



Update on applications concerning the conflicts and war in Ukraine

The European Court of Human Rights continues to give notice¹ to the respondent Government/s of a large number of applications lodged by individuals who allege that they have been affected by the conflicts in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the City of Sevastopol and eastern Ukraine, as well as by the Russian Federation's military operations on the territory of Ukraine since February 2022.

The vast majority of these individual applications overlap with two [inter-State cases](#) against Russia which are currently pending before the Grand Chamber of the Court.

It is the Court's practice that the overarching issues in an inter-State case are determined before it decides on individual applications raising the same issues or deriving from the same circumstances. The notification of these applications is therefore for reasons of effective case management, and does not prejudice the related inter-State case which will be decided in due course, in particular as regards the issue of jurisdiction.

There are currently 9,264 such individual applications pending before the Court.

Over 600 of those applications have already been notified to the respondent Government/s.

Since early 2014 the Court has received a number of inter-State applications and thousands of individual applications concerning the conflicts in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the City of Sevastopol and in eastern Ukraine, as well as, since 24 February 2022, concerning the Russian Federation's military operations on the territory of Ukraine.

The following two inter-State cases, covering a total of six applications, are currently pending before the Grand Chamber of the Court:

- *Ukraine v. Russia (re Crimea)* (nos. 20958/14 and 38334/18) concerns the conflict in Crimea. The Grand Chamber delivered its [judgment](#) in the case on 25 June 2024. The question of just satisfaction is currently pending examination; and,
- *Ukraine and the Netherlands v. Russia* (nos. 8019/16, 43800/14, 28525/20 and 11055/22) concerns the conflict in eastern Ukraine from spring 2014, including the shooting down of Malaysia Airlines flight MH17, and Russia's military operations on the territory of Ukraine since 24 February 2022. On 12 June 2024 the Grand Chamber held a [hearing](#) in the case.

The other two inter-State applications are pending before a Section of the Court:

- [Ukraine v. Russia \(VIII\)](#) (no. 55855/18) concerns a naval incident in the Kerch Strait in November 2018 between Russian and Ukrainian armed forces; and,
- [Ukraine v. Russia \(IX\)](#) (no. 10691/21) concerns the Ukrainian Government's allegations of targeted assassination operations against perceived opponents of the Russian Federation.

¹ Under Rule 54 § 2 (b) of the Rules of Court: "the Chamber or the President of the Section may decide to give notice of the application or part of the application to the respondent Contracting Party and invite that Party to submit written observations thereon and, upon receipt thereof, invite the applicant to submit observations in reply."

A further inter-State case, lodged by Russia against Ukraine (*Russia v. Ukraine* (no. 36958/21)), was [struck-out](#) of the Court's list of cases in July 2023 on account of the applicant Russian Government's failure to pursue their case.

In parallel, the Court is also examining a total of 9,264 applications introduced by individuals who allege that they have been affected by the above-mentioned conflicts and the Russian military operations on the territory of Ukraine since February 2022.

The subject matter of the vast majority of these individual applications overlaps with the two inter-State cases which are pending before the Grand Chamber. It is the Court's practice, as noted in the [Copenhagen Declaration](#) of 2018, that "where an inter-State case is pending, individual applications raising the same issues or deriving from the same underlying circumstances are, in principle and in so far as practicable, not decided before the overarching issues stemming from the inter-State proceedings have been determined in the inter-State case".

However, the Court has been continuing to give notice to the appropriate respondent Government or Governments of any of these individual applications that have not been declared inadmissible or struck out at the outset. This is being done for reasons of effective case management and with a view to having the files complete and ready for decision or judgment as soon as possible after the delivery of a judgment in the relevant inter-State case (see [press release](#) of 17 December 2018).

Notification to the parties is also given of cases raising complaints that fall under the well-established case-law of the Court, meaning they are processed in a simpler manner using the case-processing tools which the Court has developed to deal with repetitive cases (see [press release](#) of 3 February 2023). Given the nature of these complaints, the Contracting States of which the applicant is a national will not be notified of the cases, which will be processed via the simplified procedure.

At the Registry of the Court these applications are dealt with by the Conflicts Unit.

The issue of jurisdiction in respect of military attacks is currently under active consideration and will be decided by the Grand Chamber of the Court in the inter-State case of *Ukraine and the Netherlands v. Russia*. Where similar issues of jurisdiction arise in the individual applications relating to the conflict in eastern Ukraine and the current Russian military operations on the territory of Ukraine, they will be decided in due course having regard to the Grand Chamber's findings.

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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.