



EHRAC

2024

ANNUAL REPORT

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INTRODUCTION

For over 20 years, EHRAC has worked with partners across the post-Soviet states to challenge systemic issues that limit human rights. If left unaddressed, human rights violations multiply and can act as a contagion, enabling bad actors in neighbouring states.

In 2024, the need for our work was greater and more urgent than ever.

We have maintained our support for Ukrainian colleagues, and worked on holding the Russian authorities to account on issues such as prosecutions for ‘discrediting the army’, forced displacement, and the forced deportation of children. We are also using our significant experience on enforced disappearances to work with Ukrainian partners on litigating cases arising out of the invasion.

The renewed crackdown in Azerbaijan, and the detention and subsequent ill treatment of many dissenting voices, led us to demand urgent action to protect the health of two high-profile critics of the government, Anar Mammadli and Gubad Ibadoghlu.

2024 brought renewed concern over police brutality in Georgia, and the resulting ‘chilling effect’ on peaceful protests. We co-litigated, with the Georgian Young Lawyers Association (GYLA), a case on behalf of 26 applicants injured during a 2019 protest. The applicants hope the final judgment in this case will set clear guidelines for the use of so-called ‘less-lethal weapons’, including rubber bullets.

The Georgian Dream regime also introduced new repressive legislation designed to undermine accountability and free expression. Our experience of challenging the Russian Foreign Agents Law was of vital importance as we co-litigated the new laws, again with GYLA.

Human rights litigation is a lengthy process, and we try, at all stages, to highlight the issues, engage with state parties, and advocate for positive change. In 2024, we won six judgments. In *FM and Others v Russia*, the ECtHR found that the trafficking and ill-treatment of five women by the owners of a chain of Moscow convenience stores was rooted in discriminatory attitudes. In *Bratsylo and others v Russia*, the UN Human Rights Committee (HRC) found that the imposition of Russian law on Crimea was unlawful and its forced naturalisation programme was discriminatory on grounds of nationality. Judgments like these set legal precedents and provide a platform for further advocacy work.

We would like to thank our incredible partners, our funders and supporters, and the amazing EHRAC team for their resilience in these challenging times.

Jess Gavron and Laure Trebosc
Co-Directors

We are experts in
international human rights law
and international mechanisms.

We work with lawyers and civil society organisations in
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia
and Ukraine
to challenge
systemic issues
that result in
human rights violations
and respond to
urgent threats

Our work focuses on three intersecting themes:
Civic Space and Democratic Accountability
Discrimination
Conflict and Security Force Abuses

EHRAC partners with human rights defenders and lawyers working in our region.
Most work within civil society organisations, others independently.

OUR CIVIL SOCIETY PARTNERS

Armenia

PINK Armenia

Azerbaijan

Individual lawyers from Azerbaijan*

Georgia

Names redacted**

Ukraine

JurFem

Regional Press Development Institute

Ukrainian Helsinki Human Rights Union

Ukrainian Legal Advisory Group

Across our region

European Centre for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR), Germany

European Implementation Network, France

Redress, UK

Women's Link Worldwide, Spain

Our partners possess a wealth of knowledge. They operate in extremely challenging conditions.

Through joint litigation, advocacy and the exchange of expertise,
we support them to maintain momentum on vital issues.

Together we are building a more resilient human rights community,
while improving human rights standards and preventing future abuses.

*It is now extremely difficult for human rights organisations to operate in Azerbaijan.

**The de facto government in Georgia has passed
repressive legislation that targets civil society organisations.

For this reason, we have decided not to name the Georgian organisations that EHRAC works with.

Our work in
2024

SUBMISSIONS

In 2024, we made:

