



Uruguay

The Legal Framework and the Defence System

National Legislation

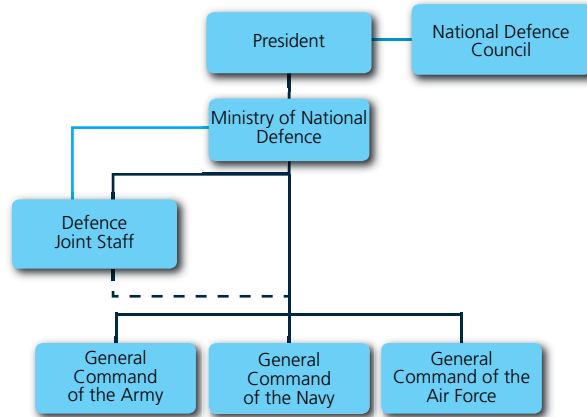
National Legislation

- Act on State Security and Internal Order (N° 14.068 - 1972/07/12)
- Armed Forces Organic Act (DL N° 14.157 - 1974/03/05. Last amendment: Act N° 18.198 - 2007/11/28)
- National Defence Framework Act (N° 18.650 - 2010/03/08)

Military Organization

- Military Retirement Service Organization Act (N° 3.739 - 1911/02/24. Last amendment: Act N° 16.320 - 1992/11/01)
- Military Codes (Decree-Law N° 10.326 - 1943/01/28)
- Organic Act of the Navy (N° 10.808 - 1946/11/08)
- Organic Act of the Air Force (N° 14.747 - 1977/12/30)
- Organic Act of the National Army (N° 15.688 - 1985/01/17)

- Advisory and assistance functional relationship
- Command reporting line
- - - Joint planning and management relationship



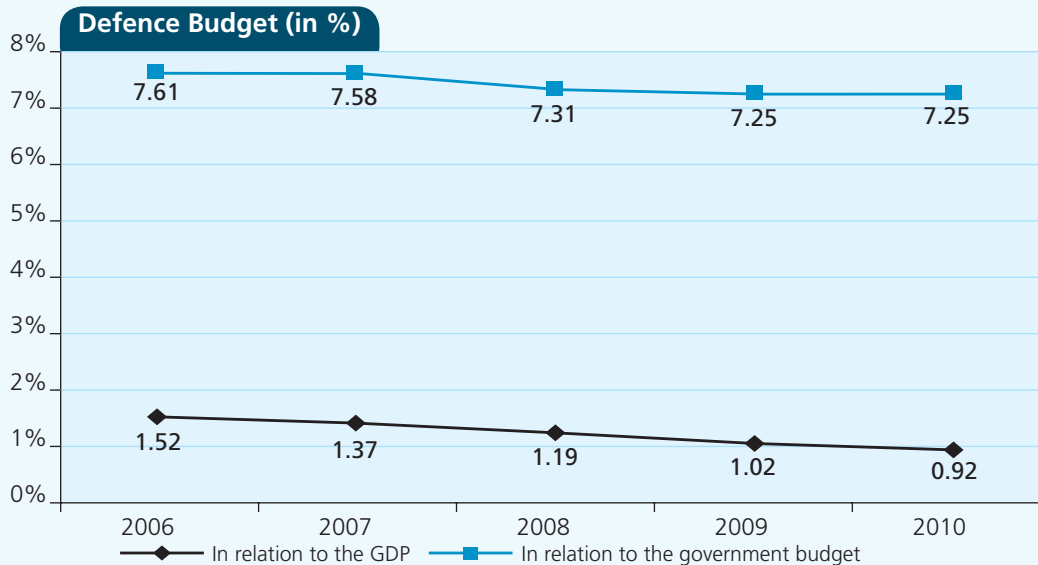
The President may receive the advice of the National Defence Council, composed of the Ministers of Defence, Interior, Foreign Affairs and Economy and Finance. The Minister of Defence leads the defence policy and holds the higher conduction and administration of the Armed Forces. The Defence Joint Staff is the military ministerial advisory body, responsible for the joint military planning and employment. The General Assembly holds the powers granted by the Constitution and permanently monitors defence related issues through the defence committees in both Houses.

Source: Compilation based on the legislation above mentioned. For constitutional provisions see Chapter 1.

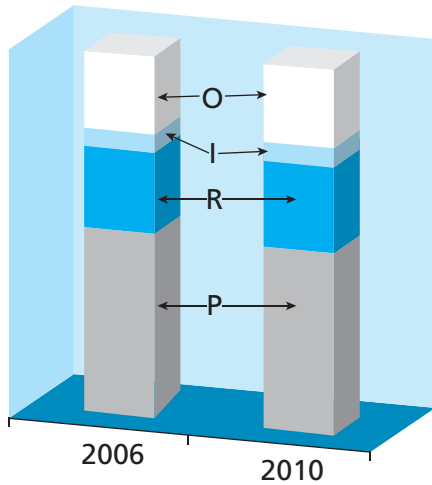
Source: Compilation based on the Political Constitution, *Ley orgánica de las Fuerzas Armadas* (N° 14.157 - 1974/03/05. Last amendment: Act N° 15.808 - 1986/04/07), and *Ley marco de defensa nacional* (N° 18.650 - 2010/03/08).

