

NATIONAL RESERVE FORCES STATUS

COUNTRY: GREECE

GENERAL INFO

Origin

The reserve forces consist of:

- The career Reserve (retired) Officers.
- All Reserve Officers up to the age limit for their rank.
- The medical Officers and orderlies per the age limit of their specialty.
- All soldiers after their discharge from the Armed Forces and up to the age of 45 years.
- All those lawfully exempted from the military service of ages between 41 and 50 years.

The manning of the active Greek Armed Forces is based mainly on the system of compulsory service for all man, when they come of age 18. The same system applies also to the Reserve Forces. Each man who has completed his national service is registered, according to the in-force legislation and the existing staff planning, in the Reserve Forces and is obliged to report at the pre-assigned unit or regiment for training or service reasons.

Reserves Vs Active Duty

CATEGORY	PERCENTAGE
ACTIVE DUTY	25-30 %
RESERVE FORCES	70-75 %

Male & Female Reserves

Reserve Forces	Male	100%
	Female	0%
	Total	100%

Female reservists are not included in the mobilization plans (not even ex-regular)

BASIC ORGANIZATION PRINCIPLES

The competent authorities for the elaboration-planning-organization and conduct of mobilization of the reserve forces are the respective directorates of mobilization of each branch of the armed forces. A joint authority that will monitor the total of the armed forces under the control of the National Defense General Staff (NDGS), is now under construction.

- Organization Principles

- Simplicity in the planning and detailed preparation
- Symmetrical utilization of the total of country's sources
- Disposal in priority of the local reserves for the composition of the Units
- The movement of reserve forces and means from south to north and from west to east

- The constitution of mobilized units near in the areas of their tactical utilisation, in order to facilitate their strategic concentration
- The existence of complete flexibility, in order to result the secret or open mobilisation of units where the operational plans demand
- The conduct of mobilisation with speed, normality and safety

- Functional Specialists

No functional specialists (reservists) are utilized in the armed forces.

MAIN LEGISLATION

- Main References

The current **legal framework** on mobilization matters is included in the following:

- Constitution of Greece (Articles 18 & 48)
- Law “On conscription of Greeks”
- Compulsory Law “On Reserve Officers staffing of the Army”
- Law “On Armed Forces Officers’ Status”
- Law “On Organization and Function of the Ministry of National Defense”
- Law “On Hierarchy and Promotions”
- Laws “On requisitions and industrial mobilization”
- Administrative guidelines on Mobilization
- Fixed Directives
 - “On Refresher Training of Reserves”
 - “On updating Officers-NCO’s on Mobilization issues”
 - “On Completion Missions Material of the self-mobilizing units”.
 - “On attention of the sanitary relevant material of the Mobilizing Units”
- Other Directives
 - “On Mobilization Issues”
 - “On Mobilization of Eastern Aegean Islands and Dodecanese”.

- Mobilization

The mobilization of the armed forces is declared after proposal of the MOD and decision of the Governmental Ministerial Cabinet of Foreign & Defense Affairs (KYSEA). It is also possible to be implemented with incessive declaration of the measures of the national Alert System.

Types of mobilization :

- Partial mobilization
- General mobilization
- Secret mobilization
- Open mobilization
- Local mobilization

FUNCTION OF RESERVES

According to the current legislation, all the missions at unit or individual level, and therefore the participation of Greece in all NATO/UN-led operations, are assigned to and accomplished by the active armed forces.

CATEGORIZATION/READINESS

The reservists are divided in the following categories:

- Career Reserve Officers and NCO’s (retired)

- Reserve Officers, professional soldiers and conscripts after their discharge from the Armed Forces up to a certain limit of age according to the category they belong. National Guard, consisting of National Guard Battalions is thoroughly mobilized.

With regard to the readiness level, mobilized units are divided in “A”, “B” and “C” Readiness Units.

FUNDING

- The expenses for those reservists called for retraining at least once every three years are covered by the MOD
- Since reservists are not utilized in (NATO or other) missions, neither national nor international, with the exception of their periodical training, reservists-employees of all categories (professionals, civil servants, etc) are protected by the current legislation in order to attend only their refresher training.

TRAINING

- The Reserve Forces’ personnel is comprised, mainly, of reservists who in their majority have completed recently their regular service and consequently they have retained their knowledge and capabilities attained in the handling of various armament systems and means. Besides all these facts, it is foreseen and being conducted a periodical recruitment of reservists in order to participate in several manouevres. The frequency of the refresher training is once every one up to three years. The criteria on which the selection is being based on, depends on the level of readiness that the mobilized unit, in which the reservist is assigned, has been characterized with.
- The assignments given to the reserves vary according to the category, rank and specialty of each reservist.

INTERNET

- www.mod.gr