

# Translation of

Law No. 394 of 1954 Concerning  
Weapons and Ammunition

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ترجمة القانون رقم ٣٩٤ لسنة ١٩٥٤  
بشأن الأسلحة والذخائر

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7 October 2026

## Law No. 394 of 1954, Concerning Weapons and Ammunition

In the name of the people: President of the republic

The House of Representatives has enacted the following law, which we hereby promulgate:

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### Preamble

The Constitutional Declaration issued on 10 February 1953 by the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces and Leader of the Army Revolution;

The Constitutional Declaration issued on 18 June 1953;

The High Order issued on 27 April 1905 implementing the schedule of weapons, tools, and ammunition permitted to be imported into Egypt, and the relevant Police Regulations governing trade therein;

Law No. 58 of 1949 concerning weapons and ammunition, as amended by Law No. 475 of 1953;

The opinion of the State Council;

And based on the proposal of the Minister of Interior and the approval of the Council of Ministers;

**The following Law has been enacted:**

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Chapter One

Possession, Carrying, and Acquisition of Weapons and Ammunition

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Article (1):

It shall be prohibited, without a licence from the Minister of Interior or his delegate, to possess or acquire firearms listed in Schedule No. (2) and in Section One of Schedule No. (3), as well as the edged weapons listed in Schedule No. (1) attached hereto.

Under no circumstances may a licence be granted for the weapons listed in Section Two of Schedule No. (3), sound suppressors or reducers, or telescopic sights mounted on firearms.

The Minister of Interior may, by decision, amend the schedules attached to this Law by addition or deletion, except for the weapons listed in Section Two of Schedule No. (3), which may only be amended by addition.

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Article 1 (bis):

The possession or acquisition of air pistols, air rifles, and gas-powered pistols and rifles, as well as their ammunition, listed in Schedule No. (5) attached hereto, shall be permitted in accordance with the conditions and procedures issued by a decision of the Minister of Interior.

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Article (2):

The licence shall be valid from the date of issuance and shall expire at the end of December of the third year, including the year of issuance.

The renewal of the licence shall be for a period of three years.

Licences granted to tourists shall have a validity period not exceeding six months.

In all cases, the validity period of the licence shall not be affected by the addition of new weapons thereto.

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**Article (3):**

The licence is personal in nature. Therefore, the weapon subject to the licence may not be delivered to another person unless such person obtains a licence in accordance with Article (1).

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**Article (4):**

The Minister of Interior or his delegate may refuse to grant a licence, shorten its validity period, restrict it to certain types of weapons, or impose any condition deemed appropriate.

He may temporarily suspend the licence or cancel it. The decision of the Minister refusing the issuance of the licence, suspending it, or cancelling it shall state the reasons thereof.

In the event of suspension or cancellation, the licence holder shall immediately surrender the weapon to the police station within whose jurisdiction his place of residence falls.

Any person whose licence has been cancelled or suspended may dispose of the weapon or transfer ownership thereof to the Ministry of Interior without consideration or compensation.

A monthly fee shall be collected for the safekeeping and deposit of a weapon whose licence has been suspended or cancelled, provided that such fee shall not exceed five hundred Egyptian pounds. The fee shall become due sixty days after the date of surrendering the weapon.

The fee shall be doubled after ninety days from the date it became due if the weapon has not been disposed of, and the fee may be collected through administrative seizure if two months remain unpaid.

The Minister of Interior shall issue a decision determining the categories of applicable fees. Any person who relinquishes the weapon to the Ministry of Interior shall be exempted from payment thereof.

The Ministry of Interior shall collect such fee in cash or through one of the non-cash payment methods, provided that ten percent (10%) of the collected amount shall be transferred to the State Treasury, and the remaining proceeds shall accrue to the Ministry of Interior.

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**Article (5):**

The following persons shall be exempt from obtaining the licence stipulated in the first paragraph of Article (1):

- Current and former ministers.
- Appointed government employees holding positions by Presidential Decree or Decree, employees in the first grade, as well as serving officers.
- Former civilian and military government employees holding the rank of Director General or higher, or the rank of Major General or above.
- Current and former regional directors and governors.
- Egyptian and foreign members of the diplomatic and consular corps, provided that reciprocal treatment is applied.
- Current and former intelligence officers holding the rank of Director General or above who occupy or occupied intelligence positions pursuant to Law No. (100) of 1971 concerning the General Intelligence Service.
- Current and former members of the People's Assembly and the Shura Council.
- Students of schools, institutes, and universities within locations determined by a decision of the Minister of Education in agreement with the Minister of Local Administration for the purpose of firearms training.
- Persons whom the Minister of Interior considers eligible for exemption among foreigners and participants in international shooting competitions.

All such persons shall, within one month from the date of acquiring the weapons, submit a statement indicating their number and descriptions to the police station within whose jurisdiction their place of residence falls.