The Budget

Year	Defence Budget (in US\$)	Government Budget (in US\$)	GDP (in US\$)
2006	215,709,213	2,833,420,447	14,182,000,000
2007	290,335,815	3,829,060,623	21,171,000,000
2008	316,844,107	4,331,809,675	26,607,000,000
2009	322,261,459	4,443,159,356	31,606,000,000
2010	375,059,540	5,171,109,540	40,577,000,000

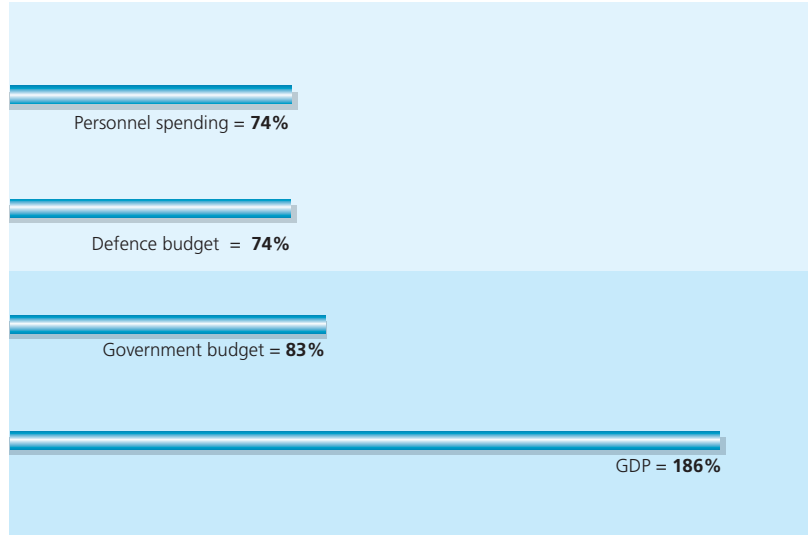


Defence Budget Breakdown



P: Salaries and other benefits
R: Retirement and pension funds / **I:** Investment
O: Other expenses

Comparative Increase (% variation 2006-2010)

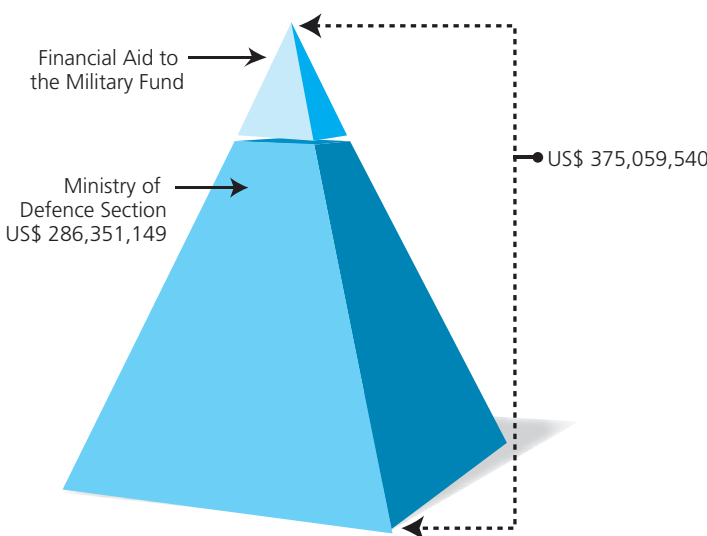


Defence Budget 2010 (in Local Currency)

Sections	Operations	Investment	TOTAL
National Ministry of Defence			
Central Administration*	688,273,000	13,221,000	701,494,000
National Army	2,134,499,000	42,038,000	2,176,537,000
National Navy	978,096,000	115,063,000	1,093,159,000
Uruguayan Air Force	589,306,000	100,860,000	690,166,000
Administration and Control of Aviation and Airports	306,298,000	103,267,000	409,565,000
Military Health	578,727,000	27,098,000	605,825,000
Military Social Security	5,727,000	4,191,000	9,918,000
Meteorological Research and Studies	45,264,000	460,000	45,724,000
Reduction of Non Priority Tasks	177,000	0	177,000
Reduction of Non Priority Tasks	185,000	0	185,000
Financial Transferences of the Social Security Sector			0
Financial Aid to the Military Fund	1,775,942,000	0	1,775,942,000
TOTAL	7,102,494,000	406,198,000	7,508,692,000

* Act Nº 18.369 for budgetary changes, establishes an incremental cost of \$245,203,000 for operational expenses and \$6,850,000 for investment expenditures of the Ministry of Defence. Uruguay has a multi-annual budgeting process.

Composition of Defence Budget 2010



Between 2007 and 2009, military acquisition contracts signed with member countries of the European Union (Germany, Austria, Spain, France, The Netherlands, United Kingdom, Czech Republic, and Switzerland) amounted to US\$19,522,813, and US\$12,415,233 with the United States. Such amounts represent 3.44% of the allocated defence budget for those years.

Source: Compilation based on *Ley de presupuesto nacional, periodo de Gobierno 2005-2009* and *Ley de modificaciones presupuestales, periodo de Gobierno 2007-2009 and 2008-2009*. As of the closing of this edition, the budget law for the 2010-2014 period was still under discussion at the Senate. The 2009 budget is currently effective for 2010, as provided for in the Constitution. Differences in figures for such years are due to changes in the dollar exchange rate. The State Budget passed by the Congress by means of the above mentioned Act is considered herein. The concept of investment is that expressed in "Investment". Acquisitions: reports submitted by the member States in accordance with the Common Position 2008/944/PESC of the European Union Council (reports issued as of October, 2010) and Just the Facts (Center for International Policy, Latin American Working Group Education Fund and Washington Office on Latin America).
 GDP: Projection of the World Economic Outlook Database, IMF, of each year under review. This source has been taken for comparative purposes. Each country prepares the budget based on its own GDP estimation. The dollar value considered corresponds to the exchange rate determined by the World Economic Outlook Database, IMF, for each year under consideration. As of July, the 2010 exchange rate average is 19.87 Pesos, based on the data provided by the Central Bank of Uruguay. For further calculations, figures are provided in local currency.
 Expressions in Bold Type (Table) make reference to the various defence budget items, which can be found in a sector-based or institutional classification of the Budget Act.

