



Greece

Ratified the European Convention on Human Rights in 1974

National Judge: Linos-Alexandre Sicilianos

[Judges' CVs](#) are available on the ECHR Internet site

Previous Judges: Christos Rozakis (1998-2011), Nicolas Valticos (1986-1998), Dimitris Evrigenis (1975-1986), Georges Maridakis (1959-1970).

The Court dealt with 520 applications concerning Greece in 2016, of which 455 were declared inadmissible or struck out. It delivered 45 judgments (concerning 65 applications), 41 of which found at least one violation of the European Convention on Human Rights.

Applications processed in	2015	2016	2017*
Applications allocated to a judicial formation	456	337	183
Communicated to the Government	118	275	124
Applications decided:	764	520	214
- Declared inadmissible or struck out (Single Judge)	477	273	99
- Declared inadmissible or struck out (Committee)	183	176	85
- Declared inadmissible or struck out (Chamber)	10	6	4
- Decided by judgment	94	65	26
Interim measures:	8	29	8
- Granted	3	0	2
- Refused (including out of scope)	5	29	6

* January to July 2017

For information about the Court's judicial formations and procedure, see the [ECHR internet site](#)

Applications pending before the court on 01/07/2017	
Total pending applications*	697
Applications pending before a judicial formation:	668
Single Judge	35
Committee (3 Judges)	172
Chamber (7 Judges)	460
Grand Chamber (17 Judges)	1

*including applications for which completed application forms have not yet been received

Greece and ...

Its contribution to the Court's budget

For 2017 the Court's budget amounts to approximately 71 million euros. That budget is financed by contributions from the 47 member States of the Council of Europe in accordance with scales based on population and GDP; the 2017 contribution of Greece to the Council of Europe's (EUR 328 million) budget is **EUR 3,532,872**.

The Registry

The task of the Registry is to provide legal and administrative support to the Court in the exercise of its judicial functions. It is composed of lawyers, administrative and technical staff and translators. There are currently **672** Registry staff members of whom **10** are Greek.

Noteworthy cases, judgments delivered

Grand Chamber

[Vallianatos and Others v. Greece](#)

7 November 2013

The case concerned the "civil unions" in Greece introduced in 2008 by a law entitled "Reforms concerning the family, children and society". This Law made provision for an official form of partnership, allowing the persons concerned to register their relationship within a more flexible legal framework than that provided by marriage. The applicants complained that this law provided for civil unions only for different-sex couples, thereby automatically excluding same-sex couples from its scope. They complained that the Greek State had introduced a distinction which, in their view, discriminated against them.

[Violation of Article 14 \(prohibition of discrimination\) taken together with Article 8 \(right to respect for private and family life\)](#)

[Sitaropoulos and Giakoumopoulos v. Greece](#)

15 March 2012

Concerned Greek nationals living in France who complained of their inability to vote in Greek elections from their country of residence.

[No violation of Article 3 of Protocol No. 1 \(right to free elections\)](#)

[M.S.S. v. Belgium and Greece](#)

21 January 2011

The applicant is an Afghan national, who left Kabul early in 2008 and, entering the European Union through Greece, then arrived in Belgium in 2009 where he claimed asylum. The case concerned his complaint about his expulsion to Greece by the Belgian authorities by virtue of the European Union "Dublin II Regulation"¹. He complained about his detention and living conditions in Greece as well as deficiencies in the asylum procedure followed in his case.

¹ An EC regulation under which EU member States are required to determine, based on a hierarchy of objective criteria, which member State is responsible for examining an asylum application lodged on their territory.

[Violations of Articles 3 \(prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment\) and 13 by both Belgium and Greece](#)

[Makaratzis v. Greece](#)

20 December 2004

Applicant's complaint that after driving through a red traffic light he was pursued by police officers who then used excessive firepower to stop him, putting his life at risk, and that the investigation into the incident had been inadequate.

[Violations of Article 2 \(right to life\)](#)

[Thlimmenos v. Greece](#)

6 April 2000

Applicant, a Jehovah's Witness, complained of refusal to appoint him to a chartered accountant's post because of his conviction of insubordination for refusing to wear military uniform.

