Last updated: July 2026

Spain

Ratified the European Convention on Human Rights in 1979

National Judge: María Elósegui (15 March 2018 -)
Judges' CVs are available on the ECHR Internet site

Previous Judges: Eduardo García De Enterria (1978-1986), Juan Antonio Carrillo Salcedo (1986-1989), José Maria Morenilla (1990-1998), Antonio Pastor Ridruejo (1998-2003), Javier Borrego Borrego (2003-2008), Luis López Guerra (2008-2018)

List of judges of the Court since 1959

The Court dealt with 851 applications concerning Spain in 2025, of which 837 were declared inadmissible or struck out. It delivered 11 judgments (concerning 14 applications), 7 of which found at least one violation of the European Convention on Human Rights.

Applications processed in	2024	2025	2026*
Applications allocated to a judicial formation	635	753	349
Communicated to the Government	12	11	11
Applications decided:	505	851	365
- Declared inadmissible or struck out (Single Judge)	479	779	353
- Declared inadmissible or struck out (Committee)	18	54	9
- Declared inadmissible or struck out (Chamber)	2	4	0
- Decided by judgment	6	14	3

* January to July
For information about the Court's judicial formations and procedure, see the ECHR internet site.
Statistics on interim measures can be found here.

Applications pending before the court on 01/07/2026	
Applications pending before a judicial formation:	161
Single Judge	106
Committee (3 Judges)	20
Chamber (7 Judges)	34
Grand Chamber (17 Judges)	1

Spain and ...

The Registry

The task of the Registry is to provide legal and administrative support to the Court in the exercise of its judicial functions. It is composed of lawyers, administrative and technical staff and translators. There are currently **673** Registry staff members.

Noteworthy cases, judgments delivered

Grand Chamber

Right to liberty and security (Article 5)

Mangouras v. Spain
(no. 12050/04)
28.09.2010
Pre-trial detention – with possibility of release on bail of three million euros – of captain of ship *Prestige* for causing damage to the environment and natural resources (spilling 70,000 tons of fuel oil into the Atlantic Ocean).
No violation of Article 5 § 3

Cases on Article 7 (no punishment without law)

Del Rio Prada v. Spain
(no. 42750/09)
21.10.2013
The case concerned the postponement of the final release of a person convicted of terrorist offences, on the basis of a new approach – known as the "Parot doctrine" – adopted by the Supreme Court after she had been sentenced.
Violation of Article 7
Violation of Article 5 § 1 (right to liberty and security)
Furthermore, the Court decided that the respondent State was to ensure the applicant was released at the earliest possible date.
Link to the press release in Spanish.

Private and family life cases (Article 8)

Pindo Mulla v. Spain
(no. 15541/20)
17.09.2024
The case concerned blood transfusions administered to the applicant, a Jehovah's Witness, during emergency surgery, despite her refusal to undergo a blood transfusion of any kind.
Violation of Article 8 read in the light of Article 9 (freedom of thought, conscience and religion)

López Ribalda and Others v. Spain
(nos 1874/13 and 8567/13)
17.10.2019
The case concerned the covert video-surveillance of employees which led to their dismissal.
No violation of Article 8
No violation of Article 6 § 1 (right to a fair trial

Fernández Martínez v. Spain
(no. 56030/07)
12.06.2014
The case concerned the non-renewal of the contract of a married priest and father of five who taught Catholic religion and ethics, after he had been granted dispensation from celibacy and following an event at which he had publicly displayed his active commitment to a movement opposing Church doctrine.
No violation of Article 8

Freedom of expression and freedom of assembly (Articles 10 and 11)

Palomo Sánchez and Others v. Spain
(nos. 28955/06, 28957/06, 28959/06 and 28964/06)
12.09.2011
The case concerned the dismissal of a group of trade unionists after the union's newsletter had published a cartoon and articles considered to be insulting to two other employees and a manager.
No violation of Article 10 read in the light of Article 11

Collective expulsion (Article 4 of Protocol No. 4)

N.D. and N.T. v. Spain
(nos. 8675/15 and 8697/15)
13.02.2020
The case concerned the immediate return to Morocco of two nationals of Mali and Côte d'Ivoire who on 13 August 2014 attempted to enter Spanish territory in an unauthorised manner by climbing the fences surrounding the Spanish enclave of Melilla on the North African coast.

