



Last update: 04/12/2020

## United Kingdom

Membership to the Council of Europe	5 May 1949
Entry into force of the European Convention on Human Rights	3 September 1953
First case under supervision of execution	<b>Golder</b> (4451/70) Judgment final on 21 February 1975
Total number of cases transmitted for supervision since the entry into force of the Convention	459
Total number of cases closed by final resolution	443

### MAIN ISSUES BEFORE THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS - ONGOING SUPERVISION\*

#### > Actions of security forces – Effective investigations

**Ineffective investigations into suspicious deaths of individuals during the conflict in Northern Ireland** either during security forces operations or in circumstances giving rise to suspicion of collusion with those forces.

Various shortcomings in the investigation proceedings, notably lack of independence of investigative police officers, lack of public scrutiny and information to victim's families on reasons for decisions not to prosecute; defects in the police investigations, absence of legal aid for the victims' families, delays in inquest proceedings.

**McKerr** group (28883/95) and  
**McCaughey** group (43098/09)  
Judgments final on 04/08/2001 and  
16/10/2013

**Status of execution**  
Enhanced supervision

#### > Private life - Retention of information

**Retention for an indefinite period of cellular samples, fingerprints and DNA profiles**, in connection with arrests for offences for which the persons concerned were ultimately not convicted.

**S. and Marper** (30562/04)  
Judgment final on 04/12/2008

**Status of execution**  
Standard supervision

\* Detailed information concerning the Committee of Ministers' supervision of the execution of judgments and decisions of the European Court of Human Rights, notably the distinction between enhanced and standard supervision, are available on [the website of the Department for the Execution of Judgments](#).



## SUPERVISION CLOSED - MAIN REFORMS ADOPTED\*\*

> **Actions of security forces – Effective investigations**

**Creation of a special unit (Iraq Historic Allegations Team) together with the special inquests (Iraq Fatality Investigations) in order to ensure effective and independent investigations of allegations of unlawful killings and possible abuse of Iraqi civilians by UK armed forces in Iraq between 2003 and 2009.**

In addition, designation of a judge of the High Court to oversee the progress of the investigative process and to hear all public and private law claims arising from UK military operations in Iraq.

*Al-Skeini and Others* (55721/07)  
Judgment final on 07/07/2011

**Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2016)298**

> **Protection against ill-treatment**

**Protection of children against parental violence was enhanced** through amendments of the relevant legislations together with awareness raising measures to clarify the law for non-lawyers, parents and childcare professionals.

**Change of the House of Lords jurisprudence so that local authorities and social services can be held liable for failing to act to prevent child abuse.**

*A.* (25599/94)  
Judgment final on 23/09/1998

**Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2009)75**

*Z. and Others* (29392/95)  
Judgment final on 10/05/2001

**Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2011)290**

> **Protection against forced labour and servitude**

**New legislation of 2009 criminalising holding a person in slavery or servitude or requiring a person to perform forced or compulsory labour.**

*C.N.* (4239/08)  
Judgment final on 13/02/2013

**Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2014)34**

> **Lawfulness of the detention – Psychiatric hospitals**

**Introduction of procedural safeguards for the placement and detention of legally incapacitated, compliant persons in psychiatric institutions.** Independent Advocacy bodies are commissioned to provide support, assistance and, in some cases, representation of the legally incapacitated or his/her relatives throughout the procedure of detention.

*M.H.* (11577/06)  
Judgment final on 22/01/2014

**Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2015)53**

> **Detention and other rights**

**Change of domestic case-law defining more clearly the scope and grounds of the Secretary of State's power to release whole life order prisoners in accordance with Article 3 of the Convention.**

*Vinter and Others* (66069/09)  
Judgment final on 09/07/2013

**Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2017)135**

\*\* This section may also include certain major reforms already implemented in the context of cases still pending.

For a thorough overview of reforms adopted since the entry into force of Protocol No. 11 in 1998 see the [Annual Report 2015](#), Part IV "Main achievements". As regards the period 1959-1998, see the overview provided by the European Court in its special publication "Survey : 40 years of activity", section IV "Effects of judgments and decisions" – both documents, together with a number of additional ones, are available also on the website of the Department for the Execution of Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights.



## SUPERVISION CLOSED - MAIN REFORMS ADOPTED\*\*

**Some categories of detainees now have the right to vote: those on temporary licence and those on home detention curfew.** Additional measures were taken to ensure that detainees are duly informed of their disenfranchisement at the point of sentence (England, Wales and Northern Ireland) or in the areas where they are first received into prisons (Scotland).

