



# Finnish Reserve Officers' Federation

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# Tasks of the Finnish Defence Forces

## 1) Military Defence of Finland

- Surveillance of the country's land area, territorial waters and airspace as well as safeguarding territorial integrity
- Safeguarding the living prospects of the people, fundamental rights and the freedom of action of state leaders and defending law and order
- Providing military training and guiding voluntary defence training as well as promoting defence motivation.

## 2) Supporting other authorities

- Giving executive assistance in order to maintain law and order, preventing and stopping terrorism and safeguarding society
- Participating in rescue operations by making available equipment, personnel and expertise needed in a rescue operation
- Participating in giving aid to another country in connection with a terrorist attack, natural disaster, catastrophe or other similar event.

## 3) Participating in international crisis management



# Organization of the Finnish Defence Forces

- Under the command of the Chief of Defence.
- Comprise the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, and the Defence Command and establishments subordinate to it as well as the National Defence University.
- Employ about 15 000 people. Soldiers number about 8 700 and civilians about 6 300.
- Train about 25 000 conscripts annually. A maximum of 1 000 people at a time serve in crisis management operations (currently about 400).
- The maximum wartime strength is about 350 000 people. The strength of the Army is 240 000, the Air Force 38 000 and the Navy 28 000.
- In addition, the Border Guard trains and organizes Border units to serve in the Defence Forces during wartime.



# Why conscription in Finland?

- Large area of the country.
- The whole country need to be defended.
- An economical way to arrange the military defence.
- The only way to create reserves large enough to defend the whole country.
- Equal for all male citizens.
- A long tradition, 80% of the male population do their service.
- An essential fundament for the willingness to defend Finland.





# Conscription in Finland

Constitution of Finland (731/1999)

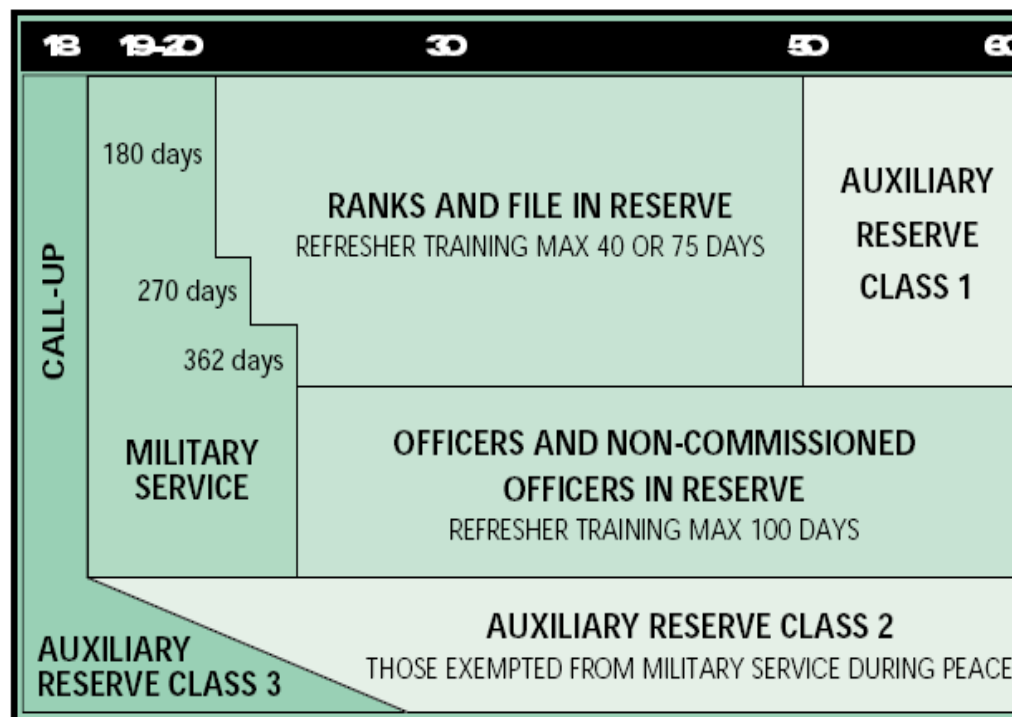
•"Every Finnish Citizen is obligated to participate or assist in national defence, as provided by an Act."