No violation of Article 4 of Protocol No. 4
No violation of Article 13 (right to an effective remedy) taken in conjunction with Article 4 of Protocol No. 4

Noteworthy cases, judgments delivered

Chamber

Cases concerning inhuman or degrading treatment (Article 3)

A.J. and L.E. v. Spain (nos. 40312/23 and 40388/23)

23.10.2025

The case concerned the investigation into the applicants' complaints that they had been drugged and sexually assaulted (by chemical submission) in December 2016, as well as into the subsequent loss and manipulation of crucial evidence in police custody.

Violation of Article 3
Violation of Article 8 (right to respect for private and family life)

Portu Juanenea and Sarasola Yarzabal v. Spain

(no. 1653/13)

13.02.2018

The case concerned allegations of ill-treatment sustained by Mr Portu Juanenea and Mr Sarasola Yarzabal when they were arrested in 2008 by officers of the Guardia Civil and at the beginning of their incommunicado police custody.

Violation of Article 3 in its substantive and procedural aspects

Beortegui Martinez v. Spain

(no 36286/14)

31.05.2016

The case concerned the alleged failure to investigate an allegation by Mr Beortegui Martinez that he was ill-treated by four *Guardia Civil* officers while detained incommunicado in police custody on suspicion of belonging to a terrorist organisation.

Violation of Article 3 on account of the investigation conducted by the national authorities
No violation of Article 3 as regards the applicant's allegation of ill-treatment during his arrest and in police custody

Etxebarria Caballero v. Spain and Ataun Rojo v. Spain

(nos. 74016/12 and 3344/13)

07.10.2014

These cases concerned the investigation by the Spanish authorities into ill-treatment allegedly sustained by the applicants while they were held incommunicado in police custody. They were arrested by the police and placed in secret police custody in the context of judicial investigations concerning, in particular, their alleged membership of the terrorist organisation ETA.

In both cases:
Violation of Article 3 on account the lack of an effective investigation into the applicants' allegations of ill-treatment
No violation of Article 3 concerning the ill-treatment alleged by the applicant Etxebarria Caballero

Otamendi Egiguren v. Spain

(no. 47303/08)

16.10.2012

The case concerned the investigation into allegations of police ill-treatment of a man suspected of links with the terrorist organisation ETA held incommunicado in police custody.

Violation of Article 3 (investigation)

B. S. v. Spain (no. 47159/08)

24.07.2012

The case concerned a woman of Nigerian origin who was stopped by the police while working as a prostitute on the outskirts of Palma de Mallorca.

Violation of Article 3 as regards the investigation
No violation of Article 3 as regards the allegations of ill-treatment
Violation of Article 14 (prohibition of discrimination) in conjunction with Article 3

Olaechea Cahuas v. Spain

(no. 24668/03)

10.08.2006

Extradition to Peru in 2003 of Adolfo Hector Olaechea Cahuas (the subject of an international arrest warrant for his presumed membership of the "Shining Path").

Violation of Article 34 (right of individual application)
No violation of Articles 3, 5 (right to liberty and security) and 6 (right to a fair trial)

Inadmissible decision

Carvajal Barrios v. Spain
(no. 13869/22)
13.07.2023
The case concerned the extradition of Mr Carvajal Barrios to the United States, where he is wanted for drug-smuggling offences.
Application declared inadmissible as manifestly ill-founded

Cases concerning prohibition of slavery and forced labour (Article 4)

T.V. v. Spain
(no. 22512/21)
10.10.2024
The case concerned a victim of human trafficking from Nigeria to Spain. She alleged that the Spanish authorities' investigation into her criminal complaint of human trafficking and sexual exploitation between 2003 and 2007 had been inadequate. She managed to escape her alleged traffickers and brought the criminal complaint in 2011.
Violation of Article 4

Cases concerning Article 5 (right to liberty and security)

Sanchez i Picanyol and Others v. Spain (nos. 25608/20, 27250/20 and 46481/20)
06.11.2025
No violation of Article 3 of Protocol No. 1 in respect of all three applicants
No violation of Article 18 (limitation on use of restrictions on rights) taken in conjunction with Articles 5 and/or 3 of Protocol No. 1 in respect of all three applicants.
No violation of Article 5 §§ 1 and 4 (right to liberty and security) in respect of the second applicant.

