

Act of 20 March 1998 relating to the Norwegian Intelligence Service

Section 1. *Purpose of the Act*

The purpose of this Act is to

- a. establish conditions so that the Norwegian Intelligence Service can contribute effectively to monitoring and counteracting external threats to the independence and security of the realm and other important national interests, and
- b. safeguard confidence in and secure the basis for control of the activities of the Intelligence Service.

Section 2. *The organization of the Norwegian Intelligence Service*

The Norwegian Intelligence Service is an integral part of the organization and operations of the Norwegian Defence Establishment.

The Chief of Defence is responsible for the Norwegian Intelligence Service. The Head of the Norwegian Intelligence Service reports directly to the Chief of Defence and advises on intelligence matters.

The King will issue further provisions concerning the organization of the Service.

Section 3. *The tasks of the Norwegian Intelligence Service*

The Norwegian Intelligence Service shall procure, process and analyse information regarding Norwegian interests viewed in relation to foreign states, organizations or private individuals, and in this context prepares threat analyses and intelligence assessments to the extent that this may help to safeguard important national interests, including

- a. design of Norwegian foreign, defence and security policy,
- b. contingency planning and correct handling of episodes and crises,
- c. long-term planning and structural development of the Norwegian Defence Establishment,
- d. efficiency of the operational departments of the Norwegian Defence Establishment,
- e. support for defence alliances in which Norway participates,
- f. Norwegian forces that participate in international operations,
- g. procurement of information concerning international terrorism,
- h. procurement of information concerning supranational environmental problems,
- i. procurement of information concerning different forms of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and equipment and materials for production of such weapons, and
- j. the basis for Norwegian participation in and follow-up of international agreements on disarmament and arms control measures.

The Norwegian Intelligence Service may establish and maintain intelligence cooperation with other countries.

The Norwegian Intelligence Service shall safeguard the national capacity to procure and communicate information and intelligence to the Norwegian authorities from a wholly or partly occupied Norway.

The King will issue further instructions concerning the tasks and operations of the service.

Section 4. *Relations with Norwegian physical and legal persons*

The Norwegian Intelligence Service shall not on Norwegian territory monitor or in any other covert manner procure information concerning Norwegian physical or legal persons.

The Norwegian Intelligence Service may only hold information concerning Norwegian physical or legal persons when such information is directly associated with the duties of the Norwegian Intelligence Service pursuant to section 3 or is directly associated with such persons' work or assignments for the Norwegian Intelligence Service.

Section 5. *The archives of the Norwegian Intelligence Service*

Information procured or prepared by the Norwegian Intelligence Service shall be systematically arranged in archives, which shall be satisfactorily secured and inaccessible to persons other than the service's own officials with official need for access and persons responsible for supervising the service's operations.

The Chief of Defence will issue further provisions concerning the archive arrangement of the Intelligence Service.

Section 6. *Control*

The Norwegian Intelligence Service is subject to the control and supervision of the Storting's Committee for the Monitoring of Intelligence, Surveillance and Security Services in accordance with the provisions laid down in and pursuant to Act No. 7 of 3 February 1995 relating to the monitoring of intelligence, surveillance and security services.

The King may establish special arrangements to control and supervise the Norwegian Intelligence Service for the purpose of ensuring that operations are kept within the framework of current legislation, administrative or military directives and non-statutory law and to ensure the safeguarding of rule of law considerations and other considerations.

Section 7. *Entry into force*

This Act shall enter into force from the date decided by the King.