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Implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights

Reply to Recommendation[1]: Recommendation 2295 (2025)
Committee of Ministers

1. The Committee of Ministers has carefully examined Parliamentary Assembly Recommendation 2295 (2025) "Implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights". It recalls the fundamental importance of the execution of the Court's judgments and the effective supervision of that process to ensure the long-term sustainability, integrity and credibility of the Convention system. Based on the statistics published in the 2025 Annual Report of the Committee of Ministers on the supervision of the execution of the judgments of the Court, 87% of all cases (78% of leading cases) delivered by the Court in respect of the 46 member States have been fully executed, and 80% including the Russian Federation. On 31 December 2025, there were 3 889 cases pending before the Committee, including 1 162 leading cases requiring the adoption of new measures.

2. The Committee confirms that the implementation of sections of the 2023 Reykjavík Declaration relating to the execution of the Court's judgments remains a priority. Guided by Appendix IV to the Declaration, the Committee has taken steps to enhance the tools at its disposal in the supervision of the execution of the Court's judgments and has instructed its Rapporteur Group on Human Rights to continue the work in this regard and present further proposals as appropriate (see decision CM/Del/Dec(2024)1488/4.4). In its report on the follow-up to the Reykjavík Declaration, adopted at the Ministerial Session in Luxembourg in May 2025, the Committee acknowledged the consistent efforts made, while at the same time noting that there was still room for improvement in the execution of the Court's judgments by member States (see document CM(2025)50-final). In a decision adopted at the Ministerial Session in Chişinău in May 2026, the Committee has recalled the need to continue improving the effectiveness of the supervision mechanism (see decision CM/Del/Dec(2026)135/3c).

3. The Committee continues its efforts to implement Appendix IV to the Reykjavík Declaration, including to develop a more co-operative, inclusive and political approach based on dialogue to assist States in the execution of the Court's judgments. At the same time, it reaffirms the unconditional obligation of member States to abide by the final judgments of the Court in any case to which they are Parties.

4. The Committee recalls that the adoption of the Reykjavík Declaration has translated into an increased funding for the Department for the Execution of Judgments (DEJ) in the 2024-2027 budget. In addition to that, the Programme and Budget 2024-2027 (Ordinary Budget) is also financing for the first time co-operation projects through action plans for certain countries. The reinforcement of synergies between the DEJ and Council of Europe co-operation programmes benefits, among others, the work on the resolution of structural or complex problems revealed by the judgments of the Court. Following these measures and the DEJ's intensified efforts in assisting member States, the number of cases closed by the Committee in 2025 rose by 6.2% compared with 2024. Importantly, the number of closed leading cases increased by 20% (from 161 in 2024 to 194 in 2025). Nevertheless, the number of leading cases revealing structural or systemic problems, which raise issues of significant complexity in the execution process, continued to rise as in previous years.

1. Adopted at the 1573rd meeting of the Ministers' Deputies (21 October 2026).

5. In line with the Reykjavík Declaration's call for strengthening of political dialogue, there was a significant increase in the number of high-level representatives of member States participating in the Committee's Human Rights meetings in 2025 and 2026. The Committee ensures high-level engagement in discussions on the execution of the Court's judgments through letters of its President addressed to the authorities of the respondent States and decisions calling the authorities to engage in consultations with the Secretariat with a view to full execution. In line with its mandate on supervision of execution of judgments provided in the European Convention on Human Rights, the Committee remains committed to pursuing political and technical dialogue with member States.

6. The Committee welcomes the establishment of the Network of Parliamentarians to Promote the Implementation of Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights as a means of strengthening the Parliamentary Assembly dialogue with their respective national interlocutors in this regard. It also recalls the important role of national parliaments in supporting the full and effective execution of the Court's judgments, including through legislative action and parliamentary oversight.