

ECHR 218 (2025) 25.09.2025

Judgments and decisions of 25 September 2025

The European Court of Human Rights has today notified in writing 19 judgments¹ and 32 decisions²:

One Chamber judgment is summarised below;

18 committee judgments, concerning issues which have already been examined by the Court, and the 32 decisions, can be consulted on <u>Hudoc</u> and do not appear in this press release.

The judgment summarised below is available only in English.

<u>Isaia and Others v. Italy</u> (applications nos. 36551/22, 36926/22, and 37907/22)

The applicants, Giuseppe Isaia, Carmela Scaletta and Davide Isaia, are Italian nationals born in 1964, 1968 and 1991 respectively. They live in the Sicilian town of Bagheria.

The case concerns the non-conviction-based "preventive confiscation" (confisca di prevenzione) of their assets, ordered by the relevant domestic courts under Article 24 of Legislative Decree no. 159 of 6 September 2011 (Codice delle leggi antimafia e delle misure di prevenzione (Code of Anti-Mafia Laws and Preventive Measures)). The confiscated assets were thought to be proceeds of unlawful activities committed or presumably committed between 1980 and 2008 as the first applicant had lived "even in part, on the proceeds of crime" during that period.

Relying on Article 6 § 1 (right to a fair trial) of the Convention, the applicants complain i) that the domestic courts' decisions to confiscate their property did not comply with the legally established conditions for the imposition of the "preventive confiscation" measure; ii) that the vast majority of the confiscated assets were purchased after the period when the first applicant was declared a danger to society; and iii) that the national courts failed to provide any evidence to demonstrate that those assets had been acquired through the proceeds of crimes. The case was notified to the Government under Article 1 of Protocol No. 1 (protection of property/legal basis and proportionality) to the European Convention on Human Rights.

Violation of Article 1 of Protocol No. 1

Just satisfaction: The Court held that the respondent State shall ensure that the assets in question be returned or reimbursed to the applicants.

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Once a judgment becomes final, it is transmitted to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe for supervision of its execution. Further information about the execution process can be found here: www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/execution

² Inadmissibility and strike-out decisions are final.



¹ Under Articles 43 and 44 of the Convention, Chamber judgments are not final. During the three-month period following a Chamber judgment's delivery, any party may request that the case be referred to the Grand Chamber of the Court. If such a request is made, a panel of five judges considers whether the case deserves further examination. In that event, the Grand Chamber will hear the case and deliver a final judgment. If the referral request is refused, the Chamber judgment will become final on that day. Under Article 28 of the Convention, judgments delivered by a Committee are final.

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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.