

Since its accession to the Council of Europe, Armenia has taken active steps to fulfil its membership obligations. It has ratified all required Conventions, bringing the total to 71 signed and ratified Conventions and 12 Partial Agreements, a figure that continues to evolve. Armenia's Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers from May to November 2013 provided an important opportunity to advance the Council of Europe's role, strengthen the Convention system, and support the execution of the Court judgments.

COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONVENTIONS AND CHARTERS

Human Rights



2001

Signing the European Convention on Human Rights and in 2002 subsequently ratifying it

Armenians receive the right to appeal to the European Court of Human Rights.

2003

Abolition of the death penalty

2023

Abolition of the death penalty in all circumstances

Armenia recognises complete abolition of death penalty as essential for guaranteeing the right to life.



2001

Accession to the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture

Armenians are protected against torture, inhuman or degrading treatment.



2001

Accession to the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities

2002

Accession to the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages

Stronger guarantees for cultural identity, protection of minority rights, and support for the preservation and use of regional and minority languages.



Democratic governance 2002

Accession to the European Charter of Local Self-Government

Armenian citizens are guaranteed the right to participate in local authority affairs.



Social rights 2004

Accession to the Revised European Social Charter accepting its 67 out of 98 paragraphs

Citizens benefit from strengthened social and economic rights, improved labour protections, social welfare guarantees, and safeguards for vulnerable groups.



Education 2005

Accession to the Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region

Citizens benefit from fair and transparent recognition of Armenian higher education diplomas in Europe, expanding opportunities for study, work, and mobility abroad.



Trafficking 2008

Accession to the Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings and subsequently in 2018 signed the Council of Europe Convention against Trafficking in Human Organs

Citizens benefit from enhanced safeguards against exploitation and trafficking.



Anti-corruption and counterterrorism 2005 – 2006

Accession to the Civil Law Convention on Corruption and Criminal Law Convention on Corruption

2008

Accession to the Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure, and Confiscation of Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism

Armenian officials are accountable, stolen money is recovered, corruption is punishable, and citizens benefit from legal tools to defend their rights.

2016

Accession to the Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism

Counter-terrorism measures remain lawful and proportionate safeguarding the citizens.



Enhancing the protection of personal data

2012

Accession to the Convention for the Protection of Individuals with regard to Automatic Processing of Personal Data

Armenian citizens benefit through stronger protection of their personal data, privacy rights, and safeguards against misuse of automated information processing.



Equality and human dignity

2018

Signing the Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence

2020

Accession to the Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Lanzarote Convention)

Armenian citizens benefit from better protection of children and women through improved accountability systems.



Human rights in the field of biomedicine

2016

Accession to the Convention on Counterfeiting of Medical Products and Similar Crimes

2025

Accession to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Dignity of the Human Being with regard to the Application of Biology and Medicine, known as Oviedo Convention.

Citizens benefit through safer medical products, protection from medical fraud, and safeguards for human rights and dignity in biology and medicine, as well as legal and policy frameworks aligned with European standards.



MAJOR REFORMS AND LEGISLATION SUPPORTED BY THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE



2004

Establishment of the Human Rights Defender's institution

Armenian citizens benefit from a more accessible human rights protection, especially for vulnerable groups.



2008

Establishment of the National Preventive Mechanism within the Human Rights Defender's institution

Armenia's law-enforcement and penitentiary systems are more transparent and accountable.



2016

Adoption of the Law on Probation and in 2023 - Law on Probation Service

Armenians benefit from a more humane, rehabilitative, and community-oriented justice system.



2005 – 2015

Major Constitutional reforms

Armenian citizens benefit from important legislative amendments to electoral, judicial, and other sectoral codes and laws.



2015 – 2025

Territorial and Administrative Reform in Armenia (TARA)

975 communities consolidated to 70, Armenian citizens benefit through greater participation in local governance, more efficient and accountable public services, and stronger local self-government.



2021

Adoption of the new Criminal and Criminal Procedure Codes and in 2022- amendments to the Criminal Code

Armenian citizens benefit from a justice system that punishes less, rehabilitates more, protects rights better.





2024

Adoption of the amendment to the Law on Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence and Protection of the Victims of Family and Domestic Violence

Armenian citizens benefit from stronger protection against gender-based and domestic violence, support for victims, and promotion of equality and prevention.



2024

Adoption of the Law on Public Health

Armenian public health system is aligned with the European standards providing better access to citizens.



2024

Adoption of the Law on Police Guard

Citizens benefit from stronger and faster protection during peaceful assemblies and emergencies through clearer rules, accountability, and limits on police use of force.



2024

National response to the 2023 refugee influx through the Council of Europe supported Refugee Response Package

Refugees benefit through enhanced migration governance, asylum procedures, and human rights protections.



2023

Transfer of the Penitentiary Medicine Centre from the Ministry of Justice to the Ministry of Health

Comprehensive, high-quality healthcare services in the penitentiary and professional independence of medical personnel are guaranteed.

2024

Telemedicine connecting prison medical units with civilian hospitals

Accountability and ill-treatment prevention is strengthened through new reporting mechanisms.



2024

Adoption of the Law on
Enforcement Proceedings

Citizens benefit from the correct implementation of the new laws contributing to the execution of the European Court of Human Rights judgments against Armenia under Articles 6, 11 and 13 of the European Convention on Human Rights.



2025

Adoption of the 2025-2028 Gender
Policy Implementation Strategy

Protection against gender-based violence, women's participation in leadership and decision-making are strengthened, contributing to more inclusive, democratic society.





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