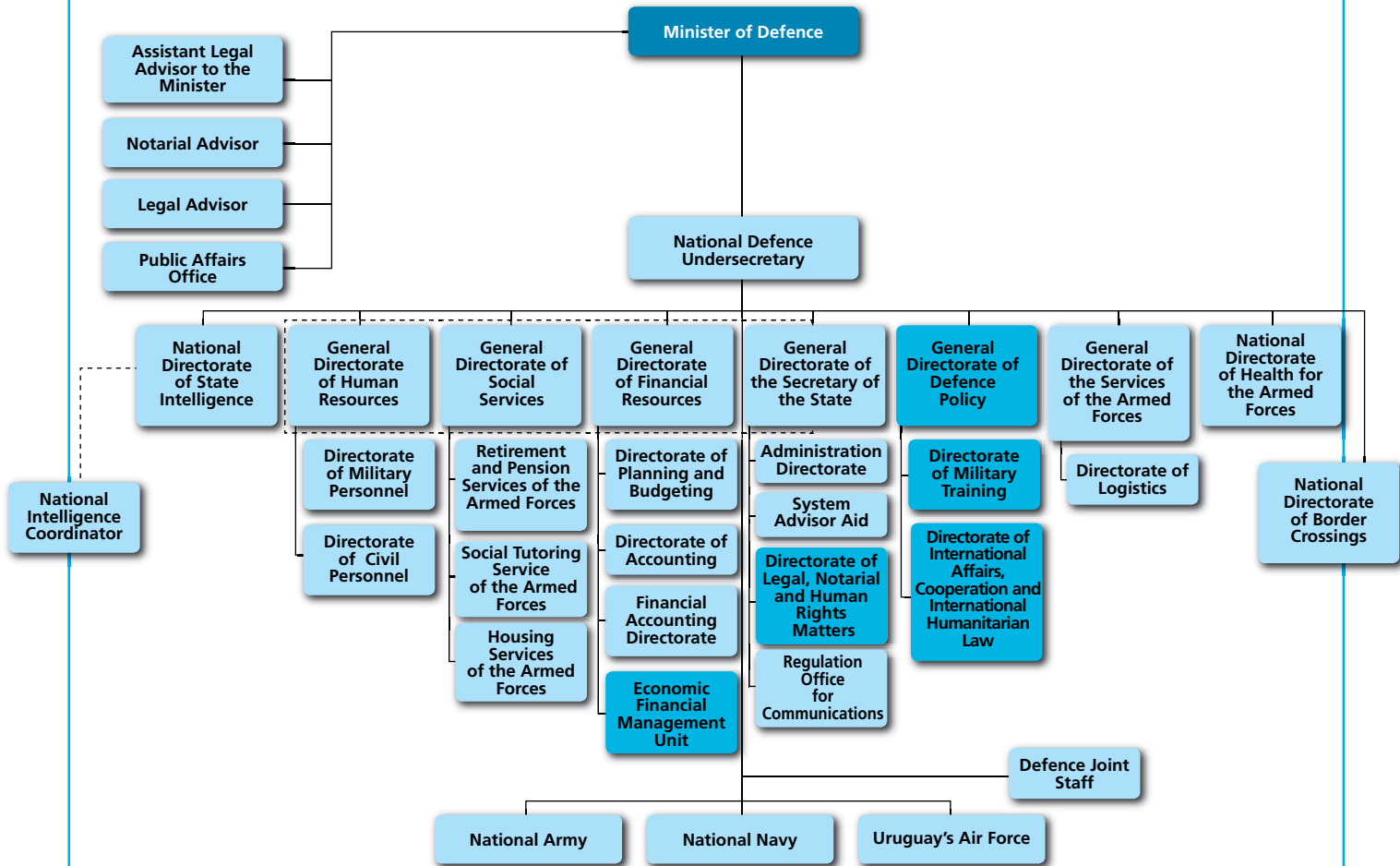


The Ministry of National Defence

Responsibility:

It has the power and competence over the political conduct of national defence areas determined by the laws and the Executive Branch within the framework of their powers, in particular, of all matters related to the Armed Forces. It exercises the command and supervision of all activities carried out by the Armed Forces. (*Ley marco de defensa nacional*, N° 18.650 – 2010/03/08, Sec. 14 and 15)

Organization Chart



Titles established in the 2010-2014 national budget, still subject to approval

Source: Compilation based on *Ley marco de defensa nacional* (N° 18.650- 2010/02/19) and *Proyecto de ley de presupuesto nacional, periodo de Gobierno 2010-2014*.

Date of Foundation: 1935
Current Minister (September 2010): Luis Rosadilla
Can military members be Ministers of Defence?: Yes (if they have retired)
Number of military members who were Ministers of Defence: 15
Number of civilians who were Ministers of Defence: 22
Have there been any women in charge of the Ministry of Defence?: Yes (Azucena Berruti, 2005-2008)
Average permanence in the Minister of Defence position: 2 years

[The Minister currently in charge is not considered. The creation date is related to the moment in which the term "Defence" becomes part of the Institution's name]

Source: Compilation based on information provided by the Ministry of National Defence.

