



# Terrorism Act 2000

## 2000 CHAPTER 11

### PART I

#### INTRODUCTORY

#### **1 Terrorism: interpretation.**

- (1) In this Act “terrorism” means the use or threat of action where—
  - (a) the action falls within subsection (2),
  - (b) the use or threat is designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public or a section of the public, and
  - (c) the use or threat is made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause.
- (2) Action falls within this subsection if it—
  - (a) involves serious violence against a person,
  - (b) involves serious damage to property,
  - (c) endangers a person’s life, other than that of the person committing the action,
  - (d) creates a serious risk to the health or safety of the public or a section of the public, or
  - (e) is designed seriously to interfere with or seriously to disrupt an electronic system.
- (3) The use or threat of action falling within subsection (2) which involves the use of firearms or explosives is terrorism whether or not subsection (1)(b) is satisfied.
- (4) In this section—
  - (a) “action” includes action outside the United Kingdom,
  - (b) a reference to any person or to property is a reference to any person, or to property, wherever situated,
  - (c) a reference to the public includes a reference to the public of a country other than the United Kingdom, and

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*Status: Point in time view as at 14/10/2005.*

**Changes to legislation:** *Terrorism Act 2000, Part I is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 01 July 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)*

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- (d) “the government” means the government of the United Kingdom, of a Part of the United Kingdom or of a country other than the United Kingdom.
- (5) In this Act a reference to action taken for the purposes of terrorism includes a reference to action taken for the benefit of a proscribed organisation.

## 2 Temporary legislation.

- (1) The following shall cease to have effect—
- (a) the <sup>M1</sup>Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1989, and
  - (b) the <sup>M2</sup>Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act 1996.
- (2) Schedule 1 (which preserves certain provisions of the 1996 Act, in some cases with amendment, for a transitional period) shall have effect.

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### Commencement Information

- II** S. 2 wholly in force at 19.2.2001; s. 2(1)(b)(2) in force at 20.7.2000 see s. 128; s. 2(1)(a) in force at 19.2.2001 by S.I. 2001/421, art. 2
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### Marginal Citations

- M1** 1989 c. 4.  
**M2** 1996 c. 22.

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