



Court restores application previously struck out owing to lack of email address

The Court has today exceptionally restored to its list of cases the application **Bryska v. Ukraine** (application no. 11706/13).

The Court had originally struck the application (along with some others) out of its list of cases on 2 November 2023. Owing to the Russian military action in Ukraine, it had not been possible for the Court to send postal correspondence to that State. As Ms Bryska's application form had not included a functioning method of contact other than a postal address (such as an email address) and she had not been in contact with the Court for a considerable time, the Court had considered that she had no longer wished to pursue her application. The Court published a press release about that decision, in order to draw attention of the applicants affected by the decision and give them an opportunity to contact the Court.

Ms Bryska contacted the Court, having seen coverage of the decision of her case in the press, to state that she wanted to pursue her application. Given the grounds on which the case had originally been struck out, exceptional circumstances justifying restoration were present, and so the Court ordered the restoration of her application to its list of cases.

The Court can restore an application it has previously rejected to its list of cases under Rule 43 § 5 of the [Rules of Court](#) where "it considers that exceptional circumstances so justify".

The applicant, Lyudmyla Vasylivna Bryska, is a Ukrainian national.

Following the [Russian military attack on Ukraine](#) on 24 February 2022 the Court took a number of measures concerning processing of cases concerning Ukraine (see [press release](#) of 2 March 2022). On [29 August 2022](#) it announced that "outgoing correspondence with applicants will resume, in so far as possible, and general information addressed to all applicants will be made available on the Court's Internet site". It stated that owing to "the interruption of the international postal services to and from Ukraine, the Court [would] communicate with applicants via its electronic communication system, eComms".

Ms Bryska's application was struck out of the Court's list of cases on 2 November 2023 as she had not included a functioning method of contact other than a postal address with her application. As the Court could not send postal correspondence to Ukraine, it considered that she no longer wished to pursue her application. See [Bryska v. Ukraine and 5 others](#) (no. 11706/13 and 5 others) for more details.

The Committee of the Court that decided her case stated that restoration would be possible in the event that she (or another applicant) made contact. The Court issued a press release on the decision with a view to highlighting this and giving an additional opportunity to the applicants affected to learn of the decision and contact the Court.

Having heard of the decision through the media, on 27 May 2024 Ms Bryska did contact the Court, and gave an explanation for her long silence and asked that her application be restored to the list of cases. She provided a valid telephone number and email address.

The Court asserted that given the grounds on which the case had been struck out, exceptional circumstances justifying restoration were present, and so it ordered the restoration of Ms Bryska's application to its list of cases.

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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.