



Court lifts interim measures in respect of Iraqi nationals at Belarusian border with Latvia

The European Court of Human Rights has today decided to lift interim measures in the case ***H.M.M. and Others v. Latvia*** (application no. 42165/21), which concerned recent events at the border of Latvia with Belarus.

The applicants in the case – 41 Kurdish-ethnic Iraqi nationals – were attempting to enter Latvia, allegedly with a view to seeking international protection.

[The Court previously indicated interim measures](#) in their case on 25 August 2021, requesting that the Latvian authorities provide the applicants with food, water, clothing, adequate medical care and, if possible, temporary shelter. Those measures expire on 15 September 2021.

A total of 11 of the group (six adults and five children), have been admitted onto Latvian territory for humanitarian reasons, in the main for health problems and the fact that some are minors. The other applicants no longer appear to be at or near the border zone.

Measures under Rule 39 of the [Rules of Court](#) are decided in connection with proceedings before the Court, without prejudging any subsequent decisions on the admissibility or merits of the case. The Court grants such requests only on an exceptional basis, when the applicants would otherwise face a real risk of irreversible harm. For further information, see [the factsheet on interim measures](#).

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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.