BULGARIA



Department for the Execution of Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights

Directorate General
Human Rights and Rule of law

Country factsheet

Last update
18 September 2026

COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

French version:
Fiche pays de la Bulgarie

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Cover design and layout:
Department for the Execution of Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, Council of Europe

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I. Main achievements

This chapter presents short summaries of a selection of the main reforms and achievements reported in final resolutions since the Convention system was amended in 1998 by Protocol No. 11, with a clear focus on recent reforms, referring however also to important earlier developments.

In view of the wealth of cases closed, the selection concentrates on those which have led to changes of legislation, government regulations, the adoption of new policies or general guidance from superior courts. As a rule, the overview does not cover information on measures providing individual redress to applicants.

The reforms are in principle presented in the order corresponding to the thematic domains used in the specialised database HUDOC-EXEC of the Department for the Execution of Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights.

Many reforms address issues which appear to be on-going challenges in member states. The effects of reforms adopted at one point in time may thus need to be monitored and possibly revisited as conditions change.[1]

Definitions of the terms used in the context of the supervision of the execution of the European Court's judgments are available in the dedicated Glossary.

[1] The presentation is limited to the information provided at the time of the adoption of the final resolution. It is recalled in this context that the Committee of Ministers has issued Recommendation (2004)5 on the verification of the compatibility of draft laws, existing laws and administrative practice with standards laid down in the European Convention on Human Rights.

Actions of security forces and effectiveness of investigations

The efficiency of investigations conducted into alleged abuses was improved after the adoption of a new Criminal Procedure Code in 2006, ensuring the victims' and their relatives' active participation in the investigations. In June 2011, an amendment to the Criminal Code introduced racist or xenophobic intentions as aggravated circumstances for murder and bodily harm, thus allowing closer investigations into offences' underlying motivations (notably related to Roma[2]). New rules concerning the use of fire-arms by ordinary and military police were adopted in 2012 and 2016. The "absolute necessity" test for the use of force was introduced and the framework on safeguards against ill-treatment was reinforced. An amendment to the Ministry of Interior Act, in force since 1 January 2019, provides that police officers who take part in special police operations must wear individual identification numbers. When special forces are involved, the requirement to visibly display an anonymous form of identification aims at preventing impunity for serious human rights violations. In 2023, an important legislative reform introduced, *inter alia*, judicial review of refusals to open investigation for certain categories of offences and criminalisation of torture. Several outstanding issues continue to be examined in the *Dimitrov and Others* case (77938/11).

Seidova and Others (310/04)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2013)101

Nachova and Others (43577/98+)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2017)97

Tzekov (45500/99)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2016)274

Hristovi (42697/05)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2019)236

***Velikova* group** (41488/98+)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2023)482

Protection of the right to life

In 2023, the parliament adopted an amendment to paragraph 11 of Article 116(1) of the Criminal Code classifying as aggravated murders motivated by hostility towards the victim's actual or presumed sexual orientation. The provisions concerning bodily harm and certain other criminal offences have also been amended to provide for an aggravated classification when the offence is committed for reasons related to sexual orientation.

Stoyanova (40101/19)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2024)92

Protection against ill-treatment

In 2006, strict deadlines were adopted for pre-trial investigations and their monitoring by a supervisory prosecutor. According to legislative amendments adopted in 2016, the preliminary inquiries must not exceed two months; this time-limit can only be prolonged by one month. In 2017, the introduction of an acceleratory remedy for the accused, the victims and for civil parties made the speeding up of proceedings possible. At the same time, the obligation to automatically terminate criminal proceedings after the expiry of a certain period of time (depending on the gravity of the offence) was abolished. Several outstanding issues continue to be examined in the *S.Z.* group (29263/12).

