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Table of content

I. MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS 4

Risk of ill-treatment in case of extradition 5

Functioning of justice 5

Fairness of criminal proceedings 5

Freedom of religion and conscience 5

II. MAIN ISSUES PENDING BEFORE THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS 6

Fairness of proceedings 7



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 thea verification of the compatibility of draft laws, existing laws and administrative practice with standards laid down in the European Convention on Human Rights.

Risk of ill-treatment in case of extradition

Following the European Court's judgment finding that domestic law concerning extradition and detention was not sufficiently accessible, precise and foreseeable, a law was adopted in 2014 entitled "Rules on Extradition" which introduced comprehensive procedural and substantive safeguards concerning the review of extradition requests and detention.

Toniolo (44853/10)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2014)283

Functioning of justice

- Fairness of criminal proceedings

In 2003, as the combination of the functions of investigating and trial judge by the *Commissario della Legge* raised issues of impartiality, it was decided to separate them. Furthermore, the new Code of Criminal Procedure of 2003 also provided for the right of defendants to be heard in person by the judge at a public hearing in appeal proceedings.

Tierce and Others (24954/94)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2004)3

- Remedies against excessive length of proceedings

In 2005, a legislative reform introduced a number of organisational changes and procedural amendments, such as time limits for the handling of cases by civil courts and procedural sanctions in cases of inactivity on the part of the parties.

Tierce (69700/01)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2011)261

A legislative reform adopted in 2025 established a compensatory remedy for the excessive length of judicial proceedings, set specific time limits for each instance of civil, criminal, and administrative proceedings and introduced the possibility to request the acceleration of these proceedings.

Gherardi Martiri (35511/20)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2026)24

Fairness of criminal proceedings

In 2022, a legislative reform strengthened procedural safeguards concerning the hearing of witnesses, including co-accused persons.

Oddone and Pecci (26581/17)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2025)451

Freedom of religion and conscience

In 1993, a law introduced a choice for newly elected members of the General Grand Council (parliament) between taking the traditional oath and one in which the reference to the Gospels was replaced by the words "on my honour".

Buscarini (24645/94)
Final Resolution CM/ResDH(2001)13



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.

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Fairness of proceedings

Retroactive application of new legislation to pending proceedings in the State's favour.

Zafferani and Others
(38127/22)
Judgment final on 09/04/2025

Standard supervision
Status of execution



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The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 46 member states, including all members of the European Union. The Committee of Ministers is the Council of Europe's decision-making body, composed by the foreign ministers of all 46 member states. It is a forum where national approaches to European problems and challenges are discussed, in order to find collective responses. The Committee of Ministers participates in the implementation of the European Convention on Human Rights through the supervision of the execution of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights.

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