

## APPENDIX 5: LAW ON THE CONTROL OF FOREIGN TRADE ACTIVITY IN ARMS AND DUAL-USE GOODS AND TECHNOLOGIES<sup>186</sup>

### CHAPTER ONE

#### *General Provisions*

#### Article 1

1. The present Law regulates the terms and procedure for the conducting of foreign trade activity in arms and in goods and technologies of potential dual use and state control over these activities.
2. Goods and technologies are deemed to be of potential dual-use when they can be used for both civil and military purposes, including goods and technologies, which can be used for non-explosive purposes as well as to assist in any way the production of nuclear weapon or other nuclear explosive devices. This category also comprises the software bearing such characteristics.
3. The list of arms and the goods and technologies of possible dual use shall be adopted by the Council of Ministers and shall be published in the State Gazette.
4. The following are not subject to control under this law: weapons, outfit, machinery and equipment of Bulgarian and foreign military and police contingents during their transition through or stay in the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria in cases when:
  - 4.1. they fulfill the obligations of the Republic of Bulgaria undertaken with international conventions or by virtue of membership in international organizations;
  - 4.2. they participate in peacekeeping operations;
  - 4.3. they participate in international military training exercises held in or outside the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria;
  - 4.4. they perform humanitarian, environmental, demonstrational or sports tasks of peaceful character.

#### Article 2

The conducting of foreign trade activity pursuant to Art 1 is subject to state control in order to ensure that national security and the economic foreign political interests of the Republic of Bulgaria will be protected, international peace and security – strengthened and the international obligations of the Republic of Bulgaria – fulfilled.

#### Article 3

In order to ensure the attainment of the purposes referred to in Art 2, the government bodies, within the scope of their competence, may directly co-operate and exchange information with the corresponding competent authorities of other states, international organizations and regimes, the signing of Co-operation Agreements included.

#### Article 4

1. The Council of Ministers may introduce restrictions and impose bans on the execution of foreign trade activity in arms and in dual-use goods and technologies when:
  - 1) the activity contravenes the purposes and obligations referred to in Art 2;
  - 2) the goods and technologies are intended or may be used for the development, production, operation, handling, maintenance, storage and dissemination of mass destruction weapons;
  - 3) sanctions exist in respect of a certain state, which are

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<sup>186</sup>Source: Ministry of Economy

- 3.a. introduced by the Security Council of the UN;
  - 3.b. ensuing from international conventions or from the membership of the Republic of Bulgaria in international organizations, including international regimes for export control in which it participates;
  - 3.c. ensuing from the accession of the Republic of Bulgaria to acts, joint activities and common standpoints of the European Union;
  - 3.d. ensuing from the accession of the Republic of Bulgaria to decisions of international organizations and international regimes for export control of which it is not a full member;
  - 4) the arms, goods and technologies of possible dual-use are intended for a country, in whose territory military operations are being conducted or which participates in a military conflict.
2. The list of the states and organizations in respect whereof the regime to Para 1, Item 3 and 4 is applied, shall be adopted and updated by the Council of Ministers and shall be published in the State Gazette.
  3. The list of states for which the end-user certificate under Art 15, Para 2 is not required, shall be adopted and updated by the Council of Ministers and shall be published in the State Gazette.

## CHAPTER TWO

### *Foreign Trade Activity in Arms Regime*

#### Article 5

1. Foreign trade activity in arms may be solely affected by trade companies registered under the Company Law, under observance of the provisions of the present Law.
2. Foreign trade activity in arms is effected on the basis of a license granted by the Interdepartmental Council on the Matters of the Military Industrial Complex and the Mobilization Preparedness of the Country with the Council of Ministers for the execution of the respective activity and a permit for every individual transaction, issued by the Interdepartmental Commission for Export Control and Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction with the Minister of Economy, hereafter referred to as 'the Interdepartmental Council' and 'the Interdepartmental Commission', respectively, headed by Ministers. The composition and the terms of activity of the Interdepartmental Council and the Interdepartmental Commission shall be established by the Council of Ministers.
3. The intermediary activity related to foreign trade deals in arms may be effected by natural and legal persons who have been granted a license by the Interdepartmental Council for the execution of the this kind of activity.
4. The license and permit are issued by the bodies referred to in Para 2, with a certain period of validity and a certain scope. The initial license is granted with a one-year term of validity, after the expiry of which each ensuing license is granted with a three-year term of validity. The permit is issued with a six-month term of validity and may be solely extended for a single term of six months at most, which cannot be longer than the term of the license.
5. The license is personal and cannot be transferred or assigned to another person.
6. For the issue of the licenses and permits state fees shall be paid in amounts established by the Council of Ministers.
7. Where necessary, the bodies to Para 2 may request the opinion of other state bodies.
8. For the issue of licenses and permits the competent government bodies may perform inspections and designate experts who shall give their opinion on matters requiring specialist knowledge.