[Violation of Article 14 \(prohibition of discrimination\) together with Article 9 \(right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion\)](#)

Noteworthy cases, judgments delivered

Chamber

Cases by Articles of the Convention

Right to life cases (Article 2)

[Choreftakis and Choreftaki v. Greece](#)

17 January 2012

Concerned the murder of the applicants' son by a man previously convicted of intentional homicide who had been released on licence.

[No violation of Article 2](#)

[Papapetrou and Others v. Greece](#)

12 July 2011

Application lodged by relatives of the Patriarch of Alexandria and of members of his entourage who died in a helicopter crash in 2004. They complained in particular of shortcomings in the investigation into the causes of the crash.

[No violation of Article 2 \(effective investigation\)](#)

Case dealing with inhuman or degrading treatment (Article 3)

[Sakir v. Greece](#)

24 March 2016

The case concerned an assault against Rafi Sakir in 2009 in the centre of Athens which led to his hospitalisation, and also the conditions in which he was detained in a police station after his release from hospital.

Violation of Article 3 and violation of Article 13 (right to an effective remedy) with regard to Mr Sakir's conditions of detention in the Aghios Panteleimon police station in Athens

Violation of Article 3 with regard to the conduct of the investigation carried out following the assault

[Martzaklis and Others v. Greece](#)

9 July 2015

The case concerned the conditions of detention of HIV-positive persons in the psychiatric wing of Korydallos Prison Hospital.

Violation of Article 3 taken alone and in conjunction with Article 14 (prohibition of discrimination)

Violation of Article 13 (right to an effective remedy)

[Xiros v. Greece](#)

9 September 2010

Concerned inadequate medical care provided to convicted terrorist serving a sentence of life imprisonment (notably for his eyesight problems).

Violation of Article 3

[Galotskin v. Greece](#)

14 January 2010

Concerned police brutality during arrest and detention of applicant who got into an argument with the police when stopped for an identity check

Violations of Article 3 (prohibition of inhuman and degrading treatment and lack of effective investigation)

Cases dealing with Article 4 (prohibition of slavery and forced labour)

[L.E. v. Greece](#) (no. 71545/12)

21 February 2016

The case concerned a complaint by a Nigerian national who was forced into prostitution in Greece.

Violation of Article 4

Violation of Article 6 § 1 (right to a fair hearing within a reasonable time)

Violation of Article 13 (right to an effective remedy)

[Chitos v. Greece](#)

4 June 2015

The case concerned an army officer who had been forced to pay a fee to the State in order to resign before the end of his period of service.

Violation of Article 4 § 2 (prohibition of forced labour)

This is the first time that the Court has ruled on this matter.

Cases concerning Article 6

[Right to a fair trial](#)

[Constantinides v. Greece](#)

6 October 2016

In this case, an individual who had been convicted in criminal proceedings complained of the admission in evidence at his trial of a graphologist's report prepared by an expert who did not attend the hearings.

No violation of Article 6 § 1 or of Article 6 § 3 (d) (right to examine witnesses)

[Negrepontis-Giannisis v. Greece](#)

3 May 2011

Concerned the refusal to recognise the adoption of an adult by his uncle, a monk.

Violations of Articles 6, 8 (right to respect for private and family life) and 14 (prohibition of discrimination)

[Reklos and Davourlis v. Greece](#)

15 January 2009

Concerned the dismissal by the Greek courts of the applicants' complaint with regard to photographs taken of their new-born baby in the clinic without their consent.

Violation of Article 6 § 1

[Violation of Article 8 \(right to respect for private and family life\)](#)

[Lionarakis v. Greece](#)

5 July 2007

Court found that a presenter and coordinator of a radio programme broadcast live by the Hellenic Broadcasting Corporation, could not be held liable for defamation in the same way as the journalist, a guest on the programme, who had made possibly controversial statements on the "Öcalan case".

[Violation of Article 6 § 1](#)

[Violation of Article 10 \(freedom of expression\)](#)

[Right of access to a court](#)

[Tziovanis and Others v. Greece](#)

19 January 2017

The case concerned the alleged violation of the applicants' right of access to a court and of their right to have their case heard "within a reasonable time".

