



Judgments and decisions of 17 July 2025

The European Court of Human Rights has today notified in writing four judgments¹ and six decisions²: two Chamber judgments are summarised below;

one separate press release has been issued for another Chamber judgment in the case of *Siles Cabrera v. Spain* (application no. 5212/23);

one Committee judgment, concerning issues which have already been examined by the Court, and the six decisions, can be consulted on [Hudoc](#) and do not appear in this press release.

The judgments summarised below are available only in English.

[Y.K. v. Croatia](#) (application no. 38776/21)

The applicant, Y.K., is a Turkish national who was born in 1984. He is an ethnic Kurd.

The case concerns Y.K.'s attempts to claim international protection in Croatia, where he was held in an immigration reception centre in Ježevo after he clandestinely entered the country in February 2021. He alleges that he was tortured and prosecuted numerous times in Türkiye owing to his political activism, forcing him to flee. In March 2021, following a return decision (rješenje o povratku), Y.K. left Croatia.

Relying on Article 3 (prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment), Article 13 (right to an effective remedy) and Article 34 (right of individual petition) of the European Convention on Human Rights, Y.K. alleges that he was repeatedly refused access to the international-protection procedure by the Croatian authorities, that he couldn't challenge his removal from Croatia, and that he was denied access to a lawyer while in Croatia.

Violation of Article 3

Violation of Article 13 read in conjunction with Article 3

Just satisfaction:

non-pecuniary damage: 8,500 euros (EUR)

costs and expenses: EUR 3,300

[Opalenko v. Ukraine](#) (no. 46673/18)

The applicant, Sergiy Vasylyovych Opalenko, is a Ukrainian national who was born in 1978 and is detained in Kaminne Prison (Ukraine).

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.

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.

The case concerns the criminal proceedings against the applicant on charges of murdering his mother and his niece in 2010. Following several procedural turns, a new investigation was ordered and he was retried and convicted in 2017. He was given a life sentence.

Relying on Article 6 (right to a fair trial) of the European Convention, Mr Opalenko alleges he was denied access to his lawyer at the start of proceedings, that witnesses were not examined in his retrial, and that the proceedings were excessively long.

No violation of Article 6 §§ 1 and 3 (c) with regard to the applicant's right to legal assistance
Violation of Article 6 § 1 on account of the excessive length of the proceedings

Just satisfaction:

non-pecuniary damage: EUR 900

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Press contacts

echrpresse@echr.coe.int | tel.: +33 3 90 21 42 08

We are happy to receive journalists' enquiries via either email or telephone.

Tracey Turner-Tretz (tel.: + 33 3 88 41 35 30)

Denis Lambert (tel.: + 33 3 90 21 41 09)

Inci Ertekin (tel.: + 33 3 90 21 55 30)

Neil Connolly (tel.: + 33 3 90 21 48 05)

Jane Swift (tel.: + 33 3 88 41 29 04)

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.