



OPERATIONAL SAFETY DIRECTIVE

Director's Support Office

Based on Article 9-d paragraph (1) line 11 of the Aviation Law ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia" No. 14/06, 24/07, 103/08, 67/10, 24/12, 80/12, 155/12, 42/14, 97/15, 152/15, 27/16, 31/16, 64/18 and "Official Gazette of the Republic of North Macedonia" No. 220/19), the director of the Civil Aviation Agency issued an

Република Северна Македонија
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OPERATIONAL SAFETY DIRECTIVE

Бр.-Nr. 08-1064/2
23-08-2023 год.-viti

Subject: Non-commercial unmanned aircraft operations with a maximum take-off mass of less than 0.5 kg. in Macedonian airspace

ODB number: 2023-001-OPS

Issued: 23.08.2023

Effective from: 24.08.2023

Revision: 00

• Purpose of the operational directive

The purpose of this operational directive is to regulate non-commercial operations with unmanned aircraft whose maximum take-off mass is less than 0.5 kg. in Macedonian airspace.

• Reason for issuing the operational directive

This operational directive is issued because the Decree on the conditions under which unmanned aircraft can fly in the Macedonian airspace ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia" no. 187/2017 and 152/2018) does not apply to unmanned aircraft from class 1, i.e. on unmanned aircraft whose maximum take-off mass is less than 0.5 kg. or whose maximum speed is less than 19 m/s. Considering that by exempting this class of unmanned aircraft, which includes the majority of unmanned aircraft for recreational use, and which are mostly available on the free market in the form of entertainment and recreation equipment with a built-in recording camera, there was a need to establish rules for the safe use of unmanned aircraft of the specified class.

• Applicability

The provisions of this operational directive will apply to non-commercial operations with unmanned aircraft with a maximum take-off weight of less than 0.5 kg, or with a maximum speed of less than 19 m/s and will be binding on foreign and domestic natural persons who will be in the role of pilots of an unmanned aircraft.

• Definitions

For the purposes of this operational directive, certain terms and expressions have the following meaning:

1. An unmanned aircraft (UAS – Unmanned Aircraft System) is an aircraft designed to perform operations without a crew, which is controlled remotely.

2. The pilot of an unmanned aircraft is a person who programs the system, operates the system of the unmanned aircraft, has direct control over the unmanned aircraft while it is in the person's field of vision and beyond it, and is responsible for its flight. In the event that operating an unmanned aircraft besides the pilot requires the hiring of other persons, the person responsible for the flight is the person (pilot) who operates the flight control commands,
3. Visual Line of Sight (VLOS) is the direct visual contact of the pilot of an unmanned aircraft with the aircraft, without the use of external optical or electronic aids, whereby means of vision correction (glasses or contact lenses) are not considered external aids,
4. Maximum take-off mass is the maximum weight of an unmanned aircraft including all systems, devices and objects installed on it (operating mass) and the load it can lift.

• **Required activity and adherence time**

- I.** Natural persons, who plan to non-commercially operate unmanned aircraft with a maximum take-off weight of less than 0.5 kg. in the Macedonian airspace should meet the following conditions:

- 1) The UAS must always be in visual line of sight (VLOS);
- 2) UAS can only be operated during the day;
- 3) the maximum operational height should not be higher than 100 m. from the field;
- 4) not to fly over people with UAS;
- 5) not to fly the UAS towards people, animals or gatherings of people;
- 6) not to fly the UAS in the airport zone without the approval of the competent air traffic control and the airport operator;
- 7) not to fly the UAS in a radius of less than 3 km. from the state border zone;
- 8) with the UAS not to fly directly over or fly at a distance of less than 100 m. from objects of importance for security and objects of state authorities, such as:
 - the facilities of the Ministry of Defense and the Army of the Republic of North Macedonia;
 - the facilities of the Ministry of Internal Affairs;
 - The Government of the Republic of North Macedonia;
 - The Assembly (Parliament) of the Republic of North Macedonia;
 - the residence of the President of the State;
 - diplomatic missions;
 - power plants, electric high-voltage plants, storage plants and water purification, correctional facilities and the like;
- 9) not to operate multiple UAS at the same time;
- 10) not to operate the UAS from a moving vehicle and
- 11) if a minor operates the UAS, it must be under the supervision of an adult.

II. The UAS pilot should:

- 1) to guarantee that the condition of the UAS will allow the planned flight to be carried out safely and that the management of the UAS is in accordance with the manufacturer's manual and by following its prescribed procedures;
- 2) to collect the latest data for all geographical areas and to act in accordance with them;
- 3) not to perform his duties under the influence of psychotropic substances or alcohol;
- 4) maintain visual contact with the UAS and observe the airspace around it to avoid any risk of

- collision with manned aircraft. Terminates operations if they become risky to other aircraft, people, animals, the environment, or the property of third parties;
- 5) to ensure that the persons involved in the area of operation are aware of the possible risks and have expressly agreed to attend;
 - 6) Any damage he/she may cause to third parties with his UAS shall be compensated in accordance with the positive legal regulations.

All specific data and information about the geographical areas, in which the UAS can fly, the UAS pilot should use from the CAA interactive map for UAS and the CAA interactive website:
<https://www.caa.gov.mk/en/20706-2/>.

This operational directive will be applied until the transposition of EU Regulations 945/2019 and 947/2019 in the Macedonian aviation legal system.

- **Notes**

1. Foreign natural persons can use the CAA interactive UAS map for informational purposes only, and cannot report flight, as that function is only available for MKDCAA registered UAS.
2. Questions regarding this operational directive should be submitted to the Civil Aviation Agency at the following address: info@caa.gov.mk

CAA Director

PhD. Tomislav Tuntev