48 legal submissions

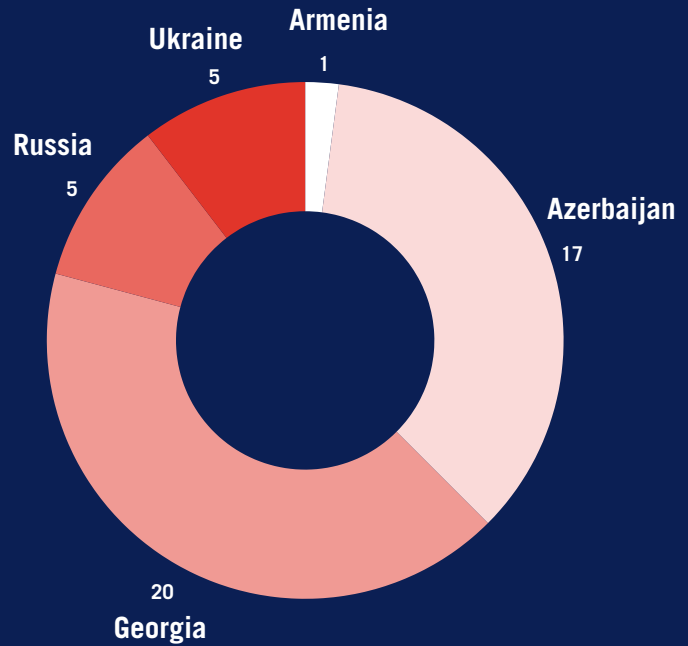
On behalf of over

270 applicants

We filed:

20 implementation submissions and continued to press for the full implementation of our judgments at the Committee of Ministers and through our advocacy work.

Submissions by country:





Demonstrators gather in front of the Georgian Parliament building to demand new elections and the release of those arrested during the protests.

CIVIC SPACE AND DEMOCRATIC ACCOUNTABILITY

Democratic societies flourish when citizens are able to participate in decision-making and hold their government accountable. Across our region, repressive regimes are limiting these opportunities.

In 2024, the authoritarian regime in Azerbaijan intensified its crackdown on dissent. Human rights defenders and journalists continue to be targeted with arrests, arbitrary detentions and prosecution on trumped-up charges.

In Georgia, the de facto government passed legislation designed to undermine civil society and silence independent media. Protests were met with police brutality, and peaceful protestors charged with spurious offences carrying disproportionate fines.

This undermining of fundamental rights and freedoms has delivered a significant 'chilling effect'. The failure of governments to effectively investigate serious human rights violations and to punish those responsible has contributed to a climate of impunity, and a situation where the use of violence and excessive force is accepted practice within law enforcement.

In 2024, we supported our partners through co-litigation, skill sharing and by providing solidarity. Together, we challenged:

- Azerbaijan's use of Pegasus spyware to monitor human rights defenders, and its use of arbitrary detention, including ill treatment, to intimidate critical voices
- The Georgian Government's repressive legislation
- Ukraine's failure to investigate two violent attacks by state operatives on an investigative reporter

CIVIC SPACE AND DEMOCRATIC ACCOUNTABILITY

EHRAC asks Court to demand Azerbaijan takes urgent action to protect detained human rights defenders

In 2024, we saw a renewed crackdown on human rights defenders (HRDs) and opposition figures in Azerbaijan.

On 29 April, Anar Mammadli, a prominent Azerbaijani HRD, Chair of the Election Monitoring and Democracy Studies Center (EMDS), and co-founder of the Climate of Justice Initiative, was forced into a car and taken to Baku City Police Department, where he was held and charged with smuggling. His home, his car, and his parents' home were then searched. In May, Mammadli was additionally charged with money laundering, the same charge facing many other activists and journalists detained in Azerbaijan as part of the current crackdown.

In September 2024, we represented Anar before the ECtHR, challenging his current arrest and pre-trial detention, and the various searches of his property. We argued violations of Mammadli's right to liberty and right to private life. We believe the timing of Anar's arrest - which followed EMDS' criticism of elections in February 2024, and prevented him from using Azerbaijan's hosting of COP29 to highlight human rights violations – confirms his detention was politically-motivated.

We have also been working to protect the health of the economist Gubad Ibadoghlu, another high-profile critic of the Azerbaijani Government.



In August 2023, the ECtHR granted our urgent Rule 39 request submitted with our partner lawyer Zibeyde Sadigova, requiring the authorities to address Gubad's health issues, which have been exacerbated by his conditions of detention. In April, he was transferred from prison to house arrest. We have continued to challenge the conditions of Gubad's detention. In December, we replied to government observations in this case. We maintained that Gubad was subject to degrading treatment and denied an effective domestic remedy.

In September, EHRAC co-signed a letter to the incoming Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Alain Berset, highlighting Azerbaijan's use of detention to suppress critical voices, an issue relevant to both cases.