A certificate shall be delivered to each person who submits such statement.

They shall also notify the authorities of any change occurring to such information within one month from the date of such change.



The Minister of Interior or his delegate may withdraw the exemption, and the provisions concerning cancellation stipulated in Article (4) shall apply to such withdrawal.

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#### **Article (6):**

The possession or acquisition of ammunition used for weapons shall only be permitted to persons who are licensed to possess and acquire such weapons, provided that such ammunition relates to the weapons licensed under the provisions of this Law.

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#### **Article (7):**

A licence for the possession or acquisition of a weapon as provided for under Article (1) of this Law may not be granted to:

- Any person under twenty-one (21) calendar years of age.
- Any person who has been sentenced to a criminal penalty (felony punishment), as well as any person who has been sentenced to imprisonment for a period of at least one year for any offence involving assault against persons, property, or honour, and any person who has been sentenced more than once to imprisonment, even for a period of less than one year, for any of such offences.
- Any person who has been sentenced to a custodial penalty for an offence involving explosives, trafficking in narcotics, theft, attempted theft, or concealment of stolen property.
- Any person who has been convicted of an offence stipulated in Chapters One and Two of Book Two of the Penal Code.
- Any person who has been convicted of an offence in which a weapon was used, or where the offender was carrying a weapon during its commission, provided that carrying such weapon constitutes an aggravating circumstance for such offence.
- Vagrants, persons under suspicion, and persons placed under police supervision.
- Any person proven to be suffering from a mental or psychological illness.



- Any person who does not possess the required physical fitness to carry a weapon. The requirements for physical fitness and the means of proving such fitness shall be determined by a decision of the Minister of Interior.
- Any person who does not possess sufficient knowledge of the necessary safety precautions for handling weapons. The Minister of Interior shall determine, by decision, the requirements relating to such safety precautions.

In all cases, any licence already granted shall be cancelled if any of the circumstances referred to in paragraphs (b) to (h) of this Article arise in respect of the licence holder.

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#### Article (8):

The provisions of this Law relating to the carrying, possession, and acquisition of weapons shall not apply to weapons delivered to public employees authorised to carry them for the purposes of performing their assigned duties, in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations.

These provisions shall also not apply to village mayors (Omda) and village and hamlet chiefs (Mashayekh Al-Balad and Al-Ezab) in respect of one weapon only from among the weapons permitted to be licensed, provided that notification thereof is submitted to the relevant police station or department in accordance with the last paragraph of Article (5).

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#### Article (9):

No person may be granted a licence to possess or acquire more than two (2) weapons among those listed in Schedule No. (2), and two (2) weapons among those listed in Section One of Schedule No. (3).

This restriction shall also apply to categories of persons exempt from licensing pursuant to Article (5).

The Minister of Interior may, in cases of necessity, authorize by decision the possession of weapons exceeding the limit prescribed in the preceding paragraph.

Any person possessing weapons exceeding the permitted limit shall submit an application within one month from the date this Law enters into force to the Minister of Interior requesting licensing for each excess weapon.



If the licence is refused for all or some of the excess weapons, such person shall surrender them to the relevant police station within one week from the date of being notified of the refusal by registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt.

Such person shall retain the right to dispose of such weapons in accordance with the provisions of Article (4).

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#### Article 9 (bis):

A person may not obtain more than one licence covering all weapons authorised for him to carry.

Furthermore, a person may not combine an exemption certificate with a licence.

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#### Article (10):

The licence shall be deemed cancelled in the following cases:

- Loss of the weapon.
- Delivery of the weapon to another person.
- Failure to submit an application for renewal within the prescribed period.
- Death.

The persons concerned shall be subject to the provisions set out in the third, fourth, and fifth paragraphs of Article (4) of this Law, provided that, in the case referred to in paragraph (a), such provisions shall apply from the date on which the lost weapon is found.

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#### Article (11):

Any person possessing a weapon among those listed in Section Two of Schedule No. (3) shall surrender such weapon to the police station within whose jurisdiction his place of residence falls within one month from the date this Law enters into force.

The Ministry of Interior shall provide appropriate compensation for each of such weapons surrendered to the police, provided that the person surrendering the weapon was licensed to possess it or exempt from obtaining such licence at the time this Law entered into force.

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#### Article 11 (bis):

Weapons may not be carried in public establishments where alcoholic beverages are permitted to be served, nor in places where gambling is permitted, nor during conferences, meetings, or celebrations.

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### Law on Weapons and Ammunition

#### Chapter Two

#### Importation, Trading, Manufacturing, and Repair of Weapons and Ammunition

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#### Article (12):

No person may, without a special licence from the Minister of Interior or his delegate, import, trade in, manufacture, or repair the weapons referred to in Articles (1) and (1 bis) and their ammunition.

The licence shall specify the place where it is valid, and it may not be transferred or assigned to another person.

