

Inter-State case *Ukraine v. Russia (X)*: receipt of completed application form and notification to respondent State

The inter-State case *Ukraine v. Russia (X)* (application no. 11055/22) concerns the Ukrainian Government's allegations of mass and gross human-rights violations committed by the Russian Federation in its military operations on the territory of Ukraine since 24 February 2022.

On 23 June 2022 the European Court of Human Rights received a completed application form in the case.

The President of the Court has assigned the case to the Fourth Section and given notice of the application to the respondent State.

Including this case, there are currently five inter-State applications lodged by Ukraine against the Russian Federation pending before the Court. There are also approximately 8,500 individual applications before the Court which appear to be related to the events in Crimea, eastern Ukraine and the Sea of Azov.

For further information see the [Questions and Answers on Inter-State Applications](#) and the [table of Interstate Applications](#).

Previously, on 28 February 2022 the Court received a request for interim measures from the Ukrainian Government in relation to the present inter-State case. The Court (the President of the Court) examined the request and on 1 March 2022 indicated to the Government of the Russian Federation under Rule 39 of its Rules of Court:

“to refrain from military attacks against civilians and civilian objects, including residential premises, emergency vehicles and other specially protected civilian objects such as schools and hospitals, and to ensure immediately the safety of the medical establishments, personnel and emergency vehicles within the territory under attack or siege by Russian troops” (see press release of [1 March 2022](#)).

Subsequently, and in response to a number of requests for interim measures submitted by individuals in Ukraine, on 4 March 2022 the Court (the President of the Court) decided to indicate to the Russian Government, under Rule 39, that:

“in accordance with their engagements under the Convention, notably in respect of Articles 2, 3 and 8, they should ensure unimpeded access of the civilian population to safe evacuation routes, healthcare, food and other essential supplies, rapid and unconstrained passage of humanitarian aid and movement of humanitarian workers” (see press release of [4 March 2022](#)).

Finally, and in response to a request made by the Government of Ukraine on 16 March 2022 in the context of the present case, on 1 April 2022 the Court (the President of the Court) recalled the above interim measures indicated on 4 March 2022 and, having regard to the situation on the ground, decided to indicate to the Russian Government, under Rule 39, that the said evacuation routes should allow civilians to seek refuge in safer regions of Ukraine. It further considered that the measures indicated on 1 March 2022 also covered:

“any and all attacks against civilians, including with the use of any form of prohibited weapons, measures targeting particular civilians due to their status, as well as the destruction of civilian objects under the control of Russian forces” (see press release of [1 April 2022](#)).

The Court has now received the completed application from the Ukrainian Government in which they allege that the Russian Federation unlawfully invaded Ukraine and that its invasion and occupation of parts of Ukraine were ongoing. According to the Ukrainian Government, the Russian Federation has engaged in targeted, indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks against civilians and their property across Ukraine in breach of all applicable norms of international law. They argue that these attacks have been and continue to be carried out by Russian military forces and/or separatist or other irregular paramilitary forces under their control. They submit that in the course of these attacks, tens of thousands of civilians have been injured, killed, detained or remain missing, hundreds of thousands have had their property or homes destroyed, millions of individuals have been internally displaced or forced to leave Ukraine and thousands of corporate entities have had their businesses and property destroyed. The Ukrainian Government argue that there has been no effective investigation by the Russian authorities into these matters and that each of them has occurred at the express direction and control of Russian authorities at the highest levels, up to and including the President of the respondent State.

In respect of their allegations above, the Ukrainian Government complain that the Russian Federation is responsible for numerous violations of the European Convention on Human Rights under Articles 2 (right to life), 3 (prohibition of torture and inhuman or degrading treatment), 4 (prohibition of slavery and forced labour), 5 (right to liberty and security), 8 (right to respect for private life), 9 (freedom of religion), 10 (freedom of expression), 11 (freedom of assembly and association), 13 (right to an effective remedy), and 14 (prohibition of discrimination) of the Convention and under Article 1 of Protocol No. 1 (protection of property), Article 2 of Protocol No. 1 (right to education), Article 2 of Protocol No. 4 (freedom of movement) and Article 3 of Protocol No. 4 (prohibition of expulsion of nationals) to the Convention.

In accordance with Rule 51 § 1 of the Rules of Court (assignment of applications and subsequent procedure), the President of the Court has assigned the case to the Fourth Section and given notice of the application to the respondent State.

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The European Court of Human Rights was set up in Strasbourg by the Council of Europe member States in 1959 to deal with alleged violations of the 1950 European Convention on Human Rights.