B.M. v. Spain (no. 25893/23)
06.11.2025
In May 2021 the applicant was detained in a psychiatric hospital under the Civil Procedure Act. His detention was approved by the Madrid Court of First Instance no. 30. The applicant attended the hearing online from hospital and was not assisted by a lawyer.
Violation of Article 5 § 1 (e) (lawful detention of persons of unsound mind)

M.B. v. Spain
(no. 38239/22)
06.02.2025
The case concerned Ms M.B.'s pre-trial detention and later confinement in a prison psychiatric hospital in February 2020, following her burning down the flat she had been living in.
Violation of Article 5 § 1

Cases concerning Article 6

Right to a fair trial

Otegi Mondragón and Others v. Spain (no. 14186/24)
23.10.2025
The case concerned the review proceedings following the European Court's 2018 judgment *Otegi Mondragón and Others v. Spain*, in which the Court found a violation of Article 6 § 1 of the Convention on the grounds that the applicants, five Spaniards, had not been tried by an impartial tribunal when convicted by the Audiencia Nacional (National High Court) in 2011 for being members of the terrorist organisation ETA.
Application declared inadmissible

Lorenzo Bragado and Others v. Spain
(nos 53193/21, 53707/21, 53848/21, 54582/21, 54703/21 et 54731/21)
22.06.2023
The case concerned the appointment process for membership of the General Council of the Judiciary ("the GCJ"), the governing body of the judiciary in Spain.
Violation of Article 6 § 1 (right to a fair trial/access to court)

Atristain Gorosabel v. Spain
(no. 15508/15)
18.01.2022
The case concerned the applicant's pre-trial detention incommunicado, and the fact that he was questioned by the police without a lawyer present, making self-incriminating statements. Those statements had formed

part of the reasons for his conviction for terrorism offences.
Violation of Article 6 §§ 1 and 3 (c) (right to legal assistance of own choosing)

Camacho Camacho v. Spain

(no. 32914/16)

24.09.2019

The case concerned Mr Camacho Camacho's conviction on appeal after being acquitted at first instance. He was sentenced to imprisonment and fined, even though he and several witnesses had never been questioned and despite the fact that the appellate court had reassessed the subjective aspects of the case.
Violation of Article 6 § 1

Otegi Mondragon and Others v. Spain

(nos. 4184/15 4317/15 4323/15 5028/15 and 5053/15)

06.11.2018

The case concerned the applicants' complaint of bias on the part of judges who convicted them for being members of the ETA organisation.
Violation of Article 6 § 1

Vilches Coronado and Others v. Spain

(no. 55517/14)

13.03.2018

The case concerned the applicants' conviction for fraud against the State Treasury after an appeal hearing, the applicants having been acquitted at first instance.
No violation of Article 6 § 1

Hernandez Royo v. Spain

(no. 16033/12)

20.09.2016

The case concerned the fact that the applicants had been convicted at the appeal stage, without evidence having been heard from them in person, after they had been acquitted at first instance.
No violation of Article 6

Gómez Olmeda v. Spain

(no. 61112/12)

29.03.2016

The case concerned the complaint by a criminal convict that he had not been able to defend himself in open court in the appeal proceedings in his case.
Violation of Article 6 § 1

Sociedad Anónima del Ucieza v. Spain

(no. 38963/08)

04.11.2014

The case concerned a dispute over ownership of a medieval church between the applicant company, which had purchased and registered in the land register a plot of land in which the church had formed an enclave, and the Diocese of Palencia, which had registered the same church in its own name in the land register sixteen years later.
Violation of Article 6 § 1
Violation of Article 1 of Protocol No. 1 (protection of property)

Varela Geis v. Spain

(no. 61005/09)

05.03.2013

A bookshop owner who sold publications about the Holocaust complained that he had been convicted of "justifying genocide", an offence not corresponding either to the charges against him or to his conviction at first instance.
Violation of Article 6 §§ 1 and 3 (a) and (b) (right to a fair trial and rights of the defence): the applicant should have been notified of the amended charge against him in order to prepare his defence

Serrano Contreras v. Spain

(no. 49183/08)

20.03.2012

In this case, the Court concluded that the lack of public hearing before the Supreme Court resulted in a violation of the right to a fair trial (Article 6 § 1).
Judgment available in Spanish.
See also judgments in the cases of Igual Coll, Garcia Hernandez and Almenaro Alvarez.