**Hirst** (74025/01)  
Judgment final on 06/10/2005

**Final Resolution**  
**CM/ResDH(2018)467**

## &gt; Issues related to foreigners - Expulsion

**Adoption of measures ensuring the deportation of aliens in detention with sufficient diligence:** comprehensive instructions and guidance for immigration staff to avoid excessive length of detention pending deportation.

**J.N.** (37289/12)  
Judgment final on 19/08/2016

**Final Resolution**  
**CM/ResDH(2017)252**

## &gt; Protection of private and family life

**Revision of statutory guidance to safeguard children's welfare,** providing advice on the process to follow if a person has concerns about the welfare of a child and in particular concerns that a child may be suffering, or is at risk of suffering harm. When a court makes an Emergency Protection Order (EPO), it may give additional directions as to the contact the child may have with certain persons and may be allowed to have with others.

**M.A.K. and R.K.** (45901/05)  
Judgment final on 23/06/2010

**Final Resolution**  
**CM/ResDH(2012)65**

**A.D. and O.D.** (28680/06)  
Judgment final on 16/06/2010

**Final Resolution**  
**CM/ResDH(2012)66**

**Introduction of the requirement of a systematic justification for the use of CCTV surveillance cameras;** limitations on the retention and disclosure of images to third parties (mostly medias) and clear restrictions on the monitoring and recording of conversations in public spaces.

**Peck** (44647/98)  
Judgment final on 28/04/2003

**Final Resolution**  
**CM/ResDH(2011)177**

**Introduction of new circumscribed powers which only allow the police to stop and search people and vehicles without suspicion in exceptional circumstances,** where a senior police officer reasonably suspects that an act of terrorism will take place and where the measure is necessary to prevent such acts.

**Gillan and Quinton** (4158/05)  
Judgment final on 28/06/2010

**Final Resolution**  
**CM/ResDH(2013)52**

**New legislation provides for a general prohibition of the interception of communication on public and private networks** and setting out certain limited circumstances where interception may lawfully be carried out.

**Halford** (20605/92)  
Judgment final on 25/06/1997

**Final Resolution**  
**CM/ResDH(2007)15**

**Liberty and Others** (58243/00/56)  
Judgment final on 01/10/2008

**Final Resolution**  
**CM/ResDH(2011)83**



## SUPERVISION CLOSED - MAIN REFORMS ADOPTED\*\*

## &gt; Freedom of expression

As from 6 April 2019, the media defendant is no longer liable to pay the winning party's success fee in defamation proceedings for Conditional Fee Agreement concluded after that date.

**MGN Limited** (39401/04)  
Judgment final on 18/04/2011

Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2019)307

## &gt; Protection against gender-based discrimination

Removal of the ban on homosexuals serving in the military, following the introduction of the Armed Forces Code of Social Conduct Policy Statement in 2000.

**Smith and Grady** (33985/96)  
Judgment final on 25/10/2000

Final Resolution  
ResDH(2002)35

Same sex relationships considered as equal to relationships between persons of opposite sex when examining financial obligations regarding child support.

**J.M.** (37060/06)  
Judgment final on 28/12/2010

Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2012)231

Legal recognition of transsexual people who have taken decisive steps to live fully and permanently in their acquired gender. Their applications are assessed by the Gender Recognition Panel; if successful, a Gender Recognition certificate is delivered granting the recognition for all purpose, including the right to marry a person of the opposite gender, social security benefits and the receipt of a state pension.

**I. and Christine Goodwin** (25680/94+)  
Judgment final on 11/07/2002

Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2011)175

**Grant** (32570/03)  
Judgment final on 23/08/2006

Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2011)173

Widows and widowers treated equally in respect of the right to social security benefits.

