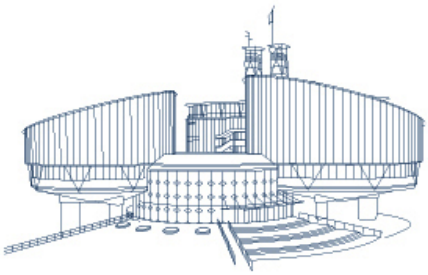
EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

PRESS RELEASE

JUDGMENTS OF 3 NOVEMBER 2026

ECHR 272 (2026) 03.11.2026

Press release issued by the Registrar of the Court



The European Court of Human Rights has today notified in writing eight judgments:

– Four Chamber judgments are summarised below;

– Four Committee judgments, concerning issues which have already been examined by the Court, can be consulted on Hudoc and do not appear in this press release.

The judgments summarised below are available only in English.

Háttér Társaság and Amnesty International Magyarország v. Hungary (application no. 43901/22)

The applicants, Háttér Társaság and Amnesty International Hungary are two organisations based in Budapest.

The case concerns a decision of the National Election Commission imposing fines on the applicant organisations for calling on voters to cast invalid ballots in a national referendum. The referendum was held in 2022 at the same time as a general election and asked questions linked to children, sexual orientation and gender reassignment.

The applicant organisations had organised a campaign encouraging people to cast invalid votes in the referendum which they considered promoted homophobic and transphobic policies. The referendum was declared invalid because the majority of all registered voters did not cast a valid vote.

Relying on Article 6 (right to a fair trial) and Article 10 (freedom of expression) of the European Convention on Human Rights, the applicant organisations complain about the decisions penalising their campaign activities.

Violation of Article 10

Just satisfaction:

- pecuniary damage: 7,400 euros (EUR) to the first applicant organisation
- non-pecuniary damage: EUR 3,000 to each of the applicant organisations
- costs and expenses: EUR 1,000 to each of the applicant organisations

B.G. v. North Macedonia (no. 7870/25)

The applicant, Mr B.G., is a Macedonian/citizen of the Republic of North Macedonia, who was born in 1948 and lives in Bitola (North Macedonia).

Mr B.G. was convicted in 2023 of sexually abusing a friend of his granddaughter. She was ten years old at the time. Her testimony was decisive in convicting him. The case concerns his allegation that the criminal proceedings against him were unfair.

Relying on Article 6 (right to a fair trial) of the European Convention, Mr B.G. complains in particular that his conviction was mainly based on the untested evidence given by the alleged victim during the pre-trial stage, without the defence (himself or his lawyer) being able to participate.

Violation of Article 6 §§ 1 and 3 (d)

Just satisfaction: The applicant did not submit any claim for just satisfaction in respect of pecuniary or non-pecuniary damage. The Court rejected the applicant's claim for costs and expenses.

A.H. v. Serbia and North Macedonia (nos. 60417/16 and 79749/16)

The applicant, Mr A.H., is a Sudanese national, who was born in 1988 and lives in Belgrade.

He arrived illegally in Serbia in 2014, via Türkiye and Bulgaria, and applied for asylum, claiming that he feared for his life in Sudan. In 2016 he lodged a constitutional appeal against the decisions rejecting his asylum application, which is apparently still ongoing. The case concerns his allegation that he was deported without any legal process on four occasions, from Serbia to North Macedonia on 12 and 24 October 2016 and from North Macedonia to Greece on 9 and 11 November 2016.

Relying on Article 3 (prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment) of the Convention, Mr A.H. complains that he was taken to the border between Serbia and North Macedonia and simply ordered to cross it and that from North Macedonia he was expelled to Greece, where he was at risk of inhuman reception conditions and further chain expulsion to Türkiye and/or Sudan, where he faced persecution on account of his ethnicity. Under Article 5 (right to security and liberty) he also complains that he was unlawfully deprived of his liberty in a transit centre in North Macedonia. Lastly, he alleges under Article 13 (right to an effective remedy) that there were no effective remedies available for him to bring his Article 3 and 5 complaints.

Violation of Article 3 (investigation) in respect of Serbia in relation to the applicant's expulsions on 12 and 24 October 2016
Violation of Article 3 (investigation) in respect of North Macedonia in relation to the applicant's expulsion on 11 November 2016

Interim measure (Rule 39 of the Rules of Court): still in force until the present judgment becomes final or until further notice

Just satisfaction: The Court held that the Respondent States are each to pay EUR 7,500 to the applicant in respect of non-pecuniary damage.

Gökçe and Others v. Türkiye (nos. 51110/19, 34526/20, 48100/20, and 34616/21)

The applicants are four Turkish nationals, who were a public servant, a judge and public prosecutors before being arrested and placed in pre-trial detention in 2016 on charges of 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").

The case concerns the applicants' placement in single cells during their detention and the restrictions on their contact with other prisoners.

Relying on Article 3 (prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment), the applicants allege that this restrictive detention regime for prolonged periods, ranging from over one to six years, amounted to

solitary confinement and was inhuman and degrading. They argue that the decisions to place them in single cells were not individually justified, had been made on the basis of an abstract reference to security grounds, and were therefore arbitrary.

Violation of Article 3 in respect of the third applicant concerning his detention period from 8 October 2016 to 7 June 2023 and the fourth applicant concerning his detention period from 19 September 2016 to 6 February 2018
No violation of Article 3 as regards the imprisonment regime to which the first applicant was subjected from 17 April 2018 to 14 July 2020
No violation of Article 3 as regards the imprisonment regime to which the second applicant was subjected from 18 November 2017 to 8 October 2020

Just satisfaction:

- non-pecuniary damage: EUR 7,000 to the third applicant and EUR 3,000 to the fourth applicant
- costs and expenses: EUR 1,500 to the third and fourth applicant each

This press release is a document produced by the Registry. It does not bind the Court. Decisions, judgments and further information about the Court can be found on www.echr.coe.int.

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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.