Angelova and Iliev (55523/00+)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2017)383

Shishkovi (17322/04)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2017)406

Conditions of detention / remedies

Measures were taken to address poor conditions of detention, overcrowding, lack of adequate health care and restrictive penitentiary regimes. A specific prohibition of inhuman and degrading treatment of convicted prisoners was introduced in the Penal Sanctions and Detention in Custody Act of 2009 and extended explicitly to prisoners on remand in 2017. The scope of the prohibition of inhuman and degrading treatment was also extended in 2017 to cover issues related to access to prisoners' physical activities, prolonged isolation.

Yankov (39084/97)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2013)102

Evgeni Ivanov (44009/02+)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2012)164

Bochev (73481/01)

[2] The term "Roma and Travellers" is used at the Council of Europe to encompass the wide diversity of the groups covered by the work of the Council of Europe in this field: on the one hand a) Roma, Sinti/Manush, Cale, Kaale, Romanichals, Boyash/Rudari; b) Balkan Egyptians (Egyptians and Ashkali); c) Eastern groups (Dom, Lom and Abdal); and, on the other hand, groups such as Travellers, Yenish, and the populations designated under the administrative term "Gens du voyage", as well as persons who identify themselves as Gypsies.

Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2017)382

Petyo Petkov (32130/03)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2017)257

Neshkov and Others (36925/10)
Final resolution CM/ResDH(2024)118

In 2017, the authorities introduced effective preventive and compensatory remedies. They also adopted a variety of criminal and penitentiary policy measures (e.g. more flexible accommodation of inmates to open-type prisons; right for inmates to request directly conditional release before the competent court). As of June 2024, overcrowding was almost completely eradicated and the material conditions in penitentiary facilities were significantly improved, which facilitates the functioning of the preventive remedy. The adoption of awareness-raising measures led to a relative increase of the amounts awarded under the compensatory remedy. Certain outstanding questions regarding conditions of detention and the functioning of remedies, including the amounts of compensation awarded in domestic proceedings related to poor conditions of detention continue to be examined in the *Kehayov* case. Outstanding questions related to restrictive penitentiary regimes and corresponding remedies are examined in the *Harakchiev and Toloumov* case, while questions related to health care in prison are examined in the *Gavazov* case.

Right to liberty and security

Nankov (28882/95)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2001)59

Assenov and Others (24760/94)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2000)109

Evgeni Ivanov (44009/02+)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2012)164

Bojilov (45114/98+)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2012)166

Yankov (39084/97)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2013)102

Bochev (73481/01)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2017)382

Svetoslav Dimitrov (55861/00)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2023)406

Stoichkov (9808/02)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2023)366

Compulsory detention on remand, especially in cases of recidivism, was revoked in 1997. The provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure relating to detention on remand were amended in 1999: 72 hours were determined as the maximum period of detention without judicial review, where detention on remand was requested by a prosecutor (24 hours if requested by an investigator). The review is to be decided by a single-judge court after a public hearing attended by the person accused, his counsel and the prosecutor. The guarantees were strengthened in important respects through several legislative reforms in the period 2000-2006, notably to prevent continuation of detention despite release orders and excessively lengthy detention, as well as to grant a possibility to obtain compensation for detention in violation of Article 5 of the Convention. Legislative amendments of 2023 introduced judicial review of the lawfulness of detention after conviction which allows determining whether (i) periods of pre-trial detention had been properly deducted from a prison sentence by the Prosecutor's Office; (ii) the execution of the prison sentences was time-barred.

Functioning of justice

- Fairness of proceedings

Several legislative reforms between 2000 and 2011 have secured and improved the possibility to obtain the reopening of criminal cases heard *in absentia*.

Kounov (24379/02)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2008)70

Aliykov (333/04)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2014)259

- Remedies against excessive length of proceedings

The possibility to seek acceleration of pending proceedings was introduced in the Code of Administrative Procedure of 2006 and in the Civil Procedure Code of 2007. The possibility to obtain compensation for excessive length of civil and criminal proceedings was introduced in 2012. As regards the duration of preliminary investigations, the Judiciary Act was amended in 2016 so as to limit the duration of the preliminary inquiries to two months; this time-limit can be prolonged only by one month.