Without prejudice to the provisions of the preceding paragraph, no firearms referred to in the schedules attached to this Law, nor their ammunition, may be imported unless after obtaining the approval of the Ministry of Defence.

The Ministry of Defence shall determine the quantity permitted to be imported.



The Minister of Interior or his delegate may refuse to grant the licence referred to in the first paragraph.

He may also shorten its validity period, restrict it to certain types of weapons and ammunition, or impose such conditions as he deems necessary in the interest of public security.

He may withdraw or cancel the licence at any time, provided that his decision in cases of withdrawal or cancellation shall state the reasons thereof.

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### Article (13):

Permission to trade in weapons and ammunition or to repair them may not be granted in villages.

For the purposes of this Law, a village shall mean any residential unit considered a village under Law No. 106 of 1957 concerning village mayors and chiefs.

The granting of such permission referred to in the first paragraph shall be prohibited in cities and towns determined by a decision of the Minister of Interior.

The Minister of Interior shall determine, by decision, the number of licences allocated to each governorate or directorate, as well as the requirements deemed necessary to be fulfilled by the establishment.

The establishment of factories for manufacturing weapons and ammunition may not be licensed unless after obtaining the approval of the Ministries of War (Defence) and Local Administration regarding the location of such factories.

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### Article (14):

A person licensed to trade in weapons or ammunition shall maintain two registers for each of the following categories of weapons and ammunition:

One register shall record incoming quantities, and the second shall record all transactions carried out in relation thereto:

- Smooth-bore firearms.



- Rifled firearms referred to in Section One of Schedule No. (3).
  - Ammunition for smooth-bore firearms.
  - Ammunition for rifled and automatic firearms, including pistols.
  - Weapon parts.
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#### Article (15):

An applicant for a licence to manufacture weapons or ammunition, repair them, trade in them, or import them must, in addition to the conditions stipulated in Article (7) of this Law, satisfy the following conditions:

- To have good conduct and a good reputation.
  - To be literate and able to read and write, and to know European letters and numerals.
  - Not to have previously been declared bankrupt due to fraud or convicted of a narcotics offence.
  - To obtain a licence in accordance with the Law on Public, Dangerous, and Nuisance Establishments.
  - To deposit with the treasury of the Security Directorate to which he belongs, as security, an amount of one thousand Egyptian pounds in the case of trading and two hundred Egyptian pounds in the case of repair.
  - To pass a special examination, the subjects and conditions of which shall be determined by a decision of the Minister of Interior.
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#### Article (16):

The quantity of weapons listed in Section One of Schedule No. (3), as well as the ammunition required for such weapons, which a trader is permitted to possess annually, shall be determined by a decision of the Minister of Interior.

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#### Article (17):

The authorisation for the quantities permitted to be imported shall be valid for a period of six months and may be extended for an additional six months.

Every weapon or ammunition imported without a prior licence from the Ministry of Interior shall be subject to administrative confiscation.

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#### Article (18):

A licence may not be granted for establishments trading in weapons and ammunition in squares, streets, and roads designated by a decision of the Minister of Interior.

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#### Article 18 (bis):

It is prohibited to combine the business of trading in weapons and ammunition with the business of repairing weapons in the same premises.

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#### Article (19):

In addition to the conditions stipulated in Article (7), any person licensed to repair weapons must satisfy the following requirements:

- He must be of good conduct.
- He must successfully pass an examination, the subjects thereof, the conditions for passing it, and the authority responsible for conducting it shall be determined by a decision of the Minister of Interior.



- He must deposit with the treasury of the governorate or directorate an amount of twenty Egyptian pounds as security, either in cash, by means of a letter of guarantee issued by an approved bank, or by means of a guarantee issued by an insurance company.
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#### Article (20):

The number of weapons repairers (gunsmiths) who may be licensed in each governorate or directorate shall be determined by a decision of the Minister of Interior.

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#### Article (21):

A person licensed to repair weapons shall maintain two registers.

The first shall be an incoming register in which all weapons or weapon parts received for repair shall be recorded.

The second shall be an outgoing register in which all weapons delivered following repair shall be recorded, provided that the owner of the weapon shall sign such register upon receipt.

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#### Article (22):

No licence to operate a weapons or ammunition factory may be granted unless the conditions prescribed by the Minister of Interior and the Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs, or their respective delegates, have been fulfilled.

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#### Article (23):

The registers prescribed under this Law shall conform to the forms prescribed by the Ministry of Interior, shall bear consecutive serial numbers, and shall be stamped with the seal of the governorate or directorate.

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#### Article (24):

Weapons or ammunition may not be transported from one place to another without a special licence issued by the Governor or Director within whose jurisdiction the place from which the weapons or ammunition are to be transported is located.

