EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

PRESS RELEASE

FORTHCOMING RULINGS IN THREE GRAND CHAMBER CASES CONCERNING THE SUMMARY RETURN OF MIGRANTS AT THE BELARUSIAN BORDER IN 2021-2022

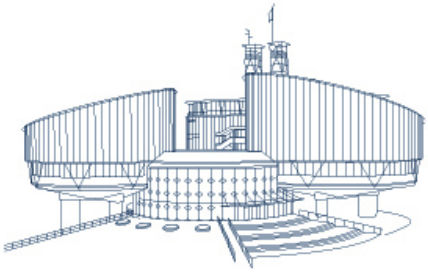
A.R. and Others v. Poland[1]

H.M.M. and Others v. Latvia

C.O.C.G. and Others v. Lithuania

ECHR 273 (2026) 03.11.2026

Press release issued by the Registrar of the Court



The European Court of Human Rights will deliver its rulings in the cases of A.R. and Others v. Poland (application no. 42120/21), H.M.M. and Others v. Latvia (application no. 42165/21) and C.O.C.G. and Others v. Lithuania (application no. 17764/22) at a public hearing on Tuesday 24 November 2026 at 10.30 a.m. in the Human Rights Building, Strasbourg.

The delivery will be broadcast live on the European Court's YouTube channel.

The cases all concern summary returns at the Belarusian borders from summer 2021 to summer 2022.

A.R. and Others v. Poland concerns a group of Afghan nationals who allege that they were left stranded in a makeshift camp on the border between Belarus and Poland from 8 August until 23 October 2021. They eventually returned to Afghanistan, where they currently reside.

H.M.M. and Others v. Latvia concerns a group of Iraqi nationals of Kurdish origin, who allege, among other things, that they were "pushed back" in the vicinity of the Latvian-Belarusian border starting from 11 August 2021. They have since returned to Iraq.

C.O.C.G. and Others v. Lithuania concerns four Cuban nationals and their repeated crossing of the Lithuanian-Belarusian border in March and April 2022. When they entered Lithuania on 13 April 2022, they were apprehended. They have since been issued with permanent residence permits.

[1] Previously named R.A. and Others v. Poland

For a summary of the principal facts and complaints and procedure, including lists of third-party interveners please see previous press releases: A.R. and Others v. Poland, H.M.M. and Others v. Latvia and C.O.C.G. and Others v. Lithuania.

Grand Chamber hearings on the admissibility and merits of A.R. and Others v. Poland, H.M.M. and Others v. Latvia and C.O.C.G. and Others v. Lithuania were held on 12 February 2025.

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Members of the public wishing to attend the delivery should submit a request here. Journalists should contact the Press Unit at echrpress@echr.coe.int.

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.

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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.