[No violation of Article 6 § 1](#)

[Violation of Article 6 § 1 \(right to a fair hearing within a reasonable time\)](#)

[Violation of Article 13 \(right to an effective remedy\)](#)

[Kendristakis and Others v. Greece](#)

27 October 2016

The case concerned the procedures for compensating relatives of persons who were killed when a factory collapsed during an earthquake.

[Application declared inadmissible as manifestly ill-founded.](#)

[Papaioannou v. Greece](#)

2 June 2016

The case concerned the rejection of Mr Papaioannou's appeal to the Supreme Administrative Court pursuant to section 12 of Law no. 3900/2010 according to which appellants have a procedural obligation to show that the court has not already ruled on a specific legal question.

[No violation of Article 6 § 1](#)

[Xynos v. Greece](#)

9 October 2014

[Violation of Article 6 § 1](#)

[Syngelidis v. Greece](#)

11 February 2010

Applicant's complaint about Greek Parliament's refusal to waive his former

wife's parliamentary immunity in custody case concerning their son.

[Violation of Article 6 § 1](#)

[Presumption of innocence](#)

[Kapetanios and Others v. Greece](#)

30 April 2015

The case concerned the imposition of administrative fines on individuals accused of contraband who had been acquitted of a criminal offence.

[Violation of Article 6 § 2 and of Article 4 of Protocol No. 7 \(right not to be tried or punished twice\) with regard to all three applications](#)

[Violation of Article 6 § 1 \(right to a fair hearing within a reasonable time\) and Article 13 \(right to an effective remedy\) with regard to Mr Kapetanios's application](#)

[Konstas v. Greece](#)

24 May 2011

The case mainly concerned comments made by the Greek Prime Minister and two Greek ministers about the applicant (former university professor, Minister for the Press and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Council of Europe) in the context of criminal proceedings against him that were still pending on appeal.

[Violation of Article 6 § 2](#)

[Violation of Article 13 \(right to an effective remedy\)](#)

[Right to be assisted by counsel](#)

[Vamvakas v. Greece \(no. 2\)](#)

9 April 2015

The case concerned the unexplained absence of the applicant's assigned counsel from a Court of Cassation hearing in the criminal proceedings against him.

[Violation of Article 6 §§ 1 and 3 \(c\) \(right to a fair hearing / to be assisted by counsel\)](#)

Inadmissibility decision

[Astikos Kai Paratheristikos](#)

[Oikodomikos Synetairismos](#)

[Axiomatikon and Karagiorgos v. Greece](#)

01.06.2017

The two cases concerned the new admissibility conditions introduced under Law No. 3900/2010 relating to appeals on points of law before the Council of State.

[Application declared inadmissible.](#)

Case dealing with private and family life (Article 8)

Modestou v. Greece

16 March 2017

The case concerned a search of the applicant's private home and business premises carried out in his absence as part of a preliminary police investigation.

[Violation of Article 8 \(right to respect for private and family life, the home, and the correspondence\)](#)

Dolopoulos v. Greece

10 December 2015

The application concerned the circumstances in which a bank branch manager developed a psychiatric illness and severe depression which, in his view, were caused in part by harassing tactics on the part of his managers.

[Application declared inadmissible as manifestly ill-founded.](#)

I.B. v. Greece (no. 552/10)

3 October 2013

The case concerned the dismissal of an HIV-positive employee in response to pressure from other employees in the company.

[Violation of Article 8 taken together with Article 14 \(prohibition of discrimination\)](#)

Cases concerning freedom of thought, conscience and religion (Art. 9)

Papavasilakis v. Greece

15 September 2016

The case concerned the authorities' refusal to grant Mr Papavasilakis the status of conscientious objector and to allow him to do alternative civilian work instead of military service.

[Violation of Article 9](#)

Dimitras and Others v. Greece (no. 3) (nos. 44077/09, 15369/10 and 41345/10)

8 January 2013

Dimitras and Others v. Greece (nos. 42837/06, 3269/07, 35793/07 and 6099/08)

3 June 2010

Concerned the obligation made to the applicants to reveal their (non-Orthodox) religious convictions when taking the oath

in court in the context of criminal proceedings.

