



Finland

Ratified the European Convention on Human Rights in 1990

National Judge: Pauliine Koskelo

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

Previous Judges: Raimo Pekkanen (1989-1998), Matti Pellonpää (1998-2006), Päivi Hirvelä (2007-2015)

[List of judges of the Court since 1959](#)

The Court dealt with 168 applications concerning Finland in 2018, which were declared inadmissible or struck out. It delivered no judgment.

Applications processed in	2017	2018	2019*
Applications allocated to a judicial formation	181	175	66
Communicated to the Government	0	5	1
Applications decided:	219	169	65
- Declared inadmissible or struck out (Single Judge)	216	169	64
- Declared inadmissible or struck out (Committee)	1	0	0
- Declared inadmissible or struck out (Chamber)	0	0	0
- Decided by judgment	2	0	1

* January to July 2019

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

Statistics on interim measures can be found [here](#).

Applications pending before the court on 01/07/2019	
Total pending applications*	49
Applications pending before a judicial formation:	21
Single Judge	11
Committee (3 Judges)	3
Chamber (7 Judges)	7
Grand Chamber (17 Judges)	0

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

Finland and ...

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 **643** Registry staff members.

Noteworthy cases, judgments delivered

Grand Chamber

Cases dealing with Article 6

[Vilho Eskelinen and Others v. Finland](#)

19.04.2007

Special allowance for working in a remote area refused to police officers.

The Court said that that Article 6 § 1 (right to a fair hearing) was applicable

Violation of Article 6 § 1 as regards the length of the proceedings

No violation of Article 6 § 1 as regards the lack of an oral hearing

Violation of Article 13 (right to an effective remedy)

No violation of Article 1 of Protocol No. 1 (protection of property) taken alone or in conjunction with Article 14 (prohibition of discrimination)

[Jussila v. Finland](#)

23.11.2006

The applicant complained that he was not given an oral hearing in proceedings in which a tax surcharge was imposed.

No violation of Article 6 (right to a fair trial)

Cases dealing with the right to respect for private and family life (Article 8)

[Hämäläinen v. Finland](#)

16.07.2014

The case concerned the complaint of a male-to-female transsexual that she could only obtain full official recognition of her new gender by having her marriage turned into a civil partnership.

No violation of Article 8

No need to examine the case under Article 12 (right to marry)

No violation of Article 14 (prohibition of discrimination) taken in conjunction with Articles 8 and 12

[K. and T. v. Finland \(no. 25702/94\)](#)

12.07.2001

Emergency care order and failure to take proper steps to reunite the family.

Violation of Article 8

Cases regarding freedom of expression (Article 10)

[Satakunnan Markkinapörssi Oy and Satamedia Oy v. Finland](#)

27.06.2017

After two companies had published the personal tax information of 1.2 million people, the domestic authorities ruled that such wholesale publication of personal data had been unlawful under data protection laws, and barred such mass publications in future. The companies complained to the European Court that the ban had violated their right to freedom of expression.

No violation of Article 10

[Pentikäinen v. Finland](#)

20.10.2015

The case concerned the apprehension of a media photographer during a demonstration and his subsequent detention and conviction for disobeying the police.

No violation of Article 10

Noteworthy cases, judgments delivered

Chamber

Case concerning the right to life (Article 2)

[Huohvanainen v. Finland](#)

13.03.2007

Death of the applicant's brother, shot by the police authorities in a siege situation.

No violation of Article 2

Case on prohibition of inhuman or degrading treatment (Article 3)

[Senchishak v. Finland](#)

18.11.2014

The case concerned the threatened removal from Finland of a 72-year-old Russian national.

No violation of Article 3 if Ms Senchishak, the applicant, were to be expelled to Russia

Cases concerning Article 6

Right to a fair trial

D. v. Finland (no. 30542/04)

07.07.2009

Use of a child's videotaped account as essential evidence in the criminal proceedings against a father convicted of aggravated sexual abuse of his daughter.

Violation of Article 6

Natunen v. Finland

31.03.2009

Failure to disclose recorded telephone conversations (destroyed by the police, in accordance with the law, at pre-trial stage) at the applicant's trial for drug trafficking.