Political Definitions

Policy Guidelines

Maintain a sustainable and effective deterrence power, based on the development and sustainment of defence-oriented capabilities

Strategic Objectives

National Army

1. Sustainable and effective deterrence: systems upgrading, conventional military capability, command leadership training, military personnel's social welfare, simulation systems, distance education, military industry development, survival capacity, basic universal training, resistance operations.
2. Support internal order.
3. Support foreign policy: involvement in peace operations, military attachés, presence in the Antarctica, and participation in international forums and conferences.
4. Community support: environmental protection, disaster response assistance.

National Navy

1. Ready naval forces and units. Attain the best level of readiness possible for the execution of actions imposed under the Navy's mission by increasing human and material efficiency and effectiveness, as well as operational training.
2. Control territorial waters. Deter crimes in territorial waters, including any actions against national interests, enhancing surveillance and appropriate response levels with surface, air and land means available, operating with the support of sensors and naval intelligence.
3. Safety of navigation. Minimize the loss of lives and accidents at sea during navigation in jurisdictional waters and waters of interest to the Nation, in accordance with international agreements and standards, fully utilizing the navigation aid system, shipping control system, sea search and rescue system, hydrographic services, notice to the mariners and sea meteorological services and national piloting management.
4. Maritime security. Provide greater security on board national flag vessels and ships as well as foreign flag ships, when appropriate.
5. Public security within its jurisdictional area. Deter crimes against life, physical integrity and property, including the threat of terrorist actions, by optimizing surveillance and police investigation, naval intelligence and security measures on vessels, ships, beaches, coasts, islands, international bridges, hydroelectric dams, and port facilities.
6. Protection of marine environment. Deter pollution from vessels and ships in waters under the national jurisdiction, as well as neutralize adverse the effects of marine pollution accidents that may occur, through the regulation and application of marine environment protection standards and the enhancement of the National Pollutant Spill Control System.
7. Contribution to international peace. Participate in peace missions under the UN mandate, through the deployment of military observers, contingents and/or units.
8. Contribution to the national presence in Antarctica. Support Uruguay's Antarctic Institute through the provision of personnel and sea resupply for Antarctic facilities and scientific research projects, particularly those conducted in the sea.
9. Contribution to the people's welfare and security outside the jurisdictional area. Support pertinent national and municipal authorities by providing available human and material resources.
10. Conduct applied scientific research and development. Deepen scientific knowledge in its area of competence, through research project development.
11. Strategic maritime transport. Ensure a minimum critical cargo transport capacity for the country's State through the operation of proper vessels by the Navy.
12. People's maritime awareness. Importance of the sea and popular support to maritime activities, through public information campaigns, contribution with specific knowledge to the educational system, promotion of nautical activities and preservation of historical maritime and river heritage.

Air Force

1. Strengthen national airspace surveillance capacity.
2. Promote actions to increase air activity and infrastructure safety and security.
3. Strengthen the Air Force capability to respond to community support activities and national development.
4. Promote continuous improvement of human resource management processes, and standard of living, in order to increase their training level and contribute to the social development of Air Force members.
5. Support and contribute to the development of the national airspace strategy.
6. Take part in peace missions and support the country's presence in the Antarctic Contingent as part of the State policy, contributing to enhancing the country's international reputation.

Uruguay published the *Bases para una Política de Defensa Nacional* (Basis for a National Defence Policy) in 1999.

Source: *Informe y Memoria Anual de la gestión del Gobierno Nacional correspondiente al quinto periodo ordinario de la XLVI Legislatura* (2009, Annex, Ministry of National Defence) and *Proyecto de ley de presupuesto nacional, periodo de Gobierno 2010-2014*.

Reports Submitted to the United Nations and the OAS

1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	✘	✘	✘	✘	✘							
		◊		◊	◊	◊						
☛							☛					☛

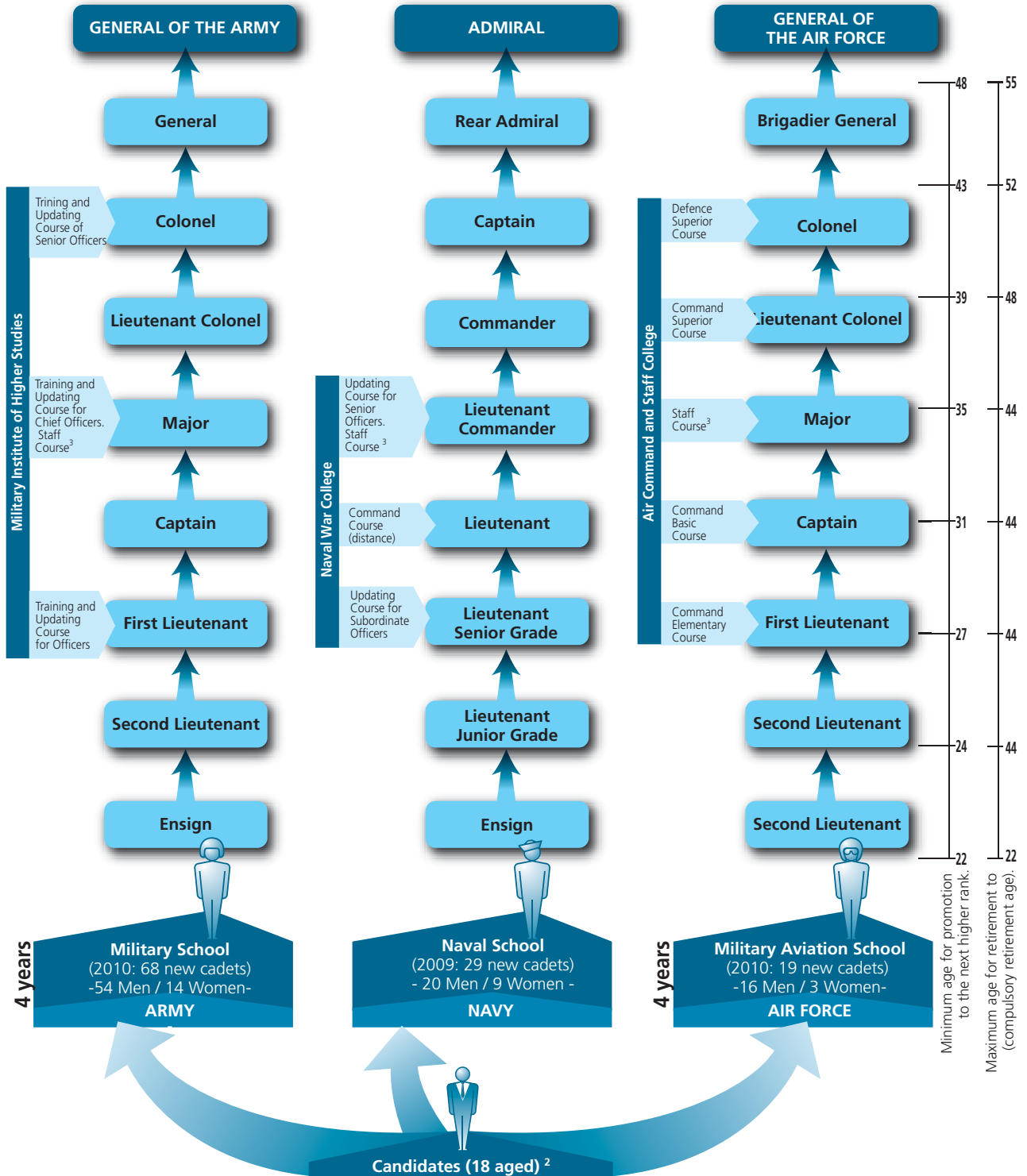
Register of Conventional Arms: ✘ Register of Military Expenditures: ◊ Implementation of Confidence and Security Building Measures: ☛