[In both cases: violation of article 9 and of Article 13 \(right to an effective remedy\)](#)

Alexandridis v. Greece

21 February 2008

Applicant, a lawyer, complained that when taking the oath of office he had been obliged to reveal that he was not an Orthodox Christian

[Violation of Article 9](#)

[Violation of Article 13 \(right to an effective remedy\)](#)

Kokkinakis v. Greece

25 May 1993

Applicant, a Jehovah's Witness, was arrested more than 60 times for proselytising.

[Violation of Article 9](#)

Freedom of expression case (Article 10)

Kapsis and Danikas v. Greece

19 January 2017

The case concerned an award of damages of 30,000 euros (EUR) against the director of a daily newspaper (Mr Kapsis) and a journalist (Mr Danikas), jointly with the newspaper's proprietor, for a press article describing as "completely unknown" an actress who had been appointed to an advisory board on subsidies awarded by the authority for theatres.

[Violation of Article 10](#)

Alfantakis v. Greece

11 February 2010

Unjustified ruling against applicant, a lawyer, for criticising public prosecutor at court of appeal in connection with criminal proceedings.

[Violation of Article 10](#)

Freedom of assembly and association (Article 11)

Mytilinaios and Kostakis v. Greece

3 December 2015

The case concerned the obligation imposed on the applicants, who are winegrowers, to be members of the Samos Union of vinicultural cooperatives, and their inability to obtain a winemaking permit to market their wine.

[Violation of Article 11](#)

Cases concerning protection of property (Article 1 of Protocol No. 1)

Kanaginis v. Greece

27 October 2016

The case concerned the reappropriation procedure for property expropriated by the State.

[Violation of Article 1 of Protocol No. 1](#)

Mamatas and Others v. Greece

21 July 2016

The case concerned the forcible participation by the applicants, who are private individuals holding Greek State bonds, in the effort to reduce the Greek public debt by exchanging their bonds for other debt instruments of lesser value. In 2012 a new law amended the conditions governing the bonds by dint of Collective Action Clauses enabling bond-holders to conclude a collective agreement with the State, deciding by an enhanced majority. That majority having been obtained thanks, in particular, to the participation of the institutional investors (banks and credit organisations), the new conditions came into force in respect of all bond-holders, including the applicants, despite the latter's refusal. Their bonds were cancelled and replaced by new securities worth 53.5% less in terms of nominal value.

[No violation of Article 1 of Protocol No. 1 \(protection of property\)](#)

[No violation of Article 14 \(prohibition of discrimination\) in conjunction with Article 1 of Protocol No. 1](#)

Zolotas (no. 2) v. Greece

29 January 2013

Mr Zolotas complained that the Greek courts had found his claims in respect of his bank account to be time-barred and had assigned the balance to the State.

[Violation of Article 1 of Protocol No. 1](#)

Apostolakis v. Greece

22 October 2009

Complaint by applicant, who had reached retirement age, about full withdrawal of his right to a pension and social cover as a result of his criminal conviction.

[Violation of Article 1 of Protocol No. 1](#)

Zeïbek v. Greece

9 July 2009

Refusal to grant the applicant, a Greek citizen and a Muslim, a pension payable for life as the mother of a large family.

[Violation of Article 1 of Protocol No. 1 taken alone and together with Article 14 \(prohibition of discrimination\)](#)

Zouboulidis v. Greece (No. 2)

25 June 2009

Complaint by a civil servant – a contractual employee at the Greek Embassy in Berlin – about the limitation periods applied for payment of his claims to an expatriation allowance supplement.

[Violation of Article 1 of Protocol No. 1](#)

Former King of Greece and Others v. Greece

23 November 2000

Concerned the ownership status of the property of the Greek Crown.

[Violation of Article 1 of Protocol No. 1](#)

Cases dealing with the right to education (Article 2 of Protocol No. 1)

Memlika v. Greece

6 October 2015

Exclusion of children aged 7 and 11 from school after they were wrongly diagnosed with leprosy.