Vaquero Hernandez and Others v. Spain

(nos. 1883/03, 2723/03 and 4058/03)

02.11.2010

Spanish Civil Guard officers and Civil Governor accused of murdering two presumed ETA members complained that they had not had a fair trial.
No violation of article 6 §§ 1, 2 and 3

Castillo Algar v. Spain

28.10.1998

Issue of impartiality in the trial of a lieutenant-colonel in the infantry and

attached to the Spanish Legion, accused of having set up an unregulated private fund.
Violation of Article 6 § 1

Right to a fair hearing within a reasonable time

García Mateos v. Spain

19.02.2013
The case concerned a supermarket employee who asked for a reduction in her working time because she had to look after her son who was then under six years old.
Violation of Article 6 § 1 combined with Article 14 (prohibition of discrimination)

Presumption of innocence

Lizaso Azconobieta v. Spain

28.06.2011
The applicant was arrested in the course of a police operation against the terrorist organisation ETA. At a press conference held three days after the arrest, the civil governor of Guipúzcoa named him as a member of an ETA commando unit responsible for three bomb attacks. Two days later, a judge ordered his release. No charges were subsequently brought against him.
Violation of Article 6 § 2
Judgment available in Spanish

Tendam v. Spain

13.07.2010 (principal judgment)[1]
Refusal by the Spanish authorities to grant the applicant compensation for his pre-trial detention during the criminal proceedings against him for theft as well as for the loss of and damage to his property seized in connection with the charge of handling stolen goods.
Violation of Article 6 § 2
Violation of Article 1 of Protocol No. 1 (protection of property)

Vera Fernández-Huidobro v. Spain

06.01.2010
Allegations of lack of impartiality for political reasons in the trial of a Minister of State for Security at the Ministry of the Interior convicted of misappropriation of public funds and false imprisonment.
No violation of Article 6 §§ 1 (right to a fair trial) and 2

Inadmissibility decision

Larrañaga Arando and Others v. Spain and Martínez Agirre and Others v. Spain

18.07.2019
Both cases concerned the applicants' complaints under Article 6 § 2 (presumption of innocence) about being refused State compensation for the killing of their relatives by terrorist groups.
Applications declared inadmissible for being incompatible with the provisions of the Convention

Right of access to a court

Arribas Anton v. Spain

20.01.2015
The case mainly concerned the applicant's right of access to a court (*amparo* procedure).
No violation of Article 6 § 1

Inadmissible decision

Fraile Iturralde v. Spain

28.05.2019
The case concerned a complaint brought by an accomplice in the offence of terrorism about the refusal of his request for a transfer to a prison closer to his family.
Application declared inadmissible as manifestly ill-founded.
Press release in Spanish

Cases concerning Article 7 (no punishment without law)

Gurguchiani v. Spain

15.12.2009
Retroactive application of a heavier penalty – deportation – to an illegal immigrant.
Violation of Article 7

Inadmissible decision

Aguirre Lete v. Spain and four other applications

29.08.2019
The case concerned the issue of taking account of prison sentences already served in France – five Spanish nationals convicted

[1] See also, with regard to the same case, the Chamber judgment of 28 June 2011 on the question of just satisfaction. In this judgment, the Court awarded Mr. Tendam EUR 200,000 for pecuniary damage.

of terrorist offences in France and Spain – for the purposes of calculating the maximum length of the relevant sentences in Spain.
Applications declared inadmissible as manifestly ill-founded.

Parental rights (Article 8)

G.T.B. v. Spain (no. 3041/19)
16.11.2023
The case concerned attempts in Spain to register G.T.B.'s birth, which had taken place in Mexico.
Violation of Article 8

Omorefe v. Spain
23.06.2020
The case concerned the placement in foster care and subsequent adoption of a child and the inability of the biological mother to retain contact with him.
Violation of Article 8
Under Article 46 (binding force and execution of judgments) of the Convention, the Court called on the domestic authorities to re-examine, in a timely manner, the situation of Ms Omorefe and her minor son, and to envisage the possibility of establishing contact between them, taking account of the child's current situation and best interests.

Haddad v. Spain
18.06.2019
The case concerned the placement of the applicant's youngest child in foster care.
Violation of Article 8

R.M.S v. Spain (no. 28775/12)
18.06.2013
The case concerned the applicant's daughter's placement with a foster family by social services against the wishes of the applicant. The applicant complained that she was deprived of all contact with her daughter and observed that the administrative authorities had decided to place her daughter in foster care with a view to adoption before the domestic courts had even ruled that her daughter had been abandoned.
Violation of Article 8

K.A.B. v. Spain (no. 59819/08)
10.04.2012
The case concerned the adoption – despite the father's opposition – of a child who was declared abandoned after his mother's deportation.
Violation of Article 8

Saleck Bardi v. Spain
24.05.2011
The case concerned judicial proceedings that ended with the granting of guardianship of a child from the Sahrawi refugee camps in Tindouf to a Spanish host family, after a long period of uncertainty and despite her biological mother's request for her return. Right to family life breached by authorities' lack of diligence in returning child to biological mother
Violation of Article 8

P.V. v. Spain (no. 35159/09)
30.11.2010
Restriction of contact arrangements between a transsexual and her six-year-old son.
No violation of Article 8 taken in conjunction with Article 14 (prohibition of discrimination): the overriding factor had been the child's best interests and not the applicant's transsexualism, the aim being that the child would gradually become accustomed to his father's gender reassignment.

