

SYMBOLS OF OUR COUNTRY & OF THE MSAR

National flag • National emblem • National anthem

Regional flag • Regional emblem

CHINA



MACAO

法務局

Direcção dos Serviços de
Assuntos de Justiça

Symbols of our Country

The national flag, national emblem, and the national anthem (March of the Volunteers) of the People's Republic of China are all national symbols.

National flag

Design of the national flag

The national flag of the People's Republic of China is the five-starred red flag. The upper left of the face of the flag is studded with five yellow five-pointed stars. One of the stars is larger than the others. Each of the four small five-pointed stars has an angle pointing at the centre of the large five-pointed star.



Concerning the use and display of the national flag

- *The national flag must be displayed each day at the official residence of the Chief Executive and the Macao International Airport, among other locations.*
- *The national flag must be displayed on each working day at the office of the Chief Executive, the Legislative Assembly and the Court of Final Appeal, among other locations.*
- *The national flag and its design must not be used in trademarks or advertisements, or in private funeral activities; the offender is subject to a fine of up to 50,000 patacas.*
- *The use of the national flag and its design in connection with any trade, or the logo, seal or badge of any non-governmental organization is subject to the prior approval of the Chief Executive.*
- *The display or use of a national flag which is damaged, defiled, faded, substandard or, for any reason, deteriorated, is subject to a fine of up to 10,000 patacas.*

Symbols of the MSAR

The symbols of the Macao Special Administrative Region are the regional flag and the regional emblem.

Regional flag

Design of the regional flag

The face of the flag is green, with a white 3-petal lotus at the centre. Above the lotus there are five golden five-pointed stars. One of the stars, which is bigger, should be at the centre, with two smaller stars on the left and the other two on the right. Under the lotus there is a white bridge and four white lines, representing the seawater that should be increasing by thickness, gradually from top to bottom, giving a depth perspective.



Concerning the use and display of the regional flag

- *The regional flag must be displayed each day at the official residence of the Chief Executive and the Macao International Airport, among other locations.*
- *The regional flag must be displayed on each working day at the office of the Chief Executive, the Legislative Assembly and the law courts of various levels, among other locations.*
- *The regional flag and its design must not be used in trademarks or advertisements; the offender is subject to a fine of up to 20,000 patacas.*
- *The use of the regional flag and its design in connection with any trade, or the logo, seal or badge of any non-governmental organization is subject to the prior approval of the Chief Executive.*
- *The display or use of a regional flag which is damaged, defiled, faded, substandard or, for any reason, deteriorated, is subject to a fine of up to 8,000 patacas.*

Raising and lowering the national flag

- *The national flag must be hoisted or lowered slowly from a vertical staff. When hoisted, the national flag must reach the peak of the staff; when lowered, it may not touch the ground.*
- *The national flag, when flown at half staff, should be first hoisted to the peak of the staff and then lowered to a point where the distance between the top of the flag and the peak of the staff is one third of the length of the staff; when the flag is lowered, it should be hoisted to the peak before it is lowered.*
- *According to international practice, national flags are raised at sunrise and lowered at sunset. For administrative convenience, the national flag at Government buildings should be raised at 8 a.m. and lowered at 6 p.m.*
- *Only one national flag should be hoisted from a flagstaff.*

Rules for flying the national flag and regional flag at the same time

- *Whenever the national flag is flown together with the regional flag, it should be either at the centre, above the regional flag, or in a position of prominence.*
- *When the national flag and the regional flag are displayed at the same time or displayed side by side, the regional flag should be smaller than the national flag.*
- *When the national flag is flown alongside the regional flag, the national flag is to be on the right and the regional flag on the left.*
- *Whenever the flag of an organization is flown together with the national flag and the regional flag, the flag of the organization should not be larger than the regional flag.*

National emblem

Design of the national emblem

The national emblem consists of a national flag, Tian'anmen, a cogwheel and wheat and rice stems and beads, symbolizing the birth of New China under people's democratic dictatorship which is led by the working class and based on the alliance of workers and peasants through the Chinese people's new-democratic revolutionary struggle ever since the May 4th Movement.



Raising and lowering the regional flag

- *The regional flag must be hoisted or lowered slowly from a vertical staff. When hoisted, the regional flag must reach the peak of the staff; when lowered, it may not touch the ground.*
- *When a regional flag is to be flown at half staff, it should be first hoisted to the peak of the staff and then lowered to a point where the distance between the top of the flag and the peak of the staff is one third of the length of the staff; when the flag is lowered, it should be hoisted to the peak before it is lowered.*
- *According to international practice, flags are raised at sunrise and lowered at sunset. For administrative convenience, the regional flag at Government buildings should be raised at 8 a.m. and lowered at 6 p.m.*
- *When the national flag and the regional flag are displayed at the same time, the national flag should be the first to be hoisted and the last to be lowered.*
- *Only one regional flag should be hoisted from a flagstaff.*

