



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

Press Unit
Unité de la Presse

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Last updated: July 2026

Cyprus

Ratified the European Convention on Human Rights in 1962

National Judge: Nicholas Emiliou (27 April 2026 -)

[Judges' CVs](#) are available on the ECHR Internet site

Previous Judges: Mehmed Zekia (1961-1984), Andreas Nicolas Loizou (1990-1998), Loukis Loucaides (1998-2008), George Nicolaou (2008-2015), Georgios Serghides (2016-2026)

[List of judges of the Court since 1959](#)

The Court dealt with 75 applications concerning Cyprus in 2025, of which 62 were declared inadmissible or struck out. It delivered 9 judgments (concerning 13 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	53	77	53
Communicated to the Government	6	11	11
Applications decided:	49	75	40
- Declared inadmissible or struck out (Single Judge)	36	54	38
- Declared inadmissible or struck out (Committee)	6	8	0
- Declared inadmissible or struck out (Chamber)	1	0	0
- Decided by judgment	6	13	2

Applications pending before the court on 01/07/2026	
Applications pending before a judicial formation:	58
Single Judge	25
Committee (3 Judges)	13
Chamber (7 Judges)	20
Grand Chamber (17 Judges)	0

Cyprus 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.

* January to July 2026

For information about the Court's judicial formations and procedure, see the [ECHR internet site](#).
Statistics on interim measures can be found [here](#).

Noteworthy cases, judgments delivered

Grand Chamber

Güzelyurtlu and Others v. Cyprus and Turkey

29.01.2019

The case concerned the investigation into the killing of three Cypriot nationals of Turkish Cypriot origin in the Cypriot-Government controlled area of Cyprus in 2005. The killers fled back to the "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus" (the "TRNC"). Parallel investigations into the murders were conducted by the authorities of the Cypriot Government and the Turkish Government, including those of the "TRNC". Both investigations reached an impasse in 2008.

No violation of Article 2 by Cyprus

Violation of Article 2 by Turkey

Kafkaris v. Cyprus

12.02.2008

Changes in prison regulations and domestic law having allegedly retroactively increased a prisoner's sentence from 20 years to an indefinite period.

Violation of Article 7 (no punishment without law) with regard to the quality of the law applicable at the relevant time

No violation of Article 7 concerning either the alleged retrospective imposition of a heavier penalty on the applicant or the exemption from remission of prisoners serving life sentences

No violation of Articles 3 (prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment), 5 § 1 (right to liberty and security) and 14 (prohibition of discrimination)

Kyprianou v. Cyprus

15.12.2005

The court which claimed the applicant was in contempt had also tried and punished him.

Violation of Article 6 (right to a fair trial)

Violation of Article 10 (freedom of expression)

Cyprus v. Turkey¹

10.05.2001

The case concerned the situation in northern Cyprus since Turkey carried out military operations there in July and August 1974, and the continuing division of the territory of Cyprus since that time.

14 Violations of the Convention

No violation concerning a number of complaints, including all those raised under: Article 4 (prohibition of slavery and forced labour), Article 11 (freedom of assembly and association), Articles 14 (prohibition of discrimination), Article 17 (prohibition of abuse of rights) and Article 18 (limitation on use of restrictions on rights) read in conjunction with all those provisions

As regards a number of other allegations, the Court held that it was not necessary to consider the issues raised.

Noteworthy cases, judgments delivered

Chamber

Cases dealing with the right to life (Article 2)

Rantsev v. Cyprus and Russia

07.01.2010

Death of the applicant's daughter, a Russian national, in strange and unestablished circumstances having fallen from a window of a private home in Cyprus.

Violation of Article 2 for failure to conduct effective investigation by Cyprus

Violations of Article 4 (prohibition of slavery and forced labour) by Cyprus and Russia

Violation of Article 5 (right to liberty and security) by Cyprus

¹ On 12 May 2014, the Court delivered its Grand Chamber [judgment](#) on the question of the application of Article 41 (just satisfaction).

Cases dealing with prohibition of inhuman and/or degrading treatment (Article 3)

X v. Cyprus (no. 40733/22)

27.02.2025

The applicant, X, a young British woman, alleges that she was gang-raped by several Israeli nationals when in Ayia Napa, Cyprus, in July 2019. The case concerned the ensuing investigation by the national authorities.

Violation of Article 3 (lack of effective investigation)

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

Shchukin and Others v Cyprus

29.07.2010

The applicants were Ukrainian and Estonian nationals who were employed by a Ukrainian travel company as catering and hotel staff on the Ukrainian cruise ship Primexpress Island. The case concerned the circumstances of their deportation from Cyprus after the ship owners went bankrupt.

Violation of Article 3 (lack of effective investigation into alleged ill-treatment)

Onoufriou v. Cyprus

07.01.2009

The applicant, who was detained in Nicosia Central Prison for murder, was arrested and placed in solitary confinement for 47 days when he did not return to prison after a 24-hour leave.

Violation of Articles 3, 8 (right to respect for private and family life and correspondence) and 13 (right to an effective remedy)

Right to a fair trial (Article 6)

Constantinou and Others v. Cyprus (nos. 77396/14, 45039/20, 45089/20, 45101/20, and 45899/20)

13.11.2025

The case concerned new laws passed in Cyprus in 2011 and 2012 reducing civil servants' salaries and pensions, amid the worldwide financial crisis. The applicants are 450 Cypriot nationals who were all public sector employees or retirees at the time.

No violation of Article 6 (right to a fair hearing)

No violation of Article 1 of Protocol No. 1 (protection of property)

Loizides v. Cyprus (no. 31029/15)

05.07.2022

The case concerned the trial of Mr Loizides in connection with the Evangelos Florakis Naval Base explosion and in particular the tied verdict on his appeal.