Other private and family life cases (Article 8)

C.P. v. Spain (no. 50181/22)
11.06.2026
The case concerned a woman's compulsory admission to hospital to give birth pursuant to a judicial order, despite her wish to give birth at home, owing to a risk of foetal hypoxia and intrauterine foetal death.
No violation of Article 8

Fal v. Spain (no. 25828/23)
12.05.2026
The case concerned an expulsion and re-entry ban imposed, as an administrative sanction, on a suspected jihadist recruiter.
No violation of Article 8

A.J. and L.E. v. Spain (nos. 40312/23 and 40388/23)
23.10.2025
Violation of Article 3

Violation of Article 8 (right to respect for private and family life)

Siles Cabrera v. Spain

17.07.2025

The case concerned Mr Siles Cabrera's application for a residence permit in 2018 on the basis of "social roots" (arraigo social).

No violation of Article 8

Tena Arregui v. Spain

11.01.2024

The case concerned the collecting and release of some of Mr Tena Arregui's emails by the UPyD party (of which he had been a senior member) during an operation to monitor suspicions that other members had made backroom deals with the Ciudadanos party.

No violation of Article 8

M.D. and Others v. Spain
(no. 36584/17)

28.06.2022

The case concerned the compiling of files by the police in Catalonia on judges who had expressed certain views on that region's independence from Spain. Material from the files, including photographs, had been subsequently leaked to the press.

Violation of Article 8

Reyes Jimenez v. Spain

08.03.2022

The case concerned a severe deterioration in the physical and neurological health of the applicant, who had been a minor at the time and who was now in a state of total dependence and disability following three surgical operations which he underwent to remove a brain tumour. Before the Court, the applicant, represented by his father, complained of failings in connection with the written informed consent requirement in respect of one of the operations.

Violation of Article 8

Saber and Boughassal v. Spain

18.12.2018

The case concerned expulsion orders against two Moroccan nationals following their convictions for criminal offences in Spain.

Violation of Article 8

Vicent Del Campo v. Spain

06.11.2018

The case concerned a domestic judgment which named Mr Vicent Del Campo as having harassed a work colleague, although the defendant in the case was actually his local authority employer.

Violation of Article 8

Trabajo Rueda v. Spain

30.05.2017

The case concerned the seizure of Mr Trabajo Rueda's computer on the grounds that it contained child pornography material.

Violation of Article 8

Rubio Dosamantes v. Spain

21.02.2017

The case concerned a complaint by the pop singer Paulina Rubio that her honour and reputation had been harmed by remarks made on television about her private life.

Violation of Article 8

Martinez Martinez and María Pino Manzano v. Spain

03.07.2012

The case concerned a couple living in the vicinity of an active stone quarry. They complained about the noise and the dust pollution and claimed compensation from the authorities for the damage suffered.

No violation of Article 8

Moreno Gómez v. Spain

16.11.2004

Night-time noise caused by night clubs opened near the applicant's home

Violation of Article 8

Prado Bugallo v. Spain

18.02.2003

The case concerned telephone tapping in the course of a drug-trafficking investigation.

Violation of Article 8

López Ostra v. Spain

09.12.1994

Nuisance caused by a waste-treatment plant situated near the applicant's home.

Violation of Article 8 (right to respect for private and family life)

No violation of Article 3 (prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment)

Inadmissible applications

Mas Gavarró v. Spain
10.11.2022
The case concerned the publication of a number of articles in the daily newspaper El Mundo which according to the applicant had damaged his reputation.
Application declared inadmissible.

