU renders assistance referred to in Article 16(1) hereof to the police, assistance referred to in Article 17(1) hereof to the State Border Guard Service or assistance referred to in Article 18(1) hereof to forces of the civil protection and rescue system, the riflemen shall have the following rights:

1) in accordance with the procedure laid down by laws and other legislation, to use special means together with officers of the internal service system;

2) to require that persons comply with public order and do not violate laws;

3) in the cases referred to in laws, to assist officers of the internal service system in apprehending and delivering a person to a statutory institution of internal affairs;

4) together with officers of the internal service system, in accordance with the procedure laid down by laws, to enter residential and other premises to prevent a criminal act or apprehend an offender, also in the event of a natural disaster or other exceptional event posing a threat to human life, health or property;

5) if it is suspected that a criminal act or an administrative offence has been committed, to stop vehicles together with officers of the internal service system.



2. When the LRU renders assistance referred to in Article 16(1) hereof to the police, assistance referred to in Article 17(1) hereof to the State Border Guard Service or assistance referred to in Article 18(1) hereof to forces of the civil protection and rescue system, the riflemen shall:

1) respect human rights and freedoms;

2) having received a notification of an ongoing criminal act or other offence, having noticed a criminal act or other offence being prepared or committed, take measures to prevent it; notify police officers or other officers of the internal service system who are authorised by laws to investigate a criminal act or other offence immediately thereof; organise protection of the scene until the arrival of police officers or other officers of the internal service system who are authorised by laws to investigate a criminal act or other offence; identify witnesses, provide other assistance to police officers or other officers of the internal service system investigating circumstances of a criminal act or other offence;

3) provide emergency medical aid to victims, helpless persons;

4) take all possible measures to save property in the event of a natural disaster, a catastrophe, an accident or other extraordinary events;

5) maintain the secrecy of confidential information or entrusted official secrets;

6) introduce themselves and show the rifleman's identification card when performing entrusted tasks;

7) comply with laws, other legislation, perform entrusted tasks in a timely and accurate manner.

## **CHAPTER SIX**

### **SOCIAL GUARANTEES FOR THE RIFLEMEN**

#### **Article 34. Compensations and lump sum benefits in the event of rifleman's death or health impairment**

1. Where a rifleman perishes while fulfilling rifleman service associated with increased danger or increased risk to his/her life or health, also in cases where a rifleman is killed as a result of fulfilling rifleman service or due to the status of the rifleman, irrespective of the insurance benefits paid to his/her family, the persons referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article shall be paid a compensation in the amount of 120 minimum monthly salaries as established by the Government but no less than 50 minimum monthly salaries as established by the Government per dependent of the rifleman and no more than EUR 101,370. In other cases, where a rifleman perishes for reasons related to rifleman service, the persons referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article shall be paid a compensation in the amount of 60 minimum monthly salaries as established by the Government.

*Amendments to the article's paragraph:*

No [XII-1169](#), 25/09/2014, published in the RLA on 03/10/2014, i. c. 2014-13581

2. The compensation referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be paid in equal instalments to the perished person's spouse (cohabitant), father, mother and each dependent of the perished rifleman. The persons incapable of working who were maintained or had the right to be maintained by the deceased on the day of his/her death, also children of the deceased born after his/her death, minor children (adopted children) until they attain the age of 18 years, and children who are day-time and full-time students, until they attain the age of 24 years, shall be considered as dependants.

3. Taking into account the degree of incapacity for work and of a health impairment, the following compensation shall be paid to a rifleman who has been injured, has injured himself/herself or whose health has been impaired otherwise during rifleman service associated with increased danger or increased risk to life or health of the rifleman, also to a rifleman who has been injured or whose health has been impaired otherwise as a result of fulfilling rifleman service or due to the status of the rifleman:

1) the rifleman who has lost 75–100 per cent of his/her capacity for work - in the amount of 60 minimum monthly salaries as established by the Government;

2) the rifleman who has lost 60–70 per cent of his/her capacity for work - in the amount of 48 minimum monthly salaries as established by the Government;

3) the rifleman who has lost 45–55 per cent of his/her capacity for work - in the amount of 36 minimum monthly salaries as established by the Government;

4) in case of a severe health impairment – in the amount of 24 minimum monthly salaries as established by the Government;

5) in case of a less severe health impairment – in the amount of 18 minimum monthly salaries as established by the Government;

6) in case of a minor health impairment – in the amount of 12 minimum monthly salaries as established by the Government.

