

Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic
LAW

On the rehabilitation of the repressed peoples[1]

(as amended by the Law of the Russian Federation dated 01.07.1993 No. 5303-1).

The renewal of Soviet society in the process of its democratization and the formation of the rule of law in the country requires the purification of all spheres of public life from deformation and distortion of human values. It has created favorable opportunities for the rehabilitation of the peoples repressed during the Soviet regime, who were subjected to genocide and slanderous attacks.

The policy of arbitrariness and lawlessness practiced at the state level in relation to these peoples was illegal and insulted the dignity not only of the repressed, but also of all other peoples of the country. Its tragic consequences still affect inter-ethnic relations and create dangerous pockets of inter-ethnic conflict.

Based on the international acts, the declaration of the Supreme Soviet of the RUSSR of November 14, 1989 "about the recognition as illegal and criminal of the repressive acts against the peoples who have been subjected to the forced resettlement and about the provision of their rights", the resolutions of the Congresses of the RUSSR People's Deputies, and also the current legislation of the RUSSR and the RUSSR, fixing the equality of the Soviet peoples, and striving for the restoration of the historical justice, the Supreme Soviet of the RUSSR proclaims the abolition of all the illegal acts, adopted in relation to the repressed peoples, and adopts the Law of the RUSSR.

Article 1

To rehabilitate all repressed peoples of the RSFSR, having recognized illegal and criminal repressive acts against these peoples.

Article 2

Repressed are peoples (nations, nationalities or ethnic groups and other historically established cultural and ethnic communities of people, such as the Cossacks) against whom a policy of slander and genocide was pursued at the State level on the grounds of national or other affiliation, accompanied by their forced relocation, the abolition of national and State entities, the redrawing of national and territorial boundaries, the establishment of a regime of terror and violence in places of special settlement.

Article 3

The rehabilitation of repressed peoples means recognition and exercise of their right to restoration of territorial integrity, which existed before the anti-constitutional policy of forced redrawing of borders, to restoration of national and state formations established before their abolition, as well as to compensation for damages caused by the State.

Rehabilitation provides for the return of peoples who did not have their own national or State formations, according to their will, to their traditional places of residence in the territory of the RSFSR.

In the process of rehabilitation of the repressed peoples, the rights and legitimate interests of citizens currently living in the territories of the repressed peoples must not be infringed.

Article 3.1

Citizens of the repressed peoples who have been subjected to repressions in the territory of the Russian Federation on the grounds of nationality or other affiliation shall be subject to the Law of the RSFSR "On the Rehabilitation of Victims of Political Repression".

Article 4

Agitation or propaganda aimed at preventing the rehabilitation of repressed peoples shall not be permitted. Those who commit such acts, as well as those who incite them, shall be held accountable in accordance with the procedure established by law.

Article 5

The restoration and modification of the ethnic and State formations of repressed peoples is carried out on the basis of the legislative regulation of inter-ethnic relations.

Article 6

The territorial rehabilitation of repressed peoples provides for the implementation, on the basis of their will, of legal and organizational measures to restore the national and territorial boundaries that existed before their anti-constitutional violent change.

Where necessary, a transitional period may be established for the implementation of territorial rehabilitation. The decision on the establishment of the transition period and the restoration of national and territorial boundaries is taken by the Supreme Council of the RSFSR.

Article 7

Political rehabilitation of the repressed peoples, who previously had their illegally abolished national and state formations, provides for the restoration of these formations in accordance with the procedure established by Article 6 of this Law.

Article 8

The political rehabilitation of the repressed peoples who did not have their own national or State formations means their right to free national development, to return to their former places of residence in the territory of the RSFSR, and to ensure that they have equal opportunities with other peoples to exercise their political rights and freedoms guaranteed by current legislation.

Article 9

The damage caused to repressed peoples and individual citizens by the State as a result of the repressions shall be compensated for.

The procedure for compensation of damages to rehabilitated peoples and individual citizens shall be established by the legislative acts of the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics, the RSFSR and the republics that are part of the RSFSR.

Compensation for damages to rehabilitated peoples and individuals is made in stages less in monetary terms the compensations and benefits received by citizens on the basis of the RSFSR Law "On the Rehabilitation of Victims of Political Repression".

Article 10

The social rehabilitation of repressed peoples means that citizens who have been subjected to repression, the time of their stay in special settlements (places of exile) is counted as triple length of service. In this connection, an increase in the size of old-age pensions is also provided for each year of work, taking into account the periods provided for in the RSFSR Act "On pensions for citizens in the RSFSR".

Article 11

The cultural rehabilitation of repressed peoples includes a set of activities to restore their spiritual heritage and meet their cultural needs.

It also means recognizing the right of the repressed peoples to return their former historical names to the settlements and areas illegally taken away from them during the Soviet regime.

Article 12

All acts of union, republican and local bodies and officials taken against repressed peoples, except those restoring their rights, shall be deemed unconstitutional and shall become null and void.

Article 13

Peculiarities of application of this Law in relation to the repressed peoples living and residing on the territory of the Russian Federation are regulated by separate legislative acts of the RSFSR adopted in relation to each repressed people.

The Chairman
of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet
B. Yeltsin
Moscow, House of Soviets of the RSFSR
April 26, 1991
№ 1107-I

[1] The order of enactment of this document is regulated by the Resolution of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet of April 26, 1991 "On the order of enactment of the Law of the RSFSR "On rehabilitation of the repressed peoples".