

ANNUAL REPORT

EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

2025



EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS
COUR EUROPÉENNE DES DROITS DE L'HOMME



English edition

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European Court of Human Rights

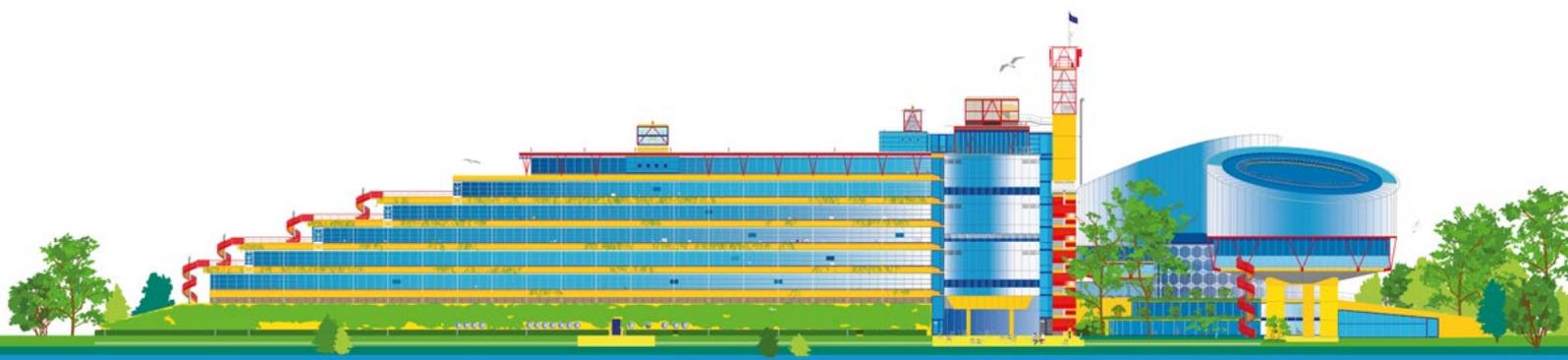
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Foreword





MATTIAS GUYOMAR

President
European Court of Human Rights

The year 2025 marked the 75th anniversary of the European Convention on Human Rights, a text born of the sovereign will of 12 founding States and signed in Rome on 4 November 1950. During the drafting process, Mr Roberts of the United Kingdom stated:

“This Convention means that the European community as a whole guarantees the maintenance in all its member States of a living democracy, and that the liberty of each individual ... is the concern of all.”

Those words have particular resonance at a time when Europe is facing war, the resurgence of authoritarian tendencies, an erosion of trust in the rule of law and the emergence of major crises. These challenges are compounded by a rise in disinformation and populism, and a weakening in

the commitment to humanist values and to the principles of pluralism and tolerance.

The Convention – the creation of individuals who were courageous enough to establish a system without precedent in world history – was designed to meet the challenges of those troubled times, by safeguarding fundamental rights and the values of liberal democracy. Today, with 46 signatory States, the Convention – the embodiment of legal humanism – affords protection to 700 million people across Europe and has been progressively strengthened through the adoption of 16 additional Protocols.

To commemorate this anniversary, a solemn ceremony was held on 4 November 2025 in the Human Rights Building, attended by Alain Berset, Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Myriam Spiteri Debono, President of the Republic of Malta, and Theodoros Rousopoulos, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

Together, we evoked the origins of the Convention, the exceptional scope of its system of protection, and the collective responsibility incumbent upon us to preserve its vitality and effectiveness. In fulfilling their role of protecting fundamental rights, judges uphold the vitality of the rule of law and, in so doing, affirm their position – within the framework of the separation of powers – as the guardians of democracy.

As part of the system of “shared responsibility”, the Court, the judicial body of the Council of Europe, must reconcile three priorities, which are the foundational elements of its institutional legitimacy: efficiency, visibility and accountability.

Efficiency is the essential prerequisite if the Convention system is to remain sustainable.

During the year, which began under the active presidency of my predecessor and friend, Marko Bošnjak, the Court continued its efforts to ensure that, through the proper administration of justice, the right of individual application is exercised effectively.

Continuation of the previous reforms has enabled the Court to make further progress, both quantitatively and qualitatively, through the expertise and commitment of its 46 judges and the 750 members of its Registry.

Although the Court received more applications in 2025 than in 2024 (31,800 compared with 28,800), a 10% increase, the number of pending cases fell by 11%, from 60,350 in 2024 to 53,450 in 2025. This is explained by a 5% increase in the number of cases (more than 38,500) decided in 2025 compared with 2024.

Thanks to the strategy for handling “impact” cases, the average time taken to examine this type of application has been reduced from 64 to 28 months, bringing us closer to the ultimate goal of 18 months.

This progress was further enhanced by the completion of the first two phases of the Case Processing Gateway project, designed to channel cases towards the most appropriate judicial formation.

Efficiency is also reflected in improved internal coordination, the aim of which is to manage cases transversally on the basis of their subject matter. To this end, a specialised unit was set up to examine applications relating to the environment and climate change, thereby guaranteeing consistency and expertise in their handling. This unit supplements the existing committee for immigration-related cases and the Conflicts Unit.

This obligation to be efficient also implies a willingness to harness technological agility and digital progress to further the proper administration of justice.

At a time when anti-judicial populism is on the rise, it is essential to maintain confidence in the justice system. In this respect, ensuring the **visibility** of the Court’s role is another strategic priority.

Every day, press releases are published on the Court’s website concerning the most sensitive and important cases, and for each case examined by the Grand Chamber, the Court now issues an educational video to explain the scope and impact of the judgment to the general public. The transparency of our work has been enhanced by the weekly publication of a press release on requests for interim measures.

In addition to these traditional communication channels, the Court has launched a LinkedIn page, to promote a better understanding of the rule of law and of the Court’s daily work.

Furthermore, for the first time since 2019, the Court held an Open Day on 21 September, welcoming nearly 4,000 visitors.

The Human Rights Building was also in the spotlight this July, when its 30th anniversary was celebrated. The event was attended by Ivan Harbour, the architect who succeeded in translating Sir Richard Rogers’ vision into a structure embodying the shared values that unite our continent.

In order to revitalise interest in human rights, the Court must not only open itself up but must also extend its activity beyond its walls.

Accountability is the indispensable corollary of judicial independence. In this respect, the Court must not only fully assume its judicial responsibility, but also strive to provide information about its activity and its role. This task is part and parcel of the principle of subsidiarity, a cornerstone of the Convention system. The Court intervenes only in its turn and within its remit: in its turn, after the exhaustion of domestic remedies, so as to ensure that national courts have first provided protection of rights; within its remit, by respecting the margin of appreciation afforded to national authorities in the application of Convention standards.

This shared responsibility is reflected in strengthened institutional dialogue, exemplified by the entry into force of Protocol No. 16, which has now been ratified by 25 States and has already given rise to 12 requests for advisory opinions, thereby consolidating the Court’s own role in supporting national courts.

Judicial dialogue is supplemented by various forms of cooperation between the national legal systems and their members.

2025 also marked the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the Superior Courts Network, which today brings together 111 courts from the 46 member States and 5 observer courts and constitutes a unique forum for judicial dialogue.

The visits by delegations to the Human Rights Building and numerous missions to national courts attest to the Court’s commitment to strengthening mutual trust and judicial solidarity. This dialogue also extends to the Court of Justice of the European Union, which in November hosted a delegation of 26 judges in the context of our annual meetings. Such solidarity between judges is the best guarantee of judicial independence, which is a cornerstone of the rule of law.

This year again, in ruling on the applications before it, the Court has fulfilled its role as Europe’s constitutional court for human rights. Through its interpretation of the Convention, the Court continues to keep pace with societal developments and helps to strengthen the protection of fundamental rights in cases that affect individuals’ daily lives, while also addressing systemic issues across the continent.

In order to illustrate the ongoing relevance of the Court’s judicial role, this year’s Annual Report is accompanied by a separate volume containing an overview of the case-law, together with the list of the key cases from 2025.

Through its residual jurisdiction to deal with cases lodged against the Russian Federation

prior to its expulsion from the Council of Europe, the Court remains the only international court capable of engaging that State's responsibility for serious violations of the rights guaranteed by the Convention.

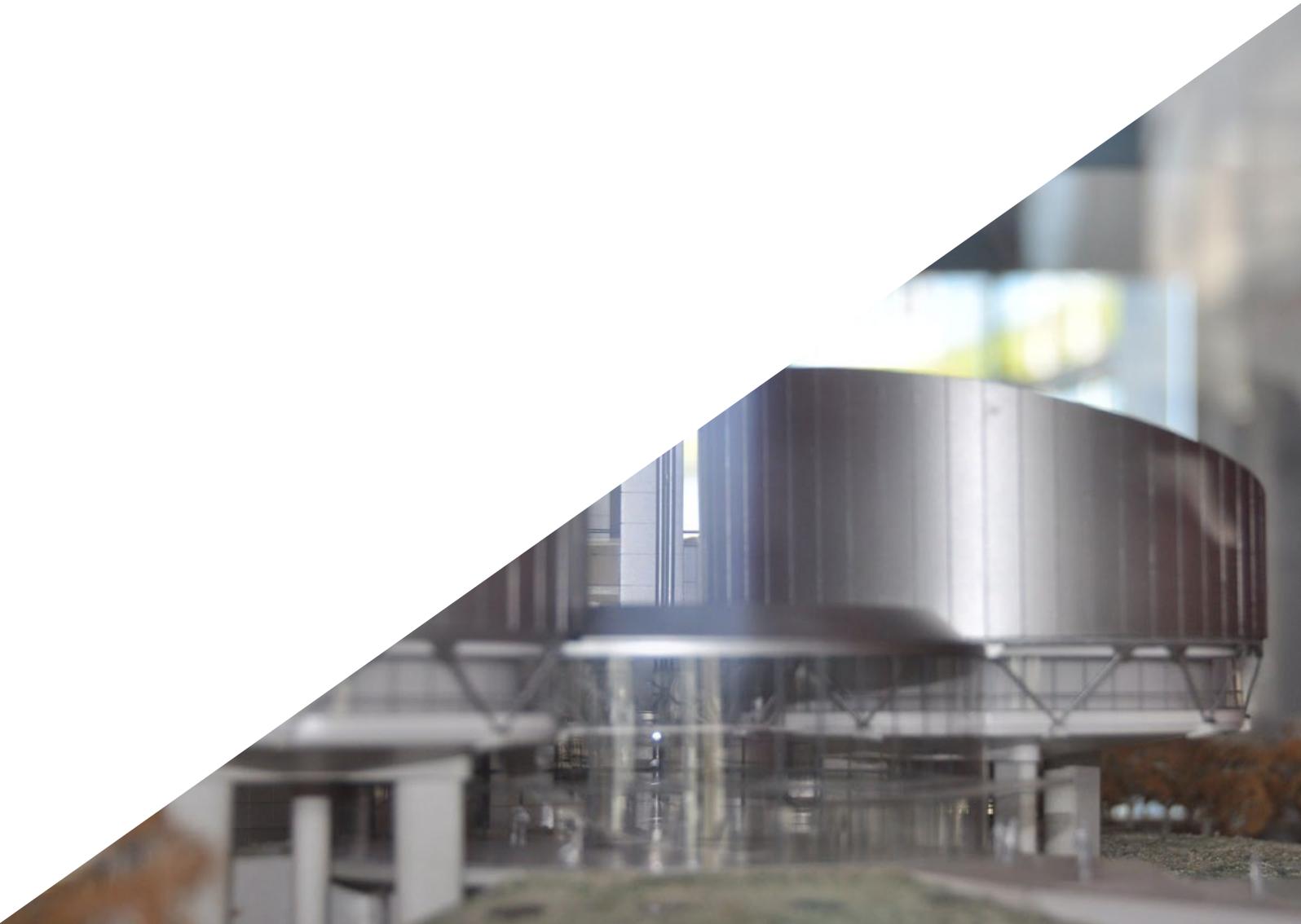
This jurisdiction was notably exercised in the judgment of 9 July 2025 in *Ukraine and the Netherlands v. Russia*, in which the Grand Chamber found massive and systematic violations of fundamental rights linked to the conflict in Ukraine and held Russia accountable. Through this judgment of unprecedented scope and exceptional impact, the Court reaffirmed that the Convention

system cannot tolerate the erasure of a State's legal identity by force, thereby reasserting its own role in upholding democracy, State sovereignty and the rule of law.

The Convention, a fragile and precious asset, imbued with conviction and optimism, is in our hands, and it imposes obligations upon us. It embodies the renewed promise to honour the commitment made 75 years ago by its drafters, namely to be that "conscience ... which will sound the alarm", in the words of Pierre-Henri Teitgen – a legacy we share and which it is our responsibility to keep alive and relevant today.