4. Taking into account the degree of incapacity for work and of a health impairment, the following compensation shall be paid to a rifleman who has been injured, has injured himself/herself or whose health has been impaired otherwise during rifleman service in cases other than those specified in paragraph 3 of this Article:

1) the rifleman who has lost 75–100 per cent of his/her capacity for work - in the amount of 30 minimum monthly salaries as established by the Government;

2) the rifleman who has lost 60–70 per cent of his/her capacity for work - in the amount of 24 minimum monthly salaries as established by the Government;

3) the rifleman who has lost 45–55 per cent of his/her capacity for work - in the amount of 18 minimum monthly salaries as established by the Government;

4) in case of a severe health impairment – in the amount of 12 minimum monthly salaries as established by the Government;

5) in case of a less severe health impairment – in the amount of 9 minimum monthly salaries as established by the Government;

6) in case of a minor health impairment – in the amount of 6 minimum monthly salaries as established by the Government.

5. The compensations referred to in paragraphs 1, 3 and 4 of this Article shall not be paid in the following cases:

1) if a rifleman perished, injured himself/herself, was injured or his/her health was impaired otherwise in the course of commission of a premeditated criminal act or in the event of his/her failure to obey a lawful order;

2) if the cause of rifleman's death, injury, self-injury or other health impairment was intoxication with alcohol, narcotic, psychotropic or other psychoactive substances not related to the performance of service-related duties;

3) if a rifleman committed suicide, attempted to commit suicide or injured himself/herself intentionally;

4) if a rifleman perished, injured himself/herself, was injured or his/her health was impaired otherwise during a traffic accident, where he/she drove a vehicle without having the right to drive it or allowed to drive it to a person intoxicated with alcohol, narcotic, psychotropic or other psychoactive substances or who did not have the right to drive it;

5) health of a rifleman was impaired or he/she died of an illness and this is not related to fulfilment of rifleman service;

6) the cause of rifleman's death or self-injury was deliberate violation of safety rules that was not associated with the necessity to fulfil rifleman service.

6. The degree of a rifleman's health impairment shall be determined by the Military Medical Expert Examination Commission of the army formed and acting in accordance with the procedure laid down by the Government. The official investigation commission shall determine whether death, self-injury, injury or other health impairment of a rifleman is related to rifleman service or the status of the rifleman, also whether rifleman service was associated with increased danger or increased risk to the rifleman's life or health. The Minister of National Defence shall form the commission and establish its rules of procedure.

7. Decisions of the official investigation commission and the military medical expert examination commission referred to in paragraph 6 of this Article may be appealed against to court within 10 days from the delivery of the conclusions to a rifleman or to other persons indicated in paragraph 2 of this Article or representatives thereof.

8. The compensations referred to in paragraphs 1, 3 and 4 of this Article shall be paid from appropriations earmarked in the state budget for the Ministry of National Defence. In accordance with the procedure laid down by the Minister of National Defence, they may be paid in instalments but no later than within 12 months.

9. In the event of death of a rifleman for reasons not related to rifleman service, a lump sum benefit in the amount of up to 12 minimum monthly salaries as established by the Government may be paid to the

rifleman's family. In the event of a health impairment of a rifleman for reasons not related to rifleman service, a lump sum benefit in the amount of up to 6 minimum monthly salaries as established by the Government may be paid to him/her.

10. The lump sum benefits referred to in paragraph 9 of this Article shall be paid from funds of the LRU. Funds of the state budget may not be used to pay them. The procedure for payment of the benefits shall be laid down by the Commander of the LRU, subject to approval of the Central Board of the LRU.

11. This article shall not apply during armed defence against aggression (in wartime).

### **Article 35. Other guarantees for the riflemen**

1. Where a rifleman fulfils rifleman service and presents a certificate issued by the Commander of the LRU, his/her deputy or a commander of a territorial unit confirming this, an employer, a head of an educational or study institution shall allow the rifleman to be absent from work, an educational or study institution and keep a work, education or study place for him/her for a maximum of 10 working, education or study days per year.

