



European
Social
Charter

Charte
sociale
européenne



EUROPEAN SOCIAL CHARTER

Social Rights Monitoring 2016: Employment, training and equal opportunities

2016 Conclusions of the European Committee of Social Rights

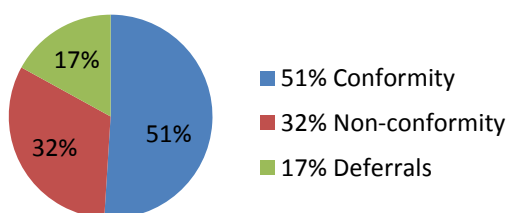
RIGHTS EXAMINED IN 2016

In 2016, the European Committee of Social Rights examined 34 states reports on rights relating to employment, training and equal opportunities¹: the right to work (Article 1); the right to vocational guidance (Article 9); the right to vocational training (Article 10); the right of persons with disabilities to independence, social integration and participation in the life of the community (Article 15); the right to engage in a gainful occupation in the territory of other Parties (Article 18); the right to equal opportunities between women and men (Article 20); the right to protection in cases of termination of employment (Article 24); the right of workers to the protection of their claims in the event of the insolvency of their employer (Article 25).

KEY FIGURES

- 513 conclusions on employment, training and equal opportunities in respect of 34 States.
- 166 findings of violation of the Charter.
- 262 Conclusions of conformity with the provisions.
- 85 cases of deferral for lack of information.

513 situations examined



¹ Each year, the European Committee of Social Rights examines one of the four groups of provisions covered by the Charter.

MAIN FINDINGS

Non-conformity

- Insufficient protection against discrimination in employment on different grounds such as gender and sexual orientation.
- Insufficient integration of persons with disabilities in the mainstream education, labour market and society.
- Insufficient guarantee of equal rights between men and women in particular as regards equal pay.
- Inadequate employment policy efforts to combat unemployment and promote job creation.

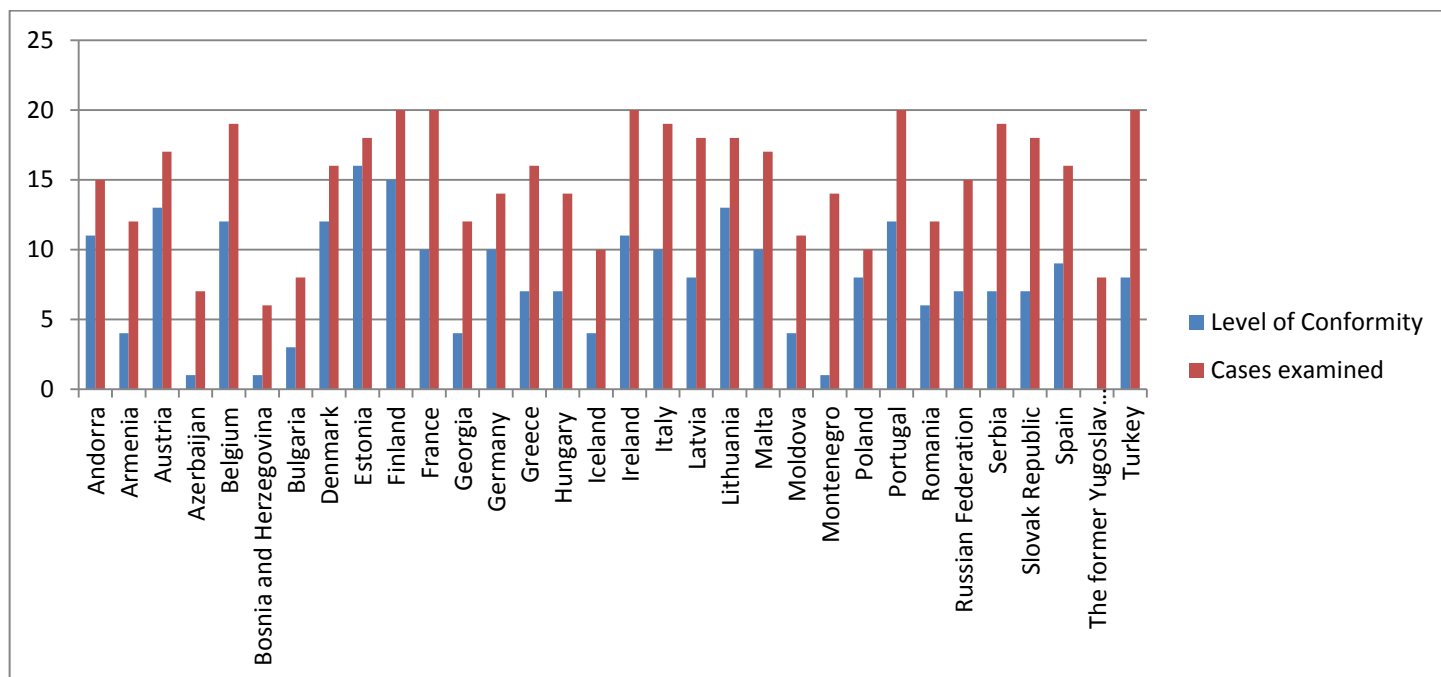
Positive developments

- Adoption of anti-discrimination legislation in different countries.
- Improved legal framework and adoption of measures in respect of persons with disabilities.
- Vocational guidance and training systems are now well established in the majority of the States examined.

REPORTING

- 34 states reports on rights relating to employment, training and equal opportunities were examined by the European Committee of Social Rights in 2016.
- The Committee also re-examined, in the light of new reports, certain situations of non-conformity resulting from Conclusions 2014
- 7 States bound by the Collective Complaints procedure were exempted from reporting in 2016 and provided information on the follow-up given to decisions on the merits of collective complaints in which the Committee found a violation.
- The national reports cover the period from 2011 until the end of 2014.

DEGREE OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE CHARTER ON RIGHTS RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES



BACKGROUND

The European Social Charter

The European Social Charter is a Council of Europe treaty that guarantees fundamental social and economic rights as a counterpart to the European Convention on Human Rights, which refers to civil and political rights. It guarantees a broad range of everyday human rights related to employment, housing, health, education, social protection and welfare.

The European Committee of Social Rights

Council of Europe monitoring body composed of 15 independent & impartial experts which rules on the conformity of national situations with the Charter.

Reports and Conclusions

The monitoring carried out by the Committee in 2016 consists of three components:

- Examination of national reports on the thematic group of provisions related to children, families and migrants;
- Examination of reports on conclusions of non-conformity (from 2014) due to lack of information;
- Examination of information on follow-up to Collective Complaints.

In the framework of the reporting procedure the Committee's monitoring is based on reports submitted by the States Parties, but the Committee also takes into account comments made by trade unions and employers' organisations, and any other source of information which it deems relevant to the examination of national situations.

The contribution of civil society is also important. Non-governmental organisations frequently provide information which allows the Committee to gain a better and more comprehensive understanding of national law and practice.

Statements of interpretation

The Committee also, when necessary, issues statements of interpretation developing and clarifying the meaning and scope of the Charter as regards specific issues.

RESOURCES

Web: www.coe.int/socialcharter

Twitter: @social_charter

CONTACT

Social Charter Department: Social.Charter@coe.int

Press contact: Giuseppe Zaffuto, Spokesperson/Media officer, giuseppe.zaffuto@coe.int; Tel. +33 3 9021 5604

DISCLAIMER

This communication does not bind the European Committee of Social Rights.