Fraile Iturralde v. Spain
28.05.2019
The case concerned a complaint brought by an accomplice in the offence of terrorism about the refusal of his request for a transfer to a prison closer to his family.
Application declared inadmissible as manifestly ill-founded.
Press release in Spanish

Cases concerning freedom of thought, conscience and religion (Article 9)

Inadmissible applications

Asociación de Abogados Cristianos v. Spain
30.11.2023
The case concerned an artwork, called Amen, which was part of an exhibition financed by the local authorities in Pamplona in 2015.
Application declared inadmissible

Rivadulla Duró v. Spain
09.11.2023
The case concerned Mr Rivadulla Duró's – a rapper also known as "Pablo Hasél" – conviction and custodial sentence on charges of public praise or justification of terrorism, insult and slander against the Crown, and insult and slander against State institutions, for the content of several social-media posts and a song about King Emeritus Juan Carlos I of Spain.
Application declared inadmissible

Cases concerning freedom of expression (Article 10)

Erkizia Almandoz v. Spain
22.06.2021
The case concerned the participation by the applicant, a Basque separatist politician, in a ceremony to pay tribute to a former member of the ETA terrorist organisation, and his conviction for publicly defending terrorism, receiving a one-year prison sentence and seven years' ineligibility.
Violation of Article 10

Toranzo Gómez v. Spain
20.11.2018
The case concerned the applicant being found guilty of slander after accusing police officers of torture.
Violation of Article 10

Stern Taulats and Roura Capellera v. Spain
13.03.2018
The case concerned the conviction of two Spanish nationals for setting fire to a photograph of the royal couple at a public demonstration held during the King's official visit to Girona in September 2007.
Violation of Article 10

Jiménez Losantos v. Spain
14.06.2016
The case concerned the criminal conviction of Mr Jiménez Losantos, a journalist, for making comments about the mayor of Madrid which were considered to be insulting.
Violation of Article 10

Rodriguez Ravelo v. Spain
12.01.2016
The case concerned expressions used by a lawyer in a written application containing value judgments regarding a judge and attributing blameworthy conduct to her.
Violation of Article 10

Otegi v. Spain
15.03.2011
The case concerned the conviction of spokesperson of the Basque pro-independence left for insulting the King.
Violation of Article 10

Gutiérrez Suarez v. Spain
01.06.2010
Conviction for unlawful interference with King Hassan's fundamental right to respect for his reputation, following publication of an article in which a family company belonging to the king was alleged to be involved in drug trafficking.
Violation of Article 10

Castells v. Spain

23.04.1992

Mr Castells, a lawyer and senator elected on the list of the Basque coalition Herri Batasuna, sentenced to imprisonment in 1983 for insulting the Government after having published an article in which he held the latter responsible for the impunity enjoyed by armed groups.

Violation of Article 10

Cases concerning freedom of assembly and association (Article 11)

Central Unitaria de Traballadores/as v. Spain

17.10.2024

The case concerned a refusal by the local authorities in Galicia to allow a trade union to organise a convoy-demonstration in Vigo for May Day owing to the Covid restrictions in force at that time.

No violation of Article 11

Laguna Guzman v. Spain

06.10.2020

The case concerned the applicant's complaint that she had been left permanently injured after the police forcefully dispersed a spontaneous gathering that had taken place after an official demonstration.

Violation of Article 11

Forcadell i Lluis and Others v. Spain

28.05.2019

The case concerned the Constitutional Court's decision to suspend the plenary sitting of the Parliament of the Autonomous Community of Catalonia on 9 October 2017.

Application declared inadmissible as manifestly ill-founded.

Press release in Spanish.

Junta Rectora Del Ertzainen Nazional Elkartasuna (ER.N.E.) v. Spain

21.04.2015

The case concerned the inability of the members of a police officers' trade union to exercise the right to strike.

No violation of Article 11, taken alone and in conjunction with Article 14 (prohibition of discrimination)

Cases concerning Article 13 (right to an effective remedy)

A.C. and Others v. Spain (no. 6528/11)

22.04.2014

The case concerned the possible removal of international protection seekers from Spain to Morocco, where they alleged they would face a risk of inhuman and degrading treatment.

Violation of Article 13, taken together with Articles 2 (right to life) and 3 (prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment)

Cases concerning discrimination (Article 14)

Ortega Ortega v. Spain (no. 36325/22)

04.12.2025

The case concerned the applicant's dismissal from her job, following a claim made by her of sex discrimination.

violation of Article 14 taken in conjunction with Article 8 (right to private life)

Aldeguer Tomás v. Spain

14.06.2016

The case concerned the applicant's complaint of having been discriminated against on the ground of his sexual orientation in that he was denied a survivor's pension following the death of his partner, with whom he had lived in a *de facto* marital relationship. The applicant, Mr Aldeguer Tomás, had been unable to marry his partner under the law in force during the latter's lifetime. Three years after his partner's death, the law legalising same-sex marriage in Spain entered into force.