2. The average salary of the riflemen fulfilling rifleman service during working time shall be compensated for in accordance with the procedure laid down by the Minister of National Defence.

3. A per diem allowance in the amount specified by the Minister of National Defence shall be paid in accordance with the procedure laid down by the Commander of the LRU to the riflemen fulfilling uninterrupted rifleman service for more than one day if they are not provided with food.

4. The procedure for issuing rifleman's uniforms to the riflemen shall be laid down by the Commander of the LRU. A person shall return the rifleman's uniform to the LRU or compensate the LRU for its value if he/she withdraws from the LRU within five years from his/her admission to the LRU, is expelled from the LRU or his/her membership in the LRU expires in the case referred to in Article 31(5) hereof. The value of the uniform to be compensated for shall be equal to the value of the new rifleman's uniform on the day of the expiry of the person's membership in the LRU.

*Amendments to the article's paragraph:*

*No [XI-1974](#), 17/04/2012, Official Gazette Valstybės Žinios, 2012, No 51-2528 (03/05/2012), i. c. 1121010ISTA0XI-1974*

5. A rifleman who perished while fulfilling rifleman service shall be buried using appropriations earmarked in the state budget for the Ministry of National Defence. The description of funeral expenses financed by the State shall be approved by the Government or an institution authorised by it.

6. A rifleman who perished while fulfilling rifleman service shall have a tombstone of the standard model as approved by the Minister of National Defence erected using appropriations earmarked in the state budget for the Ministry of National Defence, and where close relatives of the perished person decide to erect a different tombstone, a part of tombstone erection expenses in the amount specified by the Minister of National Defence shall be covered.

7. Where death of a rifleman is not related to his/her service, he/she may have a tombstone of the standard model as approved by the Minister of National Defence erected but its erection expenses may be covered using funds of the LRU only under an order of the Commander of the LRU, subject to approval of the Central Board of the LRU. Funds of the state budget may not be used for this purpose.

8. The guarantees set out in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of this Article shall not apply to the Commander of the LRU and the riflemen in the positions referred to in Article 36 hereof.

## **CHAPTER SEVEN**

### **SPECIFIC FEATURES OF THE RIFLEMEN'S STATUS**

#### **Article 36. Specific features of the status of deputy commanders of the LRU, commanders of territorial units, deputy commanders of territorial units and other riflemen in continuous rifleman service positions**

1. Deputy commanders of the LRU appointed for 3 years shall be the riflemen with higher university or college education who are servicemen in professional military service with a rank not lower than a major (lieutenant commander), and commanders of territorial units appointed for 3 years shall be the riflemen with higher university or college education who are servicemen in professional military service with a rank not lower than a captain (lieutenant (navy)). Persons who have education specified in this Article and who have acquired basic military training but who are not servicemen in professional military service may be appointed as deputy commanders of the LRU and commanders of territorial units. Deputy commanders of a territorial unit appointed for 3 years shall be the riflemen who hold at least a college degree of higher education, a degree of post-secondary education acquired before 2009 or a degree of specialised secondary education acquired before 1995.

**Note of the RLA.** *The requirements set out in paragraph 1 for the existing military rank shall apply to the riflemen appointed to the respective positions after entry into force of Law No XII-1687 (01/06/2015).*

2. When appointing a rifleman who is a serviceman in professional military service to the position of a deputy commander of the LRU or a commander of a territorial unit, an order of the Minister of National Defence to transfer the serviceman in professional military service to this position in accordance with the procedure laid down by the Law on the Organisation of the National Defence System and Military Service at the request of the Commander of the LRU shall be necessary. Upon the expiry of the term of office, a deputy commander of the LRU or a commander of a territorial unit who is a serviceman in professional military service shall be dismissed from the position and transferred in accordance with the procedure laid down by the Law on the Organisation of the National Defence System and Military Service to other position of a serviceman in professional military service or the temporary reserve of the personnel of professional military service. A deputy commander of the LRU or a commander of a territorial unit who is a serviceman in professional military service shall be dismissed from the position before the expiry of the term of office upon termination of the contract on professional military service with him/her on the grounds set out in the Law on the Organisation of the National Defence System and Military Service, also in the event of his/her withdrawal from the LRU, his/her expulsion from the LRU or loss of confidence of the Commander of the LRU in him/her. Where a deputy commander of the LRU or

a commander of a territorial unit who is a serviceman in professional military service is dismissed from the position before the expiry of his/her term of office but his/her contract on professional military service is not terminated, he/she shall be transferred in accordance with the procedure laid down by the Law on the Organisation of the National Defence System and Military Service to other position of a serviceman in professional military service or the temporary reserve of the personnel of professional military service.