Finger, Dimitrov and Hamanov in the ***Djangozov*** and ***Kitov*** groups (37346/05 and 48059/06+)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2015)154

***Arabadzhiev and Alexiev* group** (20484/05)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2017)57

- Publicity in civil proceedings involving secret surveillance material

The judicial practice in civil cases has evolved, currently ensuring the publicity of court hearings and rendered judgments where material obtained through secret surveillance is used. The legal ground which served for the classification of the court's judgment was repealed in 2013. In an interpretative decision of 2014, the Supreme Court of Cassation held in respect of an analogous provision in criminal cases that the mere fact that a case involved secret surveillance material was not sufficient to examine it in private; the public should be excluded only from steps genuinely involving State secrets; judgments in such cases must as a rule be published in their entirety.

Vasil Vasilev (7610/15)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2023)403

Protection of private and family life

- Review of expulsion orders

Judicial review of expulsion orders based on national security grounds has developed in practice and was expressly provided for in the 2007 Aliens Act. Further changes introduced in 2009 and 2011 require that before expelling a foreign national residing permanently in Bulgaria, the authorities should take into account their personal and family situation, level of integration and the strength of connections with the country of origin. Detention of foreign nationals pending expulsion was better circumscribed in 2009 through the introduction of an exhaustive and limited list of grounds for such detention, the definition of a maximum length of detention and its periodic review.

Al-Nashif (50963/99)

Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2015)44

Djalti (31206/05)

Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2017)229

- Prisoners' correspondence

The Law on the Execution of Punishments was amended in 1998 in order to protect prisoners' correspondence with, among others, the UN and Council of Europe bodies. In 2009 a new Execution of Punishments and Pre-Trial Detention Act entered into force regulating the right to correspondence and telephone use of prisoners.

Mironov (30381/96)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2004)15

Petyo Petkov (32130/03)

Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2017)257

Petrov (15197/02)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2014)258

➢ Filiation / paternity actions

In 2020, amendments to the Family Code were adopted to provide that any person who claims to be the parent of a recognized child may contest the parental link established by recognition within one year after becoming aware of it. In its decision, the competent court shall take into account the interests of the child.

L.D. and P.K. (7949/11)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2021)212

Furthermore, the amendments to the Family Code also extended the possibility to challenge the legal presumption of paternity beyond the current statutory one-year time-limit after learning of the child's birth to a one-year period after learning of "new circumstances" (e.g. DNA-results) but before the child concerned reached the age of majority and taking into consideration the child's best interests.

Doktorov (15074/08)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2021/145)

➢ Secret surveillance

Significant improvements of the regulatory framework of secret surveillance was carried out through, *inter alia*, introduction of domestic judicial remedy, oversight mechanism, reinforced rules on judicial authorisation, etc. The outstanding questions concerning several shortcomings of the system and effectiveness of the domestic remedies continue to be examined in the *Ekimdzhiev and Others* case (70078/12).

Association for European Integration and Human Rights and Ekimdzhiev group (62540/00)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2023)258

Freedom of religion

Excessive executive interference with freedom of religion, notably direct interference with the choice of church leadership, and discrimination in the area of church registrations are no longer possible since the competence for these registrations was transferred in 2002 from the executive to the courts. The sweeping powers of the public prosecution to restore in quick and urgent cases the initial factual situation in cases, used to order eviction of religious ministers and staff who identified themselves with the alternative Synod of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church, were based on a provision which does not exist anymore in the Bulgarian legal order. There are now rules on contesting unlawful actions and inactions of State bodies and abundant case-law effectively compensating victims of unlawful state bodies interventions. There is a long record of respecting authoritative decisions of the community on leadership and confirming the absence of inappropriate interference in the organisational autonomy of the Church by State bodies demonstrating a change in administrative practice. Issues concerning the registration of alternative Orthodox churches are currently examined in the context of the *Bulgarian Orthodox Old Calendar Church and Others v. Bulgaria* group.