No violation of Article 14 read in conjunction with Article 8 (right to respect for private and family life) and Article 1 of Protocol No. 1 (protection of property)

Manzanas Martin v. Spain

03.04.2012

In this case the Court concluded that difference between retirement pensions of Catholic priests and Evangelical ministers amounted to discrimination.

Violation of Article 14 taken together with Article 1 of Protocol No.1 (protection of property)

Muñoz Díaz v. Spain

08.12.2009

Refusal to award a survivor's pension to a Spanish Roma citizen married according to the community's own rites and without any civil effects in Spanish law.

Violation of Article 14 in conjunction with Article 1 of Protocol No. 1 (protection of property)

Cases concerning Article 18 (limitation on use of restrictions on rights)

Sanchez i Picanyol and Others v. Spain (nos. 25608/20, 27250/20 and 46481/20)

06.11.2025

No violation of Article 3 of Protocol No. 1 in respect of all three applicants

No violation of Article 18 (limitation on use of restrictions on rights) taken in conjunction with Articles 5 and/or 3 of Protocol No. 1 in respect of all three applicants.

No violation of Article 5 §§ 1 and 4 (right to liberty and security) in respect of the second applicant.

Protection of property cases (Article 1 of Protocol No. 1)

Ruspoli Morenes v. Spain

28.06.2011

Conditions of purchase by the Spanish Government of Goya's work "La Condesa de Chinchón" were compliant with the Convention. The State had exercised its right of pre-emption over an item of cultural interest. The painting is now on display in the Prado Museum, Madrid.

No violation of Article 1 of Protocol No. 1

Inadmissible application

Energyworks Cartagena S.L. v. Spain

18.04.2024

The case concerned the changes to the regulations of the electricity sector and, particularly, to the subsidy regime for investment, which had affected the applicant company, an energy producer.

Application declared inadmissible

Cases concerning Article 1 of Protocol No. 12 (general prohibition of discrimination)

Ferrero Quintana v. Spain

26.11.2024

The case concerned the imposition of a maximum age of 35 for a public competition to fill several police-officer positions in the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country (Ertzaintza). The applicant, who had been provisionally authorised to take part in the various competition tests – where he ranked 49th out of 60 – was ultimately not recruited on the grounds that he was over the age-limit.

No violation of Article 1 of Protocol No. 12

Cases concerning the dissolution of political parties

Herri Batasuna and Batasuna v. Spain, Etxeberría and Others v. Spain and Herritarren Zerrenda v. Spain
Herri Batasuna and Batasuna v. Spain

30.06.2009

Suspension of the activities of the parties in question declared illegal and dissolved under Law no. 6/2002.

Etxeberría and Others v. Spain: electoral groupings having pursued the activities of political parties that had been declared illegal and dissolved debarred from standing in municipal, regional or autonomous community elections.

Herritarren Zerrenda v. Spain: Herritarren Zerrenda barred from standing in European parliamentary elections of June 2004 on grounds that his aim was to pursue the activities of three parties that had been declared illegal and dissolved.

No violations of Articles 10, 11 (freedom of assembly and association), 3 of Protocol No. 1 (right to free elections) and 13 (right to an effective remedy)

Eusko Abertzale Ekintza – Acción Nacionalista Vasca (EAE-ANV) v. Spain

07.12.2010

After Batasuna and Herri Batasuna (among others) were declared illegal in 2003, certain candidatures in municipal elections and elections to the provincial councils in the Basque country and to the Navarra parliament were revoked.

(Both applications) No violation of Article 3 of Protocol No. 1 (right to free elections)

(2nd application) No violation of Articles 10 and 11 (freedom of association)
(Both applications) No violation of Article 13 (right to an effective remedy)

Cases concerning Article 3 of Protocol No. 1 (right to free elections)

Sanchez i Picanyol and Others v. Spain (nos. 25608/20, 27250/20 and 46481/20)

06.11.2025

The case concerned the applicants' pre-trial detention and alleged restrictions on their political rights under the Convention. Their pre-trial detention had been ordered by the Spanish courts in the wake of the demonstrations organised in Barcelona on 20 and 21 September 2017 and the unconstitutional referendum of 1 October 2017.

No violation of Article 3 of Protocol No. 1 in respect of all three applicants
No violation of Article 18 (limitation on use of restrictions on rights) taken in conjunction with Articles 5 and/or 3 of Protocol No. 1 in respect of all three applicants.
No violation of Article 5 §§ 1 and 4 (right to liberty and security) in respect of the second applicant.