3. Where a rifleman appointed to the position of a deputy commander of the LRU or a commander of a territorial unit is not a serviceman in professional military service, he/she shall make an employment contract with the Ministry of National Defence for the period of the term of office. Upon the expiry of the term of office, the employment contract with a deputy commander of the LRU or a commander of a territorial unit shall be terminated and he/she shall be dismissed from the position. A deputy commander of the LRU or a commander of a territorial unit who is not a serviceman in professional military service shall be dismissed from the position before the expiry of the term of office upon termination of the employment contract with him/her by the Ministry of National Defence on the grounds set out in the Labour Code. A deputy commander of the LRU or a commander of a territorial unit who is not a serviceman in professional military service shall also be dismissed from the position and the Ministry of National Defence shall terminate the employment contract with him/her before the expiry of the term of office in the event of his/her withdrawal from the LRU, his/her expulsion from the LRU or loss of confidence of the Commander of the LRU in him/her.

4. A deputy commander of the LRU or a commander of a territorial unit may be removed from office by a decision of the Minister of National Defence in the cases provided for by laws.

5. The amount of the basic salary paid to a deputy commander of the LRU who is not a serviceman in professional military service shall be equal to the basic pay established for a serviceman in professional military service with the rank of a major (lieutenant commander) during the first year of service. The amount of the basic salary paid to a commander of a territorial unit who is not a serviceman in professional military service shall be equal to the basic pay established for a serviceman in professional military service with the rank of a captain (lieutenant (navy)) during the first year of service. The amount of the basic salary paid to the person appointed to the position of a deputy commander of the LRU or a commander of a territorial unit for the second time shall be equal to the basic pay established for a serviceman in professional military service with the rank of a major (lieutenant commander) or a captain (lieutenant (navy)), respectively, during the second year of service, and to the person appointed to this position for the third and other times – to the basic pay established for a serviceman in professional military service with the rank of a major (lieutenant commander) or a captain (lieutenant (navy)), respectively, during the third year of service.

6. A rifleman shall be appointed to the position of a deputy commander of a territorial unit by an order of the Commander of the LRU. The LRU shall make an employment contract with him/her. The amount of the basic salary paid to a deputy commander of a territorial unit shall be equal to the basic pay established for a serviceman in professional military service with the rank of a lieutenant (ensign) during the first year of service. The amount of the basic salary paid to the person appointed to the position of a deputy commander of a territorial unit for the second time shall be equal to the basic pay established for a serviceman in professional military service with the rank of a lieutenant (ensign) during the second

year of service, and to the person appointed to this position for the third and other times – to the basic pay established for a serviceman in professional military service with the rank of a lieutenant (ensign) during the third year of service.

7. On the recommendation of the Commander of the LRU, subject to approval of the Central Board of the LRU, the Minister of National Defence may grant pecuniary premiums to deputy commanders of the LRU and commanders of territorial units who have particularly distinguished themselves in service, and the Commander of the LRU may, subject to approval of the Central Board of the LRU and coordination with the Minister of National Defence, grant pecuniary premiums to deputy commanders of territorial units who have particularly distinguished themselves in service. The premium may be granted no more than once a year and may not exceed the amount of the basic salary established for the person to whom it is granted.

8. Deputy commanders of the LRU and commanders of territorial units shall be directly subordinate to the Commander of the LRU, also accountable to the Commander of the LRU and the Minister of National Defence.