Judicial activities



Judicial metrics: a year in review

53,450

pending applications

decrease of 11%

286

judgments

delivered by Chambers in respect of 1,010 applications

622

judgments

delivered by Committees of three judges in respect of 5,985 applications

27,488

applications

declared inadmissible or struck out by single judges

3,904

applications

declared inadmissible or struck out by Committees

169

applications

declared inadmissible or struck out by Chambers

Grand Chamber activities

6

judgments

and 1 inadmissibility decision delivered by the Grand Chamber

7

oral hearings

held by the Grand Chamber, including 3 on the same day

7

examinations

by the Panel of the Grand Chamber

2

cases

relinquished to the Grand Chamber

4

cases

referred to the Grand Chamber by the Panel

15

cases

pending at the end of the year (involving 26 applications)

1

advisory-opinion request

under Protocol No. 16 accepted and pending before the Grand Chamber

The Court

From left to right



FIRST ROW

- ▶ Lätif Hüseyinov
- ▶ Kateřina Šimáčková
- ▶ Lado Chanturia
- ▶ Arnfinn Bårdsen (Vice-President)
- ▶ Mattias Guyomar (President)
- ▶ Ivana Jelić (Vice-President)
- ▶ Ioannis Ktistakis
- ▶ Faris Vehabović
- ▶ Jovan Ilievski

SECOND ROW

- ▶ María Elósegui
- ▶ Oddný Mjöll Arnardóttir
- ▶ Jolien Schukking
- ▶ Lorraine Schembri Orland
- ▶ Diana Kovatcheva
- ▶ Ana Maria Guerra Martins
- ▶ Diana Sârcu
- ▶ Andreas Zünd

THIRD ROW

- ▶ Vasilka Sancin
- ▶ Saadet Yüksel
- ▶ Sebastian Rădulețu
- ▶ Mykola Gnatovskyy
- ▶ András Jakab
- ▶ Erik Wennerström
- ▶ Anja Seibert-Fohr
- ▶ Artūrs Kučš
- ▶ Darian Pavli

FOURTH ROW

Top to bottom, then left to right

- ▶ Marialena Tsirli (Registrar)
- ▶ Úna Ní Raifeartaigh
- ▶ Anna Adamska-Gallant
- ▶ Davor Derenčinović
- ▶ Frédéric Krenc
- ▶ Vahe Grigoryan
- ▶ Gediminas Sagatys
- ▶ Stéphane Pisani
- ▶ Péter Paczolay
- ▶ Mateja Đurović
- ▶ Peeter Roosma
- ▶ Hugh Mercer
- ▶ Juha Lavapuro
- ▶ Canòlic Mingorance Cairat
- ▶ Anne Louise Bormann
- ▶ Sébastien Biancheri
- ▶ Gilberto Felici
- ▶ Abel Campos (Deputy Registrar)

Composition of the Court

As of 31 December 2025, in order of precedence*

 FRA  Mattias Guyomar	 NOR  Arnfinn Bårdsen	 MNE  Ivana Jelić	 GEO  Lado Chanturia	 GRC  Ioannis Ktistakis	 CZE  Kateřina Šimáčková
 BIH  Faris Vehabović	 CYP  Georgios Serghides	 AZE  Lətif Hüseyinov	 MKD  Jovan Ilievski	 NLD  Jolien Schukking	 HUN  Péter Paczolay
 ESP  María Elósegui	 SMR  Gilberto Felici	 ALB  Darian Pavli	 SWE  Erik Wennerström	 ITA  Raffaele Sabato	 TUR  Saadet Yüksel
 MLT  Lorraine Schembri Orland	 DEU  Anja Seibert-Fohr	 EST  Peeter Roosma	 PRT  Ana Maria Guerra Martins	 CHE  Andreas Zünd	 BEL  Frédéric Krenc
 MDA  Diana Sârcu	 HRV  Davor Derenčinović	 UKR  Mykola Gnatovskyy	 ISL  Oddný Mjöll Arnardóttir	 DNK  Anne Louise Bormann	 ROU  Sebastian Rădulețu
 BGR  Diana Kovatcheva	 LTU  Gediminas Sagatys	 LUX  Stéphane Pisani	 IRL  Úna Ní Raifeartaigh	 LIE  Alain Chablais	 LVA  Artūrs Kučš
 SRB  Mateja Đurović	 AUT  András Jakab	 POL  Anna Adamska-Gallant	 FIN  Juha Lavapuro	 AND  Canòlic Mingorance Cairat	 ARM  Vahe Grigoryan
 SVN  Vasilka Sancin	 MCO  Sébastien Biancheri	 UK  Hugh Mercer		 GRC  Marialena Tsirli Registrar	 PRT  Abel Campos Deputy Registrar

*From left to right. The seat of the judge elected in respect of the Slovak Republic is currently vacant.

Composition of the Sections

As of 31 December 2025, in order of precedence

Ivana Jelić **President**
Erik Wennerström **Vice-President**
Raffaele Sabato
Frédéric Krenc
Davor Derenčinović
Alain Chablais
Artūrs Kučš
Anna Adamska-Gallant
Ilse Freiwirth **Registrar**
Liv Tigerstedt **Deputy Registrar**

Arnfinn Bårdsen **President**
Saadet Yüksel **Vice-President**
Jovan Ilievski
Péter Paczolay
Oddný Mjöll Arnardóttir
Gediminas Sagatys
Stéphane Pisani
Juha Lavapuro
Hugh Mercer
Hasan Bakırcı **Registrar**
Dorothee von Arnim **Deputy Registrar**

Ioannis Ktistakis **President**
Peeter Roosma **Vice-President**
Lətif Hüseynov
Darian Pavli
Diana Kovatcheva
Úna Ní Raifeartaigh
Mateja Đurović
Canòlic Mingorance Cairat
Vasilka Sancin
Milan Blaško **Registrar**
Olga Chernishova **Deputy Registrar**

Lado Chanturia **President**
Jolien Schukking **Vice-President**
Faris Vehabović
Lorraine Schembri Orland
Anja Seibert-Fohr
Ana Maria Guerra Martins
Anne Louise Bormann
Sebastian Rădulețu
András Jakab
Simeon Petrovski **Deputy Registrar**

Kateřina Šimáčková **President**
María Elósegui **Vice-President**
Mattias Guyomar
Georgios Serghides
Gilberto Felici
Andreas Zünd
Diana Sârcu
Mykola Gnatovskyy
Vahe Grigoryan
Sébastien Biancheri
Victor Soloveytchik **Registrar**
Martina Keller **Deputy Registrar**

Meet our new judges

Roll your mouse over the text or scan the QR code to watch the videos

Who are you?

My name is Juha Lavapuro and I am the new Finnish judge at the European Court of Human Rights.

Before joining the Court, I was a judge at the Supreme Administrative Court of Finland for five years.

Before my judicial career, I was a full professor of law at the University of Turku.

I have over 20 years of research and teaching experience in constitutional law and theory, as well as in human rights law.

What does the ECHR represent for you?

For me, the Court is now more important than ever.

The Court has been instrumental in protecting not only human rights but also liberal democracy and the rule of law in Europe for decades.

Unfortunately, these principles have now been questioned in parts of Europe and elsewhere.

There have been increasing instances of the illiberal repression of civil society, the erosion of minority rights and even calls for authoritarian forms of government.

In my view, the need for a conscience of Europe is now as pressing as it was when the Council of Europe was founded soon after the Second World War.

What do you consider to be the most important ECHR case?

For me, *Tyrrer v. the United Kingdom* from 1978 stands out as the most important case of the Court. Its



Juha LAVAPURO (Finland)
judge of the Court since 1 January 2025

continuing significance lies in the establishment of the so-called living instrument doctrine, which has shaped the Court's ability to use the old text of the Human Rights Convention to address new issues, such as digital privacy, gender identity and climate change.

Without the *Tyrrer* judgment, without this living instrument doctrine, the Convention might be outdated or irrelevant by now.

Thanks to what was established in *Tyrrer*, that is not the case.



Who are you?

My name is Canòlic Mingorance Cairat and I have recently been elected to the Court as the judge in respect of Andorra.

I have spent my entire career as a member of the judiciary: first as an investigating judge and later as a trial judge, almost exclusively in criminal cases.

I have also sat on various committees at the Council of Europe, as an evaluator for MONEYVAL and as a member of the Consultative Council of European judges.

So, up until now, my work has been mainly focused on organised crime, the fight against money laundering, and issues pertaining to the independence of the judiciary.

What does the ECHR represent for you?

The Court was created as a whistle-blower, but I think that, today, in addition to acting as a whistle-blower, it is a guarantor of human dignity, but also of democracy and the rule of law, since you cannot have one without the others.

And given the times in which we are living in Europe, it is important not to forget any of these three foundations.

What do you consider to be the most important ECHR case?

There have been many landmark cases, but one case that was important for the Court's future role was the *Tyrer* case against the United Kingdom,



Canòlic MINGORANCE CAIRAT (Andorra)
judge of the Court since 31 March 2025

since that was the first case where the Court held that the Convention was a living instrument.

The Convention has to evolve along with the tools of present-day society, but also with the views that individuals and European citizens may have on facts and rights that were established in 1950, that is, on the basis of very different views from the ones we may hold today.

I think the fact that the Convention evolves along with society is the reason for its success.



Who are you?

I practised human rights law for 15 years, from 2004 until 2019. I represented victims of human rights abuses before the Armenian courts and before the Court. Starting in 2013, my activity also embraced Georgia, Russia, Azerbaijan and other jurisdictions when I joined the European Human Rights Advocacy Centre (EHRAC) in London. In 2019 I was elected as a judge at the Constitutional Court of Armenia before becoming vice president of the court in 2022.

What does the ECHR represent for you?

The machinery under the European Convention on Human Rights is the first effective system ever to be established in the international order during our civilisation, whereby individuals who have suffered from human rights abuses are effectively vested with the right to challenge their government before an international court. This speaks about accountability, which is a unique feature of the Court. But it is not only about the accountability of governments before individuals whose rights were affected by policies or law enforcement, but also the accountability of each and every State before all the other 45 members of the Convention. The Court is the embodiment of this accountability.

I come from a jurisdiction when, in the dark and difficult times for democracy and justice, the Court served as a court of last hope. Unfortunately, for some jurisdictions there may be issues that are not only a matter of history, so it is always important to remember that for groups of people, for some individuals, for populations of certain jurisdictions, the Court may serve as a court of last hope.

What do you consider to be the most important ECHR case?

One case that comes immediately to mind is that of *Mathieu-Mohin and Clerfayt v. Belgium* in 1987,



Vahe GRIGORYAN (Armenia)
judge of the Court since 28 April 2025

especially its part on Article 3 of Protocol No. 1, where the Court – referring to the Preamble to the Convention – firmly established that that Article, concerning the right to free elections, was fundamental to the Convention. The judgment, in my opinion, reinstated the right to free elections to the real and initial position that the drafters of the Convention had in mind.

These days, the safeguards against the menace of tyranny are no less important. When talking about a strong link between democracy and human rights, a key aspect is that while human rights may be effectively protected and flourish only within a democratic environment, or a democratic political regime, the level of protection of human rights and individual freedoms is also a primary indicator of the quality of democracy, that is, whether it is a true or meaningful democracy or a façade of a democracy.



Who are you?

I am a citizen of the world, but also a professor of international law from Slovenia. As well as having had the pleasure of serving on the UN Human Rights Committee and the UN Human Rights Council Advisory Committee, I have acted as an expert member in the Interministerial National Commission for Human Rights and the Human Rights Council of the Ombudsperson in Slovenia.

What does the ECHR represent for you?

For me, the European Court of Human Rights is more than a legal institution. I would rather call it a yardstick of humanity. It demonstrates, over and over again, that dignity, freedom and the rule of law are not just European values, but they are civilisational achievements that affect people around the globe. And in that sense, I think that the Court's power and impact transcend European borders and have influenced developments in many countries around the globe in their domestic jurisprudence, as well as through constitutional developments.

What do you consider to be the most important ECHR case?

The most important cases are those whose judgments are fully implemented, or rather executed. But in terms of addressing systemic or structural problems in States Parties, I think that pilot judgments are of great importance, from *Broniowski v. Poland* (2004) onwards, including pilot



Vasilka SANCIN (Slovenia)
judge of the Court since 30 May 2025

judgments delivered against Slovenia – for example *Kurić and Others v. Slovenia*, which dealt with the so-called erased persons' claims.

I, as an international lawyer, would also like to highlight that for me it is very important that the Court does not shy away from dealing with inter-State complaints, from the first one, *Ireland v. the United Kingdom*, to the more recent ones in *Georgia v. Russia* and *Ukraine v. Russia*.



Who are you?

My name is Sébastien Biancheri. I have been a judge for nearly 20 years in Monaco's judicial institutions. At the time of my election to the Court, I was Vice-President of the Court of Appeal, the Principality of Monaco's highest permanent court.

For 13 years I was also the Secretary of the *Conseil d'État*, an independent constitutional body whose role includes giving opinions on bills and regulations. Lastly, from 2015, I was a member of the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ) within the Council of Europe.

What does the ECHR represent for you?

The Convention represents the bedrock of fundamental values shared by the Council of Europe's member States, and it is the joint responsibility of the High Contracting Parties and the Court to give it meaning. The Court in particular, 75 years after the Convention was signed, has to keep acting as a conscience, calling out illiberal tendencies. It is an institution with two remarkable features. First, it is an international court that is highly accessible, through individual applications, to anyone under the jurisdiction of member States, delivering justice if a violation is found. It is also a human rights court tasked with determining cases and interpreting the Convention in the light of the aims set out in its Preamble, namely the maintenance and further realisation of rights and fundamental freedoms.

What do you consider to be the most important ECHR case?

The Court has an extensive body of case-law and my colleagues, in their *One Judge, Three Questions* videos, have already cited landmark judgments on



Sébastien BIANCHERI (Monaco)
judge of the Court since 7 July 2025

the protection of human dignity, the guarantee of a fair hearing, and civil and political liberties. I would say that a case that made a big impression on me during my studies was *Mazurek v. France*, which was decided in 2000. In it, a violation was found on account of lawful discrimination against children born of an adulterous relationship with regard to inheritance. Under French law at the time, they enjoyed fewer rights than legitimate children. The Court, on the basis of Article 14 of the Convention, considered that this difference in treatment was neither objective nor reasonable. It relied on two worthy principles: individuals cannot be penalised on grounds of birth, or for circumstances they were not responsible for.



Who are you?

I am Hugh Mercer. I have been elected as judge in respect of the United Kingdom. I have been practising as a barrister since 1987, doing international aspects of law – public international, private international, EU law and human rights law. I have also been a member of the Bars of Northern Ireland and of Walloon Brabant and Brussels. Since 2018 I have been working as a deputy High Court judge, deciding general civil cases and also administrative-law cases in the High Court in London.

What does the ECHR represent for you?

For me, the ECHR represents peace of mind for citizens – *Rechtsfrieden*. In the majority of cases, national courts provide just results according to national law. But in a tiny minority, the Court is called upon to determine whether the result at the national level is just and in accordance with the Convention. And, in a small number of cases, the Court accepts them for examination. I think also the importance and significance of the ECHR goes a step further. I will always remember a taxi driver in Belfast, who, when he learned that I was working on a human rights case, said to me: “In Northern Ireland, human rights means peace, 25 years of peace.”

What do you consider to be the most important ECHR case?

A case which resonates for me is *Schwabe and M.G. v. Germany* in 2011. This concerned demonstrators at the G8 summit to be held in Germany. Some demonstrators were found in a prison car park with banners saying: “Free all prisoners”. The police detained the demonstrators because they anticipated that some crimes might be committed.

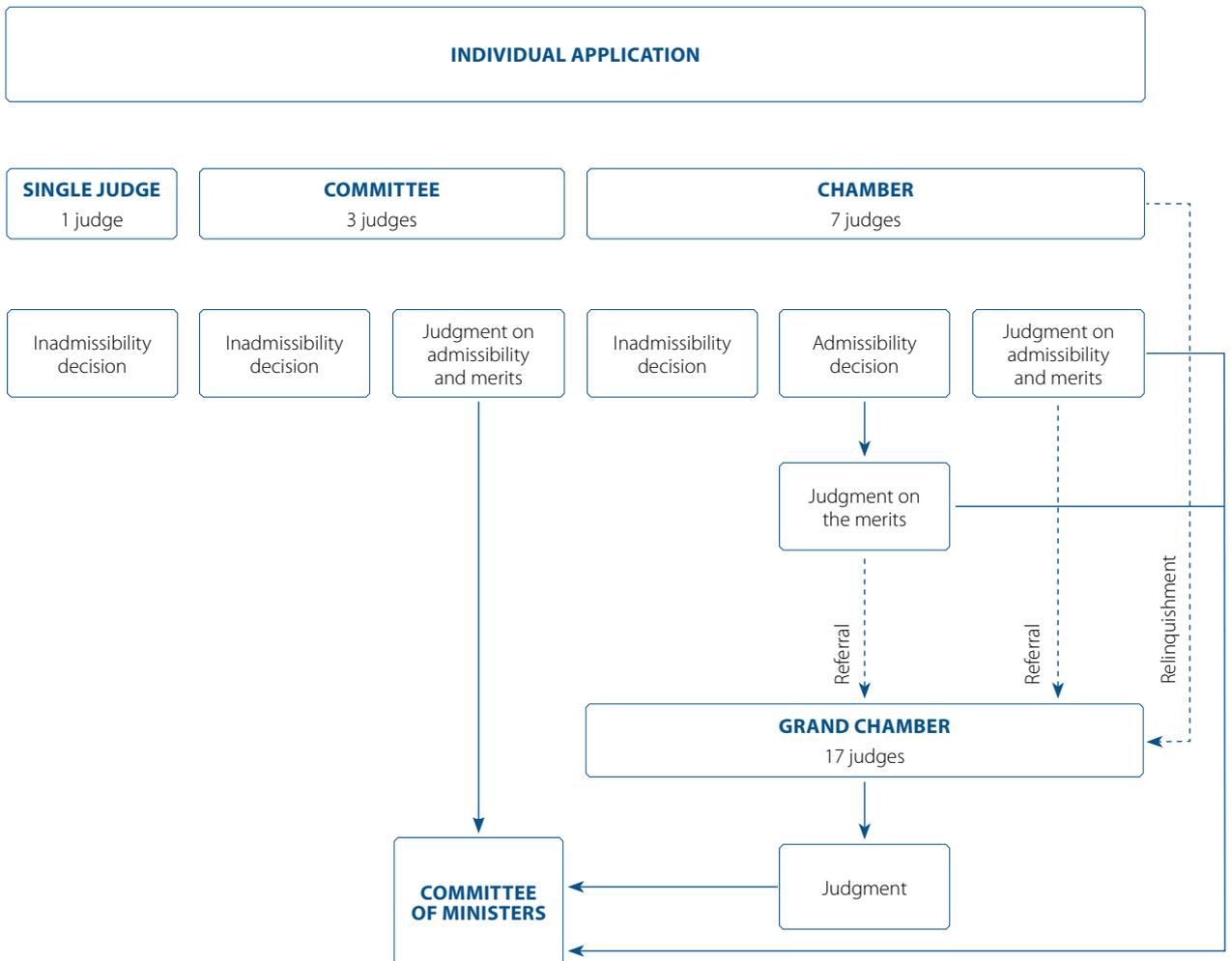


Hugh MERCER (United Kingdom)
judge of the Court since 22 September 2025

And a court confirmed the detention until the end of the G8 summit. The complaint of the applicants to this Court was that this was a disproportionate deprivation of their liberty. The Court upheld that plea, holding that in order to detain such persons, one needed to anticipate concrete and specific crimes. The relevance of this case is that today there is something of a gulf between politicians and citizens in many respects. And citizens, when they're dissatisfied, will inform politicians by – among other things, but above all perhaps – demonstrating and going out on the streets. And States then have to decide whether or not to listen to demonstrators. Or they can seek to invoke the tools of State repression. *Schwabe and M.G. v. Germany* provides a lesson as to which way they should go in such cases.



How we work: case-processing



81,819

letters and faxes

handled in total by the mail office in 2025

27,615

letters and documents

arrived via the *ECHR Rule 39* and secure Government sites

449

letters, faxes and emails per day

on average handled by the mail office

164

telephone calls per day

on average dealt with by the Court's switchboard

Case-processing strategies

Processing of non-conflict-related applications lodged against the Russian Federation

Following the cessation of the Russian Federation as a High Contracting Party to the Convention on 16 September 2022, the Court has demonstrated, under its residual jurisdiction, a steadfast commitment to processing applications lodged against Russia. Over the past year, significant progress has been made in addressing the remaining non-conflict-related cases.

Through sustained efforts, the Court has managed to bring the processing of these applications to their final stages, with the caseload being substantially reduced. This achievement reflects both the efficient management of complex cases and the resilience of the Court's procedures amid ongoing challenges.

Despite the continued refusal of the Russian Federation to engage in the procedure, the Court has adapted its methods to ensure thorough examination and adjudication. The conclusion of non-conflict-related applications allows the Court to concentrate its resources on cases arising from conflicts, while continuing to uphold the principles of accountability and justice. The Court's commitment to navigating these challenges affirms its vital role in reinforcing the rule of law and ensuring that State responsibility is not circumvented.



In focus: the Court's Archives

1,088,374

archived cases

Judicial archives of the Commission and of the Court

Under Rule 17 § 2 of the Rules of Court, and under the responsibility of the Registrar, the function of the Court's Archives is to collect, conserve and communicate the documents created or received by the Court in the course of its activities.

The various archive collections consist of:

- ▶ the administrative and judicial archives of the European Commission of Human Rights;
- ▶ the administrative and judicial archives of the Court.

The rules on conservation and access are issued by the Registrar and approved by the President of the Court.

9

staff members

1 archivist
1 deputy archivist
6 assistant archivists
1 warehouse officer

5.1

linear kilometres
of paper

The distance covered by the entire collection of physical archives put side by side

379

requests to consult

from members of the public (such as researchers, applicants, journalists and students)



Activities

In 2025 the Court’s Archives received, checked and archived 33,985 cases that had resulted in a decision or judgment of the Court. These case files are sorted according to the relevant decision-making body (namely, the single judge, Committee, Chamber or Grand Chamber) and packaged at the end of their period of administrative use. Thus, in 2025, 31,876 cases underwent such sorting and packaging. In this process, the electronic documents in each case file are secured and their access rights restricted. Hard copies are packaged for long-term conservation. Moreover, in accordance with current practice, 11 Grand Chamber case files were scanned in their entirety, in addition to being sorted and packaged.

A total of 2,210 requests to consult the judicial archives were received, including 379 requests from members of the public (such as researchers, applicants, journalists and students).

The retention/disposal schedule for the administrative archives of each division of the Registry are currently under review (eight have been approved to date).

In 2025 the Court’s Archives received 24 deposits to administrative archives. It should be noted that the administrative archives are not necessarily paper archives but may consist of, for example, communication media (goodies), charts, models or posters. Moreover, the heaviest archive item (575 kg) was displayed during the Open Day held as part of the *Journées du patrimoine*: the foundation stone of the Human Rights Building in which Mr François Mitterrand, the then French President, sealed his speech on 4 May 1992.

In the coming years, the Archives department will have to adapt as best it can to new archiving technologies. Electronic records, of course, are more and more present in the working environment but the effects of artificial intelligence and increasingly demanding data protection standards are challenges that the Court and its Archives will have to meet in order to continue fulfilling its public service mandate to preserve the institutional memory of the Organisation.



Dialogue between the Registry and the Department for the Execution of Judgments of the Court

Background

The Dialogue between the Registry of the Court and the Department for the Execution of Judgments of the Court was launched in 2023. It stemmed from the **Reykjavík Declaration** adopted at the fourth summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe held on 16-17 May 2023, in which the signatories called, in particular, for the **strengthening of the institutional dialogue**

between the Court and the Committee of Ministers on general issues related to the execution of judgments (Appendix IV). Following its pilot phase in 2023 and 2024, the Dialogue was institutionalised in 2025 and further developed to involve a broader range of countries and to cover newly identified topics.

Expected result

The expected result of the Dialogue is to **enhance the work of both entities** by promoting a holistic approach to the implementation of the Convention. In practice, the Dialogue entails a **regular exchange of information** between the two entities on issues linked to the execution of the Court's judgments, which can be of relevance to case-processing

work. For instance, following each Committee of Ministers' Human Rights meeting the Execution Department provides the Registry with quarterly updates on the most important developments in the execution process (mainly decisions adopted or cases closed).

Activities and tools in practice

In 2025, three **country meetings** and two **thematic meetings** were held between representatives of the two entities within the framework of the Dialogue.

Furthermore, several **training sessions** and/or **workshops** have been held on issues relevant to both entities.

Tools have also been developed, in close collaboration with the Department for the Execution

of Judgments and other entities of the Council of Europe, with a view to increasing the domestic capacity for addressing structural or complex problems that are at the origin of numerous repetitive applications before the Court. One example of such a tool is a HELP module on examining conditions-of-detention complaints.

Working methods and procedures



Electronic notification of judgments and decisions adopted in cases processed via the Fast-Track procedure

In its ongoing commitment to modernisation and efficiency, the Court has made significant strides in the adoption of the electronic notification of judgments and decisions issued by Committees in cases processed under the well-established case-law Fast-Track procedure. This innovative approach, which wherever possible replaces the traditional sending of hard-copy documents to the parties, exemplifies the Court's dedication to leveraging technology to optimise its operations. The transition to electronic notification has brought considerable benefits, both for the Court and its stakeholders. By facilitating faster communication and reducing logistical delays, this process significantly improves the timeliness and accessibility of the Court's

rulings. Parties now receive decisions more swiftly, prompting quicker responses and fostering more dynamic engagement with the Court's work.

Moreover, the use of electronic notification adds to the Court's image as a modern, responsive and transparent institution. It not only contributes towards greater environmental sustainability by reducing paper usage but also strengthens public trust in the Court's efficiency and innovation. By ensuring decisions reach parties promptly, regardless of logistical or geographical constraints, this approach contributes to the broader accessibility of justice, reinforcing the Court's capacity to uphold human rights effectively.

Advancements in IT development and the exploration of artificial intelligence

The Court remains firmly committed to harnessing technological progress to boost its case-processing capabilities. Continuing its efforts in this area, the Court is actively looking into the development of advanced IT solutions designed to streamline internal workflows and improve overall efficiency.

Significant progress has been achieved this year in the development of the online application platform, bringing this important project closer to implementation. The platform is being designed to offer a seamless and user-friendly experience, enabling applicants to submit their cases digitally with greater ease and efficiency.

This advancement is expected to considerably reduce the administrative workload, increase data accuracy and accelerate case-processing times, thereby ultimately benefiting both applicants and the Court.

In parallel, the Court is investigating the potential use of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies to support the handling of internal procedural documents. It is important to note that AI tools are being explored strictly for administrative and organisational purposes, without their having any role in the Court's decision-making processes. This initiative reflects a careful and responsible approach to incorporating emerging technologies, aimed at optimising operational efficiency while safeguarding the integrity of judicial deliberations.

The Court remains committed to implementing tailored solutions that address its specific

needs. Among the innovations implemented is the automation of routine documents, such as letters, friendly-settlement declarations and other procedural communications. This automation streamlines administrative tasks, freeing up valuable time for judges and Registry staff to focus on substantive casework, thereby maximising the overall efficiency of case management.

Together, these advancements underscore the Court's dedication to modernising its procedures through digital innovation. By embracing cutting-edge IT developments, the Court seeks to foster a more efficient, transparent and user-friendly judicial system. As these projects progress, they promise to significantly improve the Court's responsiveness and strengthen its capacity to deliver timely justice in an increasingly digital world.

Enhanced legal framework on judicial ethics

As part of the Court's ongoing efforts to develop a robust, effective and transparent mechanism for ensuring full adherence to the principles of judicial ethics, the Court established a new internal body, the Ethics Council, with effect from January 2025. This was reflected in an amendment to the Court's Resolution on Judicial Ethics, Article XII of which now provides, in particular, that the President of the Court – if he or she considers it necessary, in order to give guidance to a judge seeking advice on compliance with the ethical standards in a given

situation or to give guidance on ethical standards concerning the Court as an institution – may consult the Ethics Council, composed of the most senior Vice-President of the Court, the most senior Section President and the three most senior sitting judges.

In addition, on 15 September 2025 the Court introduced a new Rule 3 *bis* and amended Rule 9 of the Rules of Court, thus enshrining in its Rules the importance of the Resolution on Judicial Ethics and the role of the President in these matters.



Conflict- related applications





Inter-State applications concerning conflicts and related individual applications

In 2025 the Court continued to process applications stemming from conflicts involving a number of member States and one former member State, Russia. The examination of these conflict-related inter-State cases continues to be a priority for the Court.

On 9 July 2025 the Court (Grand Chamber) delivered its judgment in *Ukraine and the Netherlands v. Russia* (applications nos. 8019/16, 43800/14, 28525/20 and 11055/22).

The Court decided that the question of just satisfaction was not ready for decision and therefore reserved its judgment in that respect. It also decided to disjoin application no. 28525/20 from applications nos. 8019/16, 43800/14 and 11055/22 for the purposes of the further proceedings only. The new cases are now to be referred to as *Ukraine v. Russia* (applications nos. 8019/16, 43800/14 and 11055/22) and *The Netherlands v. Russia* (application no. 28525/20). The Grand Chamber's examination in these two cases is under way.

Furthermore, on 14 October 2025 the Court (Chamber) ruled on the question of the application of Article 41 (just satisfaction) in *Georgia v. Russia (IV)* (application no. 39611/18).

Among a total of 15 inter-State cases, 12 concerning conflicts (including the two above-mentioned cases only in respect of just satisfaction) are pending, namely:

- ▶ four brought by Ukraine against Russia;
- ▶ one brought by the Netherlands against Russia;

- ▶ four brought by Armenia against Azerbaijan;
- ▶ one brought by Armenia against Türkiye; and
- ▶ two brought by Azerbaijan against Armenia.

In addition to these 12 inter-State cases, there are approximately 8,300 individual applications which stem from the same conflicts. At Registry level, such cases are handled by the Conflicts Unit. It should be pointed out that – in accordance with the Court's practice, and as noted in the [Copenhagen Declaration](#) of 2018 – where an inter-State case is pending, individual applications raising the same issues or deriving from the same underlying circumstances are, in principle and in so far as practicable, not decided before the overarching issues stemming from the inter-State proceedings have been determined.

8,300
individual applications

stemming from the above-mentioned conflicts are being handled by the Conflicts Unit

Statistics



Statistical overview 2024-25

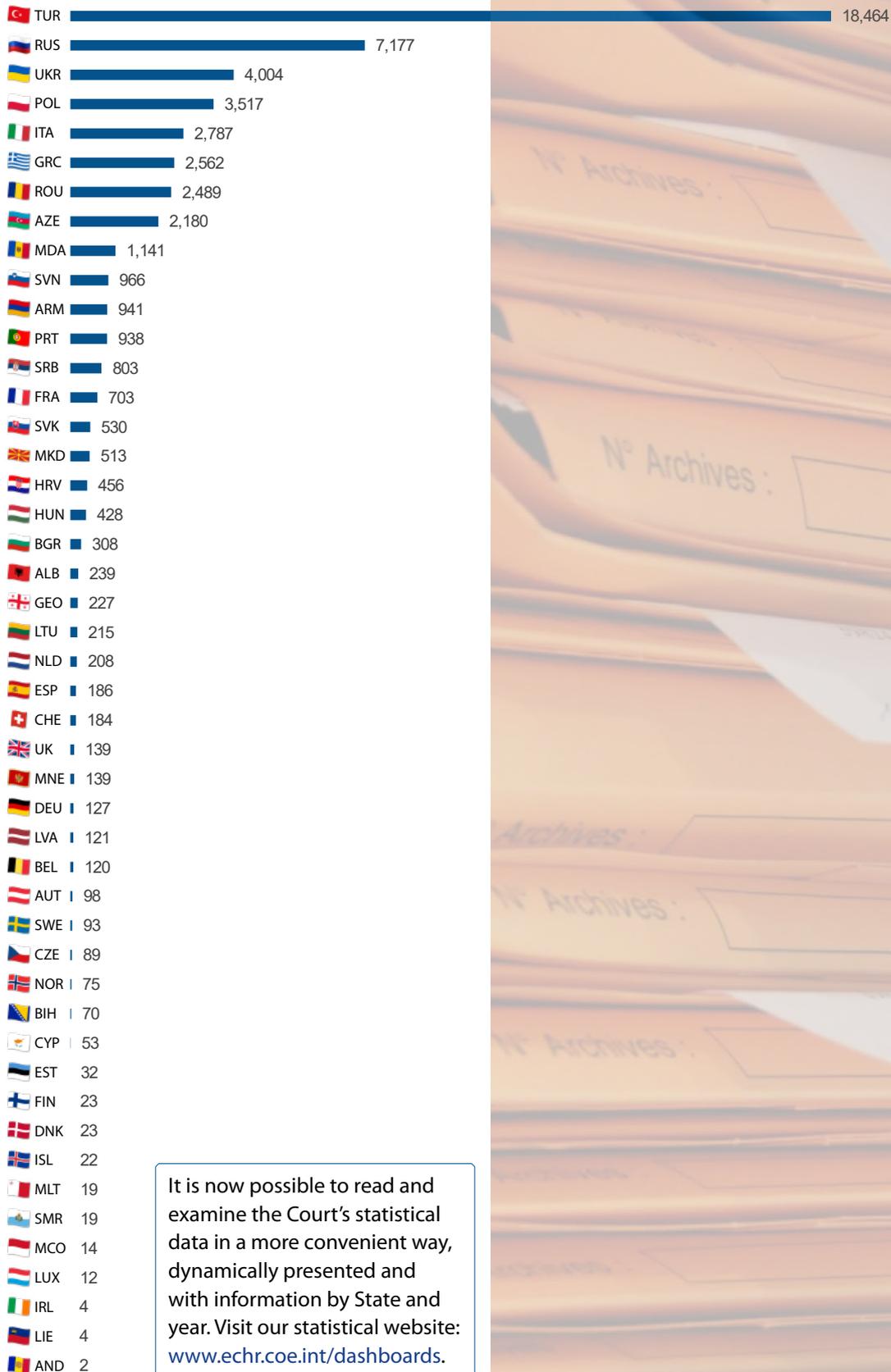
A glossary of statistical terms ([Understanding the Court's statistics](#)) and further statistics are available on www.echr.coe.int under Statistics.

	2024	2025	
Pending applications*	60,350	53,450	-11% ↘
▶ Chamber and Grand Chamber*	19,250	9,300	-52% ↘
▶ Committee*	36,700	38,300	4% ↗
▶ Single judge*	4,400	5,850	33% ↗
	2024	2025	
Allocated applications*	28,800	31,800	10% ↗
Communicated applications	9,832	11,587	18% ↗
Decided applications	36,819	38,573	5% ↗
▶ by judgment delivered	10,829	7,011	-35% ↘
▶ by striking-out or inadmissibility decision	25,990	31,562	21% ↗

* Round figures [50] as of 31 December of the reference year

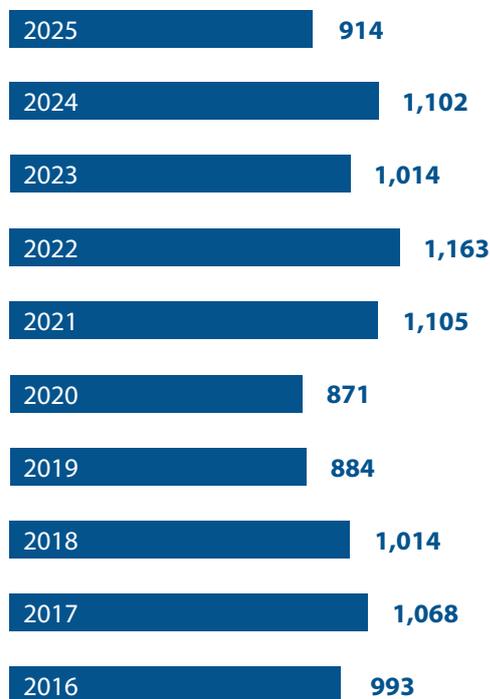
Pending applications (by State) 2025

As of 31 December of the reference year



It is now possible to read and examine the Court's statistical data in a more convenient way, dynamically presented and with information by State and year. Visit our statistical website: www.echr.coe.int/dashboards.

Delivered judgments 2016-25

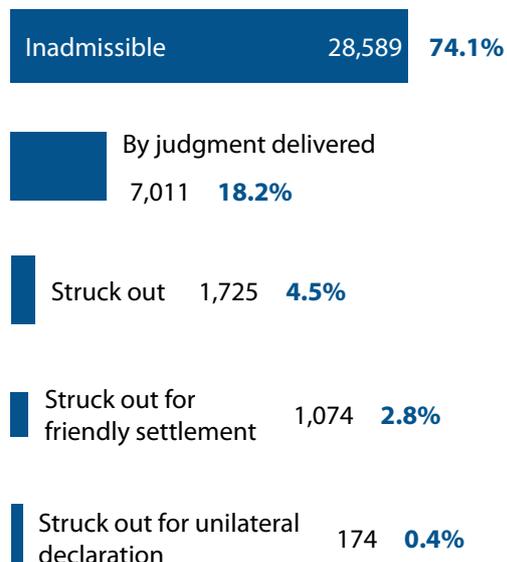


A judgment may concern more than one application.

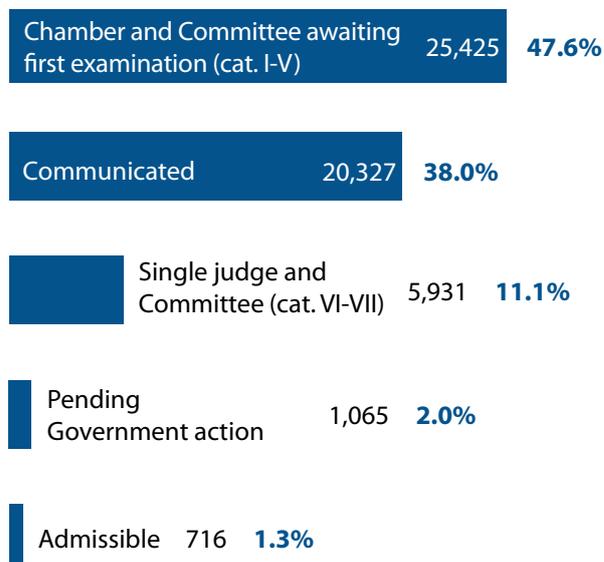
Violations by subject matter 2025



Decided applications 2025



Court's workload 2025



Allocated applications by State and by population 2023-25

	Allocated applications			Population (1,000)			Allocated/population (10,000)		
	2023	2024	2025	01.01.2023	01.01.2024	01.01.2025	2023	2024	2025
 ALB	133	156	169	2,762	2,391	2,363	0.27	0.65	0.72
 AND	6	14	8	82	85	85	1.43	1.65	0.94
 ARM	147	180	189	2,977	2,991	3,076	0.45	0.60	0.61
 AUT	200	189	220	9,105	9,159	9,197	0.25	0.21	0.24
 AZE	438	600	569	10,127	10,181	10,225	0.42	0.59	0.56
 BEL	1,328	383	179	11,743	11,817	11,900	0.13	0.32	0.15
 BGR	486	472	533	6,448	6,445	6,437	0.90	0.73	0.83
 BIH	248	81	339	3,441	3,417	3,407	2.39	0.24	1.00
 CHE	280	320	357	8,815	8,962	9,049	0.31	0.36	0.39
 CYP	29	53	79	949	966	980	0.58	0.55	0.81
 CZE	343	308	367	10,828	10,901	10,910	0.32	0.28	0.34
 DEU	450	402	574	83,119	83,456	83,577	0.07	0.05	0.07
 DNK	87	65	92	5,933	5,961	5,993	0.11	0.11	0.15
 ESP	421	635	753	48,085	48,620	49,078	0.13	0.13	0.15
 EST	103	97	104	1,366	1,375	1,370	0.85	0.71	0.76
 FIN	91	121	139	5,564	5,604	5,636	0.16	0.22	0.25
 FRA	729	749	863	68,277	68,467	68,636	0.11	0.11	0.13
 GEO	156	151	194	3,736	3,695	3,705	0.32	0.41	0.52
 GRC	541	715	635	10,414	10,401	10,410	0.85	0.69	0.61
 HRV	1,012	878	759	3,851	3,862	3,874	1.73	2.27	1.96
 HUN	2,469	1,442	1,084	9,600	9,585	9,540	1.12	1.50	1.14
 IRL	21	22	38	5,271	5,352	5,440	0.07	0.04	0.07
 ISL	19	19	14	388	384	389	0.57	0.49	0.36
 ITA	1,957	1,751	2,421	58,997	58,971	58,934	0.27	0.30	0.41
 LIE	6	8	4	40	40	41	2.05	2.00	0.98
 LTU	351	346	292	2,857	2,886	2,891	1.53	1.20	1.01
 LUX	28	28	38	661	672	682	0.47	0.42	0.56
 LVA	166	170	220	1,892	1,875	1,857	1.42	0.91	1.18
 MCO	9	15	11	38	38	38	2.05	3.95	2.89
 MDA	653	363	468	2,513	2,423	2,381	2.40	1.50	1.97
 MKD	335	328	233	1,830	1,826	1,823	1.90	1.80	1.28
 MLT	22	16	26	542	563	574	1.20	0.28	0.45
 MNE	173	133	172	617	624	623	6.14	2.13	2.76
 NLD	231	240	285	17,811	17,943	18,044	0.14	0.13	0.16
 NOR	87	101	115	5,489	5,550	5,594	0.22	0.18	0.21
 POL	1,843	2,141	3,303	36,754	36,621	36,497	0.76	0.58	0.91
 PRT	371	348	602	10,517	10,640	10,750	0.25	0.33	0.56
 ROU	2,821	2,527	1,962	19,055	19,068	19,036	1.55	1.33	1.03
 RUS*	1,695	2,129	1,905	143,667	143,667	143,667	0.66	0.15	0.13
 SMR	16	24	15	34	34	34	5.14	7.06	4.41
 SRB	1,522	1,118	1,122	6,641	6,605	6,568	2.90	1.69	1.71
 SVK	457	537	626	5,429	5,425	5,419	0.84	0.99	1.16
 SVN	978	382	203	2,117	2,124	2,131	1.11	1.80	0.95
 SWE	143	267	207	10,522	10,552	10,588	0.15	0.25	0.20
 TUR	8,341	4,450	6,743	85,280	85,372	85,665	1.14	0.52	0.79
 UK	201	478	261	68 683	69 138	69 138	0.03	0.07	0.04
 UKR	2,531	2,832	2,299	45,246	45,246	45,246	0.82	0.63	0.51
TOTAL	34,674	28,784	31,791	840,113	841,980	843,498	0.41	0.34	0.38

*46 Council of Europe member States had a combined population of approximately 700 million inhabitants on 1 January 2025. The average number of applications allocated per 10,000 inhabitants (without taking into account the figures in respect of Russia) was 0.43 in 2025.

Sources on 01.01.2025: Internet sites of Eurostat (General and regional statistics: "Population on 1 January" database) and of the Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

Violations by Article and by State 2025

	Friendly settlements / striking-out		Lack of effective investigation		Inhuman degrading treatment		Prohibition of torture ²		Lack of effective investigation		Prohibition of slavery forced labour		Right to liberty and security		Length of a fair trial ²		No punishment without law		Freedom of thought, conscience, religion		Freedom of assembly and association		Freedom of expression		Right to an effective remedy		Protection of discrimination		Right to marry		Right to education		Right to free elections		Other Articles of the Convention		
	At least one violation	No violation	Art. 2	Art. 3	Art. 4	Art. 5	Art. 6	Art. 7	Art. 8	Art. 9	Art. 10	Art. 11	Art. 12	Art. 13	Art. 14	Art. 15	Art. 16	Art. 17	Art. 18	Art. 19	Art. 20	Art. 21	Art. 22	Art. 23	Art. 24	Art. 25	Art. 26	Art. 27	Art. 28	Art. 29	Art. 30	P. 1-1	P. 1-2	P. 1-3	P. 7-4		
ALB	12	12																																			
AND																																					
ARM	23	22	1		2	2		2	1				1	12	1	1		3		3				1	1	2									1		
AUT	4	2	2												2																						
AZE	48	43	1	4				3	1				15	9		1		8	1	4	1			1		16									3		
BEL	8	4	4													1	1	2																			
BGR	24	23	1					2	1					5				2		2				3	1	5		6									
BIH	3	1	1		1																													1			
CHE	10	6	4			1								1	2					2																	
CYP	9	7	2						2					2	1					2		1				1	1		1								
CZE	8	6	2			1									3					3					1												
DEU	3	3													2								1														
DNK	5	2	3		1																	1															
ESP	11	7	4						1					2	1					2							1	1									
EST	3	1	2																	1																	
FIN	2	1	1											1																							
FRA	20	10	10		1	1		2	2					1	1			5								2											
GBR	10	4	5	1											2					1		1															
GEO	10	8	2					1	2				1	3	2				1		1	2		1													
GRC	33	33			2	2		8	1				6	10	2	6			3			1		11	1	2						3			1		
HRV	13	12	1			1		1					1	3	2				1		1			1		2											
HUN	20	20						5						9		8				2		2		7												2	
IRL																																					
ISL	5	2	3												1																						
ITA	65	62	3		2	2		5	3					9	3	38	1	6			1			1		28										1	
LIE																																					
LTU	7	4	2		1										2								1													1	
LUX																																					
LVA	6	5	1											2						2					1		1										
MCO																																					
MDA	48	45	2	1				3	1		2		14	4	15			7		2				3	1	21											
MKD	7	6			1									2		1			2																	2	
MLT	6	4	2						1						1																					2	
MNE	3	3											1	1	2																					1	
NLD	3	1	2																		1																
NOR	1		1																																		
POL	17	17						1					2	2	2				9		1			2	1												
PRT	5	4	1					1												1		2			1												
ROU	29	20	5	4		2	5		1	4				1		1		3	1	3						3									3		
RUS	156	153		1	2	3	2	2	52	11		1	136	94			1		46	14	113	76		25	7	4	1	4	1	4	1			55			
SMR	1	1												1																							
SRB	26	24	2					2	2				9	7	2	1		5		1																1	
SVK	11	11						2	1					2		4																					
SVN	1	1													1																						
SWE	1		1																																		
TUR	74	66	6		2			6	3				21	24	8	1	3	8		5				2		6	1								2		
UKR	164	160	4			2	10		42	11			68	34	58				16	1	1	3		89		21						1			5		
Sub-total		816	80	8	11	16	26	2	139	47	1	3	281	256	105	67	5	147	18	145	84	0	151	17	128	2	12	4	71								
TOTAL ⁴																																					914

This table has been generated automatically, using the conclusions recorded in the metadata for each judgment contained in HUDOC, the Court's case-law database.

- Other judgments: just satisfaction, revision, preliminary objections and lack of jurisdiction.
- Figures in this column may include conditional violations.

3. Cases in which the Court held there would be a violation of Article 2 and/or 3 if the applicant was removed to a State where he/she was at risk.

4. One judgment is against the Republic of Moldova and Russia: *Urusbiev and Others v. the Republic of Moldova and Russia* (nos. 33519/15, 40836/15, 558/16, 862/16, 83954/17).

Sharing Convention knowledge





SUPERIOR COURTS NETWORK
10th ANNIVERSARY FORUM
(SCN)

5 and 6 June 2025

FORUM DU 10^e ANNIVERSAIRE
DU RÉSEAU DES COURS
SUPÉRIEURES (RCS)

5 et 6 juin 2025

14:30 – 16:30 (5 juin/June)
9:15 – 12:00 (6 juin/June)

The effective functioning of the Convention system requires the practical sharing of knowledge, primarily with the national courts, but also with other authorities, legal professionals and the general public. Communication by the Court on its case-law reinforces the principle of shared responsibility, according to which it falls first and foremost to the relevant national authorities to ensure that Convention obligations are observed. The Court ensures that domestic judiciaries are provided with a variety of tools to assist with their adjudication of Convention issues at home. An essential tool for this dialogue is the Superior Courts Network – a community of practice connecting 111 apex courts in all 46 Council of Europe member States – which celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2025. The Court’s Knowledge Sharing platform (ECHR-KS) is a further key tool in this regard: the Court is also seeking to provide this vital tool in all non-official languages and it has launched this year Romanian, Turkish and Ukrainian language versions of ECHR-KS, making Convention standards more readily accessible to an even wider audience.

Judicial dialogue

Bilateral exchanges with the Superior Courts of member States

The proper functioning of “shared responsibility” relies on ongoing dialogue with national courts. This year, through numerous meetings with the Superior Courts of the member States, the Court continued to strengthen the bonds of trust and solidarity that are essential to building a European judicial community.

During the year the Court received a delegation from the Constitutional Court of Albania, led by its President, Holta Zaçaj; a delegation from the Court of Cassation of Türkiye, headed by its President, Ömer Kerkez; a delegation from the Greek Supreme Administrative Court, led by its President, Michalis Pikramenos; and a high-level delegation of judges from the United Kingdom, namely Lord Justice Singh and Mr Justice Picken.

The Court also hosted distinguished figures from the Superior Courts: the Vice-President of the Constitutional Court of Spain, Inmaculada Montalbán Huertas, and the Vice-President of the Supreme Court of Spain, Dimitry Berberoff; the President and Vice-President of the Netherlands Trade and Industry Appeals Tribunal, Theodorus Simons and Mascha Schoneveld; the Attorney General for England and Wales and Advocate General for Northern Ireland, The Rt Hon Lord Hermer KC; the President of the Supreme Court of Ukraine, Stanislav Kravchenko; the President of the Administrative Jurisdiction Division of the Netherlands Council of State (*Raad van State*), Rosa Uylenburg; the President of the Supreme Court of Slovenia, Miodrag Đorđević, and Judge Špelca Mežnar of the Slovenian Constitutional Court; and the President of the Council of States of the Swiss Parliament, Andrea Caroni.

President Marko Bošnjak, followed by President Mattias Guyomar, also carried out several official visits to member States of the Council of Europe, accompanied by delegations composed of judges elected in respect of the country concerned and Registry officials.

The year of celebrations began in January 2025 with President Marko Bošnjak’s participation in the solemn opening of the judicial year at the French

Court of Cassation in Paris, alongside Mattias Guyomar, Section President and judge elected in respect of France. In February, a delegation of Court judges, led by President Bošnjak, took part in a meeting in Paris with the Constitutional Council, the *Conseil d’État*, and the Court of Cassation, marking the 75th anniversary of the European Convention on Human Rights. Later that month, President Bošnjak undertook a working visit to the Supreme Court of Slovenia, where he held a bilateral meeting with its President, Miodrag Đorđević.

In March he led an official visit to Montenegro, accompanied by Ivana Jelić, Vice-President of the Court and judge elected in respect of Montenegro. During this mission, the delegation met, among others, Valentina Pavličić, President of the Supreme Court; Snežana Armenko, President of the Constitutional Court; and Prosecutors Milorad Marković and Vladimir Novović.

In April the President conducted an official visit to Belgium, alongside Frédéric Krenc, judge elected in respect of Belgium. The delegation met with the Presidents of the Constitutional Court, a delegation from the Court of Cassation led by its First President, Éric de Formanoir, and a delegation from the *Conseil d’État* led by its President, Pascale Vandernacht.

In June President Mattias Guyomar, who succeeded President Marko Bošnjak, held meetings at the French Court of Cassation with First President Christophe Soulard and Prosecutor General Rémy Heitz. He continued his discussions at the *Conseil d’État* with Vice-President Didier-Roland Tabuteau, President of the Litigation Section Christophe Chantepy, and Secretary-General Thierry-Xavier Girardot, before meeting President Richard Ferrand at the Constitutional Council.

In September President Guyomar attended the opening session of the French *Conseil d’État*.

In October, accompanied by Hugh Mercer, judge elected in respect of the United Kingdom, he participated in the opening ceremony of the judicial year at Westminster Abbey in London. The delegation also engaged in several bilateral

meetings with The Rt Hon Lord Reed of Allermuir, President of the United Kingdom Supreme Court; Lord Justice Snowden, Lead Judge for International Relations; and Mr Justice Picken, Lead Judge for European Affairs, during a joint session, as well as with judges of the Royal Courts of Justice. That month was also marked by the participation of a delegation of ten Court judges in a high-level conference jointly organised with the Supreme Administrative Court of Poland in Warsaw, attended by representatives of supreme administrative courts from across the region.

In November the President of the Court, accompanied by Judge Schukking, visited the Netherlands Council of State (*Raad van State*), where they were welcomed by Rosa Uylenburg, President of its Administrative Jurisdiction Division.

Superior Courts Network

During its first ten years, the Superior Courts Network (SCN) grew at a rapid pace and now comprises 111 member courts from all 46 Council of Europe member States, as well as 5 observer courts: the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, the Court of Justice of the European Union and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, joined by the Supreme Court of Canada and the Mexican Supreme Court of Justice in 2025.

As a multidimensional community of practice sharing information, knowledge and know-how at an operational level, the SCN offers national superior courts a multitude of tools for accessing, understanding and applying the Convention, thereby promoting subsidiarity and shared responsibility for its implementation. In so doing, the SCN has become the cornerstone of the Court's dialogue with those courts which, ultimately, act as "Strasbourg judges" when they apply Convention standards.

The network's Annual Forum, webinars and training sessions offer an opportunity to exchange best practices on a wide variety of topics, most recently ranging from climate change litigation and the independence of the judiciary to the harnessing of artificial intelligence and the implementation of effective case-processing and judicial communication strategies.

The 2025 Annual Forum gathered representatives from 82 member courts in 39 States and delegates from 2 observer courts, the total number

Later that month, President Guyomar took part in the Colloquium of the Network of Presidents of Supreme Judicial Courts of the European Union, held in The Hague. He addressed participants on the theme of the contribution of international and national courts and tribunals to the rule of law, alongside Yuji Iwasawa, President of the International Court of Justice; Tomoko Akane, President of the International Criminal Court; and Lord Reed, President of the United Kingdom Supreme Court.

In December President Guyomar addressed online the Supreme Court of Ukraine alongside Mykola Gnatovskyy, judge elected in respect of Ukraine, on "75 years of implementation of the European Convention on Human Rights in Europe and 30 years of implementation in Ukraine".

of participants nearing 200. A public opening session took stock of the network's evolution in its first ten years and was followed by thematic workshops. The Forum also saw the launch of an anniversary book discussing the network's inception, innovations and impact from a variety of national and Strasbourg perspectives¹.

The national court members play an invaluable role by, in turn, informing the Court's comparative analysis of member States' legislation and judicial practice, and flagging emerging Convention issues. In 2025, member courts provided over 260 domestic-law contributions, and since the network's inception the Court has received over 2,000 such contributions to its comparative work.

For its part, the Court, through its Registry, supports member courts by responding to "formal requests" for case-law information. Such assistance is limited to providing a non-analytical list of case-law references, which ensures that the requesting court is aware of potentially relevant case-law when deciding on a Convention-related case.

Since the Visiting Professionals Scheme (VPS) was launched in 2023, participants from 20 courts have benefited from tailor-made know-how sessions at

260

national contributions

provided by members of the SCN in 2025

1. *The Superior Courts Network – A community of practice in the service of justice* (2025), available from Council of Europe Publishing.

the Court in Strasbourg, on topics relating to case-processing, document management and related IT systems. In addition, nearly 1,000 participants have taken part in online training sessions on ECHR-KS and HUDOC since these were started in 2021.

The network's activities are supported by the project "Enhancing Subsidiarity: Support to the ECHR Knowledge-sharing and Superior Courts Dialogue" ([Subsidiarity Project](#)), which is a collaboration between the Registry and the Council

of Europe's Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law and partly supported by voluntary contributions from France, Ireland and the Human Rights Trust Fund of the Council of Europe.

2,000

comparative-law contributions

provided by members of the SCN in its first ten years

Annual bilateral meeting with the Court of Justice of the European Union

In 2025, a year that marked the 75th anniversary of the European Convention on Human Rights and the 25th anniversary of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, a large delegation of judges from the European Court of Human Rights visited the Court of Justice of the European Union in Luxembourg for the two courts' regular annual bilateral meeting.

The meeting focused on three main topics: the best interests of the child in cross-border child abduction cases; freedom of expression in the digital age: information, disinformation and misinformation in a time of threats to democracy; and legal and physical obstacles to accessing asylum procedures.

On the sidelines of the visit, President Mattias Guyomar and President Koen Lenaerts gave a joint television [interview](#) on the work of each Court, aimed at contributing to a better understanding of their respective roles in protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms.

These meetings reflect the constructive and regular dialogue between the European Court of Human Rights and the Court of Justice of the European Union, with a view to upholding and advancing the common values of the European Union and the Council of Europe, as well as ensuring a harmonious and complementary application of European legal standards.

Exchanges with other non-European Courts/bodies

Judicial dialogue also continued through exchanges with other non-European courts. In February 2025 the Court welcomed a delegation of five judges from the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, led by its President, Nancy Hernández López, and Vice-President, Rodrigo Mudrovitsch, who took part in round-table discussions with judges of the Court and Registry officials. In August a two-day virtual round-table discussion was held between the registries of the three regional human rights courts, the Court of Justice of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the East African Court of Justice.

In October the three regional human rights courts' [Joint Law Report](#) for the period 2022-2023 was published.

In November, a 16-member delegation from the ECOWAS Court of Justice, headed by its President, Honourable Justice Ricardo Cláudio Monteiro Gonçalves, concluded a two-day study visit to the Court, during which it held exchanges with Mattias Guyomar, President of the Court, and met Erik Wennerström, judge elected in respect of Sweden, to discuss ways to strengthen judicial dialogue and ensure the effective implementation of judgments.

Sharing knowledge

The external knowledge-sharing platform

The Knowledge Sharing (ECHR-KS) platform provides a curated and comprehensive analysis of the case-law of the Court, Article by Article and through transversal themes, such as data protection, the environment, immigration and prisoners' rights. In addition, key commentaries, academic opinions and other publications are filtered into the platform, which also provides links to key texts and standards from other relevant international bodies. Crucially, content is updated every week and evolves to reflect new case-law issues as they emerge.

As noted above, a significant milestone was reached in 2025 with the launch of the Romanian, Turkish and Ukrainian language versions of ECHR-KS¹, making Convention standards more readily accessible to millions of Europeans. Subject to the locating of partners and funding, the Court's ambition is to work towards additional language versions of the platform in the future.

The ECHR-KS platform now contains over 40 pages covering Convention Articles and trans-

versal themes, each page featuring a case-law guide that offers a comprehensive overview of the Court's jurisprudence on the topic. The guides are supplemented by nearly 60 key themes, each providing a brief analysis of the case-law on a particular subject.

In addition to the ECHR-EU Case-Law Guide produced by the Registry, the platform features several factsheets – jointly produced with the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) – highlighting specific subjects where Convention and EU law interact. Moreover, the Registry continues to collaborate with FRA and relevant Council of Europe entities to produce European law handbooks covering ECHR and CJEU case-law in areas such as: asylum, borders and immigration; child rights; data protection; and non-discrimination².

Further KS content is in preparation on topics such as violence against women, the rule of law, and business and human rights.

Overview of the case-law and key cases

The annual case-law overview provides valuable insight into the most important judgments and decisions delivered by the Court each year, setting out the salient aspects of the Court's findings and their relevance to the evolution of its case-law.

In making its selection of key cases, the Bureau of the Court identifies those judgments and decisions it considers to be of particular importance for each quarter, for example because

they make a significant contribution to the development of the Court's case-law, deal with a new problem of general interest, or entail a new interpretation or clarification of principles. Cases in this category will always be made available in both official languages.

The 2025 overview and the list of key cases are now published as a printed companion volume to the Annual Report³.

Case-law translations programme

The Registry maintains a standing invitation to courts, ministries, judicial training centres,

associations of legal professionals, non-governmental organisations and other partners to share

1. The non-official language versions of ECHR-KS have been developed in collaboration with the Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law (DGI) of the Council of Europe, with the support of the Council of Europe project "Enhancing Subsidiarity: Support to the ECHR Knowledge-sharing and Superior Courts Dialogue" and in cooperation with national partner institutions (the European Institute of Romania, the Ministry of Justice of Türkiye and the Supreme Court of Ukraine).

2. An updated edition of the handbook on asylum, borders and immigration is slated for publication in 2026. Published in nearly all EU languages, the European law handbooks are available both on ECHR-KS and in print.

3. The case-law overview and key cases are also available on ECHR-KS under Case-Law Updating.

any translations to which they have the intellectual rights. A significant number of partners continue to support the Court's work and the implementation of the Convention at national level by completing and sharing translations of select judgments, decisions and advisory opinions (which are posted on HUDOC), as well as case-law guides, key themes and the like (which are posted on ECHR-KS). Their

HUDOC-ECHR case-law database

HUDOC-ECHR (hudoc.echr.coe.int) exists in a total of ten languages (Armenian, Bulgarian, Georgian, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, Turkish and Ukrainian, in addition to English and French). As the largest of the 11 HUDOC sites, HUDOC-ECHR now contains over 207,254 documents. The number of visits increased by 40.6% in 2025 (compared with 6,679,867 visits in 2024).

More than 37,975 translations in 34 languages (other than English and French) have now been made available in HUDOC-ECHR (over 18% of

inclusion in the afore-mentioned platforms ensures greater online availability and greater accessibility of this knowledge to an even wider audience. The Registry also references, on the Court's website, third-party websites or databases hosting translations of the Court's case-law and welcomes suggestions for the inclusion of further sites of this kind¹.

37,975

translations

in 34 languages other than English and French have now been made available in HUDOC-ECHR

its total content), making it a key port of call for legal professionals across Europe and beyond. The language-specific filter allows rapid searching of these translations, including in free text.

Library

In 2025 the library added nearly 1,750 new bibliographic references to its online catalogue, bringing the total number of entries to over 67,500. In particular, the collection of electronic periodicals and e-books has been expanded. The catalogue, accessible via the library pages on the Court's website, continues to serve as a vital reference tool for secondary literature relating to the Convention and its case-law (such as commentaries, monographs, collections of articles, legal periodicals). It was consulted approximately 275,000 times during the year. Used by the Court and the Registry to support its judicial activity, the catalogue also serves a broader audience – namely researchers, legal professionals, the broader public

1,750

bibliographic references

were added to the library's online catalogue

– who rely on it as a trusted gateway to relevant legal scholarship.

To enhance access to literature on the Convention and international human rights law, the library bulletin of new acquisitions now includes direct links to selected electronic resources, including open-access materials. Furthermore, a curated selection of references from the catalogue is transmitted biannually to the ECHR-KS platform. The library also manages subscriptions to legal databases available to the Registry.

Training of legal professionals

The Court organised training sessions not only on its role and functioning but also on the development of its case-law. These sessions were designed for legal professionals.

During these sessions, the Court continued its long-standing collaboration with the French Court

of Cassation and the French *École nationale de la magistrature*.

Training sessions were also organised for delegations from the Constitutional Court of Albania, the Armenian Court of Cassation, the Icelandic Court of Appeal and the Latvian Supreme Court. In addition, the Court pursued its collaboration with

1. For more details, see [Case-law translations](#) on the Court's website.

the Vienna Court of Appeal and hosted delegations of judges from Norway and Poland.

As part of its cooperation with the Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection of Germany, a thematic workshop was organised for German judges.

Furthermore, the Court pursued its cooperation with the European Judicial Training Network. In this context, the Court held five training sessions for European Union judges and prosecutors.

Cooperation with the Dutch Training and Study Centre for the Judiciary and the Swedish Judicial Training Academy was also continued.

Delegations of lawyers from different law societies in Council of Europe member States (the Czech Republic, Poland and Slovenia) attended a training session at the Court.

As noted above, the Court hosted a delegation from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) for a working visit.

Lastly, in 2025 the Visitors' Unit held 35 training sessions for legal professionals from 18 of the 46 member States.

Visibility

Press

The Press Unit is the main point of contact between the Court and the media. Its role is to extend the reach of the Court's work.

Comprising five press officers and three assistants, the Press Unit operates under the authority of the President's Office, in close collaboration with the Court's Public Relations Unit and its Visitors' Unit. It also works with the Council of Europe's communications teams, particularly its audiovisual teams.

The Press Unit drafts and issues press releases on judgments and decisions that may be of interest to the media. It also nurtures close relationships with journalists, answering their questions, handling interview requests and assisting them during Court events.

The team helped to ensure everything ran smoothly at President Marko Bošnjak's annual press conference held in the Court building on 31 January 2025, of which a video was later made available online. As part of the event, the President presented the Court's activities and statistics for 2024 and then, alongside Marialena Tsirli, the Court's Registrar, took questions from journalists.

Journalists were also invited to attend the solemn hearing that took place on the same day to mark the opening of the judicial year.

In 2025 the Press Unit stepped up its communication efforts through several initiatives.

It published 309 press releases in the Court's two official languages, as well as in other, non-official languages depending on the circumstances. It began issuing weekly summaries of interim measures that had been granted or refused, aggregated at country level. And it designed and scripted explanatory [videos](#) for the Court's website.

The Press Unit also ensured media coverage for seven hearings and seven public deliveries of judgments during the year.

In addition, the team makes reference materials available to help the general public better understand the Court's case-law. These include country profiles, thematic factsheets and Q&A documents. In 2025 three new "Focus On" factsheets were published on [climate change](#), the [rule of law](#) and [immigration](#), and Q&As were released on three cases: *Călin Georgescu v. Romania*, *Semenya v. Switzerland*, and *Ukraine and the Netherlands v. Russia*.

The documents produced by the Press Unit provide journalists and the general public with access to a wide range of relevant information about the Court's work. They are available in the HUDOC [press collection](#), on the Court's website via the [press page](#), and on its [social media](#).

Lastly, the Press Unit helped to organise and to run the Open Day on Sunday, 21 September

2025. On this occasion, the President of the Court, Mattias Guyomar – elected following the end of Marko Bošnjak's term of office – and the Registrar, Marialena Tsirli, invited the general public into the Court to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the European Convention on Human Rights and the 30th anniversary of the Human Rights Building.

Public relations

Through its work, the Public Relations Unit enhances the visibility and accessibility of the Court's activities by managing the website and social media channels, organising events and exhibitions, and producing written content, audiovisual materials

and photographs. The overarching aim of these efforts is to reflect the Court's commitment to visibility through three key objectives: accessibility, transparency and education.

Open Doors

In 2025, a milestone year for the Court as the Convention marked its 75th anniversary, the Public Relations Unit spearheaded the organisation of several events, including the [Open Day](#), which was held for the first time since 2019. On 21 September, nearly 4,000 people visited the Court, explored the Human Rights Building, attended performances by actors re-enacting excerpts from the debates held during the drafting of the Convention, enjoyed the various exhibitions prepared for this occasion, and engaged in discussions with judges and members of the Registry.

The Public Relations Unit also participated in the Health Open Doors event, held on 15 October at the Council of Europe, where it presented the Court's case-law in the field of health to interested visitors. Additionally, on 9 May 2025 the Court took part in the *Fête de l'Europe* in Strasbourg city centre, where Court staff interacted with visitors, presenting the Court's work and raising awareness about its role in protecting human rights.

Anniversary exhibitions

To mark the 75th anniversary of the Convention, the Public Relations Unit also designed an exhibition – available for viewing both within the Court's premises and [online](#) – highlighting the Court's role in protecting human rights in Europe through its case-law.

On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Human Rights Building, the seat of the European Court of Human Rights, the Court also hosted an exhibition designed by its Public Relations Unit

featuring seven curated [displays](#), which explored the building's architecture, design vision and symbolism, while also highlighting the architect, the artwork throughout the building and its role within the European district. The exhibition also included a [photo series](#) titled "30 Years in 30 Photos", tracing the life of the building from its inception to the present day and illustrating how it has stood the test of time.

Social media

To expand and diversify the Court's social media presence, the Public Relations Unit launched LinkedIn and Bluesky accounts in 2025, complementing its already established presence on X and YouTube. Through regular updates on the Court's work and activities, the introduction of new communication products and enhanced visual content, the LinkedIn account has grown rapidly, reaching more than 17,800 followers within just a few months. The Bluesky account is followed

by more than 6,300 users, while the X account now counts 84,745 followers – an increase of 1.16% compared with 2024. The YouTube channel has 12,600 subscribers, reflecting a growth of 8.74% over the previous year. Collectively, these platforms have generated high engagement rates and millions of impressions, helping to make the Court's work more accessible to the public and introducing a pedagogical component into its judicial communication.

Website

In addition to the Court's social media channels, the Court's website – the go-to source for its judicial work and activities – registered a total of 904,066 unique visitors in 2025. Alongside news on Court rulings, public deliveries and public hearings, website visitors could also access detailed

news items covering official visits to the Court, engagements attended by its leadership, and events within the Court and beyond. These news items, accompanied by photographs and videos, provide a deeper understanding of the Court's work and activities.

Videos

In 2025 the Court continued to expand its multimedia activity, and published new videos on its website and on social media, including:

- ▶ six new videos in the "One Judge, Three Questions" series, covering: [Juha Lavapuro](#), judge elected in respect of Finland; [Canòlic Mingorance-Cairat](#), judge elected in respect of Andorra; [Vahe Grigoryan](#), judge elected in respect of Armenia; [Vasilka Sancin](#), judge elected in respect of Slovenia; [Sébastien Biancheri](#), judge elected in respect of Monaco; and [Hugh Mercer](#), judge elected in respect of the United Kingdom;
- ▶ seven new videos in the "Official visits" series, featuring: the Prime Minister and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Education and Sport of [Liechtenstein](#); the Prime Minister of [Armenia](#); the Minister of Justice of [Armenia](#); the Minister of Justice of [Ukraine](#); the President of [Malta](#); the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Principality of [Liechtenstein](#); and the Minister of Justice of [France](#);
- ▶ four video explainers on the inter-State case of [Ukraine and the Netherlands v. Russia](#); and the case of [Semenya v. Switzerland](#); the case of [Tsaava and Others v. Georgia](#); and the case of [Danileț v. Romania](#);
- ▶ videos on: the 75th anniversary of the Convention; the 30th anniversary of the Human Rights Building;

the 2025 [press conference](#); the President's [priorities](#) during his three-year term of office; the President's [opening remarks](#) during a conference on the converging impact of the European Convention on Human Rights and the Istanbul Convention; the [swearing-in ceremony](#) of the new judge elected in respect of the United Kingdom, Hugh Mercer; the swearing-in [ceremonies](#) of the Registrar and the Deputy Registrar; [International Women's Day](#); and the [European Day of Languages](#).

The Public Relations Unit also enabled the livestream on YouTube of:

- ▶ the Solemn Ceremony to mark the 75th anniversary of the European Convention on Human Rights;
- ▶ the [delivery](#) of the Grand Chamber judgment in [Danileț v. Romania](#); the [delivery](#) of the Grand Chamber judgment in [Tsaava and Others v. Georgia](#); the [delivery](#) of the Grand Chamber judgment in [Semenya v. Switzerland](#); the [delivery](#) of the Grand Chamber judgment in the inter-State case of [Ukraine and the Netherlands v. Russia](#); and the [delivery](#) of the operative provisions of the Grand Chamber judgment in [Kovačević v. Bosnia and Herzegovina](#);
- ▶ the [final](#) of the René Cassin advocacy competition and the grand [final](#) of the Helga Pedersen Moot Court Competition.

Publications

All Court publications are available online via the Court's website, with hard copies accessible on the Court's premises. In 2025 the Public Relations Unit

completed the publication of the [Irish-language version](#) of the Convention, further expanding the linguistic reach of the Court's foundational text.

Replies to queries

In 2025 the Public Relations Unit responded to numerous public queries, including: requests for information about the Court and how to lodge an application; requests for photographs and videos

for educational and awareness-raising purposes; and requests from students to interview judges or members of the Registry. The Unit ensured that all queries received prompt and appropriate replies.

Intranet

Recognising the importance of internal communication in improving coordination and enhancing transparency, the Public Relations Unit continued to regularly update the Court's Intranet homepage,

providing staff with timely information on developments and in-house events. The Unit also coordinated the organisation of such events.

Visits

In 2025 the Visitors' Unit organised 312 information visits for 9,032 people in the legal world. In total, the Visitors' Unit welcomed some 12,408 visitors.

The Court also hosted numerous visitors at public hearings and during the delivery of its rulings, thereby fostering a better understanding of its mandate.

Any interested adult can sign up to attend these events.

In addition, the Court hosted the final of the 2025 René Cassin advocacy competition (held in

12,408

visitors

in total were welcomed by the Visitors' Unit

March) and the final of the 2025 Helga Pedersen Moot Court Competition (held in May) in the Human Rights Building. To mark the 75th anniversary of the European Convention on Human Rights, the Court exceptionally organised live internet broadcasts of both competitions.

Publication of the official edition of the *Travaux préparatoires* in digital format

To mark the 75th anniversary of the European Convention on Human Rights, the official edition of its *Travaux préparatoires* ("Preparatory Work") has been made available as fully searchable digital PDFs.

The texts may be consulted on the Court's [website](#) and on the ECHR-KS platform, as well as on the [website](#) of the publisher De Gruyter Brill, which digitised all eight volumes, in collaboration with the Court's library, and published them in open access. The original printed edition remains accessible in the Court's library.

The *Travaux préparatoires* include the various documents produced during the drafting of the Convention and its first Protocol, including reports of discussions in the Consultative Assembly and its Committee on Legal and Administrative Questions.

These foundational documents offer valuable insight into the intentions of the European political leaders. Understanding why the Convention was brought into being is essential to appreciating the values it continues to protect today.

A selection of excerpts from the *Travaux préparatoires* is presented below.

Mr Teitgen, France

First Session of the Consultative Assembly

17th sitting held on 7 September 1949:



Evil progresses cunningly, with a minority operating, as it were, to remove the levers of control. One by one freedoms are suppressed, in one sphere after another. Public opinion and the entire national conscience are asphyxiated. ... It is necessary to intervene before it is too late. ... A conscience must exist somewhere which will sound the alarm ..."

Mr Churchill, United Kingdom

First Session of the Consultative Assembly

6th sitting held on 17 August 1949:



[W]e hope that a European Court might be set up, before which cases of the violation of [human] rights in our own body of ... nations might be brought to the judgment of the civilised world. [T]he great body of public opinion in all these countries would press for action in accordance with the freely given decision."

Mr Cocks, United Kingdom

First Session of the Consultative Assembly

18th sitting held on 8 September 1949:

// [T]orture cannot be permitted for any purpose whatsoever, neither for extracting evidence, for saving life or even for the safety of the State. [I]t would be better even for Society to perish than for it to permit this relic of barbarism to remain."

Mr Lannung, Denmark

First Session of the Consultative Assembly

8th sitting held on 19 August 1949:

// [W]hen a European Court of Human Rights has been established, right and justice and the rule of law will have gained a decisive victory. An example, a model, will have been created for the whole world. It is therefore a great task which lies before us."

Mr Benvenuti, Italy

First Session of the Consultative Assembly

18th sitting held on 8 September 1949:

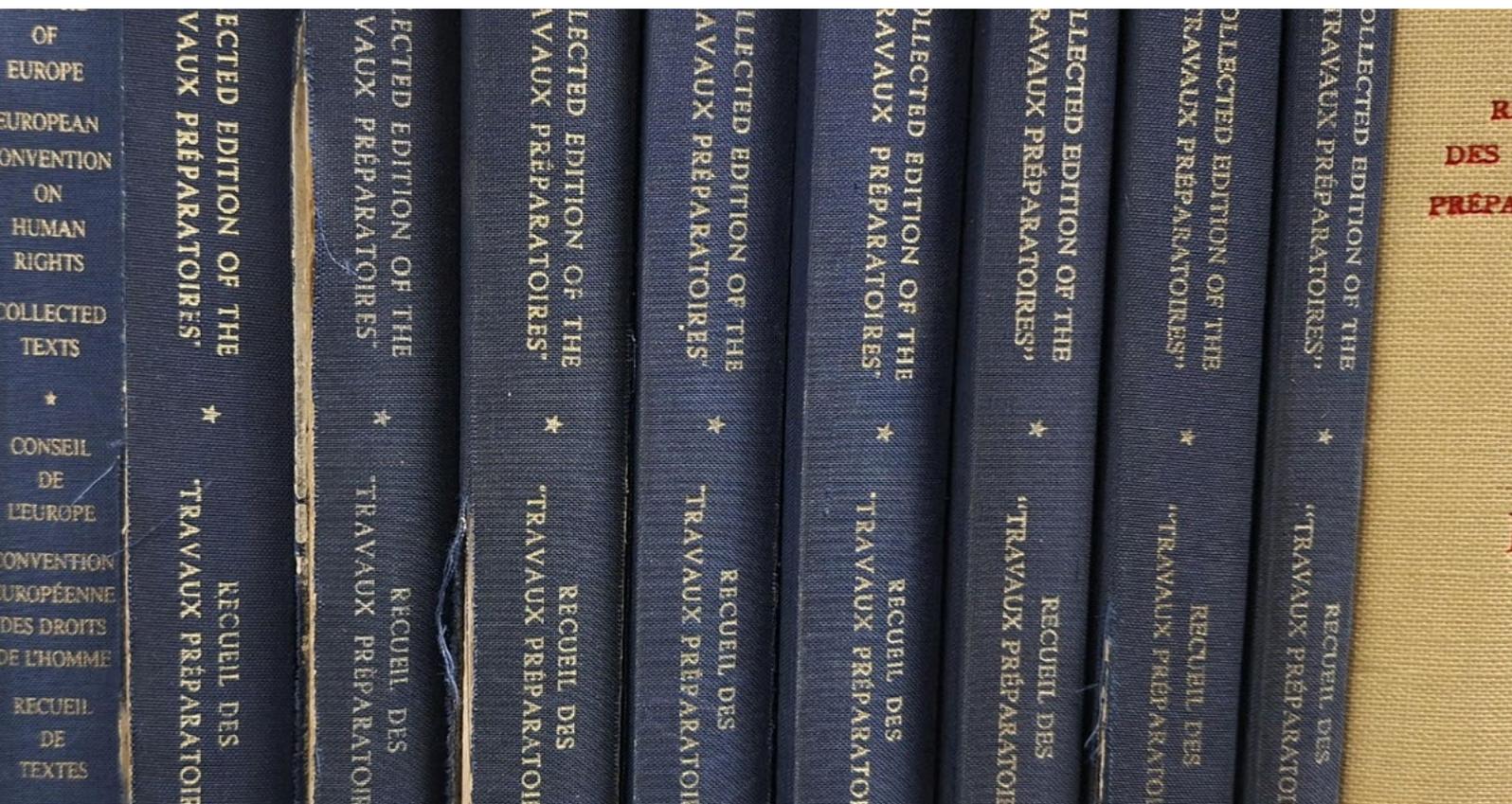
// [W]hat we must fear to-day is not the seizure of power by totalitarianism by means of violence, but rather that totalitarianism will attempt to put itself in power by pseudo-legitimate means."

Mr Teitgen, France

Second Session of the Consultative Assembly

9th sitting held on 16 August 1950:

// In actual fact, what we want to prevent is the re-establishment, or the establishment in some countries, of totalitarian dictatorships ... This is the terrible fate from which we want to protect ourselves."



