



Ukrainian lawyer permanently barred from representing applicants before the European Court of Human Rights

The European Court of Human Rights has decided, under Rule 36 § 4 (b) of the [Rules of Court](#), that a Ukrainian lawyer, Nataliya Yevgenivna Tselovalnichenko, should be permanently prohibited from representing or otherwise assisting applicants in both pending and future applications.

Out of concern not to prejudice applicants represented by Ms Tselovalnichenko in proceedings before it, the Court has decided to inform all those applicants with cases pending of the decision to bar her.

Those applicants who can be reached by post will receive a letter at their last known home address. The media are invited to inform the public about this decision so that it may reach applicants residing in areas that cannot be reached by post as well as anyone considering lodging an application.

The Court took the decision to bar Ms Tselovalnichenko in view of her fraudulent and abusive behaviour. In particular, in a number of applications lodged with the Court, Ms Tselovalnichenko had submitted documents which had obvious signs of forgery, while in several others she had lodged applications on behalf of deceased applicants without informing the Court of their deaths.

Applicants represented by Ms Tselovalnichenko whose applications have not, or not yet, been brought to the notice of the Government of the respondent State may appoint a new representative to replace her at any time. If they do not appoint another representative now, and if the need should arise later on for them to be represented, they will be given the opportunity to appoint another representative at the appropriate stage of the proceedings.

Applicants represented by Ms Tselovalnichenko whose applications have been brought to the notice of the Government of the respondent state, for whom legal representation is already compulsory, are requested to appoint another representative.

The Ukrainian Government has been requested to inform the Ukrainian National Bar Association about the Court's decision and the reasons for it.

This press release is a document produced by the Registry. It does not bind the Court. Decisions, judgments and further information about the Court can be found on www.echr.coe.int. To receive the Court's press releases, please subscribe here: www.echr.coe.int/RSS/en or follow us on Twitter [@ECHRpress](https://twitter.com/ECHRpress).

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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.