9. The riflemen may be appointed to continuous rifleman service positions other than a deputy commander of the LRU, a commander of a territorial unit or a deputy commander of a territorial unit by an order of the Commander of the LRU. The LRU shall make employment contracts with them. The amount of the basic salary paid to the riflemen in these positions shall be established in accordance with the remuneration procedure for employees of budgetary institutions and organisations laid down by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and with basic pay coefficients set by the Minister of National Defence that are applicable to employees of budgetary institutions under the management of the Minister of National Defence who are employed under employment contracts. The list of continuous rifleman service positions in which the salary of the riflemen is paid from appropriations earmarked in the state budget for the Ministry of National Defence shall be approved by the Minister of National Defence on the recommendation of the Commander of the LRU, subject to approval of the Central Board of the LRU. The list of other continuous rifleman service positions in which the salary of the riflemen is not paid from state budget appropriations shall be established by the Commander of the LRU, subject to approval of the Central Board of the LRU.

10. The Commander of the LRU may, subject to approval of the Central Board of the LRU and coordination with the Minister of National Defence, grant bonuses and additional pays to the riflemen who are in continuous rifleman service positions other than a deputy commander of the LRU, a commander of a territorial unit or a deputy commander of a territorial unit and to whom the salary is paid from appropriations earmarked in the state budget for the Ministry of National Defence. Cases of granting bonuses and additional pays and amounts thereof shall be established in accordance with the remuneration procedure for employees of budgetary institutions and organisations laid down by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania.

11. The Statute of the LRU and internal legal acts of the LRU may set out specific features of rifleman service of deputy commanders of the LRU, commanders of territorial units, deputy commanders of territorial units and the riflemen employed under employment contracts with the LRU in relation to the composition, the duration and the regime of working time. The daily work period of deputy commanders of the LRU, commanders of territorial units, deputy commanders of territorial units and

the riflemen employed under employment contracts with the LRU may exceed eight working hours when it is necessary to organise or lead exercises, training or other events of the LRU.

*Amendments to the article:*

No [XII-1687](#), 07/05/2015, published in the RLA on 20/05/2015, i. c. 2015-07665

### **Article 37. Restrictions of rifleman service of the young riflemen**

1. The young riflemen may not be assigned to fulfil rifleman service in the combat platoons of the LRU.
2. The young riflemen may not be assigned to fulfil rifleman service when performing the functions of the LRU referred to in points (5), (7) of paragraph 1 and in paragraph 2 of Article 9 hereof.
3. Military training of the young riflemen for combat actions shall be prohibited.
4. A written consent of parents or the parent with whom a child lives, carers or guardians shall be necessary for participation of the young riflemen who have not been declared as having full active legal capacity in exercises, training and other events of the LRU that last longer than one day.
5. Other specific features of rifleman service of the young riflemen shall be set out by the Statute of the LRU and internal legal acts of the LRU.

### **Article 38. Restrictions on participation of the uniformed riflemen in political activities**

The uniformed riflemen may not participate in meetings organised by political parties, also in election and referendum agitation campaigns.

## **CHAPTER EIGHT**

### **PROPERTY OF THE LRU**

#### **Article 39. Property of the LRU**

Property of the LRU shall be:

- 1) remaining immovable things of the LRU which it possessed by the right of ownership until 15 June 1940 and which have been returned to it by decisions of state or municipal institutions;
- 2) funds of the LRU and property acquired for them;
- 3) gifted property of the LRU;
- 4) property received as a bequest by will;
- 5) property acquired in other lawful ways.



#### **Article 40. Funds of the LRU**

1. Funds of the LRU shall be received as:

1) funds of state and municipal budgets;

2) assistance received in accordance with the procedure laid down by the legislation, including assistance from the European Union Structural Funds;

3) admission and membership fees of the LRU and targeted contributions;

4) income from enterprises, public institutions and the media of the LRU;

5) income from the provision of personal and property security services, lease of property of the LRU and other transactions;

6) income from events and other lawful activities of the LRU;

7) interest of credit institutions on funds of the LRU held in them, except for interest on funds of the state budget;

8) bequests by will, donations and funds received in other lawful ways.

2. Appropriations from the state budget for funding of activities of the LRU shall be earmarked for the Ministry of National Defence in accordance with the procedure laid down by the legislation.

*Amendments to the article's paragraph:*

No [XI-1974](#), 17/04/2012, *Official Gazette Valstybės žinios*, 2012, No 51-2528 (03/05/2012), i. c. 1121010ISTA0XI-1974

3. The LRU shall, in accordance with the procedure laid down by the legislation, receive targeted state and municipal budget appropriations (other than the appropriations referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article) from managers of state or municipal budget appropriations when funds of state or municipal budgets are used to finance targeted operational programmes which are executed by the LRU or in which the LRU participates.

