

ECHR 052 (2024) 05.03.2024

Judgments of 5 March 2024

The European Court of Human Rights has today notified in writing five judgments1:

two Chamber judgments are summarised below;

a separate press release has been issued for a Chamber judgment in the case of *Boškoćević v. Serbia* (application no. 37364/10).

two Committee judgments, concerning issues which have already been submitted to the Court, can be consulted on <u>Hudoc</u> and do not appear in this press release.

The judgments summarised below are available only in English.

Leka v. Albania (application no. 60569/09)

The applicant, Durim Leka, is an Albanian national who was born in 1983. He is currently serving a life sentence in a high-security prison in Albania.

In 2005 Mr Leka was arrested, on the basis of secret recordings of his conversations in a police station with his brother, for the murder of a man in Shijan Saranda. The case concerns the trial that followed. He was initially indicted for two murders and illegal possession of firearms and ammunition, but the murder charges were later changed to robbery resulting in death and attempted murder following a request by the prosecution. The final decision in the case was by the Constitutional Court in 2009.

Relying on Article 6 §§ 1 and 3 (a), (b) and (c) (right to a fair trial) of the European Convention on Human Rights, Mr Leka complains that the proceedings against him were unfair owing to the recharacterisation of the charges, of restrictions on access to counsel, the alleged use of evidence given without a lawyer present, and of how an identity parade was carried out.

No violation of Article 6 §§ 1 and 3 (a), (b) and (c)

Föderation der Aleviten Gemeinden in Österreich v. Austria (no. 64220/19)

The applicant, Föderation der Aleviten Gemeinden in Österreich, is an association registered in Austria. It is the umbrella body for several Alevi cultural associations in Austria.

The case concerns the authorities' refusal to register the applicant association as a religious community, mainly owing to similarities in its statutes with another religious group that had applied for registration around the same time.

Relying on Articles 6 (right to a fair trial) and 9 (freedom of thought, conscience and religion) of the European Convention, the applicant association complains of the refusal to register it as a religious

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



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.

community, of having been denied a fair opportunity to apply for registration, and that the court proceedings had been overly long.

Violation of Article 9

Just satisfaction:

non-pecuniary damage: EUR 10,000 euros (EUR)

costs and expenses: EUR 20,000

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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.