



Forthcoming Grand Chamber ruling in *Jesus Pinhal v. Portugal*

The European Court of Human Rights will deliver its ruling the case of **Jesus Pinhal v. Portugal** (applications nos. 48047/15 and 2276/20) at a public hearing on 9 July 2026 at 9.30 a.m. in the Human Rights Building, Strasbourg. The delivery will be broadcast live on the European Court's [YouTube channel](#).

The case concerns three sets of proceedings brought against the applicant by the Banco de Portugal (BdP) – the Portuguese central bank –, the criminal-law authorities and the Securities Market Commission (CMVM), respectively, for various criminal and administrative offences committed while he was member and Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Banco Comercial Português bank ("the BCP").

Principal facts and complaints

The applicant, Filipe de Jesus Pinhal, is a Portuguese national who was born in 1946 and lives in Lisbon. Having been a member of the board of directors of the BCP since 1994, the applicant was appointed as its vice-chairman in January 1998. In August 2007 he became chairman of the BCP's executive committee.

Relying on Article 4 of Protocol No. 7 to the Convention (right not to be tried or punished twice), the applicant submits that, starting in December 2007, he was tried three times for the same acts by the criminal-law authorities, the BdP and the CMVM respectively. Relying on Article 13 (right to an effective remedy) of the Convention, he complains that all the domestic remedies he pursued in respect of his complaint under Article 4 of Protocol No. 7 (application no. 48047/15) were dismissed. He raises further complaints under Articles 6 and 7 of the Convention (application no. 2276/20).

Procedure

The applications were lodged with the European Court of Human Rights on 24 September 2015 and 3 January 2020 respectively.

On 8 October 2024 a Chamber delivered a [judgment](#) in which, unanimously, it decided to join the applications and declare admissible the complaint raised by the applicant under Article 4 of Protocol No. 7 to the Convention, including the complaint raised under Article 13 of the Convention, and inadmissible the complaints under Articles 6 § 1 and 7 of the Convention. It went on to hold, unanimously, that there had been no violation of Article 4 of Protocol No. 7 to the Convention.

On 8 January 2025 the applicant requested that the case be referred to the Grand Chamber and on 17 March 2025 the panel of the Grand Chamber accepted that request.

A [hearing](#) took place in public in the Human Rights Building, Strasbourg, on 17 September 2025.

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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.