



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

European Court of Human Rights

Cooperation Charter of the Superior Courts Network

5 June 2026

The member courts of the Superior Courts Network (“the Network”),

Whereas the European Court of Human Rights (“the European Court”) and the national courts of the Council of Europe member States have a shared responsibility for the implementation of the European Convention on Human Rights (“the Convention”);

Reaffirming that the achievement of this objective is assisted by the ongoing rich dialogue between the European Court and the superior courts of the member States;

Recalling the official launch of the Network on 5 October 2015;

Welcoming the opening of the Network to courts with observer status;

Taking stock of the Network’s first ten years of activity;

Have agreed the following updated general principles for the management and further development of the Network:

1. The Network shall ensure the effective exchange of information and knowledge between the European Court and Network courts, on Convention and domestic law and practice as well as related matters. Other forms of cooperation may also be envisaged such as the sharing of know-how.
2. In addition to facilitating exchanges between the European Court and the Network’s member and observer courts the Network shall also enable horizontal exchanges between Network courts.
3. Information exchanged within the Network shall be considered privileged and must not be liable to harm the interests of any of the Network courts or of any of the parties to court proceedings in the event of its dissemination outside the Network.
4. The Network’s secured website shall offer exclusive access to member courts as well as a form of access to observer courts.
5. The functions, powers, judicial independence and impartiality of the different courts belonging to the Network shall be scrupulously respected.
6. Management of the Network shall be the responsibility of the European Court. To that end, the Court’s Jurisconsult, acting under the authority of the Registrar and the President of the Court, shall amend and supplement the Network’s Operational Rules, in consultation with Network courts, where necessary to ensure the smooth running of the Network.