## Article 6

1. A trade company under Art 5, Para 1 may be granted a license when the requirements are satisfied related to its economic stability and reliability with regard to the conduction of foreign trade activity in arms.
2. The natural or legal persons under Art 5, Para 3 may be granted licenses when the requirements are satisfied related to their economic stability and reliability with regard to the conduction of foreign trade activity in arms, which requirements are established in the Regulation on the Implementation of the present Law.
3. The licensing body may deny granting a license when the requirements under Para 1 or Para 2 are not satisfied.
4. The licensing body may revoke the granted license when:
  - 4.1. circumstances occur which contravene the purposes and obligations referred to in Art 2;
  - 4.2. the terms of the granted license are not fulfilled, or they are breached;
  - 4.3. an obligation provided by the present Law has not been fulfilled, which is evidenced by a deed of a competent state body;
  - 4.4. the licensee has submitted false data on the base of which the license has been granted;
  - 4.5. the licensee has ceased to meet the requirements under Para 1 and 2.
5. When making a decision to revoke a license, the competent body sets forth a term in which the licensee cannot apply for a new license for the same activity. This term cannot be less than two years.
6. The licensing body may cancel the license
  - 6.1. when its term of validity is expired;
  - 6.2. when the license has been revoked;
  - 6.3. on request of the licensee;
  - 6.4. in case the respective trade company or legal person has ceased its activity;
  - 6.5. in case of death of the licensed natural person.
7. The denial to grant a license or the revocation of a license are subject to appeal in the Supreme Administration Court except for the cases when the interests of national security are concerned.
8. The appeal under Para 7 shall not stop the execution of the administrative act.

## Article 7

1. A permit to conclude a foreign trade deal in arms can solely be issued to the trade companies under Art 5, Para 1, which have got licenses to conduct such activity. The trade companies applying for a permit to conduct a trade deal in arms shall submit to the Interdepartmental Commission the documents determined under the regulations for implementation of the Law.
2. The Interdepartmental Commission shall issue a permit in case of existence of a consensus among the members – representatives of the authorized ministries. A decision may be taken as an exception also in the absence of the members if the protocol is signed without remarks by the members of the Interdepartmental Commission under an order set out in the regulations for implementation of the Law.
3. The Interdepartmental Commission shall refuse the issuance of a permit when:
  - 3.a. there are circumstances that contradict the goals and obligations set out in article 2;
  - 3.b. certain documents provided for in the regulations for implementation of the Law are missing;
  - 3.c. the deal for which a permit is requested does not correspond to the issued license;

- 3.d. the applicant has provided incomplete data.
4. The Interdepartmental Commission shall revoke the granted permit upon proposal made by each of the members of the Commission, when:
  - 4.1. circumstances arise which contradict the goals and obligations set out in article 2;
  - 4.2. the activity which is performed does not correspond to the issued permit or license;
  - 4.3. the applicant has not fulfilled the obligation provided for by this Law, which non-fulfillment has been established by means of an act of an authorized state body;
  - 4.4. the applicant has submitted incorrect data.
5. The refusal or the decision for revoking of a permit may be appealed to the Supreme Administrative Court except in the cases when the national security interests are concerned.
6. The appeal under Para 5 shall not stop the fulfillment of the administrative act.