The licence shall specify the quantity of weapons or ammunition authorised to be transported, the place from which they are to be transported, the place to which they are to be transported, the names of both the sender and the recipient, the route and time of transportation, and any other conditions deemed necessary in the interest of public security.

Weapons and ammunition transported without a licence shall be seized and administratively confiscated.

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## Law on Weapons and Ammunition

### Chapter Three

#### Penalties and General Provisions

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#### Article (25):

Repealed.

#### Article 25 (bis):

Any person who violates the provisions of Article (1 bis) of this Law shall be punished by a fine of not less than five hundred Egyptian pounds and not exceeding five thousand Egyptian pounds.

In the event of recidivism, the penalty shall be imprisonment for a period of not less than three months and a fine of not less than five thousand Egyptian pounds and not exceeding ten thousand Egyptian pounds, or either of these two penalties.



#### Article (26):

Any person who, personally or through an intermediary, possesses or acquires without a licence any weapon listed in Schedule No. (2) attached hereto shall be punished by imprisonment and a fine not exceeding five thousand Egyptian pounds.

Any person who, personally or through an intermediary, possesses or acquires without a licence any weapon listed in Section One of Schedule No. (3) attached hereto shall be punished by rigorous imprisonment and a fine not exceeding fifteen thousand Egyptian pounds.

The penalty shall be life imprisonment and a fine not exceeding twenty thousand Egyptian pounds where the offender, personally or through an intermediary, possesses or acquires any weapon listed in Section Two of Schedule No. (3).

Any person who, personally or through an intermediary, possesses or acquires ammunition used in the weapons listed in Schedules Nos. (2) and (3) shall be punished by imprisonment and a fine not exceeding five thousand Egyptian pounds.

The penalty shall be life imprisonment and a fine not exceeding twenty thousand Egyptian pounds where the offender is one of the persons referred to in paragraphs (b) to (f) of Article (7) of this Law.

Without prejudice to the provisions of Chapter Two bis of the Penal Code, any person who, personally or through an intermediary and without a licence, possesses or acquires any weapon listed in Schedules Nos. (2) and (3) of this Law, ammunition used in such weapons, or explosives, in any place of public gathering, means of public transportation, or place of worship, shall be punished by rigorous imprisonment or life imprisonment and a fine not exceeding twenty thousand Egyptian pounds.

The penalty shall be death where the possession or acquisition of such weapons, ammunition, or explosives is intended for their use in any activity prejudicial to public security or public order, or with the intention of undermining the system of government, the principles of the Constitution, the fundamental systems of the social order, national unity, or social peace.

By way of exception to the provisions of Article (17) of the Penal Code, the penalty prescribed for the offences set forth in this Article may not be reduced by more than one degree.



**Article 26 (bis):**

Any person who, without a licence, brings into the country any firearm or any of its parts listed in Schedules Nos. (2), (3), and (4) of this Law, or any ammunition, explosives, or any components thereof, shall be punished by **life imprisonment** and a fine not exceeding five hundred thousand Egyptian pounds, even if such items are intended to be introduced into another country.

Where the offence referred to in the first paragraph of this Article is committed with the intention of using the weapons, ammunition, explosives, or any components thereof in any activity prejudicial to public security or public order, or with the intention of undermining the system of government, the principles of the Constitution, the fundamental systems of the State, national unity, or social peace, or for the commission of the terrorist act stipulated in Article (2) of the Anti-Terrorism Law promulgated by Law No. 94 of 2015, the penalty shall be **death**.

For the purposes of this Article, “**bringing into the country**” means introducing into the country, by any unlawful means through Egyptian borders or ports of entry, any firearm, any of its parts, ammunition, explosives, or any components thereof.

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**Article 26 (bis) (A):**

Any person who violates the provisions of Article (11 bis) of this Law shall be punished by imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months and a fine not exceeding five thousand Egyptian pounds, or either of these two penalties.

Where the offender displays the weapon in any of the places referred to in the aforementioned Article, the penalty shall be imprisonment for a period of not less than six months and not exceeding two years, and a fine of not less than ten thousand Egyptian pounds and not exceeding thirty thousand Egyptian pounds.

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**Article 26 (bis) (B):**

Without prejudice to any more severe penalty, any person who creates, manages, or uses a website or private account on an information network displaying images or video clips of the weapons provided for under this Law, and any person who publishes or broadcasts, by any means of publicity, any of the foregoing for the purpose of inciting violence by displaying or threatening the use of force or intimidating others, shall be punished by imprisonment for a period of not less than six months and not exceeding two years, and a fine not exceeding ten thousand Egyptian pounds, or either of these two penalties.

The penalty shall be imprisonment for a period of not less than five years and not exceeding fifteen years, and a fine of not less than two hundred thousand Egyptian pounds and not exceeding five hundred thousand Egyptian pounds, where the weapons are not licensed for possession or acquisition or are not authorised to be carried.