Violation of Article 6

Muttalainen v. Finland

22.05.2007

Refusal by the Appeal Court to hold an oral hearing in criminal proceedings.

Violation of Article 6

Private and family life cases (Article 8)

A.-M.V. v. Finland (no. 53251/13)

23.03.2017

The case concerned an intellectually disabled man's complaint about the Finnish courts' refusal to replace his court-appointed mentor, meaning that he has been prevented from deciding where and with whom he would like to live. His court-appointed mentor had previously decided that it was not in his best interests for him to move from his home town in the south of Finland to live in a remote village in the far north with his former foster parents. In the related court proceedings his request to replace the mentor was refused.

No violation of Article 8

No violation of Article 2 of Protocol No. 4 (freedom of movement)

Röman v. Finland

29.01.2013

Laakso v. Finland

15.01.2013

Grönmark v. Finland and Backlund v. Finland

06.07.2010

Cases concerning the impossibility for the applicants to have their biological father's paternity legally established because of the automatic time limit imposed on children

born before the entry into force of the Paternity Act.

Violations of Article 8 in all three cases

In *Laakso v. Finland* and *Röman v. Finland*, The European Court of Human Rights noted however that the Supreme Court had recently changed its previous line of case-law on this issue.

K.U. v. Finland (no. 2872/02)

02.12.2008

Failure to protect a minor subject of an advertisement of a sexual nature on an Internet dating site.

Violation of Article 8

Johansson v. Finland

06.09.2007

Refusal to register a name chosen for the applicants' son.

Violation of Article 8

Hokkanen v. Finland

23.09.1994

Transfer of custody to a child's grandparents; father prevented to see her in defiance of court decisions.

Violation of Article 8

Cases concerning freedom of expression (Article 10)

M.P. v. Finland (no. 36487/12)

15.12.2016

The case concerned Ms M.P.'s conviction for defamation for expressing concerns to a social worker that her daughter might have been sexually abused by her (the child's) father. This was the second time Ms M.P. had raised such concerns and came after a police investigation into the allegations had concluded that there was no evidence of any crime.

Violation of Article 10

Salumäki v. Finland

29.04.2014

Journalist convicted of defamation after writing an article concerning the investigation into an homicide, with a reference to a well-known Finnish businessman.

No violation of Article 10

[Ojala and Etukeno Oy v. Finland](#)
[Ruusunen v. Finland](#)

14.01.2014

Both cases concerned the criminal convictions of Ms Ruusunen and Mr Ojala for writing and publishing an autobiographical work which contained details of the relationship between the former Prime Minister of Finland and his former girlfriend, Ms Ruusunen.

[No violation of Article 10](#)

[Ristamäki and Korvola v. Finland](#)

29.10.2013

Editor in a Finnish broadcasting company and his immediate superior condemned for defamation with regards to the reference made to a well-known Finnish businessman -standing trial for economic offences at the time- in a programme broadcasted on national television criticising the lack of co-operation between the authorities concerning the investigation of economic crime.

[Violation of Article 10](#)

[Saaristo v. Finland](#)

12.10.2010

Journalist's conviction for an article on private life of presidential candidate's communication manager.

[Violation of Article 10](#)

[Flinkkilä and Others v. Finland](#)
[Tuomela and Others v. Finland](#)
[Jokitaipale and Others v. Finland](#)
[Iltalehti and Karhuvaara v. Finland](#)
[Soila v. Finland](#)

06.04.2010

Concerned criminal sanctions for having disclosed the identity of a public figure's partner.

[Violations of Article 10 in all five cases](#)

[Eerikäinen v. Finland](#)

10.02.2009

Newspaper ordered to pay damages for the publication of an article about ongoing criminal proceedings, disclosing the identity of the accused.

[Violation of Article 10](#)

[Juppala v. Finland](#)

02.12.2008

Conviction of applicant for defamation of her son-in-law after she had taken her three-year-old grandson to a doctor and

voiced a suspicion that he might have been hit by his father.