#### Article 8

Article 8 shall be revoked

### CHAPTER THREE

#### *Foreign Trade Activity in Dual-Use Goods and Technologies Regime*

#### Article 9

1. Persons registered under the Commercial Code of the Republic of Bulgaria may carry out trade activity with possible dual-use goods and technologies by observing the provisions of the present Law and in accordance with the effective legislation.
2. Export of possible dual-use goods and technologies shall be carried out on the grounds of a permit granted by the Interdepartmental Council and a decision for each deal issued by the Interdepartmental Commission.
3. Import of possible dual-use goods and technologies shall be carried out on the grounds of a permit issued by the Interdepartmental Commission for each deal.
4. The license and the permit shall be issued by the bodies under article 5, Para 2 for a determined period and with a determined scope. The license shall be initially issued for a period of one year, following the expiration of which each successive license shall be issued for a period of three years. The permit for deals shall be issued for a period of six months, and may be extended once for a period of up to six months, which period may not be longer than the term of the license.
5. The license is personal and it may not be transferred or assigned.
6. State fees at amounts set out by the Council of Ministers shall be paid for the issuance of a license and a permit.
7. If necessary the bodies under Article 5, Para 2 may require the opinion of other state bodies.
8. The bodies under Article 5, Para 2 may involve specialists-experts who shall provide an opinion on issues, which require specific knowledge.
9. Intermediary activity related to foreign trade deals with possible dual-use goods and technologies may be carried out by natural persons and legal entities who have obtained a license for performance of such activity issued by the Interdepartmental Council.

#### Article 10

1. persons under Article 9, Para 1 registered under the Commercial Code shall be issued a license when:

- 1) they are reliable and economically stable
- 2) they certify that they have created conditions and the necessary organization for work with the goods and/or technologies indicated by them, depending on the goods and/or technologies
2. The persons under Article 9, Para 9 shall be granted a license when they meet the requirements for reliability for performance of intermediary activity related to foreign trade deals with possible dual-use goods and technologies, and they are economically stable, determined under the terms and the order provided for in the regulations for implementation of the Law.
3. The licensing body refuses the issuance of a license to the persons under Article 9, Para 1 and 9 when the requirements under Para 1 or Para 2 do not exist.
4. The licensing body revokes the granted license:
  - 1) upon occurrence of circumstances which contradict the goals and obligations set out in Article 2;
  - 2) in case of non-fulfillment or violation of the terms in the license;
  - 3) upon non-fulfillment of an obligation provided for by this Law, established with an act of the authorized state body;
  - 4) when the licensed person has provided incorrect data that served as grounds for the issuance of the license;
  - 5) when the licensed person ceases to meet the requirements of Para 1 or Para 2.
5. With the decision for the revocation a term shall be determined in which the person shall not be allowed to apply for the issuance of a new license for the same activity. This term may not be less than 2 years.
6. The licensing body shall terminate the license:
  - 1) due to expiration of its term;
  - 2) due to its revocation;
  - 3) as per request of the licensed person;
  - 4) upon termination of the activity of the person registered under the Commercial Code or the legal entity;
  - 5) upon death of the licensed natural person.
7. The refusal for issuance of a license or the revocation of a license shall be subject to appeal at the Supreme Administrative Court except in the cases when the national security interests are concerned.
8. The appeal under Article 7 shall not stop the fulfillment of the administrative act.
9. A permit for a foreign trade deal with possible dual-use goods and technologies shall be granted only to persons under Article 9, Para 1, registered under the Commercial Code, who possess a license for such an activity. The persons applying for a permit for a foreign trade deal in arms, present to the Interdepartmental Commission documents set out in the regulations for implementation of the Law.
10. The Interdepartmental Commission shall grant permission in case of existence of a consensus between the members – representatives of the authorized ministries. A decision may be taken as an exception also in the absence of the members if the protocol is signed without remarks by the members of the Interdepartmental Commission under an order set out in the regulations for implementation of the Law.
11. The Interdepartmental Commission shall refuse the issuance of a permit when:
  - 1) there are circumstances that contradict the goals and obligations set out in article 2;
  - 2) certain documents provided for in the regulations for implementation of the Law are missing;

- 3) the deal for which a permit is requested does not correspond to the issued license;
  - 4) the applicant has provided incomplete data.
12. The Interdepartmental Commission shall revoke the granted permit upon proposal made by each of the members of the Commission, when:
- 1) circumstances arise which contradict the goals and obligations set out in article 2;
  - 2) the activity which is performed does not correspond to the issued permit or license;
  - 3) the applicant has not fulfilled the obligation provided for by this Law, which non-fulfillment has been established by means of an act of an authorized state body;
  - 4) the applicant has submitted incorrect data.
13. The refusal for issuance of a permit or revocation of a permit may be appealed to the Supreme Administrative Court except in the cases when the national security interests are concerned.
14. The appeal under Para 13 shall not stop the fulfillment of the administrative act.