Boychev and Others (77185/01)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2012)169

Ivanova (52435/99)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2012)155

Hasan and Chaush (30985/96)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2011)193

Stefanov (32438/96)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2004)32

An amnesty was enacted for persons convicted of refusing to perform military service in the period between the entry into force of the Constitution in 1991 and that of the Law on the replacement of military obligations by alternative service in 1998.

Holy Synod of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church (Metropolitan Inokentiy) and Others (412/03+)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2023)400

Freedom of expression

- Defamation

Prison sentences for insult were abolished in 2000.
In July 2023 the Criminal Code was amended abolishing the automatic aggravated qualification, if the victim of defamation or insult is a civil servant, and allowed waiving of criminal liability and imposition of administrative punishment in cases concerning insult or defamation of state officials who exercise authority in their official capacity.

Raichinov (47579/99)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2011)5

Bozhkov (3316/04)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2023)339

- Broadcasting

Under the 2001 Radio and Television Act the Council for Electronic Media (CEM) is an independent specialized body that regulates media services. The above Act provides for a tender procedure for issuing licenses for analogue radio and television broadcasting. In 2018, the Supreme Administrative Court underlined that the scope of its judicial review comprises the validity and the justification of CEM's decisions, including compliance with the procedural rules and national law. Thus, the applicable legal framework and the resulting case-law of the Supreme Administrative Court concerning the licensing of radio and television broadcasting, today, provide sufficient safeguards and an effective remedy in that respect.

Glas Nadejda EOOD and Elenkov (14134/02)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2019)335

- Access to public information

The right of access to public information was strengthened. Since 2015, this right can only be refused if an affected third party has explicitly prohibited access and if there is no prevailing public interest justifying restriction.

Guseva (6987/07)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2017)75

Freedom of association

To facilitate the registration of associations, this competence was transferred from the courts to the Registration Agency attached to the Ministry of Justice. The competence was limited to ensure respect of the formal requirements set by law. Possible refusals may be appealed to the regional court within seven days.

Zhechev (57045/00)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2017)360

Protection of property rights

In the context of a legislative reform initiated in 2018, the 1969 Administrative Offences and Punishments Act was amended. By these amendments (which entered into force in December 2021) an avenue of complaint enabling owners of forfeited goods to participate in the relevant administrative-penal proceedings and challenge interferences with their property rights is introduced.

Microintelect OOD (34129/03)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2021)144

In 2021, the Constitutional Court declared unconstitutional a provision in the Criminal Code which provides for confiscation in favour of the State of the vehicle or means of transport used for contraband goods even when it was not the property of the perpetrator. Currently, the domestic courts do not apply this provision on the basis of the Constitutional Court's decision.

UNSPED PAKET SERVISI SAN. VE TIC A.S. (3503/08)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2023)214

Freedom of movement

The possibility to impose travel bans for unpaid taxes was abolished following a decision by the Constitutional Court in 2011. The provisions of the Aliens Act enacting the same ban for foreign nationals were repealed in March 2013. Since 2006 accused persons may contest an exit ban at any time during criminal proceedings.

Riener (46343/99)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2013)100

Makedonski (36036/04)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2013)2



II. Main issues pending before the Committee of Ministers

This chapter presents the main issues pending in cases/groups of cases currently under the Committee of Ministers' supervision. The relevant supervision procedure is indicated for each case/group of cases.

Detailed information on the status of execution of these cases as well as on the Committee of Ministers' supervision process is available on the specialised database HUDOC-EXEC of the website of the Department for the Execution of Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights.

Definitions of the terms used in the context of the supervision of the execution of the European Court's judgments are available in the dedicated Glossary.

