



# National Security Act 2023

## 2023 CHAPTER 32

### PART 1

#### ESPIONAGE, SABOTAGE AND PERSONS ACTING FOR FOREIGN POWERS

#### *Sabotage*

### 12 Sabotage

- (1) A person commits an offence if—
- the person engages in conduct that results in damage to any asset,
  - the person intends their conduct to result in damage to an asset, or is reckless as to whether their conduct will result in damage to an asset,
  - the person's conduct is for a purpose that they know, or having regard to other matters known to them ought reasonably to know, is prejudicial to the safety or interests of the United Kingdom, and
  - the foreign power condition is met in relation to the person's conduct (see section 31).
- (2) [Subsection \(1\)](#) applies—
- whether the person's conduct takes place in the United Kingdom or elsewhere;
  - whether the asset is in the United Kingdom or elsewhere.
- (3) In [this section](#)—
- “asset” means an asset of any kind whether tangible or intangible and includes in particular real and personal property, electronic systems and information;
- “damage” includes any of the following (whether permanent or temporary)
- destruction;
  - alteration;
  - contamination;

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*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the  
National Security Act 2023, Cross Heading: Sabotage. (See end of Document for details)*

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- (d) interference;
  - (e) loss of or reduction in access or availability;
  - (f) loss of or reduction in function, utility or reliability.
- (4) A person who commits an offence under [this section](#) is liable on conviction on indictment to imprisonment for life or a fine (or both).

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**Commencement Information**

- I1** S. 12 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 100\(1\)](#)
- I2** [S. 12](#) in force at 20.12.2023 by [S.I. 2023/1272](#), [reg. 2\(a\)](#)

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the National Security Act 2023, Cross  
Heading: Sabotage.