#### **Article 41. State and municipal property managed and used by the LRU by the right of trust or under loan**

1. State and municipal property may be transferred, in accordance with the procedure laid down by laws, to the LRU for management and use by the right of trust or under loan.

2. In the case referred to in Article 12(5) hereof, the decision to transfer property to the LRU for management and use by the right of trust under a trust agreement shall be adopted by the Minister of National Defence, and in the cases referred to in point (6) of paragraph 1 and in paragraph 2 of Article 13 - by the Chief of Defence, subject to coordination with the Minister of National Defence. Upon the

expiry of the trust agreement, the LRU shall return property to the trustor, unless otherwise stated in the agreement.

*Amendments to the article's paragraph:*

No [XII-1687](#), 07/05/2015, published in the RLA on 20/05/2015, i. c. 2015-07665

*Amendments to the article:*

No [XI-1974](#), 17/04/2012, Official Gazette Valstybės Žinios, 2012, No 51-2528 (03/05/2012), i. c. 1121010ISTA0XI-1974

## **CHAPTER NINE**

### **FINAL PROVISIONS**

#### **Article 42. Reorganisation and liquidation of the LRU**

The LRU may be reorganised and liquidated only under a separate law.

*I promulgate this Law passed by the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania.*

PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC

ALGIRDAS BRAZAUSKAS

#### **Amendments:**

1.

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, Law

No [VIII-1167](#), 11/05/1999, Official Gazette Valstybės Žinios, 1999, No 47-1468 (28/05/1999), i. c. 0991010ISTAIII-1167

Law amending the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on the Riflemen's Union

2.

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, Law

No [XI-408](#), 23/07/2009, Official Gazette Valstybės Žinios, 2009, No 95-4033 (08/08/2009), i. c. 1091010ISTA00XI-408

Law amending the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on the Riflemen's Union

3.

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, Law

No [XI-758](#), 13/04/2010, Official Gazette Valstybės Žinios, 2010, No 48-2307 (27/04/2010), i. c. 1101010ISTA00XI-758

Law amending Article 18 of the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on the Lithuanian Riflemen's Union

4.

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, Law

No [XI-796](#), 29/04/2010, Official Gazette Valstybės Žinios, 2010, No 57-2811 (18/05/2010), i. c. 1101010ISTA00XI-796

Law amending Article 36 of the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on the Lithuanian Riflemen's Union

5.

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, Law

No [XI-1523](#), 23/06/2011, Official Gazette Valstybės Žinios, 2011, No 86-4165 (13/07/2011), i. c. 1111010ISTA0XI-1523

Law amending Articles 8, 26, 30 and 36 of the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on the Lithuanian Riflemen's Union

6.

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, Law

No [XI-1974](#), 17/04/2012, Official Gazette Valstybės Žinios, 2012, No 51-2528 (03/05/2012), i. c. 1121010ISTA0XI-1974

Law amending and making additions to Articles 12, 13, 26, 27, 35, 40, 41 of the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on the LRU

7.

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, Law

No [XII-1169](#), 25/09/2014, published in the RLA on 03/10/2014, i. c. 2014-13581

Law amending Article 34 of Law No VIII-375 of the Republic of Lithuania on the Lithuanian Riflemen's Union

8.

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, Law

No [XII-1444](#), 16/12/2014, published in the RLA on 29/12/2014, i. c. 2014-20785

Law amending Article 32 of Law No VIII-375 of the Republic of Lithuania on the Lithuanian Riflemen's Union

9.

Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, Law

No [XII-1687](#), 07/05/2015, published in the RLA on 20/05/2015, i. c. 2015-07665

Law amending Articles 12, 26, 30, 36 and 41 of Law No VIII-375 of the Republic of Lithuania on the Lithuanian Riflemen's Union

APPROVED BY

Order No V-1177 of the Minister of National  
Defence of the Republic of Lithuania  
of 15 December 2009

(as amended by Order No V-192 of the Minister of  
National Defence of the Republic of Lithuania of 12 March  
2014)