



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—
- the action falls within subsection (2),
 - the use or threat is designed to influence the government [^{F1}or an international governmental organisation] or to intimidate the public or a section of the public, and
 - the use or threat is made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious [^{F2}, racial] or ideological cause.
- (2) Action falls within this subsection if it—
- involves serious violence against a person,
 - involves serious damage to property,
 - endangers a person’s life, other than that of the person committing the action,
 - creates a serious risk to the health or safety of the public or a section of the public, or
 - 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—
- “action” includes action outside the United Kingdom,
 - a reference to any person or to property is a reference to any person, or to property, wherever situated,
 - a reference to the public includes a reference to the public of a country other than the United Kingdom, and

Changes to legislation: Terrorism Act 2000, Section 1 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 16 April 2020. 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) View outstanding changes

- (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.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 1(1)(b) inserted (13.4.2006) by [Terrorism Act 2006 \(c. 11\)](#), **s. 34**; S.I. 2006/1013, **art. 2**
- F2** Words in s. 1(1)(c) inserted (16.2.2009) by [Counter-Terrorism Act 2008 \(c. 28\)](#), **ss. 75(1)(2)(a)**, 100(5) (with s. 101(2)); S.I. 2009/58, **art. 2(a)**