No violation of Article 6 § 1

Right to respect for private and family life (Article 8)

G.K. v. Cyprus (no. 16205/21)

21.02.2023

The case concerned the proceedings and a subsequent order by the Cypriot courts to return the applicant's son to the United States of America under the Hague Convention of 25 October 1980 on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction.

No violation of Article 8

Cases dealing with the protection of property (Article 1 of Protocol No. 1)

Ioannides v. Cyprus (no. 32879/18)

16.01.2025

The case concerned the applicant's complaint that a house she owned in Nicosia was used by peacekeeping forces without payment of rent. The house had ended up being situated in the buffer zone after Türkiye invaded Cyprus in 1974.

No violation of Article 1 of Protocol No. 1 as concerned the restriction on public access to the sector of the buffer zone where Ms Ioannides's house was located

Violation of Article 1 of Protocol No. 1 as concerned Cyprus's refusal to pay the applicant rent for the use of her house by peacekeeping forces

Philippou v. Cyprus

14.06.2016

The case concerned a civil servant, Tassos Philippou, who automatically lost his public service retirement benefits when dismissed following disciplinary proceedings brought against him in 2005.

No violation of Article 1 of Protocol No. 1

Vrontou v. Cyprus

13.10.2015

The case concerned the failure to grant Ms Vrontou a refugee card.

Violation of Article 14 (prohibition of discrimination) taken in conjunction with Article 1 of Protocol No. 1

Violation of Article 13 (right to an effective remedy)

Other noteworthy cases, judgments delivered

Georgios Papadopoulos v. Cyprus

(no. 21454/21)

09.10.2025

The case concerned the fact that Cypriot law did not provide for the possibility to fill a parliamentary seat that had become vacant before the start of the parliamentary term. The applicant in the case was a runner-up candidate in the 2016 parliamentary elections, but was appointed when a member of the European Parliament decided not to take up her seat before the start of the parliamentary term. The applicant's appointment was however annulled in 2017, 2018 and 2020 because the Electoral Court considered that there was no legal or permissible constitutional framework for such substitution.

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

Koulias v. Cyprus

26.05.2020

The case concerned the applicant's complaint that one of the Supreme Court judges in proceedings against him for defamation was not impartial as the judge's son worked for the law firm whose founding partner represented the appellant in the case.

Violation of Article 6 § 1 (right to a fair trial)

M.A. v. Cyprus (no. 41872/10)

23.07.2013

The case concerned a Syrian Kurd's detention by Cypriot authorities and his intended deportation to Syria after a police operation removing him and other Kurds from Syria from an encampment outside government buildings in Nicosia in protest against the Cypriot Government's asylum policy. It is one of 38 similar applications

pending before the European Court of Human Rights.

Violation of Article 13 (right to an effective remedy) taken together with Articles 2 (right to life) and 3 (prohibition of inhuman and degrading treatment) due to the lack of an effective remedy with automatic suspensive effect to challenge the applicant's deportation

Violation of Article 5 §§ 1 and 4 (right to liberty and security) due to the unlawfulness of the applicant's entire period of detention with a view to his deportation without an effective remedy at his disposal to challenge the lawfulness of his detention

No violation of Article 5 § 2 as concerned the applicant's awareness of the reasons for his arrest and for his ensuing detention

No violation of Article 4 of Protocol No. 4 (collective expulsion of aliens)

Sigma Radio Television v. Cyprus (no. 2)

21.07.2011

Compatibility with the right to a fair trial of the proceedings before the Cyprus Broadcasting Authority.

No violation of Article 10 (freedom of expression)

Phinikaridou v. Cyprus

20.12.2007

Proceedings for judicial recognition of paternity brought by an illegitimate child declared time-barred.

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

Aziz v. Cyprus

22.06.2004

Refusal to a member of the Turkish-Cypriot community to be registered on the electoral roll to vote in the parliamentary elections.

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

Violation of Article 14 (prohibition of discrimination)

Noteworthy cases, decisions delivered

Tziliavaki and Others v. Cyprus

14.10.2014

Alleged failure of the Cypriot authorities to exhume the bodies of Greek commandos killed during the Turkish invasion, when the

military transport aircraft they were on was shot down by friendly fire.

[Application](#) [inadmissible](#) ([manifestly ill-founded](#))

Emin and Others v. Cyprus

03.04.2012

Missing Cypriots, of Turkish Cypriot origin, whose remains have been recently found due to the exhumation programme of the UN Committee of Missing Persons (CMP).

[Application](#) [inadmissible](#) ([manifestly ill-founded](#))

Kazali and Others v. Cyprus

06.03.2012

Management of Turkish Cypriot properties in the Republic of Cyprus and their management by the Custodian of Turkish Cypriot Properties of the Cypriot Ministry of Interior.

[Application](#) [inadmissible](#) ([non-exhaustion of domestic remedies](#))

Orams v. Cyprus

10.06.2010

Question of the fairness of proceedings before the Cypriot courts by a Greek-Cypriot owner of property in the northern part of Cyprus and in which judgment was entered against a British couple that are in possession of that property and were found to be trespassers. Issues concerning the execution of this judgment in the UK were referred by the Court of Appeal to the European Court of Justice which delivered judgment in April 2009.

[Application](#) [inadmissible](#) ([manifestly ill-founded](#))

Sofi v. Cyprus

14.01.2010

Concerned a Turkish-Cypriot property in the Republic of Cyprus and its management by the Custodian of Turkish Cypriot Properties of the Cypriot Ministry of Interior.

[Friendly settlement](#)

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