Article 11 and Article 12 shall be revoked

Article 13

1. A permit upon export of possible dual-use goods and technologies, not included in the list under Article 1, Para 3 shall be required when the exporter has been informed in writing by the bodies under Article 5, Para 2, that:
  - 1) the dual-use goods and technologies are or may be intended, in their entirety or in part, for the development, production, use, maintenance, storage, detection, identification or spreading of chemical, biological or nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices or for the development, production, maintenance or storage of missiles-carriers of such weapons the regime for which is, covered by the international agreements for prohibition or non-proliferation of such weapons;
  - 2) dual-use goods and technologies are intended for the countries and organizations included in the list under Article 4, Para 2;
  - 3) the possible dual-use goods and technologies are intended for military end-use.
2. If the exporter is aware that the possible dual-use goods and technologies, not included in the list under Article 1, Para 3, which it intends to export are intended in their entirety or in part for some of the goals set out in Article 1, points 1, 2, and 3, it shall be obliged to inform the bodies under Article 5, Para 2.

## CHAPTER THREE A

### *REGIME OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORTATION OF WEAPONS, OF THE TRANSIT TRANSPORTATION OF WEAPONS AND OF POSSIBLE DUAL-USE GOODS*

Article 13 a

The transportation of weapons by carters registered under the Commercial Code from and to the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria as well as from and to the territory of third states shall be carried out on the grounds of a license issued by the Interdepartmental Council under the terms and order set out in the regulations for implementation of the Law.

## Article 13 b

1. Transit transportation of weapons through the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria shall be carried out on the grounds of a permit for transit transportation issued by the Interdepartmental Commission. The permit shall be issued for each individual case under the terms and order set out in the regulations for implementation of the Law.
2. Transit transportation of radio active, explosive, flammable, oxidizing, corrosive, bacteriological (biological), toxic and pathogen possible dual-use goods shall be carried out on the grounds of a transit transport permit issued by the Interdepartmental Commission, in which the customs terminals, the route and the period for passing shall be determined. The permit shall be issued for each individual case under the terms and order set out in the regulation for implementation of the Law.

**CHAPTER FOUR***Obligations of the Parties to Foreign Trade Activity*

## Article 14

The persons engaged in foreign trade activity and/or intermediary activity in arms and in goods and technologies subject to control as stipulated in the present Law, are under the obligation to:

- 1) keep a separate register of the transactions effected as per the present Law, and retain transaction and transportation documents and the information related to the execution of the foreign trade deal for a period of not less than ten years;
- 2) observe the terms and conditions under which this activity has been licensed, and immediately notify in writing the control bodies of any change thereof;
- 3) indicate the name, position and address of the representatives of the party to the transaction and of the end-user, in charge of the performance of the obligations to the transaction, and immediately notify of any replacement or change thereof;
- 4) inform the respective government bodies should a probability become apparent that the goods and technologies subject of foreign trade activity may be used in the way envisaged in Art 13.

## Article 15

1. Importers and exporters of weapons shall be obliged to incorporate a provision in the foreign trade contract obliging the buyer that the purchased weapons shall not be transferred to third natural persons or legal entities without the express consent of the Interdepartmental Commission.
2. For certification of the end-use or the end user the exporters of weapons and/or possible dual-use goods and technologies shall present to the Interdepartmental Commission a certificate for end-use/end-user and/or international import certificate issued by the authorized bodies of the end user's country.
3. Upon request by the country of the exporter the Bulgarian authorized bodies shall issue certificate for end-use/end-user and/or international import certificate. The order for the issuance of an end-use/end-user certificate and/or international import certificate shall be determined under the regulations for implementation of the Law.

## Article 16

The license and permit obtained under the present Law may be used solely by the grantee thereof. The transference of the license and permit or of rights thereof to a third party shall invalidate the said license and permit whereas the transferor shall thereby forfeit any rights arising from them.

