



SEMINAR

Rule 39 Interim Measures of the European Court of Human Rights for Persons in need of International Protection

Launch of the UNHCR Rule 39 Toolkit

5 November 2025

Council of Europe, Agora building, Room 3, Strasbourg & online

PROGRAMME

9:00 – 9:30	<i>Arrival and registration</i>
9:30 - 10:00	Welcome remarks <i>Klaudiusz Rynגיעlewicz, Registrar of the Filtering Section, European Court of Human Rights</i> <i>Nikos Sitaropoulos, Head of the Council of Europe Division on Migration and Refugees</i> <i>Philippe Leclerc, UNHCR Regional Director for Europe, Geneva</i>
10:00 – 10:20	Session I: UNDERSTANDING RULE 39 INTERIM MEASURES <i>Moderator: Karolina Kirinčić Andrić, Legal Advisor, Council of Europe Division on Migration and Refugees</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Purpose and scope of Rule 39 interim measures <i>Introduction to interim measures under Rule 39, overview, principles, legal consequences and context</i> <i>Speaker: Mehves Bingollu, Head of the Rule 39 Unit, Registry of the European Court of Human Rights</i>
10:20 – 10:30	Q&A session

This seminar is organised jointly by the Council of Europe Division on Migration and Refugees and UNHCR Strasbourg with the support of the European Court of Human Rights

10:30-10:50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection against refoulement and access to rights in border procedures <i>Key principles from ECtHR case law and recent developments</i> <p><i>Speaker: Vasily Lukashevich, Senior Lawyer, Registry of the European Court of Human Rights</i></p>
10:50 – 11:00	Q&A session
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break
11:30-12:15	<p>Session II: NAVIGATING UNHCR RULE 39 TOOLKIT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of the Toolkit <i>Structure, purpose, and how it supports practitioners</i> UNHCR’s perspective • Rule 39 Requests: Best practices, procedural insights, <i>Practical guidance and common pitfalls in lodging requests</i> • Substantiation and credibility in Rule 39 requests <i>What evidence is required? How to build a credible and persuasive application?</i> <p><i>Speakers:</i> <i>Delphine Leneutre, Legal Associate, UNHCR Strasbourg; Daria Sartori, Lawyer, Project Partner and Supervisor of the Rule 39 Initiative (Pro lura)</i> <i>(Experts contributing to the drafting of the 2nd edition of the Toolkit)</i></p>
12:15 – 12:30	Q&A session
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00-14:20	<p>Session III: AN INTERIM MEASURE REQUEST – IN PRACTICE <i>Moderator: Delphine Leneutre, Legal Associate, UNHCR Strasbourg</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main challenges faced by applicants <i>Case examples and lessons learned from practice</i> <p><i>Speaker: Sofia Bonatti, Senior Legal Officer, European Council of Refugees and Exiles (ECRE)</i></p>

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14:20 – 14:30	Q&A session
14:30 – 14:50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What alternatives? Preventing deportations through Interim Measures of UN treaty bodies <p><i>Speaker: H�el�ene Tigroudja, Law Professor and Director of the Law School’s Master Program of International Law at Aix-Marseille University and Vice-President of the United Nations Human Rights Committee</i></p>
14:50 – 15:00	Q&A session
15:00 – 15:30	Coffee break
15:30 – 16:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practical exercise <p><i>Speaker and facilitator: Magdalena Bach-Fletcher, Senior Lawyer, Registry of the European Court of Human Rights</i></p>
16:30 – 16:45	<p>WRAP UP AND CLOSING</p> <p><i>Nikos Sitaropoulos, Head of the Council of Europe Division on Migration and Refugees</i> <i>Jutta Seidel, Officer in charge, UNHCR Strasbourg</i></p>

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