Conscription Act (1438/2007)

•"Every male Finnish citizen is liable for military service starting from the beginning of the year in which he turns 18 years old until the end of the year in which he turns 60."

Voluntary military service for women.

The call-up age group is about 34 000 persons.





# Finnish Reserve Officer

Strong tradition helps to overcome the demanding training required.

Conscripted service of a reserve officer takes 347 days.

In Finnish society, reserve officer training predicts individual's walk of life with a very high correlation.

Reserve officers are twice the citizens:

- Leaders and experts in working life.
- Strong commitment to do their duty also for defence.
- “The privileged are expected to devote most”.

In war time forces, about 80% of the officers are reserve officers.

Military ranks of reserve officers (army) vary from second lieutenant to major.





# Federation of Finnish Reserve Officers

Finnish Reserve Officers' Federation (FROF) is a voluntary defence organization for developing the readiness of the reserve officers

The Federation supports the security of Finland and all its citizens.

Established in 1931.

Consists of

- 20 reserve officer districts

- 320 members association called reserve officer clubs.

The total number of individual members 27 500.

1/3 of the members are under 35 years of age.



# Tasks of FROF

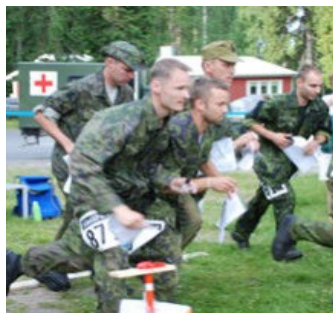
- Maintain and develop the military skills, readiness and leadership abilities of reserve officers.
- Maintain and develop the physical fitness and combat readiness of reserve officers.
- Maintain and promote citizens defence will and knowledge of defence issues.
- Strengthen the position of reserve officers as a valuable resource for the national defence.
- Provide expertise in questions relating to of reserve officers' training, voluntary defence work and their development.
- Act as a link between the reserve officers and the reserve officers' associations.
- Participate in the international activities of the reserve officers.
- Develop reserve officers' activities.
- Maintain officer traditions and the legacy of the Finnish war veterans.





# International partners of FROF

FROF has close contacts with national Reserve Officer Associations of  
-the Nordic Countries (SVEROF, NROF, HPRD) and  
-Estonia (EROK) and  
Interallied Confederation of Reserve Officers (CIOR).





# Reserve Officers are active all over Finland

- Shooting training and competitions
- Military sports training and competitions
- Field exercises
- Meetings, presentations, excursions
- Maintaining of traditions
- Honour guards, parades
- Defence Forces Day (4<sup>th</sup> June) festivities
- Independence Day (6<sup>th</sup> December) festivities
- War veteran support.



The member associations arrange a wide variety of sporting events. They include

- Shooting
- Skiing
- Cross-country orienteering
- All terrain marches
- Field exercises.

National competitions are arranged by the Reservists Sports Association.

International competitions are managed by FROF.





# FROF annual finance

Income	Subscription fees	290 000 €	
	Income on investment	80 000 €	
	State subsidy	35 000 €	
	Other	95 000 €	500 000 €
Costs			- 500 000 €



## What does FROF offer for a reserve officer?

Membership fee is between 25 – 50€ per year.

-15 € for officers under 28 years.

Membership fee entitles for the following benefits:

-activities and services of the member's own club

-national Reserviläinen-magazine (8 issues per year)

-district bulletin (usually 4-10 issues per year)

-www.rul.fi service

-membership discounts in the MPY store (military equipment and clothing)

-insurance benefits

-fuel credit card benefit.



*And, what is probably the most important membership benefit, is the sense of belonging to the chain of the Finnish Reserve Officers!*