Source: Compilation based on reports submitted to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms and the United Nations Instrument for Reporting Military Expenditures and reports submitted to the OAS on the Implementation of Confidence and Security-Building Measures.



Military Career

Commissioned Officers' Career Path¹



¹ Command corps includes officers who have been educated at military academies from the beginning of their professional careers. The graph makes a theoretical reconstruction of officers' promotion through the completion of mandatory courses. Further requirements for promotion have not been considered.

² The age of 18 years has been considered for comparative purposes. Entry age varies depending on the service: in the Army up to 24 years old, in the Naval Force up to 21 years old and in the Air Force up to 22 years of age. The minimum age for promotion will depend on the age of graduation from the military institution.

³ The Staff Course in the Uruguayan Armed Forces is not compulsory. It is an optional course.

Source: Compilation based on Ley orgánica de las Fuerzas Armadas (DL N° 14.157 - 1974/03/05. Last amendment: Act N° 18.198 - 28/11/2007), Ley orgánica de la Marina (N° 10.808 - 1946/11/08), Ley orgánica de la Fuerza Aérea (N° 14.747 - 1977/12/30) and Ley orgánica del Ejército Nacional (N° 15.688 - 1985/01/17). New cadets: information provided by the National Army, the National Navy and the Uruguayan Air Force.

The Armed Forces

General Mission

The Armed Forces are the organized, equipped and trained arm responsible for executing military actions imposed by the national defence. Its fundamental mission is to defend the national sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, as well as to protect strategic resources of the country, as directed by the Executive Branch, while contributing to preserving peace in the Republic under the framework of the Constitution and laws in place.
(*Ley marco de la defensa nacional*, N° 18.650 – 2010/03/08, Sec. 18)

Specific Missions

Army

Its mission is to contribute to internal and external national security, in the framework of the Armed Forces mission, developing its capacity in accordance with specific needs foreseen. Without detriment to their primary mission, the National Army shall support and undertake development plans assigned to it for the conduct of public work.

Navy

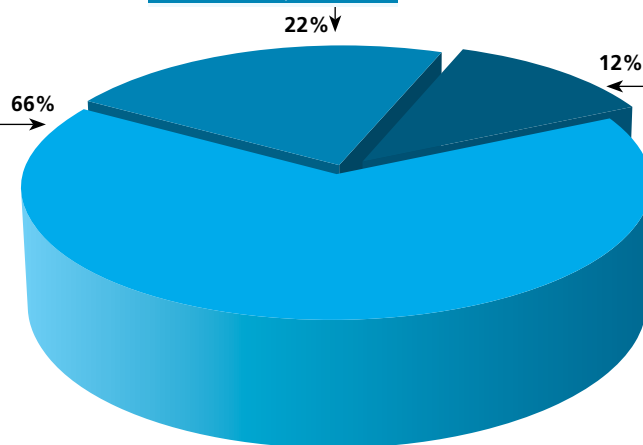
Their essential mission is to defend the territorial integrity of the State, its honour and independence, peace, the Constitution and its laws.

Air Force

The primary mission of the Air Force is to provide internal and external security, in coordination with the other branches of the Armed Forces. Without detriment to its fundamental mission, the Air Force shall support and undertake development plans assigned to it, carrying out public work; develop its potential in accordance with the specific demands or needs for the fulfilment of its fundamental mission and other missions assigned to it; become the essential consulting body of the Executive Branch in relation to airspace policies of the Republic; and act as the executive body of the Executive Branch regarding measures of conduct, integration and development of the national airspace potential.

