

**Decision of the Government of the Estonian Republic
on Navigation of Ships through the Territorial Sea
and the Internal Waters of the Estonian Republic**

**RULES OF NAVIGATION OF SHIPS
THROUGH THE TERRITORIAL SEA AND
THE INTERNAL WATERS OF THE ESTONIAN REPUBLIC**

1. Innocent passage through the territorial sea of Estonia shall be permitted to all ships. In so doing the regulations of the present Rules have to be observed.

2. The passage through the territorial sea of a warship, border guard vessels, police, customs, escort, scientific research, hydrographic, training vessels and a ship carrying out other Government tasks has to be communicated through diplomatic channels to the Government of the Estonian Republic not later than 48 hours before passage. In the communication shall be indicated the name of the ship and (or) its registration number, type and other characteristics, the time of beginning and ending and place of the passage.

The indicated requirement does not concern ice-breakers during the winter period.

3. The passage of a submarine of a foreign State through the territorial sea of Estonia has to be carried out on the surface.

4. For the passage through the territorial sea of Estonia the weapons of a ship have to be stowed fore-and-aft and covered, fishing gear and other implements of catch stowed in depository and placed in secured position.

5. For the passage of nuclear-powered ships through the territorial sea of Estonia the operator of the nuclear-powered ship has to submit an application to the Government of the Estonian Republic, making use of diplomatic channels, not later than 30 days before the planned passage. The Government of the Estonian Republic communicates its decision not later than 14 days before the planned passage.

6. Through the territorial sea of Estonia, where sea lanes and traffic separation schemes are designated, a ship of a foreign State has to pass along the given sea lanes and use during passage the given schemes. Deviations from this regulation are possible, if a deviation is well founded and does not contradict the principles of innocent passage, and if the captain of the ship immediately informs the Department of the border guard of the Estonian Republic about this through the radio station "Tallinn Radio".

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14. A pleasure craft - a ship, which is not used for the receipt of revenue and which is not a warship, border guard vessel, police, customs, escort, scientific research, hydrographic, training vessel or a ship carrying out other Government tasks - shall be permitted innocent passage through the territorial sea of Estonia in accordance with paragraphs 1, 3, 5 and 6 of the present Rules.