The penalty shall be life imprisonment and a fine of not less than two million Egyptian pounds and not exceeding ten million Egyptian pounds where either of the offences referred to in the preceding two paragraphs is committed in the course of trading in weapons and ammunition without a licence.

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**Article (27):**

Any person who violates the provisions of Article (5) shall be punished by imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months and a fine not exceeding twenty Egyptian pounds, or either of these two penalties.

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**Article (28):**

Any person who, without a licence, trades in, imports, or manufactures the edged weapons listed in Schedule No. (1), or the sound pistols and rifles, air-pressure pistols and rifles, gas-pressure pistols and rifles, and their ammunition listed in Schedule No. (5) attached hereto, shall be punished by imprisonment for a period of not less than one year and a fine of not less than ten thousand Egyptian pounds and not exceeding fifty thousand Egyptian pounds.

Any person who, without a licence, trades in, imports, manufactures, or repairs a firearm listed in Schedule No. (2) shall be punished by imprisonment and a fine of not less than five hundred Egyptian pounds and not exceeding one thousand Egyptian pounds.



The penalty shall be rigorous imprisonment where the weapon is one of those referred to in paragraph (a) of Section One of Schedule No. (3), and the penalty shall be life imprisonment where the weapon is one of those referred to in paragraph (b) of Section One or in Section Two of Schedule No. (3).

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#### Article 28 (bis):

If the licence holder fails to submit an application for renewal at least one month before the expiry of the licence, he shall be notified by registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt to submit the renewal application within that period.

Any person who possesses or acquires a weapon after the expiry of its licence due to failure to submit the renewal application within the prescribed period shall, if he fails to surrender the weapon immediately upon expiry of the licence, be punished by a fine of not less than ten Egyptian pounds and not exceeding fifty Egyptian pounds.

If six months elapse without surrendering the weapon or renewing its licence, the penalty shall be a fine of not less than fifty Egyptian pounds and not exceeding five hundred Egyptian pounds.

If such period exceeds one year, the fine shall be doubled.

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#### Article (29):

Any other violation of the provisions of this Law shall be punishable by imprisonment for a period not exceeding three months and a fine not exceeding ten Egyptian pounds, or either of these two penalties.

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#### Article (30):

In addition to the penalties prescribed in the preceding Articles, and except in the cases provided for under Article (28 bis), the court shall order the confiscation of the weapons, ammunition, tools, equipment, and devices used in the commission of the offence, as well as the blocking of the website used in the commission of the offence provided for under Article (26 bis B), without prejudice to the rights of bona fide third parties.



Weapons devolving to the State shall be allocated to the Ministry of Interior.

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#### Article (31):

Persons who, on the date this Law enters into force, possess or acquire weapons or ammunition in violation of its provisions shall be exempt from punishment if, within one month from that date, they apply for a licence in respect thereof, surrender the weapons or ammunition in their possession to the police station within whose jurisdiction their place of residence falls, or submit the notification prescribed under Article (5).

They shall also be exempt from the penalties prescribed for any misdemeanour committed by them for the purpose of obtaining such items.

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#### Article 31 (A):

Any person who, without a licence, possesses or acquires firearms or ammunition used in the weapons listed in Schedules Nos. (2) and (3) of this Law shall be exempt from punishment if such weapons and ammunition are surrendered to any Security Directorate, police department, or police station within one hundred and eighty days commencing from the date on which the legislative amendment enters into force.

Such person shall also be exempt, during that period, from the penalties arising from the theft or concealment of such weapons or ammunition.

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#### Article 31 (B):

Any village mayor (Omda) or village chief (Sheikh) within whose jurisdiction weapons or ammunition are seized, which the person possessing or acquiring them failed to surrender, shall be punished by a fine of one thousand Egyptian pounds if it is established that he was aware of their existence and failed to report them.

The fine shall be imposed separately according to the number of weapons seized.

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#### Article 31 (C):

A financial reward shall be paid, pursuant to a decision issued by the Minister of Interior, to any person who makes a positive contribution leading to the seizure of weapons, ammunition, or explosives in the possession of offenders.

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#### Article (32):

Employees of the Licensing Department of the Public Security Authority who are designated by the Minister of Interior shall have the status of judicial police officers for the purposes of implementing the provisions of this Law and the decisions issued in implementation thereof.

They, as well as all other judicial police officers, shall have the right to enter premises used for the manufacture, repair, or trading of weapons and ammunition in order to inspect the registers and other records, verify compliance with this Law, and conduct the necessary investigations in connection with the sale of weapons.

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#### Article (33):

The licence fee shall be five hundred Egyptian pounds for the first weapon. Where more than one weapon is licensed, the fee shall be five hundred Egyptian pounds for each additional weapon.

The fee for a temporary licence issued to tourists shall be one thousand Egyptian pounds.