**CHAPTER FIVE***Control on the Observance of the Foreign Trade Activity in Arms and in Dual-Use Goods and Technologies Regime*

## Article 17

1. The control on the fulfillment of this Law shall be enforced by the bodies under article 5, Para 2, by the authorized bodies of the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Economy and the Customs Agency or by officials authorized by them.
2. The control includes inspections before and after the issuance of the license or the permit for foreign trade activity under this Law.
3. In the performance of control the control bodies under Para 1 may:
  - 1) request by the persons performing foreign trade and/or intermediary activity in arms and/or in possible dual-use goods and technologies the information necessary for the enforcement of control;
  - 2) require the opinions of other state bodies if necessary;
  - 3) visit the areas under customs control on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria under the terms and order of the existing legislation.
  - 4) address requests to the authorized bodies of other countries for the provision of information necessary for the performance of control.
4. The control bodies shall be obliged to keep in confidence any official, production or commercial secrets of the persons undergoing inspection.
5. In the presence of information about a committed crime the bodies under Para 1 shall refer the matter to the prosecution authorities.
6. Representatives of a foreign state may participate in the enforcement of control in accordance with the international obligations of the Republic of Bulgaria assumed under international agreements or by virtue of participation in international organizations.
7. The Interdepartmental Council and the Interdepartmental Commission may require from the exporter the inclusion of a contractual provision allowing physical inspection by them or by officials authorized by them of the delivery under the foreign trade deal.
8. In relation to the goals under Article 2 the bodies under Article 5, Para 2 may require additional information regarding the foreign trade deal.

## Article 18

1. The bodies under Article 5, Para 2 shall present to the Council of Ministers an annual report on the fulfillment of the Law.
2. The Council of Ministers shall present the report under Para 1 to the National Assembly.

**CHAPTER SIX***Administrative-Penal Provisions and Property Sanctions*

## Article 19

The persons engaged in foreign trade activity in arms and/or possible dual-use goods and technologies who shall not fulfill their obligations under this Law shall be subject to:

- 1) natural persons, as well as commercial companies officials – a penalty between BGN 5,000 and BGN 50,000, if the committed does not represent a crime;
- 2) to the persons registered under the Commercial Code – property sanctions at the double amount of the foreign trade deal.



## Article 20

The persons engaged in intermediary activity related to foreign trade deals in arms and/or possible dual-use goods and technologies who do not fulfill their obligations under this Law shall be penalized with a fine amounting between BGN 5,000 and BGN 50,000, respectively a property sanction at the triple amount of the fine.

Article 21 shall be revoked.

## Article 22

1. The protocol on the establishment of violations is prepared by officials of the organs of control to Art 17, Para 1.
2. Penal decrees shall be issued by the Head of the respective body under Para 1 or by an official authorized by him.
3. The drawing up of the protocol on the establishment of administrative violations, the imposition of administrative penalties, the appeal against and the enactment of the penal decrees shall take place as prescribed by the Law on Administrative Violations and Penalties.

## Additional Provisions

§1. In exceptional events, should the state's national security or the performance of international obligations assumed by the state be jeopardized, or should the state's foreign political interests be infringed, the Council of Ministers may ban the carrying out of import, export, re-export or transit transportation of arms and dual-use goods and technologies, regardless of the issued license and permit.

§1 a. In accordance with this Law:

- 1) "Foreign trade activity in arms and/or possible dual-use goods" is the aggregate of all activities for the preparation and/or performance of a foreign trade deal with goods and/or services, including the granting of customs directions, participation in an international bid, when one of the parties under the transaction despite of its type is a foreign natural person or legal entity registered with the right to perform this type of activity under its national legislation.
- 2) "Intermediary activity related to foreign trade deals in arms and/or possible dual-use goods and technologies" represents part of a foreign trade activity and includes activities related to the preparation and/or performance of the foreign trade deal including forwarding services, transport services, consulting services, financing, when the person performing these activities is not the actual exporter, importer or re-exporter and when in some way these activities are related to the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria or with the use of telecommunication facilities for connection and/or postal services of the Republic of Bulgaria.
- 3) "Technology" represents technical information necessary for the development, production or use of the goods. This information may be in the form of technical data or technical assistance:
  - a) the technical assistance may be in the form of commands, skills, training, working training and consulting services and may include the transfer of technical data;
  - b) the technical data may be in the form of projects, drawings, diagrams, models, formulas, tables, engineering drawings and specifications, written or stored on an other carrier, commands.
- 4) "The export" includes also the transfer of program products (software) and technologies via electronic devices, fax or telephone to a recipient outside the borders of the Republic of Bulgaria. This shall be applicable in respect of verbal transfer of technologies via technical device only in the cases when the technological data is contained in a document the respective part of which is read verbally or is described in such a manner that significantly the same result is achieved.
- 5) "Military end use" means:
  - a) introduction of military items included in the list under Article 1, Para 3;
  - b) use of equipment for production, testing and analysis and its components for the development, production or maintenance of military items included in the list under Article 1, Para 3;

