



Judgments of 18 March 2025

The European Court of Human Rights has today notified in writing six judgments¹, four Chamber judgments are summarised below; two Committee judgments, concerning issues which have already been submitted to the Court, can be consulted on [Hudoc](#) and do not appear in this press release.

The judgment in French below is indicated with an asterisk ().*

[Farhad Mehdiyev v. Azerbaijan](#) (application no. 36057/18)

The applicant, Farhad Sovet oglu Mehdiyev, is an Azerbaijani national who was born in 1974 and lives in Baku.

The case concerns the termination of his right to practise as a lawyer, only a few days after his readmission to the Azerbaijani Bar Association (*Azərbaycan Respublikası Vəkillər Kollegiyası*), for failure to pay prior membership fees.

Relying on Articles 8 (right to respect for private and family life), 6 (right to a fair trial), 10 (freedom of expression), and 18 (limitation on use of restrictions on rights) in conjunction with Articles 8 and 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights, the applicant complains that his disbarment amounted to a breach of his right to respect for private life, that the domestic proceedings had been unfair, that he had been deprived of his professional activity because of his critical opinions and that his Convention rights had been restricted for purposes other than those prescribed in the Convention.

Violation of Article 8

Just satisfaction:

non-pecuniary damage: 4,500 euros (EUR)

costs and expenses: EUR 1,500

[BRD - Groupe Société Générale S.A. v. Romania](#) (no. 38798/13)

The applicant, BRD – Groupe Société Générale S.A., is a bank based in Romania. It is owned by the French bank Société Générale.

The case concerns an unannounced inspection in October 2008 conducted on the premises of the applicant company by the Competition Council, and allegedly unlawful searches conducted there by the police in the context of criminal investigations in respect of several of its employees. The Competition Council was investigating alleged breaches of internal market regulations in the banking sector. The police searches were part of two investigations concerning the creation of an organised criminal group within the bank for the purposes of obtaining bank loans unlawfully and committing

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

fraud, forgery and money laundering, and suspicion of conspiracy to commit fraud and forgery. Computers and documents, including information stored electronically, were seized.

Relying on Articles 8 (right to private life, home and correspondence), 6 § 1 (right to a fair trial) and 13 (right to an effective remedy) of the European Convention, and Article 1 of Protocol No. 1 to the Convention (protection of property), the applicant company complains, in particular, of the inspection and searches, and alleges that the Romanian courts refused to examine its arguments regarding those.

No violation of Article 8 in respect of the inspection in the context of the Competition Act proceedings
Violation of Article 8 in respect of the seizure of 13 January 2014 and of the electronic search carried out in the second set of criminal proceedings

Just satisfaction:

non-pecuniary damage: EUR 2,600

costs and expenses: EUR 10,000

Mustafa Aydın v. Türkiye (no. 6696/20)

The applicant, Mustafa Aydın, is a Turkish national who was born in 1982 and lives in Bandırma (Türkiye). He was, at the time of the events in this case, a correspondent for the Dicle News Agency in İzmir.

In 2008 Mr Aydın was one of 14 individuals who were put under covert surveillance by the police in connection with various serious crimes. Information was then given to the police by a suspect, in exchange for a reduced sentence, connecting Mr Aydın (along with some others) to the YDGH (Patriotic Democratic Youth Movement), considered to be the youth wing of the PKK (Workers' Party of Kurdistan, an armed terrorist organisation). The case concerns Mr Aydın's subsequent trial and conviction for membership of an armed terrorist organisation.

Relying on Article 6 § 1 (right to a fair trial) of the Convention, Mr Aydın argues that the Turkish courts failed to individually assess his situation, and did not provide adequate reasoning for his conviction.

Violation of Article 6 § 1

Just satisfaction:

non-pecuniary damage: EUR 6,000

costs and expenses: EUR 75

Şimşek v. Türkiye (no. 23926/20)*

The applicants are four Turkish nationals.

The case concerns the circumstances surrounding the death of their relative, Y.Ş., while he was performing his compulsory military service.

The applicants complain of a violation of Article 2 (right to life) of the Convention in its substantive aspect.

No violation of Article 2

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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.