The renewal fee shall be five hundred Egyptian pounds for the first weapon and one thousand Egyptian pounds for each additional weapon.

These fees shall also apply to persons exempt from obtaining a licence pursuant to Article (5) of this Law, except for those exempted from such fees by a decision of the Minister of Interior.

The Minister of Interior may, by decision, exempt any person who renders services to public security from licence and renewal fees.

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**Article (34):**

A fee of six thousand Egyptian pounds shall be imposed for a licence to trade in or manufacture weapons or ammunition.

The licence shall be renewed every three years against payment of a fee of five thousand Egyptian pounds.

Where a licensed trader obtains a licence for another establishment carrying out the same activity, the applicable fees shall be increased by fifty percent (50%).

A licence fee of two thousand Egyptian pounds shall also be imposed for the repair of weapons, and such licence shall be renewed every three years against payment of a fee of two thousand Egyptian pounds.

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**Article 34 (bis):**

The following fees shall be imposed:

- One hundred Egyptian pounds for a permit to purchase a weapon.
  - Five hundred Egyptian pounds for a licence to replace a weapon, for each weapon.
  - Fifty Egyptian pounds for a permit to purchase ammunition.
  - Five hundred Egyptian pounds for a hunting licence.
  - One hundred Egyptian pounds for a licence to transport weapons and ammunition.
  - Two hundred Egyptian pounds for a licence to transport explosives.
  - One hundred Egyptian pounds for a replacement licence for a lost or damaged licence to trade in weapons and ammunition or a licence to repair weapons.
  - One hundred Egyptian pounds for a permit to import weapons and ammunition.
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**Article (35):**

Persons licensed to trade in, import, repair, or manufacture weapons or ammunition shall notify the Governor or Director, by registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt, within one month from the date this Law enters into force, of all necessary particulars relating to their business premises and the weapons and ammunition existing therein, in order for licences to be issued to them in accordance with this Law.

If such notification is not submitted within the prescribed period, such licences shall be deemed cancelled.

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**Article 35 (bis):**

For the purposes of this Law, the parts of firearms referred to in Schedules Nos. (2) and (3), sound suppressors or reducers, and telescopic sights intended to be mounted on firearms shall be deemed firearms.

Trading in, importing, manufacturing, or repairing such items in violation of the provisions of this Law shall be punishable by the same penalties prescribed in respect of complete firearms.

The provisions of the preceding paragraph shall also apply to the possession or acquisition of the principal parts of firearms listed in Schedule No. (4) attached hereto, or sound suppressors or reducers and telescopic sights mounted on such weapons.

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**Article (36):**

The High Order issued on 27 April 1905 implementing the schedule of weapons, tools, and ammunition permitted to be imported into Egypt, together with the Police Regulations governing trade therein, as well as Law No. 58 of 1949 concerning weapons and ammunition, are hereby repealed.

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### Article (37):

The Ministers of Interior, Justice, and Municipal and Rural Affairs shall, each within the scope of his respective competence, implement this Law.

The Minister of Interior may issue the decisions necessary for its implementation.

This Law shall enter into force as of the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

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## Law on Weapons and Ammunition

### Schedules

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#### Schedule No. (1):

##### Edged Weapons

- Swords, excluding fencing swords.
- Bayonets.
- Daggers.
- Bows and arrows.
- “Deer-horn” folding knives.
- Cleavers and knives, excluding those used for domestic or hotel purposes where handled pursuant to a lawful justification.
- Axes, chains, large knives or machetes, cutters, blades, personal deterrent devices, stun batons, clubs, and any other instrument used to assault persons where there is no lawful justification for carrying, acquiring, or possessing it, nor any justification arising from professional or occupational necessity.
- Iron knuckle-dusters (brass knuckles).



- Any devices, tools, machinery, or products, regardless of their form, containing edged weapons.
  - Metal restraints, bulletproof vests, and bulletproof helmets.
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### **Schedule No. (2):**

#### **Smooth-Bore Firearms**

Firearms with barrels having a smooth internal bore.

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### **Schedule No. (3):**

#### **Rifled Firearms**

This category is divided into two sections:

##### **Section One**

- Single-shot pistols.
- Manually loaded rifled rifles that fire one round at a time.

##### **Section Two**

- Cannons and machine guns.
  - Semi-automatic and automatic rapid-fire rifled rifles.
  - Rapid-fire pistols.
  - Any devices, tools, machinery, or products, regardless of their form, containing edged weapons.
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## Schedule No. (4):

### Principal Parts of Firearms

#### First: Smooth-Bore Rifles

- Metal frame.
- Barrel.

#### Second: Rifled and Semi-Automatic Rifles

- Metal frame (receiver).
- Barrel.
- Bolt and bolt assembly.

#### Third: Pistols of All Types

##### *(A) Magazine-Fed Pistols*

- Metal frame.
- Slide.
- Barrel.