- c) the use of incomplete products in a plant for the production of military items included in the list under Article 1, Para. 3.
- 6) "International regimes for export control" are organizations without determined international legal status whose agreements are not mandatory, and are fulfilled by the countries voluntarily such as the Wassenaar Agreement, the Group of Nuclear Suppliers, the Australian Group, the Control Regime on Missiles Technologies, Zanger Committee, etc.
- 7) A commercial entity shall be considered reliable for the performance of foreign trade activities in arms, if:
  - a) it has established the necessary organization for storage of weapons in accordance with the requirements of the existing legislation;
  - b) it has established the necessary organization for perseverance of the state confidentiality in accordance with the requirements of the existing legislation;
  - c) it has coordinated with the security bodies a list of the natural persons who are directly participating in the foreign trade activity in arms;
  - d) a general manager, members of a management and control body of the commercial company or natural person (persons) under item (c) are not convicted with a general nature crime verdict entered into force;
  - e) there is no data that a general manager or members of a management or control body of the commercial company or a natural person (persons) who directly participate in the foreign trade activity in arms represent a threat to the national security, the economic or foreign policy interests of the Republic of Bulgaria, the strengthening of international peace and security and the fulfillment of the international obligations of the Republic of Bulgaria.

The circumstances shall be examined with a document from the respective authorized body.

- 8) A commercial company shall be considered economically stable for the performance of a foreign trade activity in arms, if:
  - a) it has not been declared in bankruptcy or there are no proceedings for declaring bankruptcy;
  - b) no termination of the activity and announcement of liquidation have been registered;
  - c) there are no liquid and demandable public liabilities, liabilities to the securities funds as well as to natural persons or legal entities, where the obligation has been recognized to the enforced fulfillment body or where it is established by means of a court decision which has entered into force, by means of a notary certified document or a security promissory note.
- 9) The persons under Article 9, Para 1 registered under the Commercial Code are reliable and economically stable when they meet the requirements of item 7, points (c), (d), and (e) and item 8. The circumstances shall be examined with a document from the respective authorized body.

#### Transitional and Concluding Provisions

§ 23. In the Law on Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and Control of the Toxic Chemical Substances and their precursors (SG, issue 8/2000) the following amendments shall be made:

1. In Article 9 Para 1 shall be amended as follows:
 

"(1) The licenses under Article 6, 7, 8 and 10 shall be issued by the Interdepartmental Council on the Military Industry Complex and the Mobilization Preparedness of the Country at the Council of Ministers for a determined period of time, determined quantities and under the terms and order set out in an ordinance passed by the Council of Ministers. The licenses shall be issued to persons registered under the Commercial Code and may not be assigned."
2. In Article 11:
  - a) in Para 1 the words "The State Commission on Control of Toxic Chemical Substances and Their Precursors at the Council of Ministers" shall be replaced with "Interdepartmental Commission for Export Control and Non-proliferation of Mass Destruction Weapons with the Minister of Economy, under Article 5, Para 2 of the Law on Control of the Foreign Trade Activity in arms and Possible Dual-Use Goods and Technologies"]

- b) Para 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 shall be revoked.
- 3. Article 12, item 8 shall be revoked.
- 4. Article 18 shall be revoked.
- 5. Everywhere in the Law the words “State/the State Commission” shall be replaced with “Interdepartmental/The Interdepartmental Commission”.

§ 24. The Law shall enter into force one month following its promulgation in the State Gazette. The fulfillment of the Law shall be assigned to the Council of Ministers, which shall pass regulations for its implementation within one month following the entering into force of this Law.

This Law was passed by the XXXIX National Assembly this 18th day of July, in the year 2002 and the official Seal of the National Assembly was affixed thereto.

Chairman of the National Assembly:  
Ognyan Gerdzhirov

Unofficial translation