

The future of social rights litigation: Leveraging supranational jurisprudence for national implementation

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In the evolving landscape of human rights protection in Europe, enforcing social rights effectively depends on strengthening the interface between supranational jurisprudence and national implementation. Drawing on direct professional experience with the European Court of Human Rights and the Supreme Court of Albania, this contribution explores the alignment of domestic judicial practice with the standards of the European Social Charter and Strasbourg jurisprudence.

It identifies persistent gaps in legal interpretation, procedural approaches, and structural capacity at the national level and suggests mechanisms to bridge these through comparative reasoning, training, and judicial networking. Special emphasis is placed on the role of high courts and judicial networks such as the Superior Courts Network in facilitating convergence of standards.

The contribution also proposes actionable tools, including jurisprudential digests, model interpretative guidelines, and enhanced collaboration with Charter monitoring bodies. These would empower national courts to become not only implementers but active co-creators of a coherent European framework for the protection of social rights.

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