Total Strength: 24,506

Army		Navy		Air Force	
Officers:		Officers:		Officers:	
M 1,482	105 W	M 696	14 W	M 433	55 W
Non-commissioned Officers:		Non-commissioned Officers:		Non-commissioned Officers:	
M 1,745	198 W	M 361	47 W	M 237	20 W
Troops:		Troops:		Troops:	
M 10,692	1,887 W	M 3,189	1,098 W	M 1,726	521 W
M 86.40 %	13.60 % W	M 78.55 %	21.45 % W	M 80.08 %	19.92 % W
Total 16,109		Total 5,405		Total 2,992	



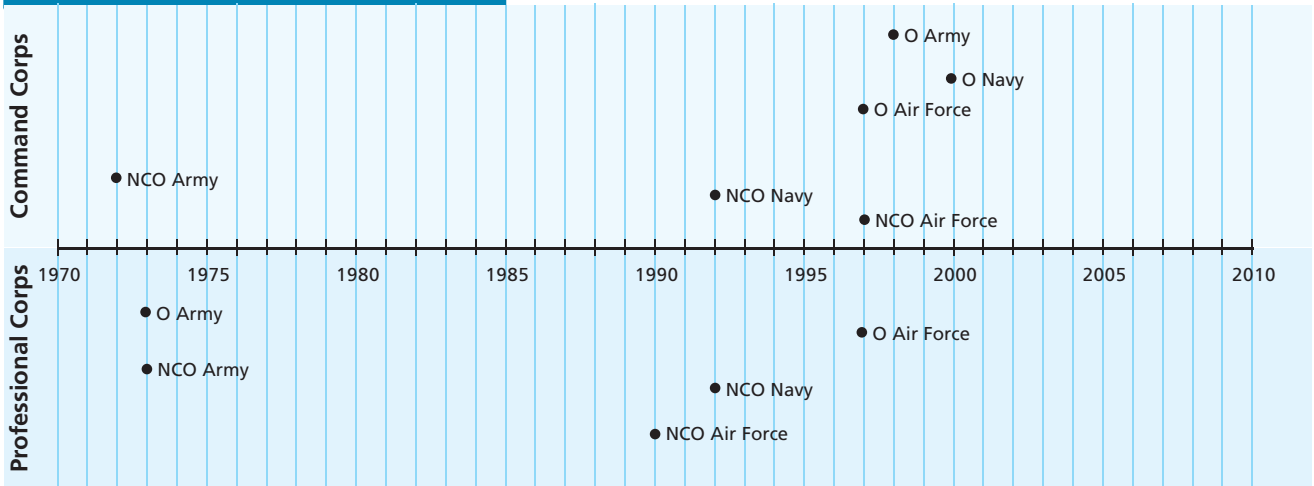
M: Men / W: Women

Source: *Ley orgánica del Ejército Nacional* (N° 15.688 - 1985/01/17), *Ley orgánica de la Marina* (N° 10.808 - 1946/11/08) and *Ley orgánica de la Fuerza Aérea* (N° 14.747 - 1977/12/30) (missions) and information provided by the National Army, the National Navy and the Air Force (regular force).



Women in the Armed Forces

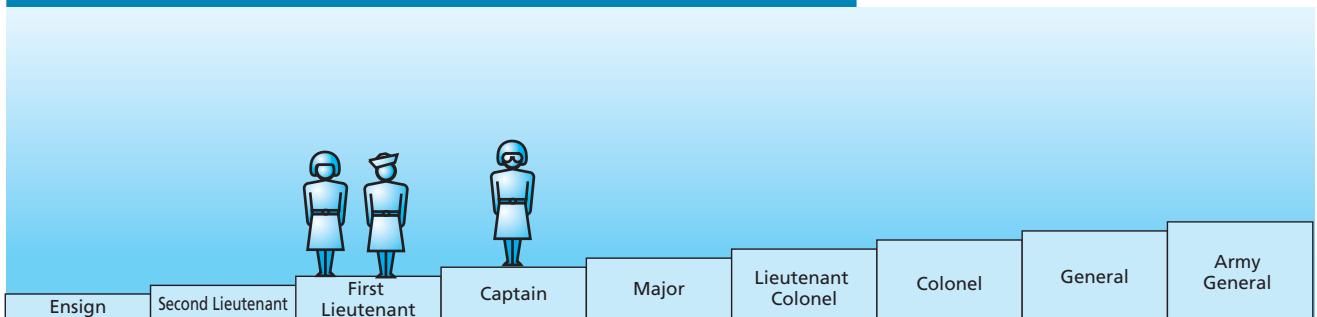
Women's Admission to the Armed Forces (year)



O: Officers - NCO: Non-commissioned Officers

Note: The Navy has no enlisted professionals; therefore, there are no women officers in the professional corps. The Command corps includes officers who have been educated at military academies from the beginning of their professional careers. The Professional corps refers to those who develop a career in the civilian sphere and are then incorporated to the armed forces.

Women Officers who have reached the highest rank in the Command Corps (2010)



Note: These ranks correspond to the Army, as an example. The equivalent rank for First Lieutenant is Lieutenant Senior Grade in the Navy and Captain is the same in the Air Force.

Source: Information provided by the National Army, the National Navy, the Air Force and Project 07-184 Global Peace and Security Fund-Resdal.

16.09% (3,945) of the total Armed Forces are women

Military Service

It is voluntary for all men and women who have completed their primary school education. Service starts with two years as trainee. Upon completion of that period, there is the option of extending the contract for a minimum one-year period, until the person reaches the maximum age for a soldier (30 years), or entering a training school, as junior grade officer, to continue with the military career.

Year	Army Number of Enlisted Soldiers		
	Men	Women	Total
2009	830	104	934
2010	1,555	221	1,776

Source: Information provided by the National Army and *Ley orgánica de las Fuerzas Armadas* (DL N° 14.157 – 1974/03/05. Last amendment: Act N°18.198 – 2007/11/28).