[Violation of Article 2 of Protocol No. 1](#)

Cases regarding right to free election (Article 3 of Protocol No. 3)

Dimitras and Others v. Greece

07.09.2017

The case concerned the prohibition on publishing opinion polls on voters' intentions in the 15 days preceding the date of certain elections, and also the ban forbidding the media from broadcasting or re-broadcasting them.

[Applications declared inadmissible.](#)

Cases dealing with Article 4 of Protocol No. 2 (prohibition of forced labour)

Chowdury and Others v. Greece

30.03.2017

The case concerned 42 Bangladeshi nationals who did not have work permits and were subjected to forced labour. Their employers had recruited them to pick

strawberries on a farm in Manolada (Greece) but failed to pay the applicants' wages and obliged them to work in difficult physical conditions under the supervision of armed guards.

[Violation of Article 4 § 2](#)

Cases dealing with Article 4 of Protocol No. 7 (right not to be tried or punished twice)

[Sismanidis and Sitaridis v. Greece](#)

9 June 2016

The case concerned the institution of proceedings against each of the applicants for smuggling despite the fact that the criminal courts had already irrevocably acquitted them of the same offence.

[Violation of Article 4 of Protocol No. 7 \(right not to be tried or punished twice\)](#) as regards Mr Sismanidis

[Violation of Article 6 §§ 1 and 2 \(right to a fair hearing within a reasonable time and presumption of innocence\)](#) as regards Mr Sitaridis

Pilot judgment procedure²

[Glykantzi v. Greece](#)

30 October 2012

Concerned the length of pay-related proceedings in the civil courts that lasted more than twelve years.

[Violation of Article 6 § 1 \(right to a fair hearing within a reasonable time\)](#) in conjunction with [Article 13 \(right to an effective remedy\)](#)

[Michelioudakis v. Greece](#)

3 April 2012

Concerned an applicant who complained about the excessive length of criminal proceedings brought against him for incitement to commit perjury and the lack of a remedy in domestic law by which to obtain redress for his complaint.

[Violation of Article 6 § 1](#)

[Violation of Article 13 \(right to an effective remedy\)](#)

² The pilot judgment procedure was developed as a technique of identifying the structural problems underlying repetitive cases against many countries and imposing an obligation on States to address those problems.

See document "[The Pilot judgment procedure](#)" available on the European Court of Human Rights website.

Cases by themes

Cases concerning asylum seekers/refugees

[B.A.C. v. Greece](#) (no. 11981/15)

13 October 2016

The case concerned an asylum-seeker waiting for a decision from the authorities since 2002.

[Violation of Article 8 \(right to respect for private and family life\)](#)

[Violation of Article 8 in conjunction with Article 13 \(right to an effective remedy\)](#)

There would be a violation of [Article 3 \(prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment\)](#) in conjunction with [Article 13 \(right to an effective remedy\)](#) if Mr B.A.C. were returned to Turkey.

[De los Santos and de la Cruz v. Greece](#)

26 June 2014

The case concerned the applicants' conditions of detention prior to their expulsion from Greece.

[Violation of Article 3 \(prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment\)](#)

[Horshill v. Greece](#)

1 August 2013

The case concerned the placement in detention of Ismail Alfateh Horshill and the conditions in which he was detained. The applicant, a foreign national who was due to be deported, was held successively for fifteen days in two police stations after having applied for asylum.

[Violation of Article 3 \(prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment\)](#)

[Mahmudi and Others v. Greece](#)

31 July 2012

Concerned the detention of an Afghan family, including a woman who was eight months pregnant and four minors, in the Pagani detention centre on the island of Lesbos.

[Violation of Article 3 \(prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment\)](#), [Article 13 \(right to an effective remedy\)](#), [Article 5 § 4 \(right to have lawfulness of detention decided speedily by a court\)](#)

[Zontul v. Greece](#)

17 January 2012

Concerned the rape with a truncheon of an immigrant, held in an asylum seekers' camp, by one of the Greek coastguard

officers supervising him. He also complained in particular that the authorities had refused to allow him to be examined by a doctor who was on the premises and that those responsible had not been adequately punished, as the Appeals Tribunal had not considered that his rape with a truncheon constituted an aggravated form of torture.

