



European Court joins three inter-State cases concerning Eastern Ukraine

On 27 November 2020 the Grand Chamber in inter-State application *Ukraine v. Russia (re Eastern Ukraine)*, no. 8019/16, decided to join to that application two inter-State applications, *Ukraine v. Russia (II)*, no. 43800/14, and *The Netherlands v. Russia*, no. 28525/20, which were pending before a Chamber.

The joined case will be referred to as *Ukraine and the Netherlands v. Russia* (application nos. 8019/16, 43800/14 and 28525/20).

This decision was taken in accordance with Rules 42 § 1 and 71 § 1 of the Court's [Rules of Court](#) in the interests of the efficient administration of justice. The Court will shortly fix the future procedure in the case.

Aside from the joined case, there are currently three other inter-State applications and over 7,000 individual applications pending before the Court concerning the events in Crimea, Eastern Ukraine and the Sea of Azov. For further information, see the [Q & A](#) on Inter-State Cases.

Ukraine v. Russia (re Eastern Ukraine) (no. 8019/16) was one of two cases pending before the Grand Chamber concerning Ukraine's allegations of violations of the European Convention on Human Rights by Russia resulting from the events of 2014. The other case is ***Ukraine v. Russia (re Crimea)*** (no. 20958/14). The applications raise complaints under several Articles, including Article 2 (right to life), Article 3 (prohibition of torture and inhuman or degrading treatment), Article 5 (right to liberty and security) and Article 6 (right to a fair trial).

Ukraine v. Russia (II) (no. 43800/14) was lodged on 13 June 2014. It concerns the alleged abduction of three groups of children in Eastern Ukraine between June and August 2014 and their temporary transfer to Russia.

The Netherlands v. Russia (no. 28525/20) was lodged on 10 July 2020. It concerns the shooting down on 17 July 2014 of Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 over Eastern Ukraine.

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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.