Defence and National and International Community

Participation in Peace Operations

Current Missions	Military Component			
	MEM		MC	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
MINURSO (Western Sahara)	1	-	-	-
MINUSTAH (Haiti)	-	-	1,086	42
MONUSCO (Dem. Rep. of the Congo)	45	-	1,289	76
UNAMA (Afghanistan)	1	-	-	-
UNMIN (Nepal)	2	-	-	-
UNMOGIP (India and Pakistan)	2	-	-	-
UNOCI (Ivory Coast)	2	-	-	-

MEM: Military experts on mission, including military observers, judge advocates and military liaison officers, among others - MC: Military Contingent.

Uruguay contributes 2,546 military troops to the United Nations peacekeeping missions, which represents 33.29% of the total contribution of Latin America.

Uruguay's National Peacekeeping Operations Training Centre, ENOPU, was created in August 28, 2008. The Police Forces Instruction and Training Centre for Peacekeeping Operations (CICAME) was founded in January 1, 1996.

In 2009, ENOPU trained 317 military officers on peacekeeping operations to be the trainers of the forces that were to be deployed under their command. CICAME, on the other hand, trained 88 police officers.



- Uruguay ranks first in the world in the number of troops deployed, as compared to the country's population.
- It ranks tenth in the world for its contribution in number of persons.

Historic Participation in Peacekeeping Missions

Continent	Period	Accomplished Missions	Number of Countries
Africa	1960-2006	17	13
America	1965-2000	8	7
Asia	1962-2005	9	6
Middle East	1956-2003	6	7
TOTAL	1956-2006	40	33

Multinational Peace Force and Observers (MFO)

Since 1982, Uruguay has been part of the MFO in Sinai. This mission is independent from the United Nations, as it was created as a result of the Peace Treaty signed between Egypt and Israel in 1979. It makes up the Special Contingent of Transport and Engineers (AET), composed of a total 58 men.

Source: Websites of the Multinational Force and Observer and the National Army and documents from the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the United Nations. Data as of 31 August 2010.

Support Actions

Drinking Water Treatment Plants

Based on a joint technological development project, carried out by the National Army and the State Sanitation Works Office (OSE), as from 1994, the country has a Self-Standing Water Treatment Plant (JPA). Currently, there are 55 installed and operating water treatment plants in different parts of the country. Other Iberoamerican countries, victims of natural disasters, have requested to have these plants installed as well, pursuant to the Government-to-Government humanitarian assistance modality. Nowadays, there are 6 operating plants in the Democratic Republic of Congo and 4 in Haiti, where Uruguayan troops have been deployed for the United Nations Mission.

The Army's community support purposes involve: contributing to the preservation of the environment; performing or supporting community actions (health-, education-, food-, information- and recreation-related activities, in national parks, public works); civil defence and protection operations within the framework of national emergency systems.

Environment

Administration, conservation, operation, and improvement of national parks and protected areas under the Force's custody. Cleaning and reforestation activities, in addition to campaigns aimed at promoting environmental preservation.

Community Action

Interinstitutional Cooperation Master Agreement: in 2009, the Ministry of Defence subscribed the Master Agreement with the Central Board Council of the National Administration of Public Education (ANEP), for the purpose of applying teaching policies among the parties and refurbishing or maintaining local teaching facilities.

Equestrian Rehabilitation: regular programme targeted to children with disabilities of 14 associations and schools from all over the country. They participate in the 6 military units programme and the Army's Equestrian School.

Emergency Operations

Assistance and rescue in case of flood and other emergencies. Support to preventive tasks being performed by the Ministry of Public Health to stop Dengue.

Community Assistance Tasks Figures –Army 2010-

Educational centres:	429
Town halls, local boards:	121
Police, Firefighters:	38
National Food Institute:	6
Public companies:	11
Hospitals:	74
Social organizations:	585
Total assistance works:	1,264
Personnel involved:	4,081

National Navy

The Navy is responsible for performing several community-related activities, the most important of which are, to name a few:

"Uruguay Marítimo" Project (2010): this project is aimed at familiarizing young people with the sea, port activities in general, the importance of protected areas and the protection of the environment, so as to promote awareness of Maritime and Natural Uruguay. These activities are performed together with various schools of the country.

"Costas e Islas de Montevideo" Project (2010): together with the Technical Team of Environmental Education of the Municipal Intendency of Montevideo, the project seeks to create interest in children and young people regarding coast recognition, and historical, ecological and management factors.

Source: Compilation based on information provided by the National Army and National Navy.



Analysis:

The *Frente Amplio* in Government and the Military Situation After five years, the most complex challenges arrive.

Julián González Guyer

Coordinator of the Research Program on Regional Security, Armed Forces, Policy and Society (PRISEAS). ICP, FCS/Universidad de la República.

The end of 2009 brought also the end of the first—and successful—left-wing government in the history of Uruguay. From 2010 to 2014, a greater challenge will result from the election of Jose Mujica, a leader of the Tupamaro movement of the late '60s and early '70s, as the second President of the so-called *left-wing cycle* in the contemporary political history of Uruguay.

In the sphere of civil-military relations, Uruguay could be said to have successfully completed a tour-de-force under the first *Frente Amplio* administration: the armed forces orderly submitted to the ascent to government of its once internal enemy. This change has been even less dramatic than the one in 1959, when the National Party (White) came into office after over 50 years of Colorado Party hegemony. The first left-wing government in Uruguayan history showed good leadership abilities and fully exercised its constitutional powers over military institutions. The reform stage, however, will only start during Mujica's Presidency.

