

Law 3536/2007 (A' 42) Articles 36-40. «Special Provisions on Migration Policy Issues and Other Matters within the Competence of the Ministry of the Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization»

Article 36

1. For the purpose of assisting the work of the religious and spiritual education of the Muslims of Thrace, two hundred and forty (240) positions of Islamic religion teachers are hereby established within the Muftiates. These positions shall preferably be filled by permanent residents of Thrace who are of the Muslim faith. The duty of the Islamic religion teachers shall be to preach and teach the Quran in the mosques of Thrace.

The allocation of the positions shall be as follows:

Muftiate of Xanthi: one hundred (100)

Muftiate of Komotini: one hundred (100)

Muftiate of Didymoteicho: forty (40).

2. Graduates of departments of Islamic theological studies of domestic higher education institutions or of recognized universities abroad shall occupy forty (40) of the aforementioned positions. Graduates of religious schools or graduates of secondary education who have proven knowledge of the teaching of the Quran shall occupy the remaining positions.
3. By decision of the Minister of National Education and Religious Affairs, following the opinion of the Committee referred to in Article 3 and of the competent Mufti, the positions of the above categories of Islamic religion teachers shall be allocated per Muftiate.

Article 37

Islamic religion teachers shall be employed under fixed-term employment contracts of nine (9) months' duration, from 1 September of each year until 31 May of the following year. The contract shall be signed by the competent Mufti.

Islamic religion teachers shall be compulsorily insured with I.K.A.–E.T.A.M.

The level of their remuneration shall be determined by a joint decision of the Ministers of Economy and Finance and of National Education and Religious Affairs. The relevant expenditure shall be borne by the budget of the Ministry of National Education and Religious Affairs.

The specific qualifications required for each category of Islamic religion teachers, the selection criteria applicable to each category, as well as the procedure for the recruitment of religious instructors through a public call for applications, shall be determined by a joint decision of the Ministers of the Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization and of National Education

and Religious Affairs, by way of derogation from the provisions in force governing the recruitment of personnel under private-law employment relationships in the public sector.

Article 38

The selection of Islamic religion teachers shall be carried out by a five-member Committee composed of representatives of the Ministries of the Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization, Foreign Affairs, and National Education and Religious Affairs, as well as two (2) members of the academic staff of Greek universities specializing in matters of the Islamic religion, following the opinion of the competent Mufti. The members of the Committee shall be appointed by decision of the Minister of National Education and Religious Affairs.

Article 39

Upon the initial implementation of this Law, and in any event not beyond the first five-year period, graduates of the religious schools of Echinós and Komotini, as well as graduates of primary education schools, may also be appointed to positions of Islamic religion teachers, provided that they demonstrably possess knowledge of the teaching of the Quran.

For the selection of the most suitable candidates for these positions, irrespective of formal educational qualifications, the Committee referred to in Article 3, in order to reach its decision, shall form an overall assessment of the candidates' suitability, taking into account their moral character, activity and overall personality, as well as their prior service and experience as Islamic religion teachers.

Article 40

Ten (10) new established permanent administrative staff positions are hereby created within the Muftiates of Thrace. Three (3) of these positions shall be filled by holders of a secondary education diploma, and the remaining seven (7) positions shall be filled by graduates of university departments.

These positions shall be allocated as follows:

- Muftiate of Xanthi: one (1) position of Secondary Education and three (3) positions of Tertiary Education.
- Muftiate of Komotini: one (1) position of Secondary Education and three (3) positions of Tertiary Education.
- Muftiate of Didymoteicho: one (1) position of Secondary Education and one (1) position of Tertiary Education.

The qualifications required for the aforementioned staff members shall be determined by a joint decision of the Ministers of Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization, and National Education and Religious Affairs.