

Forthcoming ruling

The European Court of Human Rights will be notifying in writing its ruling in the case below on Tuesday 28 October 2025.

The ruling will be available at 10 a.m. (local time) on the Court's Internet site (www.echr.coe.int).

Tuesday 28 October 2025

Greenpeace Nordic and Others v. Norway (application no. 34068/21)

The applicants are six Norwegian nationals who were born between 1995 and 2001 and live in Oslo, and two non-governmental organisations, Greenpeace Nordic and Young Friends of the Earth Norway, based in Norway.

The case concerns the procedural aspect of the obligation to effectively protect individuals from the serious adverse effects of climate change on their life, health, well-being and quality of life in the context of petroleum exploration preceding extraction.

On 10 June 2016 the Ministry of Petroleum and Energy awarded ten licences to 13 private companies for petroleum gas production on the Norwegian continental shelf. A judicial review by the applicant organisations of the validity of that decision to grant the production licences was unsuccessful. The licences were ultimately returned and relinquished by the private companies as no potentially profitable gas discoveries had been made.

Relying, in particular, on Articles 2 (right to life) and 8 (right to respect for private and family life) of the European Convention on Human Rights the applicants complain that, before issuing the licences, the authorities did not conduct an environmental impact assessment of the potential impacts of petroleum extraction on Norway's obligations to mitigate climate change. The applicants also complain under Articles 13 (right to an effective remedy) and 14 (prohibition of discrimination) in conjunction with Articles 2 and 8.

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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.