

Riga, 8 April 2021 (Minutes No. 32, Paragraph 2)

Amendments to Cabinet Regulation No. 108 'Procedures, by which Foreign Warships shall Enter and Stay in the Territorial Sea, Inland Waters and Ports of the Republic of Latvia and Leave Them' of 23 February 2016

*Issued pursuant to
Section 11, Paragraph 3 of the Law on the State Border of the Republic of Latvia*

The following amendments are hereby introduced in Cabinet Regulation No. 108 'Procedures, by which Foreign Warships shall Enter and Stay in the Territorial Sea, Inland Waters and Ports of the Republic of Latvia and Leave Them' of 23 February 2016 (*Latvijas Vēstnesis*, 2016, No. 39):

1. Expand Section 3 with a second sentence, worded as follows:

'The warships of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation ('NATO') and European Union Member States ('EU Member States') do not require a permission of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to enter the territorial sea, inland waters and ports of the Republic of Latvia.'

2. Rename Chapter II as follows:

'II. Entering and Leaving of Foreign Warships, Except for NATO and EU Member State Warships'

3. Express Sections 7, 8, 9 and 10 as follows:

'7. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall submit to the Ministry of Defence the entry permit requests submitted in the manner prescribed in this Regulation.

8. Within the scope of its competence, the Ministry of Defence shall assess the entry permit request and provides its conclusions regarding the matter no later than seven business days prior to the scheduled trip of the foreign warship or, in the situation described in Section 6 of this Regulation, no later than two days prior to the trip of the foreign warship to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs decides on granting or refusing the entry permit.

9. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs uses diplomatic channels to inform the party that requested the entry permit, and the National Armed Forces.

10. If the crew or passengers of the foreign warship plan to leave or board the foreign warship, the National Armed Forces shall inform the State Border Guard of the time of the expected arrival of the foreign warship at the port and its departure from the port, as well as the pier, at which the warship is to be moored, or from which the warship is to depart, arranging the time and location of the border inspection.'

4. Add the words 'if necessary' after 'co-ordinated place' in Section 15.

5. Strike out Sections 21 and 22.

6. Rename Chapter IV as follows:

'IV. Entering and Leaving of NATO and EU Member State Warships'

27. No less than 48 hours prior to the trip of the vessel, the commander of the NATO or EU Member State warship or group of warships, or their authorised representative shall submit to the National Armed Forces information about the entering of NATO and EU Member State warships into the territorial sea, inland waters and ports of the Republic of Latvia and leaving of these, as well as the necessary support by the receiving state, as specified in the annex to this Regulation, in digital format.

28. If urgent action is required, the time for submitting the information specified in Section 27 may be reduced to the time agreed on by the NATO or EU Member State warship or group of warships, or their authorised representative and the National Armed Forces.

29. The National Armed Forces shall inform the State Border Guard about the entering of the NATO or EU Member State warship into a port of the Republic of Latvia or its leaving that port.

29.¹ If the NATO or EU Member State warship has passenger or other individuals on board who are not NATO or EU Member State military personnel, and these individuals intend to disembark from the warship in a port of the Republic of Latvia, the commander of that warship shall prepare a list of such individuals and submit the list to the liaison officer of the National Armed Forces. The officer then hands the list over to the competent representative of the State Border Guard. The list of individuals who are not NATO or EU Member State military personnel shall state the name, surname, birth details, travel document type and number, nationality of these individuals, as well as information about the number and expiry date of the document confirming the right to stay in the country (e.g. a visa), provided that applicable laws and regulations require such a document.

29.² If NATO or EU Member State warship personnel intend to disembark from the warship in a port of the Republic of Latvia, the commander of that NATO or EU Member State warship shall prepare a list of such personnel and submit the list to the liaison officer of the National Armed Forces. The officer then hands the list over to the competent representative of the State Border Guard. The list of personnel must include the name, surname and rank of the individuals in question.

29.³ If the commander of the NATO or EU Member State does not submit the list specified in Section 29.², the liaison officer of the National Armed Forces shall inform the competent representative of the State Border Guard of the time and location where the NATO or EU Member State warship personnel intend to disembark from the warship in a port of the Republic of Latvia.

7. Expand the Regulation with the annex: