

OVERVIEW

1959-2014

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

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Overview 1959-2014

ECHR

This document has been prepared by the Public Relations Unit of the Court, and does not bind the Court. It is intended to provide basic general information about the way the Court works.

For more detailed information, please refer to documents issued by the Registry, available on the Court's website www.echr.coe.int.

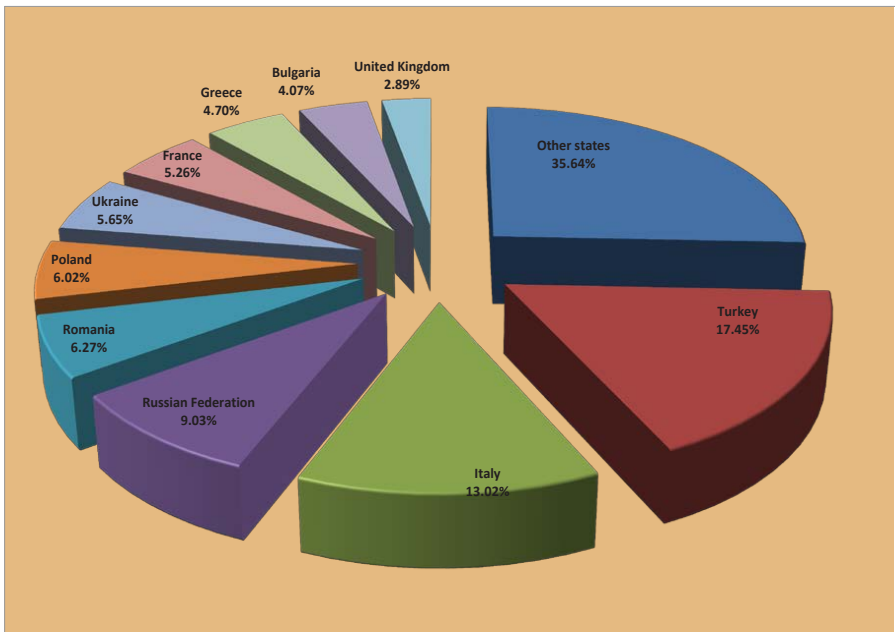
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Statistics 1959 to 2014

Violation judgments by State

Since it was established in 1959 the Court has delivered about 18,000 judgments. Nearly half of the judgments concerned 5 member States: Turkey (3,095), Italy (2,312), the Russian Federation (1,604), Romania (1,113) and Poland (1,070).

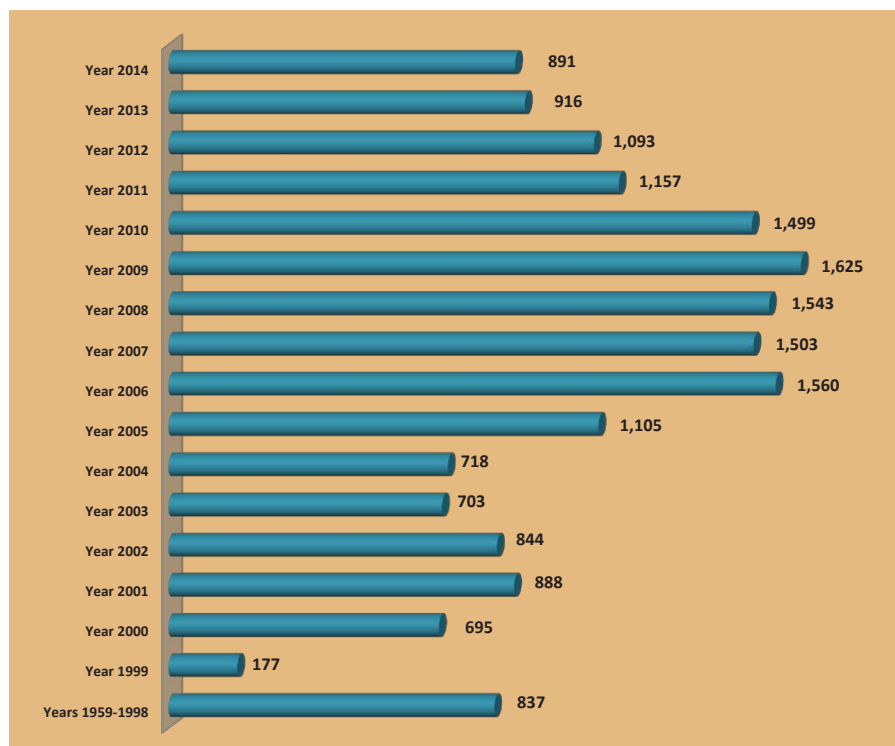
Of the total number of judgments it has delivered since 1959, the Court has found at least one violation of the Convention by the respondent State in 84% of cases.



Judgments delivered by the Court

In recent years the Court has concentrated on examining complex cases and has decided to join certain applications which raise similar legal questions so that it can consider them jointly. Thus, although the number of judgments delivered each year is not increasing as rapidly as in the past, the Court has examined more applications.

Since it was set up, the Court has decided on the examination of around 627,500 applications.

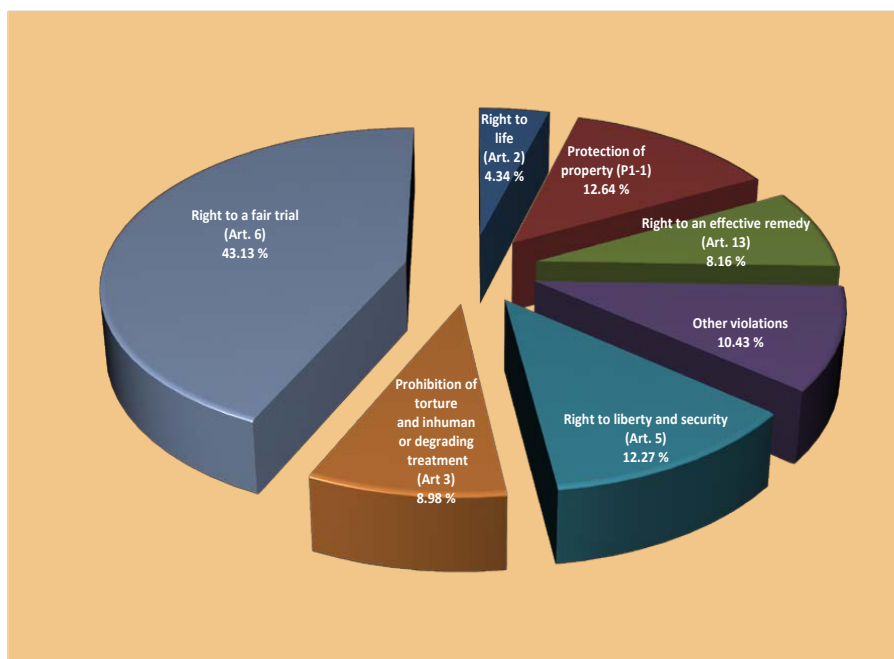


Subject-matter of the Court's violation judgments

More than 42% of the violations found by the Court concern Article 6 of the Convention, whether on account of the fairness or the length of the proceedings.

The second violation most frequently found by the Court has concerned the peaceful enjoyment of possessions (Article 1 of Protocol No.1 – protection of property).

Lastly, 14% of the violations found by the Court have concerned the right to life or the prohibition of torture and inhuman or degrading treatment (Articles 2 and 3 of the Convention).



1959-2014	Total number of judgments Judgments finding at least one violation Judgments finding no violation Friendly settlements/Striking-out judgments Right to life - deprivation of life Lack of effective investigation Inhuman or degrading treatment Lack of effective investigation Prohibition of slavery/forced labour Right to liberty and security Length of proceedings Non-enforcement Right to respect for private and family life Freedom of thought, conscience and religion Freedom of expression Right to assembly and association Right to marry Prohibition of discrimination Protection of property Right to education Right to free elections Other Articles of the Convention Right not to be tried or punished twice																											
	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	2	2	3	3	3	3	4	5	6	6	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	P1-1	P1-2	P1-3	P7-4
Albania	53	40	4	2	7				1	2	1			1	28	5	10	1	1				16		18			2
Andorra	6	3	1	1	1										2									1				
Armenia	52	47	3		2				1	7	1			22	17		1		1	3	1	7		1	1	10	1	9
Austria	344	245	61	24	14				1	4		1		10	90	94			16	1	34	1	14	26	4	1	4	
Azerbaijan	87	83		2	2		2	1	10	7				17	36	6	15				4	7		6	26	11		3
Belgium	205	148	25	16	16	2			1	15	1			44	53	57			10		4		11	9	1			2
Bosnia and Herzegovina	40	35	5						1	1				6	10	1	14	1	1				1	3	26			4
Bulgaria	545	496	31	5	13	15	27	3	55	32	1		256	72	179	6		55	5	10	11		154	8	75	1	2	22
Croatia	290	240	21	26	3	2	6		11	7			20	81	93	3		29		1	1	1	32	4	19		2	
Cyprus	63	52	5	3	3			1		3	1	1		4	8	35		1	7				11	2	4	1	1	
Czech Republic	214	183	14	11	6	1	1			2	2		29	66	79			19		1	1		16	2	12			
Denmark	43	14	17	11	1								1	1	8			2		1	1		2		1			
Estonia	42	34	7	1					6	1			10	10	6		4	1					6					
Finland	178	133	32	9	4					1				2	37	60			24		18		10		2		3	
France	935	691	144	64	36	6	3	2	25		8	2	61	263	282	1	3	40	4	31	6		34	9	30			4
Georgia	60	46	11	1	2	1	3		17	9			17	11	5	1		3	2	1	1		4	4	6	1	4	
Germany	276	176	76	11	13					3			28	19	102	1	9	20		7	2		23	12	3			
Greece	834	744	25	20	45	4	3	1	67	6			60	124	475	10		8	12	10	5		190	13	71	3		1
Hungary	363	346	8	6	3	1			12	4			30	14	253		1	13		18	6		10	3	10	3	4	
Iceland	15	12		3									1	4						4	2				1			
Ireland	32	21	6	1	4				1				2	5	11			5		1			7	1				
Italy	2,312	1,760	60	353	139	2	5	4	26	4			29	273	1189	13	3	145		8	3		83	5	351	1	17	28
Latvia	100	83	13	3	1	1	2		15	10			51	16	11		1	24	3	3	1		4	1	1	3	8	
Liechtenstein	6	5	1										1	1	2					1			1					
Lithuania	104	81	16	7		3	3		6	1			19	20	27	1		13			1		2	4	12	1		

*

* This table has been generated automatically since 2012, using the conclusions in the HUDOC database.

1. Other judgments: just satisfaction, revision, preliminary objections and lack of jurisdiction.

2. Figures may include conditional violations.

3. Figures are available only from 2013.

** Some judgments concern several States.

Throughput of applications 1959* - 2014

	Applications allocated to a judicial formation	Applications or struck out inadmissible	Applications declared delivered	Applications in which judgment was delivered	Total number of applications decided
	1959-2014	1959-2014	1959-2014	1959-2014	1959-2014
Albania	865	441	75	516	63
Andorra	66	57	6	53	1,151
Armenia	2,182	1,098	53	8,251	2,651
Austria	8,630	7,957	294	136	4,239
Azerbaijan	4,084	2,515	168	116	5,345
Belgium	4,677	4,071	635	319	11,963
Bosnia and Herzegovina	6,083	5,229	68	982	11,404
Bulgaria	13,267	11,704	247	38	1,627
Croatia	12,503	11,644	49	2,695	4,719
Cyprus	1,047	914	900	28,505	3,496
Czech Republic	11,598	11,157	263	6,021	27,342
Denmark	1,667	1,589	892	7,816	181
Estonia	2,760	2,646	12	21	913
Finland	4,820	4,546	2,992	2,992	28,418
France	29,522	27,605	99	3,229	112
Georgia	5,768	3,436	60	4,513	4,513
Germany	27,715	27,079	42	559	243
Greece	7,345	5,129	64	2,899	2,899
Hungary	9,624	7,438	378	9,651	71
Iceland	208	169	4	30	1,319
Ireland	930	892	99	8,499	8,499
Italy	40,575	25,426	2,992	3,229	112
Latvia	3,550	3,130	6	4,513	4,513
Liechtenstein	122	106	111	559	243
Lithuania	4,778	4,402	42	2,899	2,899
Luxembourg	569	517	42	9,651	71
Malta	296	179	30	1,319	1,319
Republic of Moldova	10,777	9,278	373	9,651	71
Monaco	74	67	4	30	1,319
Montenegro	1,816	1,289	99	8,499	8,499
Netherlands	8,961	8,400	99	1,428	1,428
Norway	1,502	1,386	42	58,943	2,809
Poland	60,667	57,867	1,076	53,410	119,365
Portugal	3,243	2,381	428	9,651	71
Romania	56,683	52,012	1,398	53,410	119,365
Russian Federation	129,223	116,777	2,588	119,365	61
San Marino	70	46	15	20,890	6,855
Serbia	23,368	20,466	424	6,855	6,855
Slovak Republic	7,049	6,520	335	6,792	6,792
Slovenia	8,412	6,398	334	9,815	9,815
Spain	10,027	9,643	172	9,356	6,033
Sweden	9,486	9,260	96	114	4,019
Switzerland	6,250	5,919	111	50,603	50,603
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*	4,232	3,908	3,961	4,734	57,003
Turkey	60,054	46,642	4,734	603	21,307
Ukraine	70,605	52,269	4,734	603	21,307
United Kingdom	22,781	20,704	603	627,462	627,462
TOTAL	700,531	602,308	25,154	627,462	627,462

* This table includes cases dealt with by the European Commission of Human Rights prior to 1959.

Since the Court was set up in 1959, the member States of the Council of Europe have adopted a number of protocols to the European Convention on Human Rights with the aim of improving and strengthening its supervisory mechanism. In 1998 Protocol No. 11 thus replaced the original two-tier structure, comprising the Commission and the Court on Human Rights, sitting a few days per month, by a single full-time Court. This change put an end to the Commission's filtering function, enabling applicants to bring their cases directly before the Court.

A second major reform to address the considerable increase in the number of applications and the Court's backlog was brought about by the entry into force of Protocol No. 14 in 2010. This Protocol introduced new judicial formations for the simplest cases and established a new admissibility criterion (existence of a "significant disadvantage" for the applicant); it also extended the judges' term of office to 9 years (not renewable).

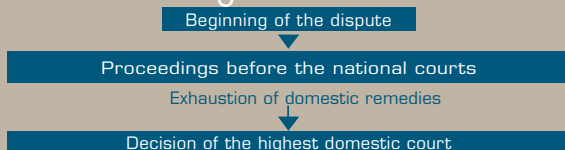
Since 2010, three high-level conferences on the future of the Court have been convened to identify methods of guaranteeing the long-term effectiveness of the Convention system. These conferences have, in particular, led to the adoption of Protocols Nos. 15 and 16 to the Convention, which were not yet in force in 2015.

Protocol No. 15, adopted in 2013, will insert references to the principle of subsidiarity and the doctrine of the margin of appreciation into the Convention's preamble; it will also reduce from 6 to 4 months the time within which an application must be lodged with the Court after a final national decision.

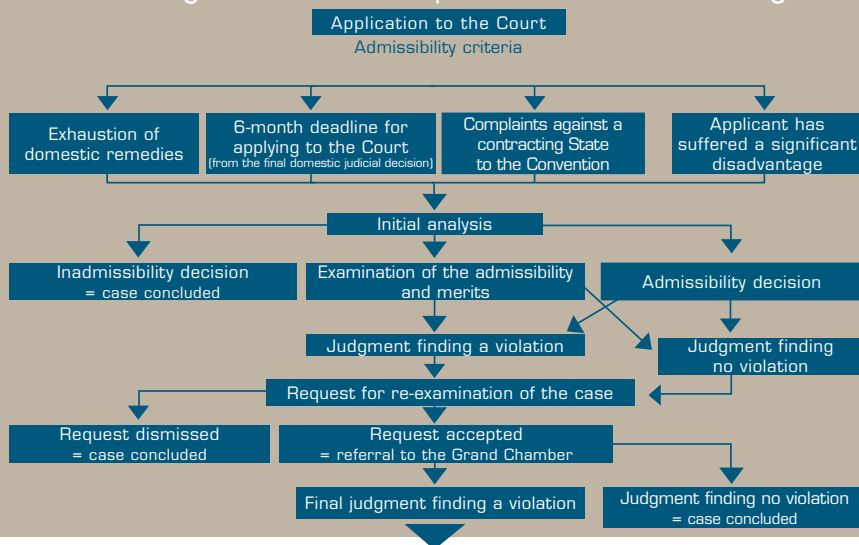
2013 has also saw the adoption of **Protocol No. 16**, which will allow the highest domestic courts and tribunals to request the Court to give advisory opinions on questions of principle relating to the interpretation or application of the rights and freedoms defined in the Convention or the protocols thereto. Protocol No. 16 is optional.

The life of an application

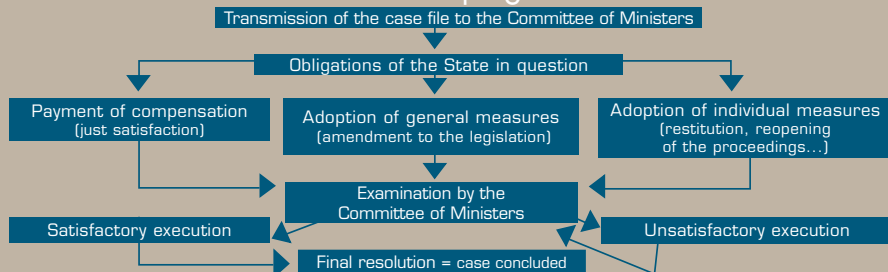
Proceedings at national level

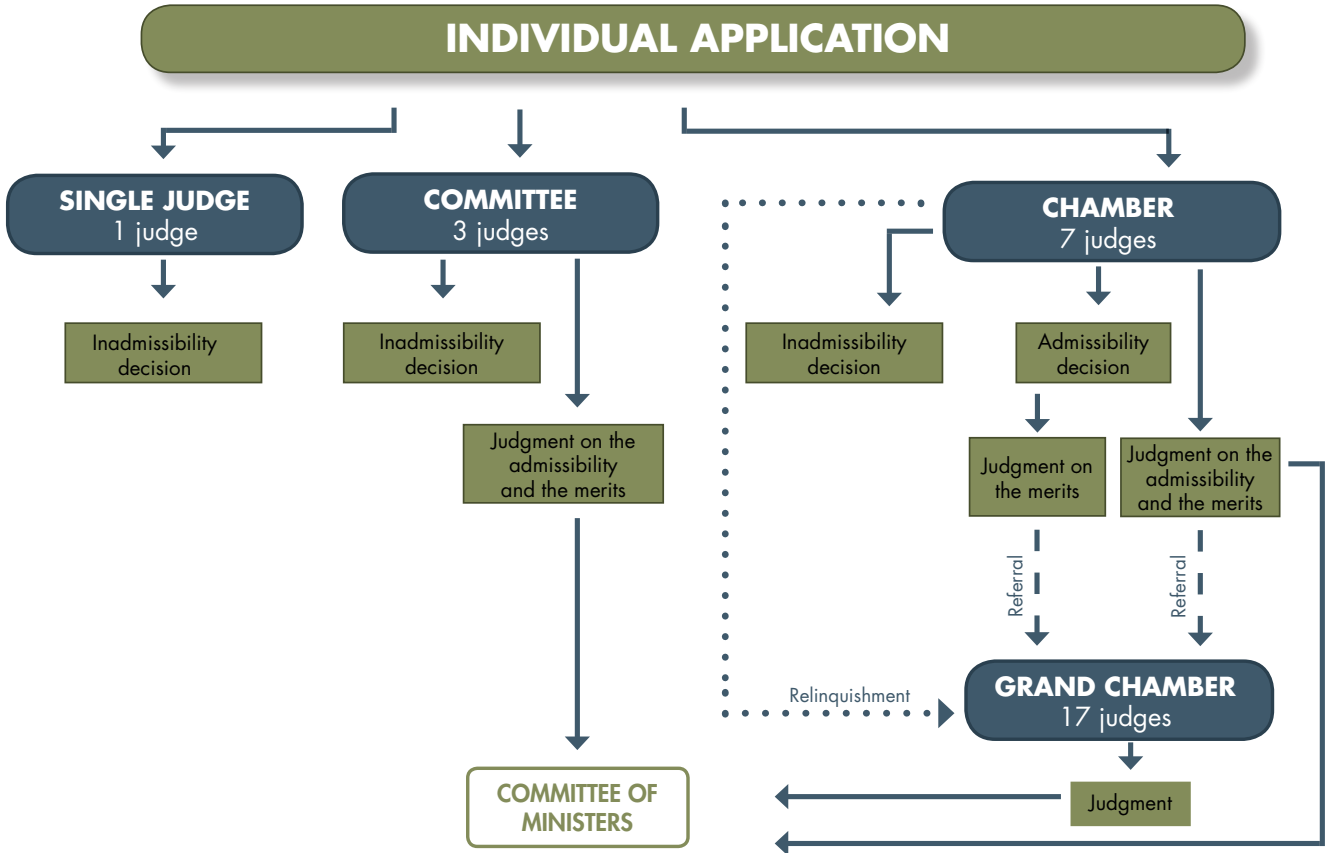


Proceedings before the European Court of Human Rights



Execution of judgment





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