Caamaño Valle v. Spain

11.05.2021

The case concerned the disenfranchisement of the applicant's daughter, M., who was mentally disabled.

No violation of Article 3 of Protocol No. 1
No violation of Article 14 (prohibition of discrimination) read in conjunction with Article 3 of Protocol No. 1 or of Article 1 of Protocol No. 12 (general prohibition of discrimination)

Noteworthy cases, decisions delivered

Barik Edidi v. Spain

19.05.2016

The case concerned a lawyer (the applicant) who was asked by the president of a court to return to the area reserved for members of the public, on the ground that barristers appearing before the court could cover their heads only with the official cap (biretta).

Application declared inadmissible:
Complaint under Article 6 § 1 (right to a fair hearing) rejected as manifestly ill-founded
Complains under Article 8 (right to respect for private and family life), 9 (right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion) and 1 of Protocol No. 12 (general prohibition of discrimination) rejected for failure to exhaust domestic remedies

Dorado Baúlde v. Spain

24.09.2015

The case concerned the cassation appeal procedure before the Supreme Court in the Spanish judicial system.

Application declared inadmissible as manifestly ill-founded.

A.M.B. and Others v. Spain (no. 77842/12)

20.02.2014

The case concerned the illegal occupation of a building belonging to the Madrid Housing Institute and a squatter's complaint about the decision to evict her from that building. An interim measure (under Rule 39 of the Rules of Court) had been applied by the Court on 12 December 2012 suspending the eviction measure ordered against Ms A.M.B. who was occupying the building with her two children.

Having regard to the observations submitted by the Spanish Government, the Court took the view that the maintaining of the interim measure was no longer justified and therefore lifted it.
Finding that the appeal before the Spanish Constitutional Court was still pending, the Court found that the application was premature and decided to reject it.

Noteworthy pending cases

Grand Chamber

S.O. v. Spain (no. 5742/22)

The case concerned the removal of Ms S.O.'s nipple and areola, allegedly carried out without her consent, during an operation to save her breasts from cancer, and subsequent court proceedings.

Case referred to the Grand Chamber on 3 November 2025

Grand Chamber hearing on 1 April 2026

Chamber

Turull i Negre v. Spain and 8 other applications (nos. 30096/21, 30315/21, 31657/21, 46943/21, 18243/22, 35545/22, 35870/22, 35884/22, 35925/22)

Communicated to the Government on 19 September 2023

The nine applications concern Catalonia's "independence process". They relate to the applicants' criminal convictions for sedition and, for some of the applicants, embezzlement.

The applicants primarily rely on Article 7 (no punishment without law) and Articles 10 and 11 (freedom of expression and of assembly) of the Convention, along with Article 3 of Protocol No. 1 (right to free elections). Some also rely on Article 5 (right to liberty and security). They all complain of a violation of Article 18 (limitation on use of restrictions on rights) of the Convention.

Molina Marin and Others v. Spain (no. 61435/21)

Communicated to the Government on 17 December 2023

The case concerns four applicants who were criminally convicted by the Supreme Court (after an acquittal at first instance) following a demonstration around the Catalonian Parliament to prevent the enactment of budget cuts. They rely on their right to freedom of demonstration.

C.P. v. Spain (no. 50181/22)

Communicated to the Government on 18 March 2024

The case concerns complaints by an applicant who was admitted to hospital by judicial order against her will to give birth in her 42nd week of pregnancy.

Torra Pla v. Spain (no. 33830/22)

Communicated to the Government on 30 January 2025

The case concerns the conviction of the applicant, who was the President of the Autonomous Government of Catalonia (*Generalitat*) at the relevant time, for disobedience and his resulting disqualification from public office. Articles 6, 7, 10, 14 and 18 of the Convention and Articles 3 of Protocol No. 1, 4 of Protocol No. 7 and 1 of Protocol No. 12 to the Convention are relied on.

Atresmedia Corporación de Medios de Comunicación, S.A. v. Spain (no. 29807/23)

Communicated to the Government on 11 March 2025

The case concerns the decision of the Central Electoral Body (*Junta Electoral Central*) not to accept the terms of a political debate broadcast by a private television channel during the electoral campaign for the national parliamentary elections in 2019. The applicant, a private media broadcast company, relies on Article 10 of the Convention.

ECHR Press Unit Contact:
+33 (0) 3 90 21 42 08