

EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS
COUR EUROPÉENNE DES DROITS DE L'HOMME

FOURTH SECTION

DECISION

Application no. 55558/09
by Paweł WITKOWSKI
against Poland

The European Court of Human Rights (Fourth Section), sitting on 11 October 2011as a Committee composed of:

Päivi Hirvelä, *President,*
Ledi Bianku,
Zdravka Kalaydjieva, *judges,*
and Fatoş Aracı, *Deputy Section Registrar,*

Having regard to the above application lodged on 4 October 2009,

Having regard to the formal declarations accepting a friendly settlement of the case,

Having deliberated, decides as follows:

PROCEDURE

The applicant, Mr Paweł Witkowski, is a Polish national who was born in 1956 and lives in Kraków. The Polish Government ("the Government") were represented by their Agent, Mr J. Wołąsiewicz of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

On 7 October 2010 the President of the Fourth Section decided to communicate the applicant's complaint under Article 6 § 1 of the Convention concerning the length of civil proceedings which commenced on 26 November 1999 and are still pending before the second-instance court.

THE LAW

On 8 April 2011 the Court received the following declaration signed by the applicant:

> "I, Paweł Witkowski, note that the Government of Poland are prepared to pay to me, with a view to securing a friendly settlement of the above-mentioned case pending before the European Court of Human Rights, the sum of PLN 30,000 (thirty thousand Polish zlotys), plus any tax that may be chargeable to the applicant.
>
> This sum will be payable within three months from the date of notification of the decision by the Court pursuant to Article 37 § 1 of the European Convention on Human Rights. From the expiry of the above-mentioned three months until settlement simple interest shall be payable on the above amount at a rate equal to the marginal lending rate of the European Central Bank during the default period plus three percentage points.
>
> I accept the proposal and waive any further claims against Poland in respect of the facts giving rise to this application. I declare that this constitutes a final resolution of the case."

On 12 May 2011 the Court received the following declaration from the Government:

> "I, Jakub Wołąsiewicz, Agent of the Polish Government, declare that the Government of Poland offer to pay, to Mr Paweł Witkowski, with a view to securing a friendly settlement of the above-mentioned case pending before the European Court of Human Rights, PLN 30,000 (thirty thousand Polish zlotys), plus any tax that may be chargeable to the applicant.
>
> This sum will be payable within three months from the date of notification of the decision by the Court pursuant to Article 37 § 1 of the European Convention on Human Rights. In the event of failure to pay this sum within the said three-month period, the Government undertake to pay simple interest on it, from expiry of that period until settlement, at a rate equal to the marginal lending rate of the European Central Bank during the default period plus three percentage points. The payment will constitute the final resolution of the case."

The Court takes note of the friendly settlement reached between the parties. It is satisfied that the settlement is based on respect for human rights as defined in the Convention and its Protocols and finds no reasons to justify a continued examination of the application (Article 37 § 1 *in fine* of the Convention). In view of the above, it is appropriate to strike the case out of the list.

For these reasons, the Court unanimously

Decides to strike the application out of its list of cases.

Fatoş Aracı	Päivi Hirvelä
Deputy Registrar	President