Protection of the right to life

Deaths of children placed in public care; lack of prompt and effective investigation into these deaths**.**

Significant progress: The material living conditions of children with disabilities have been improved since the closure of the former care homes and the opening of new family-type residential centres. The current capacity of such centres is sufficient, including for children requiring complex medical treatment. Legislative amendments were introduced in May 2023 providing for judicial review of refusals to open a criminal investigation into certain offences, and for the independent representation of children whose parents have lost interest in their upbringing, once a criminal investigation has been officially initiated. In-depth analysis was prepared by the authorities in March 2024 on possible reforms to ensure the independent representation for children placed outside their family, if parents are not interested in them, to enable such children to have complaints relating to their health and treatment examined by a court or other independent body. This progress allowed for the case to be moved from enhanced to standard supervision.

Nencheva and Others (48609/06)
Judgment final on 18/09/2013

Standard supervision
Status of execution

Failure to protect a woman's life in the context of repeated incidents of domestic violence, of which the authorities were informed.
Significant progress: Wide-ranging set of measures were adopted in 2023 and 2024 aimed at ensuring prevention, early detection, swift reaction and proper coordination in relation to incidents of domestic violence. Changes in the legal framework of 2023 broadened the civil-law protection to intimate partners not sharing a household and repealed the requirement that the criminal offence of domestic violence be preceded by repeated acts of violence. Guidelines on risk assessment for law enforcement officials, administrative bodies and courts were developed and targeted capacity-building and training measures were taken. A coordination mechanism to help victims of domestic violence was adopted in 2025, with a view to foster a coordinated response by multiple authorities and ensure immediate reaction. Prosecutorial guidelines of September 2025 require priority treatment of files on domestic violence and breaches of protection orders. A trend towards increased investigations of, and convictions for domestic violence indicates improved criminal law response. A national database, which will collect data on domestic violence, is currently under development. The authorities were invited to closely monitor the impact of the above measures and to provide information on the implementation of the mechanisms adopted and their impact, supported by relevant data and analysis.

Y. and Others (9077/18)
Judgment final on 05/09/2022

Enhanced supervision
Status of execution

Failure to provide adequate protection, in law and in practice, to a minor victim of domestic violence; discrimination on account of the authorities' failure to adequately address domestic violence against women.

A.E. (53891/20)
Judgment final on 23/08/2023

Enhanced supervision
Status of execution

Actions of security forces – effective investigations

Deaths, torture, ill-treatment, excessive use of force, or lack of medical assistance in due time, occurring on arrest, in police detention or in penitentiary facilities and lack of effective investigations.

Significant progress: Several significant reforms adopted concerning, *inter alia*, the "absolute necessity" test for the use of force, rules on identification of police officers participating in special operations and the reinforcement of the framework on safeguards against ill-treatment, creation of National Preventive Mechanism, judicial review of refusals to open investigation for certain categories of offences and criminalisation of torture.

Dimitrov and Others (77938/11 – former ***Velikova* group**)
Judgment final on 17/11/2014

Enhanced supervision
Status of execution

Lack of effective investigations into various criminal offences: rapes, unlawful confinement, incitement to prostitution.

Significant progress: important reforms of May 2023 introducing, inter alia, judicial review of refusals to open an investigation for certain categories of offences.

S.Z. (29263/12)
Judgment final on 03/06/2015

Enhanced supervision
Status of execution

Ineffectiveness of the investigation into the murder, in 2002, of a high-ranking prosecutor on account of the lack of guarantees in Bulgarian law for the independence of criminal investigations.

Significant progress: important reforms of May 2023 introducing a mechanism for independent investigation of a Chief Prosecutor.

Kolevi (1108/02)
Judgment final on 05/02/2010

Enhanced supervision
Status of execution

Conditions of detention

Detention facilities and prisons: lack of appropriate medical care; prolonged application of a restrictive penitentiary regime amounting to inhuman and degrading treatment, including in combination with poor conditions of detention; lack of effective remedies.

Significant progress: The European Court has considered that the domestic remedies introduced in response to the *Neshkov and Others* pilot judgment can be regarded as effective. Overcrowding was almost entirely eradicated, and material conditions of detention were improved.