The balance of the *military situation* management after the first left-wing administration could be summarized saying that President Vazquez cleared the field and paved the way right up to the boundaries of what his pragmatic approach allowed.

Two events stand out in this scenario. The first one, virtually the *combination key* to the future military agenda, is the approval, by the end of the period, of the National Defence Act, with an unanimous vote of all the parties. The second was the unprecedented rigorous application by President Vazquez of Article 4 of the State's Punishment Requirement Expiration Act and

its result: the incarceration of military and civil perpetrators of human right violations during the 1973-1984 dictatorial periods. With this action, President Vazquez pointed to the target of the so-called *historical agenda*, but, nonetheless, little progress has been made towards uncovering missing people's fate.

This has brought a clearer outlook to the second *Frente Amplio* government. Though the challenge is complex, it appears less dramatic.

While the *Frente Amplio* came into office in 2005 with a *radical* proposal for the Ministry of National Defence, President Vazquez's governmental actions in the field had a markedly *incremental* character. Except for the strong drive initially given to the investigations on missing people's fate during the dictatorship—which were frozen over the second half of the period—and despite prior expectations, President Vazquez's government exhibited an overall continuity of the preceding administrations post-dictatorship.

Indeed, three distinctive features can be identified regarding defence policies over the past 25 years: a remarkable military independence in the elaboration and management of military policies, a persistent undercutting of budgetary resources allocated to the Ministry of Defence,¹ and an intensive use of the President's constitutional powers for the appointment of the high-

1 In 1985, by the end of the dictatorship, the Ministry of Defence was allotted 14% of public spending. By the end of 2009, the national defence budget is just below 6%. And it should be noted that a significant portion of this is not strictly military spending.

est-rank positions in the armed forces.²

On the other hand, the government did not introduce changes to the strong military involvement in UN peacekeeping missions started through the deployment of some 800 troops in Cambodia in 1992. Moreover, the number of troops deployed abroad was even increased, mainly owing to the expansion of the Uruguayan units contributed to the Minustah (Haiti). As a matter of fact, the reduction of the number of troops in MONUC (Congo) –from 1,750 to 1,360 soldiers— was accompanied by the duplication of Uruguayan military strength contributed to the Minustah. Indeed, the 585 troops deployed to Haiti at the beginning of Dr. Vázquez's administration rose to 1,136, with the Navy, and the Air Force increasing their commitment to the mission.

It should be noted that its contribution to peacekeeping missions places Uruguay among the top strength contributors to the UN, and makes it the country that deploys the largest number of military officers to peacekeeping missions in relation to its population. For about ten years now, Uruguay has maintained 10% of its military strength in UN peacekeeping operations.

The approval of the National Defence Act, which was the government's most relevant strategic achievement in the defence area, materialized in the last few days before the end of its term. Its successor is receiving a legal text without precedents in Uruguayan legislation, setting the foundations to overcome –given the necessary political will– the already century-old political weakness of the Ministry of National Defence. In this direction, this piece of legislation might be the basis for the Uruguayan civil-military relation re-definition process.

Next to the task of implementing this Act, the second great legacy President Mujica is receiving is the de-dramatization of the items on the *historical agenda* through the *de facto* assumption by the Judiciary of its powers to judge the state terrorism crimes.

The Defence Act itself poses a number of issues. The complexity of the challenge arises from the close interrelation among the various reforms and activities that are called for in the pursuit of national defence area modernization. The following list of the subjects that are still awaiting resolution will give an idea of the size of the problems to be addressed:

- Creation and implementation of the National Defence Council and elaboration of a national defence policy providing the military instrument with guidelines on orientation, priorities and needs.

² Dr. Vázquez's administration put an end to the last prerogatives that the Army still kept for the appointment of Generals.

- Design of a military defence strategy for both, times of peace and times of war.³

- Preparation of the Ministry of Defence Organic Act and amendment of the Armed Forces Organic Act, including the harmonization of the Organic Acts for each one of the three Forces.

- Creation of the Defence Joint Staff, already undertaken by September 2010.

- Reform of military career plans and military retirement and pension systems.

- Review of the military education systems, including the changes required by the doctrine for joint operations.

- Reformation of military justice towards its incorporation into the judiciary system, including the revision of its Codes.

All of the above calls for the redesigning of the Ministry of National Defence in order to adapt its organic structures to the roles assigned under the Act: being the government agency in charge of defence policy conduct and, more specifically, the conduct of the armed forces. However, insufficient development of the skills required for this task in the civilian sphere will demand the establishment of mechanisms to educate human resource abilities to this end.

On the other hand, a new intelligence bill has to be prepared to institute the Ministry of National Defence as the core actor since, for historical reasons, the National State Intelligence Directorate lies under its jurisdiction. The design of a non-existent national intelligence system calls for the involvement of other State agencies (Ministries of the Homeland, of Foreign Affairs, of Economy –Customs–, the Central Bank, the Anti-Drug and Anti-Money Laundering Secretariats, and so on) and of the civil society itself in the elaboration of regulations of this nature, in addition, obviously, to the Congress.

Furthermore, the current situation of the armed forces health service, which has become a welfare organization for the military family, will have to be addressed within the framework of the new national health system, while strengthening military health *stricto-sensu*.

As it follows from the foregoing, the challenges facing the new Minister of the National Defence, Luis Rosadilla and his team are huge. Their resolution will, surely, exceed the possibilities of a five-year term.

³ It requires definitions on foreign policy, the country's strategic stance and required Armed Forces' capabilities. The Defence Act mandates that the country must prepare its Defence White Book and keep it updated.