



## Grand Chamber hearing

The European Court of Human Rights is holding a **Grand Chamber<sup>1</sup>** hearing today **Wednesday 7 May 2025 at 9.15 a.m.** in the case of **Yasak v. Türkiye** (application no. 17389/20).

The case concerns the applicant's conviction for membership of an armed terrorist organisation described by the Turkish authorities as the ("*Fetullahist Terror Organisation/Parallel State Structure*" (*Fetullahçı Terör Örgütü / Paralel Devlet Yapılanması – "FETÖ/PDY"*)).

*After the hearing the Court will begin its deliberations, which will be held in private. Its ruling in the case will, however, be made at a later stage. A recording of the hearing will be available this afternoon on the Court's internet site ([www.echr.coe.int](http://www.echr.coe.int)).*

The applicant, Şaban Yasak, is a Turkish national who was born in 1987 and lives in Stockhausen-Ilfurth (Germany).

## Procedure

The application was lodged with the European Court of Human Rights on 2 April 2020.

Relying on Article 3 (prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment) of the European Convention on Human Rights, the applicant complained of the conditions in which he had been held while in police custody and subsequently at Çorum Prison. Relying on Article 7 (no punishment without law), he submitted that the acts that had formed the basis of his conviction had been lawful at the relevant time and that, in holding him criminally liable for those acts, the authorities had relied on an expansive and arbitrary interpretation of the relevant laws, in violation of the principle enshrined in Article 7 of the Convention.

In its [judgment](#) of 27 August 2024, the Court unanimously found that there had been no violation of Article 3 (prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment) of the European Convention on Human Rights, and no violation of Article 7 (no punishment without law) of the Convention.

On 16 December 2024 the case was referred to the Grand Chamber at the applicant's request<sup>2</sup>.

The following persons and/or organisations were granted leave to intervene in the written proceedings as third parties: the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and Counter-Terrorism; the European Criminal Bar Association; and the Italian Federation for Human Rights.

## Composition of the Court

The case will be heard by a Grand Chamber, composed as follows:

Marko Bošnjak (Slovenia), *President*,  
Ivana Jelić (Montenegro),

1 and 2 - Under Article 43 of the European Convention on Human Rights, within three months from the date of a Chamber judgment, any party to the case may, in exceptional cases, request that the case be referred to the 17-judges Grand Chamber of the Court. In that event, a panel of five judges considers whether the case raises a serious question affecting the interpretation or application of the Convention or its protocols, or a serious issue of general importance, in which case the Grand Chamber will deliver a final judgment. If no such question or issue arises, the panel will reject the request, at which point the judgment becomes final. Otherwise Chamber judgments become final on the expiry of the three-month period or earlier if the parties declare that they do not intend to make a request to refer.

Mattias Guyomar (France),  
 Lado Chanturia (Georgia),  
 Ioannis Ktistakis (Greece),  
 Faris Vehabović (Bosnia and Herzegovina),  
 Stéphanie Mourou-Vikström (Monaco),  
 Jolien Schukking (the Netherlands),  
 Gilberto Felici (San Marino),  
 Saadet Yüksel (Türkiye),  
 Anja Seibert-Fohr (Germany),  
 Kateřina Šimáčková (the Czech Republic),  
 Anne Louise Bormann (Denmark),  
 Úna Ní Raifeartaigh (Ireland),  
 Artūrs Kučs (Latvia),  
 Mateja Đurović (Serbia),  
 Juha Lavapuro (Finland), *judges*,  
 Ana Maria Guerra Martins (Portugal),  
 Peeter Roosma (Estonia),  
 Alain Chablais (Liechtenstein), *substitute judges*,

and also Abel Campos, *Deputy Registrar*.

## Representatives of the parties

### Government

Abdullah Aydin, *Co-Agent*,  
 Stefan Talmon and Olgun Değğrmenci, *Counsel*,  
 Burçin Bayrak Şenocak, Nuri Uzun, Hasan Akceviz, and Şenol Taş, *Advisers*;

### Applicant

Johan Vande Lanotte and Johan Heymans, *Counsel*.

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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.