Gavazov (54659/00)
Judgment final on 06/06/2008

Harakchiev and Tolumov (15018/11)
Judgment final on 08/10/2014

Enhanced supervision
Status of execution

Lawfulness of detention and related issues

Unsatisfactory procedures for placement in social care homes of persons with mental disorders and lack of judicial review of lawfulness of detention; inhuman conditions of placement and lack of an effective remedy in this respect; impossibility for partially incapacitated persons to request before courts the restoration of their legal capacity.

Significant progress: Following legislative reforms of 2017 persons under partial guardianship now have direct access to court to request restoration of their legal capacity.
Overall progress was noted in 2026, including with improving the material and hygiene conditions in social care homes for people with mental disabilities and ensuring domestic remedies. Information is expected on the sustainability of the positive recent trends to remedy the long-standing problems, especially to ensure appropriate staff levels in the social institutions to avoid risking reoccurrence of serious forms of neglect and unhygienic conditions.

Stanev (36760/06)
Judgment final on 17/01/2012

Standard supervision
Status of execution

Reception / Expulsion / Extradition

Expulsion and deportation of foreign nationals on national security grounds:

- lack of adequate safeguards in deportation proceedings and insufficient review of relevant facts;
- lack of judicial control of the expulsion measure's proportionality, notably as regards respect for family life; non-compliance with the principle of adversarial proceedings;
- lack of publicity of judicial decisions;
- lack of suspensive effect of appeals in case of risk of ill-treatment in the destination country.

Significant progress: Adoption of important legislative reform on expulsion of aliens (indication of the destination country in a legally binding act, which is amenable to judicial review; temporary automatic suspensive effect of appeals against expulsion orders based on national-security grounds, containing substantiated allegations of

***C.G. and Others* group** (1365/07+)
Judgment final on 24/07/2008

Enhanced supervision
Status of execution

***Auad* group** (46390/10+)
Judgment final on 11/01/2012

Standard supervision
Status of execution

M. and Others (41416/08)
Judgment final on 26/10/2011

Standard supervision

	Status of execution
important risk of death or ill-treatment in the destination country, which may be prolonged by decision of the domestic courts; provisions on swift judicial review of detention pending expulsion).	
Protection of private and family life	
Correspondence and secret surveillance: insufficient guarantees against the arbitrary use of the powers assigned by the law on special surveillance means; absence of an effective remedy.	***Ekimdzhiev and Others*** (70078/12) (former ***Association for European Integration and Human Rights and Ekimdzhiev* group**) Judgment final on 11/04/2022 Enhanced supervision **Status of execution**
Eviction or demolition of unlawfully constructed dwellings: planned enforcement of a removal order against occupants of Roma origin of an unlawful settlement in Sofia where many of them had lived for decades with the authorities' acquiescence or planned demolition concerning the home of other applicants, based on legislation not requiring any examination of proportionality for removals or demolitions.	***Yordanova and Others*** (25446/06) Judgment final on 24/09/2012 ***Ivanova and Cherkezov*** (46577/15) Judgment final on 21/07/2016 Enhanced supervision **Status of execution**
Failure of the authorities to provide the applicants, Bulgarian nationals of Roma ethnic origin, with the requisite protection of their private and family life and their home in connection with demonstrations by the local population against Roma inhabitants of the village.	***Paketova and Others*** (17808/19) Judgment final on 04/01/2023 Enhanced supervision **Status of execution**
Prolonged placement in a closed boarding school, without an assessment of the best interests of the child or measures to facilitate family reunification and lack of periodic judicial review of placement in closed boarding school.	***I.G.D.*** (70139/14) Judgment final on 07/09/2022 Enhanced supervision **Status of execution**
Unjustified refusals of the domestic courts to grant the requests of transgender applicants for **recognition of gender reassignment.**	***P.H.*** (46509/20) Judgment final on 27/09/2022 Enhanced supervision **Status of execution**
Lack of a specific legal framework providing for the recognition and protection of the applicants' **union as persons of the same sex**	***Koilova and Babulkova*** (40209/20) Judgment final on 05/12/2023 Enhanced supervision **Status of execution**
Failure to effectively investigate death threats and discriminatory hate speech directed in 2015 at three human rights activists on Facebook due to their work with migrants, violating their rights to private life and non-discrimination	***Ilareva and Others*** (24729/17) Judgment final on 12/12/2025 Enhanced supervision **Status of execution**
Lack of safeguards in the legal framework permitting the infiltration of "agents on cover" into private organisations or "liberal professions"	***Green Alliance*** (6580/22) Judgment final on 17/05/2026 Enhanced supervision **Status of execution**