##### *(B) Revolvers*

- Metal frame.
- Cylinder.

#### Fourth: Cannons, Machine Guns, and Automatic Rifles

##### *(A) Cannons and Machine Guns*

- Metal frame.
- Barrel.



### **(B) Automatic Rifles**

- Metal frame.
- Barrel.
- Bolt and bolt assembly.

\* Added pursuant to Article (8) of Law No. 97 of 1992.

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### **Schedule No. (5):**

#### **Sound, Air-Pressure, and Gas-Pressure Pistols and Rifles and Their Ammunition**

Sound pistols and rifles, air-pressure pistols and rifles, gas-pressure pistols and rifles, and their ammunition.

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### **Explanatory Memorandum:**

#### **Explanatory Memorandum to Law No. 394 of 1954**

Whereas weapons are among the foremost effective means used in the commission of crimes, the legislation of civilized countries has been concerned with laying down rules regulating the carrying and possession thereof, as well as regulating their trade, importation, and manufacture.

Egypt followed the same approach. In 1904, it enacted a law regulating the carrying and possession of weapons. Thereafter, on 27 April 1905, it promulgated Law No. 15 of 1905 publishing the schedule of weapons, instruments, and ammunition permitted to be imported into Egyptian territory, together with the police regulations governing trade therein.

In 1917, Law No. 8 was promulgated to regulate the carrying and possession of weapons, replacing the aforementioned law issued in 1904.

The incidents and crimes that occurred in the country after the end of the last World War revealed the inadequacy of the provisions of those enactments in putting an end to a serious state of unrest that had afflicted the country. Modern firearms, some of which were long-range and capable of rapid fire, had become accessible to persons seeking to disturb public security and order. Groups also emerged clandestinely that adopted weapons as a means of creating an atmosphere of terror conducive to achieving their unlawful purposes.



The Government therefore had no alternative but to confront this situation and proceeded to procure the enactment of Law No. 58 of 1949 concerning weapons and ammunition.

Nevertheless, the incidents that followed the promulgation of that Law also demonstrated that it was insufficient to achieve its intended purpose, since its provisions were confined to regulating the carrying and possession of weapons and did not address the regulation of the importation of such weapons, trade therein, or their manufacture. Those matters were instead left to Law No. 15 of 1905, which amounted to no more than a set of procedural regulations incompatible with modern legislative developments.

Moreover, that Law permitted the licensing of the carrying of machine guns and automatic firearms, notwithstanding that they are offensive military weapons of considerable danger. It also permitted certain persons to carry weapons for security reasons without specifying the number of weapons that could be authorized for any such person. It further prohibited the manufacture of weapons and ammunition without a licence, but did not set out the conditions for obtaining a manufacturing licence, nor did it prescribe any penalty for manufacture undertaken prior to obtaining such licence.

The accompanying draft law has therefore been prepared with a view to remedying these deficiencies in a manner consistent with the interests of public security and order.

It has been divided into three Chapters: the first concerns the possession and keeping of weapons and ammunition; the second concerns the importation of weapons and ammunition, trade therein, and their manufacture.

The third concerns penalties and general provisions. The principal amendments introduced by the draft are set out below:

- A paragraph has been added to Article 1 prohibiting the licensing of the weapons specified in Section Two of Schedule No. 3, namely cannons and machine guns.
- It was considered appropriate that the licence should remain valid until the end of the calendar year in which it is issued and thereafter be renewed annually, instead of remaining valid for one year and then being renewed, in order to unify the date of expiry of licences for all licence holders.

The provision contained in the final paragraph of Article 3 of the Law has been transferred to Article 3 of the draft, with an amendment providing that a licence must be obtained before taking delivery of a weapon that has been disposed of.



- A person whose licence has been withdrawn pursuant to Article 4 is required to surrender the weapon immediately to the police station within whose jurisdiction he resides, instead of being granted the one-month period previously allowed to him. His right to dispose of the weapon has been extended to one year; failing such disposal, he shall be deemed to have relinquished ownership of the weapon to the State and his right to compensation shall lapse.
- The offence of trafficking in narcotic drugs has been added to the offences stipulated in Article 6 of Law No. 85 of 1949. Although this offence became a felony pursuant to Law No. 351 of 1952 and thus falls within item (b) of Article 7 of this draft, this addition is nevertheless necessary in respect of offences in which judgments were rendered under Law No. 31 of 1928.5- Pursuant to Article 8, the entitlement of village mayors and sheikhs has been limited to one weapon, whereas the number had previously been unrestricted.
- A new Article 9 has been added limiting the number of weapons that may be licensed to a single person to two weapons from Schedule No. 2 and two weapons from Section One of Schedule No. 3. This provision has also been made applicable to persons exempted from obtaining a licence pursuant to Article 5. The Minister of Interior has been empowered, in cases of necessity, to authorize a person to possess weapons in excess of those limits. The Article also sets out the manner in which any excess weapons are to be disposed of.
- A further provision, Article 10, has been added specifying the circumstances in which a licence shall be deemed cancelled, namely where the weapon is lost, delivered to another person, the licence is not renewed within the prescribed time limit, or upon the death of the licence holder.
- Chapter Two regulates the importation, trading, manufacture, and repair of weapons and ammunition in Articles 12 to 24.