[Violation of Article 10](#)

[Nikula v. Finland](#)

21.03.2002

Lawyer convicted for having criticised a prosecutor for decisions taken in his capacity in criminal proceedings.

[Violation of Article 10](#)

**Other noteworthy cases,
judgments delivered**

Chamber

[Glantz v. Finland](#)
[Häkkä v. Finland](#)
[Nykänen v. Finland](#)
[Pirttimäki v. Finland](#)

20.05.2014

All cases concerned the applicants' complaints of having been punished twice for the same offence after tax surcharges had been imposed on them and they had then also been convicted of tax fraud or aggravated tax fraud.

[Violation of Article 4 of Protocol No.7 \(right not to be tried or punished twice\) – in the cases of *Glantz* and *Nykänen*](#)

[No violation of Article 4 of Protocol No.7 – in the cases of *Häkkä* and *Pirttimäki*](#)

[X v. Finland \(no. 34806/04\)](#)

03.07.2012

The case concerned the confinement of a paediatrician to a mental health hospital and her being forcibly administered with drugs, in the context of criminal proceedings against her for aiding and abetting a mother to kidnap her daughter, suspected of being sexually abused by her father.

[Violation of Article 5 § 1 \(right to liberty and security\) and Article 8 \(right to protection of private life\)](#)

[Jokela v. Finland](#)

21.05.2002

Discrepancy between the assessment of the market value of expropriated land and land subject to inheritance tax.

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

Noteworthy cases, decisions delivered

Helander v. Finland

Decision of 3.10.2013

The case concerned a complaint brought by a Finnish prisoner, Mr Helander, that the prison authority had refused to forward legal correspondence to him, which had been sent to the prison's official e-mail address by his lawyer.

[Application declared inadmissible](#)

A.A.S. v. Finland (no. 56693/09)

Decision of 3.07.2012

The applicant complained that his right to respect for private and family life had been violated as he had not been allowed to visit his daughter, even under supervision (he was found guilty of the attempted murder of the new husband of his child's mother and, while in prison, had threatened her life).

[Application declared inadmissible](#)

Noteworthy pending cases

Chamber

Tulokas v. Finland (no. 5854/18) and **Taipale v. Finland** (no. 5855/18)

Cases communicated to the Government on 12 July 2018

The cases concern the applicants' complaints about the difference in treatment in taxation.

The applicants complain under Article 14 (prohibition of discrimination) of the Convention and Article 1 of Protocol No. 12 (general prohibition of discrimination) to the Convention that the Income Tax Act discriminates against retired tax-payers without any justification and thus constitutes discrimination on the ground of age. The applicants further complain under Article 13 of the Convention that the existing domestic remedies have proved to be inefficient in the present cases.

N.A. v. Finland (no. 25244/18)

Case [communicated](#) to the Government on 13 September 2018

The applicant's complaint mainly concerns the fate of the applicant's father, an Iraqi

national, who was expelled from Finland and sent to Iraq. He then died in Iraq in December 2017.

The applicant complains that her late father's expulsion to Iraq violated Articles 2 (right to life) and 3 (prohibition of inhuman and/or degrading treatment) of the Convention.

The applicant also complains under Article 3 of the Convention that her father's expulsion and his violent death have caused her considerable suffering.

Kotilainen and Others v. Finland (no. 62439/12)

Case [communicated](#) to the Government on 8 December 2015

The applicants are relatives of those persons who were killed in a school shooting in Kauhajoki in September 2008.

The applicants complain under Articles 2 (right to life) and 5 (right to liberty and security) of the Convention of the lack of any measures on the part of the police to prevent the shooting.

The applicants further complain under Articles 6 (right to a fair trial) and 13 (right to an effective remedy) of the Convention that the domestic courts had not been impartial and independent, that they had assessed the evidence wrongly, and that there had been no fair trial as the pre-trial investigation had been conducted by the police.

SA-Capital Oy v. Finland (no. 5556/10)

Communicated to the Finnish Government in January 2010

Proceedings concerning a company suspected of having been involved in a cartel. The applicant company relies on Article 6 (right to a fair trial) of the Convention.

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