



Hungary: Crime of Aggression

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HUNGARY

CRIME OF AGGRESSION

The Hungarian Criminal Code¹ does not penalize specifically waging an aggressive war. It does, however, provide for the following of war crimes:

- Incitement for War
- Violence Against the Civilian Population
- War-time Looting
- Sinful Warfare
- Use of Weapons Prohibited by International Treaty
- Battlefield Looting
- Infringement of Armistice
- Violence Against a War Emissary
- Misuse of the Red Cross

Section 165 of the Criminal Code contains a special provision (Decree No. 81/1945 (II.5.) ME, enacted by Act VII of 1945, amended and complemented by Decree No. 1440/1945 (V.1.) ME). This provision establishes punishments for other war crimes². Enacted in response to World War II, the Act criminalized different “fascist-friendly” activities, such as spreading propaganda of Nazi ideology, abusing people on occupied territories, espionage, etc. Section 15(1) of the Act provides for the responsibility of those members of the legislature and other state organs, who proposed or knowingly participated in the passage of laws or measures that caused serious harm to the people’s interest. This section might be applied to government’s waging an aggressive war. There is no statute of limitation for these crimes.

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¹ Available at http://www.era.int/domains/corpus-juris/public_pdf/hungary_criminal_code.pdf in English.

² Available at <http://1000ev.hu/index.php?a=3¶m=8214> in Hungarian.