[A violation of Article 3 \(prohibition of torture and inhuman or degrading treatment\)](#)

[R.U. v. Greece](#) (n° 2237/08)

7 June 2011

[A. A. v. Greece](#) (n° 12186/08)

22 July 2010

[Tabesh v. Greece](#)

26 November 2009

[S.D. v. Greece](#) (n° 53541/07).

11 June 2009

Concerned asylum seekers held unlawfully in inhuman and degrading detention conditions.

[In all four cases: violations of Article 3 \(prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment\) and of Article 5 §§ 1 and 4 \(right to liberty and security\)](#)

[Rahimi v. Greece](#)

5 April 2011

Concerned the conditions in which a minor, a migrant from Afghanistan, who had entered Greece illegally, was held in a detention centre and subsequently released with a view to his expulsion.

[Violation of Article 3 \(prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment\), Article 13 \(right to an effective remedy\) and Article 5 §§ 1 and 4 \(right to liberty and security\)](#)

[M.S.S. v. Belgium and Greece](#)
(no. 30696/09)

Grand Chamber

21 January 2011

(see p. 2)

[Saidoun v. Greece and Fawsie v. Greece](#)

28 October 2010

Refusal to grant social security to political refugees was discriminatory

[Violation of Article 8 \(right to respect for private and family life\) combined with Article 14 \(prohibition of discrimination\)](#)

Cases concerning Roma

[Lavida and Others v. Greece](#)

30 May 2013

The case concerned the education of Roma children who were restricted to attending a primary school in which the only pupils were other Roma children.

[Violation of Article 14 \(prohibition of discrimination\) in conjunction with Article 2 of Protocol No. 1 to the Convention \(right to education\)](#)

[Sampani and Others v. Greece](#)

11 December 2012

The case concerned the provision of education for Roma children at the 12th Primary School in Aspropyrgos.

[Violation of Article 14 \(prohibition of discrimination\) in conjunction with Article 2 of Protocol No. 1 \(right to education\)](#)

[Under Article 46 \(binding force and execution of judgments\), the Court recommended that those of the applicants who were still of school age be enrolled at another State school and that those who had reached the age of majority be enrolled at "second chance schools" or adult education institutes set up by the Ministry of Education under the Lifelong Learning Programme.](#)

[Ibishi and others v. Greece](#)

4 January 2012

Concerned eviction of Albanian nationals, of Roma ethnic origin, from a settlement in Votanikos (an area of Athens), alleged demolition of their sheds and belongings and failure to provide them with alternative housing.

[Application declared inadmissible for non-exhaustion of domestic remedies.](#)

[Stefanou v. Greece](#)

22 April 2010

Serious ill-treatment of 16-year old Roma by the police

[Violation of Article 3 \(prohibition of inhuman and degrading treatment\)](#)

[Violation of Article 6 § 1 \(right to a fair trial\)](#)

Noteworthy pending case

Grand Chamber

Molla Sali v. Greece (no. 20452/14)

The case concerns the application by the Greek courts of Islamic religious (Sharia) law to a dispute concerning inheritance rights over the estate of the late husband of Ms Molla Sali, a Greek national belonging to the country's Muslim minority.

Relying on Article 6 § 1 (right to a fair hearing), taken alone and in conjunction with Article 14 (prohibition of discrimination) of the Convention, Ms Molla Sali complains of the application to her inheritance dispute of Sharia law rather than the ordinary law applicable to all Greek citizens, despite the fact that her husband's will was drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Greek Civil Code.

She also alleges that she was subjected to a difference in treatment on grounds of religion. Under Article 1 of Protocol No. 1 (protection of property) to the Convention, Ms Molla Sali contends that, by applying Islamic religious law rather than Greek civil law to her husband's will, the Court of Cassation deprived her of three-quarters of her inheritance.

[Relinquishment in favour of the Grand Chamber on 6 June 2017](#)

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