



Judgments and decisions of 17 June 2021

The European Court of Human Rights has today notified in writing eight judgments¹ and 24 decisions²:

one Chamber judgment is summarised below;

a separate press release has been issued for another Chamber judgment in the case of *Miniscalco v. Italy* (application no. 55093/13);

a separate press release has also been issued for one decision in the case of *Galan v. Italy* (no. 63772/16);

six Committee judgments, concerning issues which have already been submitted to the Court, and the 23 other decisions, can be consulted on [Hudoc](#) and do not appear in this press release.

The judgment summarised below is available only in English.

Sandor Varga and Others v. Hungary (applications nos. 39734/15, 35530/16, and 26804/18)

The applicants are four Hungarian nationals, Sándor Varga, Á.K., I.K. and Henrik Rostás, born between 1967 and 1987.

The cases concern the applicants' life sentences without the possibility of release on parole.

The first applicant was sentenced for the premeditated murder for financial gain of four people and a series of armed robberies committed in a criminal organisation. The second and third applicants' sentences were for the premeditated murder of six people, including a four-and-a-half-year-old child, committed with special cruelty with racist motives and in a criminal organisation, and for a series of related crimes (armed robbery and firearms offences). The fourth applicant was sentenced for the attempted murder of several people, for financial gain and committed with special cruelty, as well as for several counts of robberies and assault.

The applicants complain that their sentences constitute inhuman and degrading punishment, in breach of Article 3 (prohibition of inhuman or degrading punishment or treatment).

Violation of Article 3

Just satisfaction:

Non-pecuniary damage: the finding of a violation constitutes in itself sufficient just satisfaction for the non-pecuniary damage sustained by the second and third applicants;

Costs and expenses: 2,000 euros (EUR) jointly to the second and third applicants.

The first and fourth applicants did not submit any claims for just satisfaction.

¹ Under Articles 43 and 44 of the Convention, Chamber judgments are not final. During the three-month period following a 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.

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.

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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.