Freedom of religion

Unjustified refusals to register the applicant organisations on the ground that these religious organisations had the same beliefs or practices as the Bulgarian Orthodox Church, or the names chosen by the applicant churches were similar to the name of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church.

***Bulgarian Orthodox Old Calendar Church and Others* group** (56751/13)
Judgment final on 20/04/2021

Enhanced supervision
Status of execution

Freedom of assembly and association

Unjustified refusals by the courts to register associations aiming to achieve the recognition of "the Macedonian minority in Bulgaria", based on considerations of national security, protection of public order and the rights of others (alleged separatist ideas) and on the constitutional prohibition on associations pursuing political goals, as well as failure to meet formal legal requirements.

***The United Macedonian Organisation Ilinden and Others* group** (59491/00+ and 34960/04+)
Judgment final on 19/04/2006

Enhanced supervision
Status of execution

Protection of property

Absence of any procedural safeguards against arbitrariness surrounding the revocation of a bank's licence in 2005 and in 2014: impossibility to challenge the withdrawal of the licence and the decisions of prosecuting authorities, affecting the bank's management, as well as the freezing of accounts of two private individuals.

Unfair insolvency proceedings on account of the lack of proper representation of the applicant's bank and of the failure by the domestic court to examine the merits of the findings of the Bulgarian National Bank regarding the applicant bank's insolvency.

Significant progress: The legal framework was amended in the context of Bulgaria's accession to the Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM) and the adoption by the European Central Bank (ECB) of Decision (EU) 2020/1015 establishing close cooperation between ECB and the Bulgarian National Bank. As a result, in the future the examination of any appeal against a withdrawal of a banking licence will take place before the Court of Justice of the European Union whose case law ensures Convention-compliant examination, in particular concerning the proper representation of a bank for the sake of challenging the revocation of a bank's licence.

***International Bank for commerce and development AD and Others* group** (7031/05)
Judgment final on 17/10/2016

Enhanced supervision
Status of execution

Different violations related to restitution of or compensation for property (agricultural or forestry land) nationalized during the Communist regime.

Mutishev and Others (18967/03)
Judgment final on 03/03/2010

Enhanced supervision
Status of execution

Lyubomir Popov (69855/01)
Judgment final on 07/04/2010

Enhanced supervision
Status of execution

Sivova and Koleva (30383/03)
Judgment final on 04/06/2012

Enhanced supervision
Status of execution

	Tomov and Nikolova (50506/09) Judgment final on 21/10/2016 Enhanced supervision **Status of execution**
Electoral rights	
Automatic and indiscriminate ban on prisoners' voting rights enshrined in a constitutional provision.	***Kulinski and Sabev*** (63849/09) Judgment final on 21/10/2016 Enhanced supervision **Status of execution**
Automatic and indiscriminate ban on voting rights of persons under partial guardianship enshrined in a constitutional provision.	***Anatoliy Marinov*** (26081/17) Judgment final on 15/05/2022 Enhanced supervision **Status of execution**
Freedom of expression	
Disciplinary proceedings against a judge and disciplinary sanctions imposed on her by the Supreme Judicial Council (SJC) in retaliation against her criticism of the SJC and the executive, and an interference in the exercise of her right to freedom of expression not "necessary in a democratic society".	***Miroslava Todorova*** (40072/13) Judgment final on 19/01/2022 Enhanced supervision **Status of execution**



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