**Blackgrove** group (2895/07+)  
Judgment final on 28/07/2009

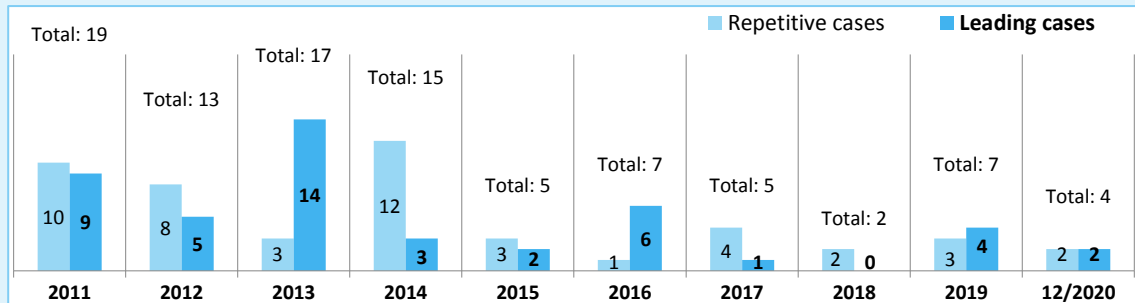
Final Resolution  
CM/ResDH(2010)135



STATISTICS\*\*\*

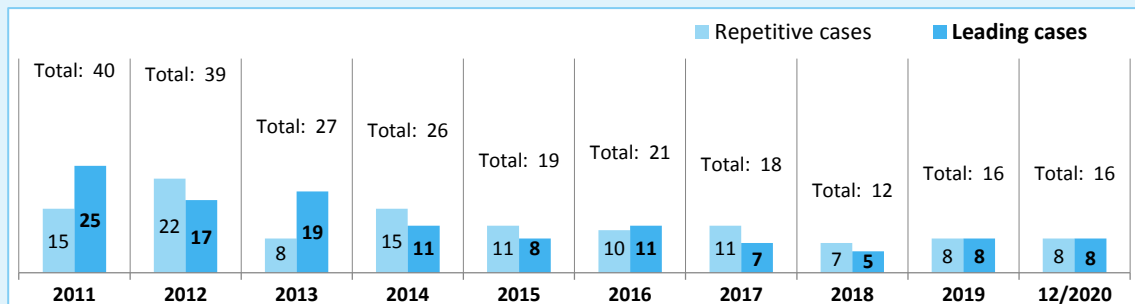
New cases

(judgments transmitted for supervision of their execution during the year)



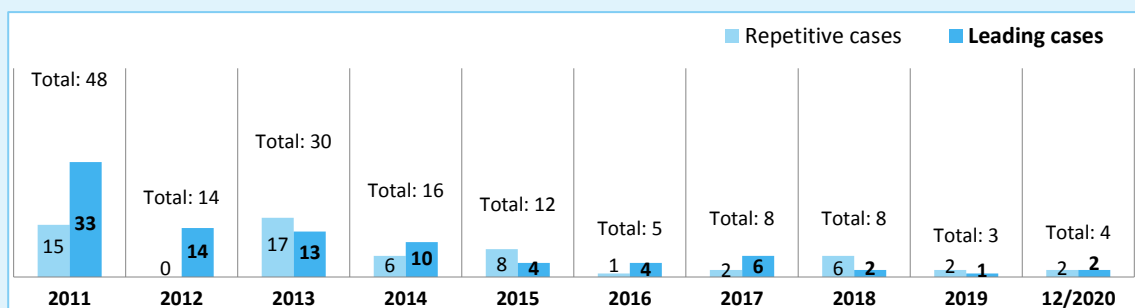
Figures bracketed correspond to the number of cases not yet classified as leading or repetitive, but they are taken into account in the total number of new cases.

Pending cases

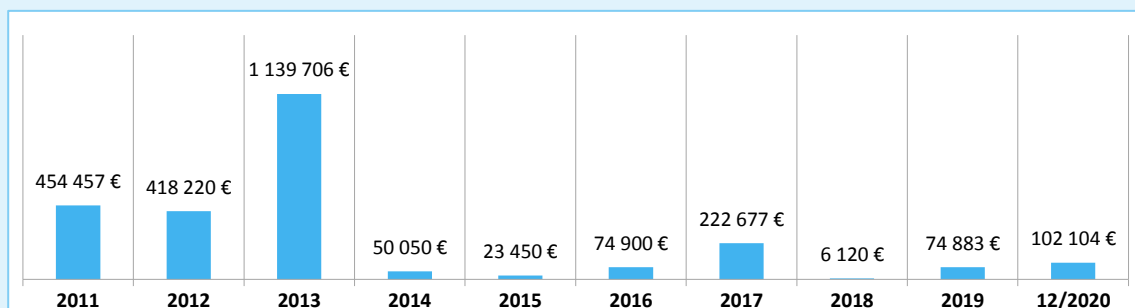


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Cases closed by final resolution



Just satisfaction awarded by the European Court



\*\*\* Detailed statistics are available in the annual reports of the Committee of Ministers. Figures are reported as they appear in the annual report for each year.