Article 12 prohibits, without a licence from the Minister of Interior, the importation of the weapons referred to in Article 1 and their ammunition, as well as trading in, manufacturing, or repairing them. The licence shall specify the place in which it is valid. The Article further provides that the licence shall be valid for one year and renewable.



The Minister, or his delegate, may refuse to grant the licence. He may also shorten its duration, restrict it to certain types of weapons and ammunition, or subject it to such conditions as he deems necessary in the interests of public security. He may withdraw or revoke the licence at any time, provided that his decision in cases of withdrawal or revocation is reasoned.

Article 13 restricts the authorization to trade in, manufacture, or repair weapons and ammunition of all types to cities and towns. It also empowers the Minister of Interior to issue a decision specifying the number of licences allocated to each governorate or directorate, as well as the conditions that he deems necessary to be fulfilled in the premises.

Article 14 requires every person licensed to trade in weapons and ammunition to keep separate registers for the weapons and ammunition specified in that Article, recording in one register the weapons and ammunition received and, in the other, all transactions carried out in respect thereof.

Article 15 sets out the conditions that must be satisfied by any person to be licensed to manufacture the weapons referred to in Article 1, to trade in such weapons or their ammunition, or to import them, in addition to the conditions prescribed in Article 7.

Article 16 empowers the Minister of Interior, by decision, to determine the annual quantity of the weapons specified in Section One of Schedule No. 3, as well as the ammunition required therefor, that an importer or dealer may be permitted to import or deal in.

Article 17 provides that such authorization shall remain valid for six months and may be extended for a further six months. It also provides for the administrative confiscation of any weapon imported without a licence.

Article 18 provides that licences for premises engaged in trading in weapons and ammunition may not be granted in such squares, streets, and roads as may be designated by a decision of the Minister of Interior.

Articles 19, 20, and 21 deal with certain provisions relating to weapons repairers, including the conditions for licensing, the determination by ministerial decision of the number of persons who may be licensed, and the requirement to maintain two registers, one for incoming items and the other for outgoing items.

Article 22 makes the licensing of weapons or ammunition factories conditional upon compliance with the requirements prescribed by the Minister of Interior and the Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs, or by any person delegated by either of them.

Article 23 sets out the form in which the licence shall be issued.



Chapter Three deals with penalties and general provisions. Among its principal provisions is the mitigation of the severe penalties prescribed under the existing law.

Article 25 sets out the penalty applicable to any person who, without a licence, possesses any of the bladed weapons specified in Schedule No. 1.

Article 26 sets out the penalty applicable to any person who, without a licence, possesses any of the weapons specified in Schedule No. 2 or item (a) of Section One of Schedule No. 3. It further prescribes the applicable penalty where the weapon possessed without a licence is of a type specified in item (b) of Section One or in Section Two of Schedule No. 3, or where the offender is among the persons referred to in paragraphs (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f) of Article 7.

A provision has also been added imposing a fine on persons who trade in bladed weapons without a licence. As regards dealers in, importers, manufacturers, and repairers of firearms, the penalty has been made imprisonment and a fine where the offence is committed by way of possession or keeping, unless the weapon is of a type specified in item (b) of Section One of Schedule No. 3 or in Section Two thereof, in which case the penalty shall be imprisonment with hard labour [or imprisonment, according to the applicable statutory terminology] (Article 28 of the draft).

A transitional provision has also been added requiring persons licensed under the existing law to submit the information required under the draft.

The maximum limits of the penalties of imprisonment and fine applicable in the event of a violation of the provisions of Article 5 have also been reduced (Article 27).

It was considered appropriate to grant persons who possess or keep weapons or ammunition in violation of the provisions of this draft a period of one month within which to surrender the weapons and ammunition in their possession or to notify the authorities thereof. If they do so, they shall be exempted from punishment (Article 31).

It was also considered appropriate to confer upon certain officials the status of judicial police officers for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this Law and the decisions issued in implementation thereof. Such officials, together with other judicial police officers, are granted the right to enter premises used for the manufacture, repair, or trade of weapons and ammunition, to inspect registers and other records in order to verify compliance with the provisions of the Law, and to conduct the necessary inquiries concerning the sale of weapons.

The licence fee has been doubled (Article 33).

The draft was submitted to the Council of State, which approved it in the accompanying form.



The Ministry of Interior therefore has the honour to submit the draft to the Council of Ministers, requesting its approval and promulgation.

**Minister of Interior**

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