- *Whenever the national flag, the regional flag and the flag of an organization are flown together, the national flag should be in the centre, the regional flag on the left and the organization flag on the right.*
- *Regarding the above "left" and "right" positions, when the national flag and regional flag are displayed outside a building, "left" and "right" sides are ascertained by reference to a person facing the front part of the flags. For the display of the flags inside a building, "left" and "right" sides of the building are ascertained by reference to a person standing with his back to the backing wall of the flags.*

Regional emblem

Design of the regional emblem

The regional emblem of the Macao Special Administrative Region is round in shape. It bears a green circular edge, an outer ring marked with scripts, a green inner ring with a design of five stars, lotus, bridge and seawater. The outer ring marked with scripts lies between the green circular edge and the green inner ring. The words and characters, on a white background, are green in colour. Evenly arranged in the upper part of the outer ring are the Chinese characters "中華人民共和國澳門特別行政區" in complex form and in the standard format for the regional emblem. The Portuguese words "MACAU" in the standard format for the regional emblem are evenly arranged further down the outer ring.



Concerning the use and display of the national emblem

- *The national emblem must be displayed at the office of the Chief Executive and the Government Head Office.*
- *The national emblem and its design must not be used in trademarks or advertisements, in furnishings or ornaments in everyday life or in private activities of celebration or condolence.*
- *The use of the national emblem and its design in connection with any trade, or the logo, seal or badge of any non-governmental organization is subject to the prior approval of the Chief Executive.*
- *The display or use of a national emblem which is damaged, defiled, faded, substandard or, for any reason, deteriorated, is subject to a fine of up to 10,000 patacas.*

Rules for using the national emblem and regional emblem at the same time

- *When the national emblem and the regional emblem are hung and displayed at the same time, the principle is to apply the rules for the national flag and the regional flag.*

Desecration of national symbols

- *Whoever, publicly, with words, gestures, dissemination in writing or other communications media with the public, offends or disrespects the national symbols (national flag, national emblem, national anthem), is subject to a penalty of imprisonment up to 3 years or a fine up to 360 days (the daily fine, which varies from 50 patacas to 10,000 patacas, shall be determined by the court according to the offender's economic situation).*
- *Whoever burns, mutilates, scrawls on, defiles, or tramples upon the national flag or national emblem, or, intentionally, does not follow the lyrics while performing the national anthem or changes them, is committing the same crime of desecration of national symbols due to disrespect.*
- *If a copy of the national symbols resembles so closely the original as to lead the public to believe that it is the national symbol, the desecration of such copies also constitutes the above-mentioned crime.*

Concerning the use and display of the regional emblem

- *The regional emblem must be displayed at the office of the Chief Executive, the Legislative Assembly and the law courts of various levels, among other locations.*
- *The regional emblem and its design must not be used in trademarks or advertisements.*
- *The use of the regional emblem and its design in connection with any trade, or the logo, seal or badge of any non-governmental organization is subject to the prior approval of the Chief Executive.*
- *The display or use of a regional emblem which is damaged, defiled, faded, substandard or, for any reason, deteriorated, is subject to a fine of up to 8,000 patacas.*

Desecration of regional flag and regional emblem

- *Whoever, publicly, with words, gestures, dissemination in writing or other communications media with the public, offends or disrespects the regional flag or regional emblem, is subject to a penalty of imprisonment up to 2 years or a fine up to 240 days (the daily fine, which varies from 50 patacas to 10,000 patacas, shall be determined by the court according to the offender's economic situation).*
- *Whoever burns, mutilates, scrawls on, defiles, or tramples upon the regional flag or regional emblem is committing the same crime of desecration of regional flag or regional emblem due to disrespect.*
- *If a copy of the regional flag or regional emblem resembles so closely the original as to lead the public to believe that it is the regional flag or regional emblem, the desecration of such copies also constitutes the above-mentioned crime.*

National anthem

“March of the Volunteers”, written by Tian Han with music composed by Nie Er in 1935, is the national anthem of the People’s Republic of China.

Concerning the performance of the national anthem

- *The national anthem should be performed in precise terms of the score formally prescribed by law.*
- *Nobody can change the lyrics of the national anthem.*

People’s Republic of China March of the Volunteers

進行曲速度

田漢 詞
聶耳 曲

起 來！ 不 願 做 奴 隸 的 人 們， 把 我 們 的

血 肉 築 成 我 們 新 的 長 城！ 中 華

民 族 到 了 最 危 險 的 時 候， 每 個 人 被

迫 着 發 出 最 後 的 吼 聲。 起 來！ 起 來！ 起

來！ 我 們 萬 眾 一 心， 冒 着 敵 人 的 炮 火 前 進！

冒 着 敵 人 的 炮 火 前 進！ 前 進！ 前 進！ 進！

Website of DSAJ: www.dsaj.gov.mo

Website of the Macaolaw: www.macaolaw.gov.mo