75th Anniversary of the Convention

Timeline of events





EUROPEAN CONVENTION
ON **HUMAN RIGHTS**
CONVENTION EUROPÉENNE
DES **DROITS DE L'HOMME**

1950 - 2025 **75**

- 31.01 Opening of the Judicial Year, Strasbourg
- 06.02 Meeting between the Court and the three highest French judicial bodies to mark the 75th anniversary of the Convention, Paris
- 14.03 International Conference: *The European Convention on Human Rights as a living instrument*, Strasbourg
- 21.03 René Cassin advocacy competition, Strasbourg
- 24.04 Conference: *Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights*, Strasbourg
- 09.05 Solemn commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Convention, Ljubljana (Slovenia)

- 14.05 Conference: *75 Years of the Convention: A Living Instrument in a Changing World*, Strasbourg
- 19.05 Helga Pedersen Moot Court Competition, Strasbourg
- 05.06 10th anniversary of the Superior Courts Network, Strasbourg
- 01.07 Exhibition to mark the 30th anniversary of the Human Rights Building, Strasbourg
- 11.09 Paul Tavernier Study Day, Paris
- 18.09 Conference: *The Converging Impact of the European Convention on Human Rights and the Istanbul Convention*, Strasbourg
- 21.09 Open Day, Strasbourg
- 02.10 Conference: *Seventy-Five Years of the European Convention on Human Rights: The Role of Administrative Court Judges*, Warsaw (Poland)

- 23.10 Conference on the best interests of the child, Valletta (Malta)
- 04.11 Solemn ceremony to mark the 75th anniversary of the Convention, Strasbourg
- 04.11 Presentation of the exhibition *Parcours européen des droits humains*, Strasbourg
- 04.11 Gala concert entitled *Malta Sings Europe* at the *Opéra national du Rhin*, Strasbourg
- 04.11 Exhibition highlighting the Court's role in protecting human rights in Europe through its case-law, Strasbourg
- 17.11 Screening of the film *Z* by Costa-Gavras, Strasbourg
- 21.11 Human Rights for Uncertain Times: Lessons from 75 Years of European Human Rights Protection, Berlin (Germany)
- 02.12 Celebration by the Lycée Louis Pasteur of the 75th anniversary of the Convention, Strasbourg



Official opening of the Court's judicial year 2025 –
Strasbourg, 31 January 2025





Meeting between the Court and the three highest French judicial bodies – Paris, 6 February 2025

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International conference on *The European Convention on Human Rights as a Living Instrument* – Strasbourg, 14 March 2025



Final of the René Cassin Human Rights Moot Court Competition – Strasbourg, 21 March 2025





Conference on *Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights: New Horizons in European Legal Protection* – **Strasbourg, 24 April 2025**

Solemn commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Convention by the Ministry of Justice of Slovenia – **Ljubljana (Slovenia), 9 May 2025**



Conference on *The European Convention on Human Rights: 75 Years of Protecting Human Rights in Europe* – **Strasbourg, 14 May 2025**



Thirteenth edition of the Helga Pedersen Moot Court Competition – **Strasbourg, 19-23 May 2025**



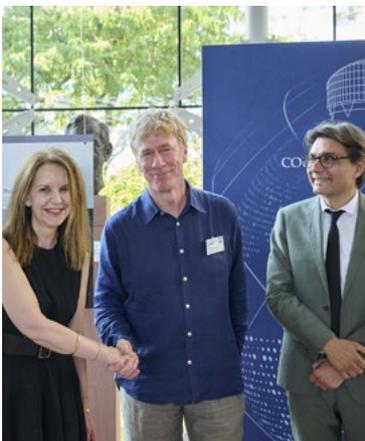


Public session and book launch to mark the 10th anniversary of the Superior Courts Network – **Strasbourg, 5-6 June 2025**



Exhibition to mark the 30th anniversary of the Human Rights Building – Strasbourg, 1 July 2025

To celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Human Rights Building, the Court hosted the opening of an exhibition, attended by many important figures, including Ivan Harbour, Senior Design Director at RSHP and member of the building's original team of architects. During the exhibition, guests viewed seven displays presenting the building's architecture and a series of photographs, entitled "30 Years in 30 Photos", retracing the life of the building.



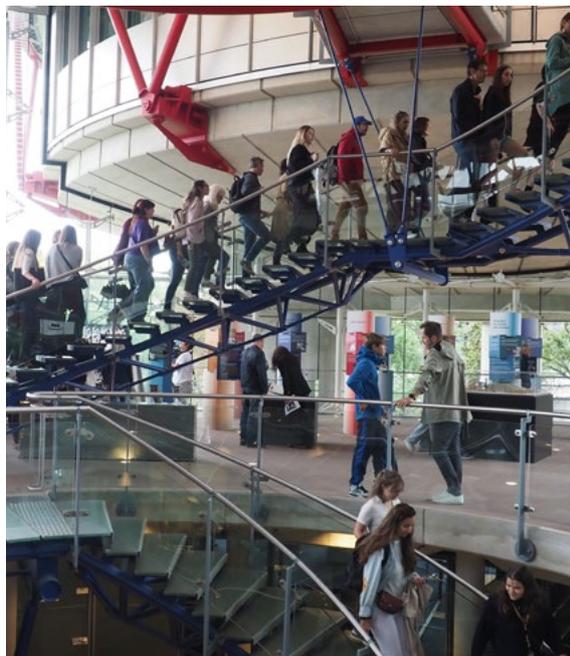
Paul Tavernier
Study Day – Paris,
11 September 2025



Conference on the
converging impact
of the European
Convention on Human
Rights and the Istanbul
Convention – **Strasbourg,**
18 September 2025

Open Day 2025: Inside the Human Rights
Building – **Strasbourg, 21 September 2025**

Nearly 4,000 visitors had the opportunity to visit the iconic Human Rights Building and view the original text of the European Convention on Human Rights, signed on 4 November 1950 in Rome by 12 member States of the Council of Europe.



Conference on *Seventy-Five Years of the European Convention on Human Rights: The Role of Administrative Court Judges* – **Warsaw (Poland), 2 October 2025**



Conference on safeguarding the best interests of the child – **Valletta (Malta), 23 October 2025**

Exhibition entitled *Parcours européen des droits humains* – **Strasbourg, 4 November 2025**



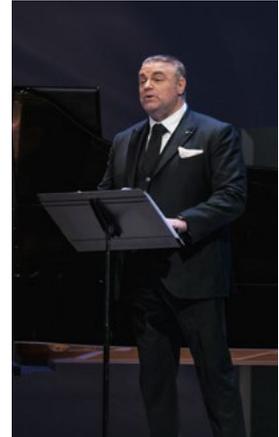
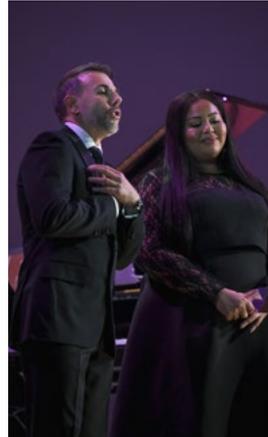
Exhibition showcasing the Convention's role in protecting human rights in Europe through the Court's case-law – **Strasbourg, 4 November 2025**

Solemn ceremony to mark the 75th anniversary of the Convention – Strasbourg, 4 November 2025

Mattias Guyomar, President of the Court, Alain Berset, Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Myriam Spiteri Debono, the President of Malta, and Theodoros Rousopoulos, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, delivered speeches during the solemn ceremony.



*Malta Sings Europe –
gala concert at the
Opéra national du
Rhin – Strasbourg,
4 November 2025*



Screening of the
Costa-Gavras
film *Z* – Strasbourg,
17 November 2025



*Conference on Human
Rights for Uncertain Times:
Lessons from 75 Years
of European Human
Rights Protection – Berlin
(Germany), 21 November 2025*





Moot court competition with students from the Lycée Louis Pasteur – **Strasbourg, 2 December 2025**

The event helped students gain a deeper understanding of the Convention's impact on their daily lives, while also strengthening their advocacy and public-speaking skills.



The year in pictures



10.01 | Paris

President Bošnjak at a solemn hearing to mark the opening of the judicial year at the French Court of Cassation



29.01 | Strasbourg

Official visit by Luc Frieden, Prime Minister of Luxembourg



30.01 | Strasbourg

Official visit by The Rt Hon Lord Hermer KC, Attorney General for England and Wales and Advocate General for Northern Ireland



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16.02 | Dresden (Germany)

Awards ceremony for the presentation of the International Peace Prize to the European Court of Human Rights



24.02 | Strasbourg

Official visit by a delegation from the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, led by its President, Nancy Hernández López



26.02 | Strasbourg

Official visit by Daniel Risch, Prime Minister of Liechtenstein, accompanied by Dominique Hasler, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Education and Sport of Liechtenstein





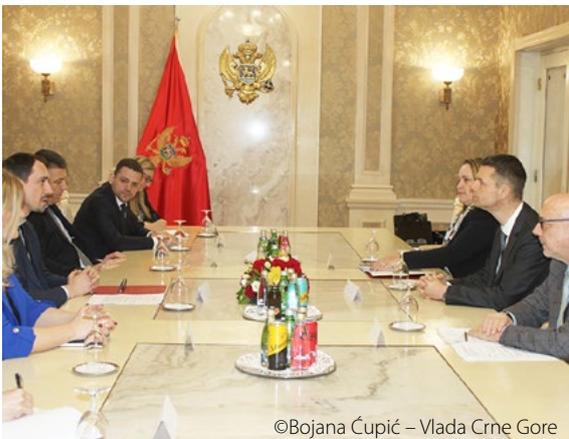
27.02 | Strasbourg

High-level conference held to mark the launch of the new Romanian, Turkish and Ukrainian language versions of the Court's Knowledge Sharing platform (ECHR-KS)



24-25.03 | Podgorica (Montenegro)

Official visit to Montenegro – during the visit, the delegation met with Jakov Milatović, President of Montenegro; Andrija Mandić, Speaker of Parliament; and Bojan Božović, Minister of Justice. The delegation also took part in meetings with Valentina Pavličić, President of the Supreme Court; Snežana Armenko, President of the Constitutional Court; Milorad Marković and Vladimir Novović, Supreme State Prosecutor and Chief Special Prosecutor respectively; and Ljubiša Stanković, President of the Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts.



27.03 | Strasbourg

Official visit from Inese Libiņa-Egnere, Minister of Justice of Latvia



31.03 | Strasbourg

Official visit by Thomas Byrne, Minister of State for European Affairs and Defence of Ireland



**03-04.04 | Brussels
(Belgium)**

The President of the Court pays an official visit to Belgium, meeting with: the Minister of Justice of Belgium, Annelies Verlinden; the Presidents of the Constitutional Court; a delegation of the Court of Cassation; and a delegation of the *Conseil d'État*.



13.05 | Luxembourg

The President of the Court, Marko Bošnjak – accompanied by the President-elect of the Court and judge elected in respect of France, Mattias Guyomar, and the Registrar of the Court, Marialena Tsirli – participates in the 134th Session of the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers in Luxembourg.

18.05 | Vatican City

The Court President attends the Inauguration Mass of Pope Leo XIV at the Vatican.



27.05 | Strasbourg

Visit by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Tourism of Malta, Ian Borg



05.06 | Strasbourg

Bence Tuzson, Hungary's Minister of Justice, visits the Court



10.06 | Strasbourg

Visit to the Court by the Deputy Minister of Justice of Türkiye, Niyazi Acar



11.06 | Paris

The President of the Court, accompanied by the Registrar, visits the French superior courts, namely the Court of Cassation, the *Conseil d'État* and the Constitutional Council.



16.06 | Strasbourg

Michael McGrath, the European Commissioner for Democracy, Justice, the Rule of Law and Consumer Protection, visits the Court.



17.06 | Strasbourg

Visit to the Court by The Rt Hon Shabana Mahmood, Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice of the United Kingdom

25.06 | Strasbourg

The President of the Court meets with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky during the latter's visit to the Council of Europe.



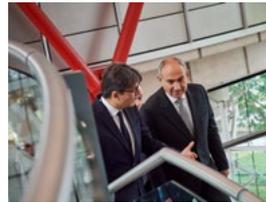
03.07 | Strasbourg

Georgi Georgiev, Minister of Justice of Bulgaria, pays an official visit to the Court.



09.09 | Strasbourg

Official visit by Luca Beccari, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Political Affairs, International Economic Cooperation and Digital Transition of San Marino, and Stefano Canti, Minister of Justice, Welfare and Family of San Marino



29.09 | Strasbourg

The Prime Minister of Armenia, Nikol Pashinyan, pays an official visit to the Court.



01.10 | London (United Kingdom)

The President of the Court, together with the judge elected in respect of the United Kingdom and the Registrar of the Court, attended a service to mark the opening of the Legal Year, held at Westminster Abbey in London. During the visit, the delegation also had meetings with The Rt Hon Lord Reed of Allermuir, President of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom; and with Lord Justice Snowden, Lead Judge for International Relations, and Mr Justice Picken, Lead Judge for European Affairs.



03.10 | Warsaw (Poland)

The President of the Court meets the Prime Minister of Poland, Donald Tusk.



© The Chancellery of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Poland

14.10 | Strasbourg

Minister of Justice, Public Administration and Digital Transformation of Croatia, Damir Habijan, pays an official visit to the Court.



20.10 | Strasbourg

Official visit by Armenia's Minister of Justice, Srubhi Galyan, to the Court



22-23.10 | Valletta (Malta)

The President of the Court meets Malta's Minister for Justice and Reform of the Construction Sector, Jonathan Attard. During the visit, President Guyomar also delivered keynote speeches at justice-related events.

04.11 | Strasbourg

Her Excellency Myriam Spiteri Debono, the President of Malta, pays an official visit to the Court.



12.11 | Strasbourg

Official visit by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Principality of Liechtenstein, Sabine Monauni, to the Court





13.11 | The Hague (Netherlands)

His Majesty King Willem-Alexander receives in audience the President of the Court and the judge elected in respect of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

© Frank van Beek

21.11 | Berlin (Germany)

The Court President pays an official visit to Germany, meeting with: Stefanie Hubig, Federal Minister of Justice and Consumer Protection; Gunther Krichbaum, Minister of State for Europe at the Federal Foreign Office; Bernd Krösser, State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of the Interior; and Frank Schwabe, Parliamentary State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection.



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24.11 | Luxembourg

A large delegation of judges holds a bilateral meeting with the Court of Justice of the European Union.



16.12 | The Hague (Netherlands)

The President of the Court participates in the diplomatic conference for the adoption of the Convention Establishing an International Claims Commission for Ukraine.



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The Annual Report of the European Court of Human Rights provides information on the Court's organisation and activities.

It contains a foreword by the President, a review of the year's judicial activities, a summary of the Court's recent procedural reforms, and statistical data and tables of violations of Articles of the European Convention on Human Rights by member State.

The Report also outlines the events that marked the year, including those related to the 75th anniversary of the Convention, and provides an update on the Court's initiatives regarding knowledge-sharing and visibility.

This Report is published along with a companion volume offering an overview of the Court's case-law, highlighting the most significant cases of 2025 and their relevance in terms of case-law development.

The Court's Annual Reports and other material about its work are available to download from the Court's website (www.echr.coe.int).



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www.echr.coe.int



The European Court of Human Rights is an international court set up in 1959 by the member States of the Council of Europe. It rules on individual or State applications alleging violations of the rights set out in the European Convention on Human Rights of 1950.