DISCRIMINATION

Systemic discrimination against marginalised groups, including women and LGBTI people, is a significant challenge across the region in which EHRAC works. Human rights defenders supporting women and girls and LGBTI people continue to be targeted by States as they seek to increase pressure on civil society.

With our partners, we support marginalised communities to address discriminatory legal frameworks and practices.

In 2024, we challenged the systemic discrimination underpinning two cases concerning violence against women and girls:

- The Georgian authorities' failure to investigate the rape of a minor
- The Azerbaijani authorities' failure to protect a woman from a sustained campaign of domestic violence, including harassment of the applicant's mother, and the attempted femicide of both women.



We also intervened in two further cases before the ECtHR concerning systemic discrimination in Georgia:

- We submitted a joint Third Party Intervention (TPI) with Equality Now detailing the problems with how crimes of sexual violence are defined in Georgian law, and the challenges in enforcing these laws. In our TPI, we also reiterated the need for the Court to recognise gender discrimination as an inherent element of sexual violence against women and girls.
- We submitted a joint TPI with WISG and ILGA-Europe regarding Georgia's repeated failure to meet its obligation to investigate discrimination as a possible motive in cases involving violence against LGBTI people. This TPI looked at discrimination in the context of international standards on gender-based violence.

We also continued to co-litigate, with Union Sapari, a case before the ECtHR concerning physical and psychological abuse at two church-run orphanages in Georgia. While this case does not focus on discrimination, it does provide an important opportunity to amplify the voices of survivors, to create an official record of their abuse, to recognise its impact, and to ensure Georgia meets its obligations to children in these settings, through the further reform and regulation of these institutions.

DISCRIMINATION

Authorities' failure to challenge husband's 10+ year campaign of domestic violence leads to attempted femicide of ex-wife and her mother

Throughout their ten-year marriage and in the years following their divorce, the primary applicant in this case, RB, was subjected to physical and emotional abuse by her husband, FA. He also harassed RB's two children and her mother.

RB complained repeatedly to the police, but despite officials witnessing harassment, violence and/or threats to kill on at least two occasions, they failed to take any meaningful steps to protect her.

In August 2019, FA attempted to kill RB and her mother outside the District Court, where they were attending a hearing on FA's visitation rights in respect of the couple's two children. The subsequent criminal proceedings against FA were suspended twice as a result of psychiatric assessments. The first assessment found no evidence of mental illness. The applicants have questioned the approach to subsequent examinations. Despite this, in October 2022, FA was moved to a psychiatric hospital.

Our case to the Court argues that Azerbaijan violated its obligations to protect the applicants' right to life and right to be free from inhuman treatment and that this was due to systemic, gender-based discrimination.

FA has continued to harass RB, by telephone,

throughout his pre-trial detention. In October 2023, the ECtHR granted our urgent request for interim measures, ordering Azerbaijan to take steps to protect RB from the sudden release of her ex-husband.

'The Court's decision to grant interim measures provides some reassurance, but the authorities' intransigence in this case confirms our serious and ongoing concerns regarding the failure to protect victims of domestic violence in Azerbaijan, and the need to address the systemic, gender-based discrimination which underpins it.

'With our partners, we will continue to monitor Azerbaijan's compliance with the Court's order, and to demand progress on the wider issues highlighted by this case.'

Jessica Gavron, Co-Director, EHRAC

This is the first Gender Based Violence (GBV) case EHRAC has litigated with Azerbaijani partners, and, to our knowledge, the first domestic violence case against Azerbaijan to be submitted to the ECtHR or any international mechanism.

DISCRIMINATION

Addressing homophobic hate crimes in Armenia through advocacy and implementation

In Armenia, there is a high incidence of hate crimes and discriminatory attitudes against LGBTI people. In 2012, Yerevan's D.I.Y. Club – a meeting point for Armenia's LGBTI community - was forced to close after being firebombed by a neo-Nazi mob. The club's owner, Armine Oganezova, became the target of a homophobic hate campaign, designed to force her to leave the country.



In 2022, the ECtHR found that the Armenian authorities failed to protect Oganezova from homophobic attacks and abuse, and highlighted the need for legislative reform to protect the country's LGBTI community. This was the first LGBTI hate judgment against Armenia, and the Committee of Ministers (CM) review provided a rare opportunity to raise these issues with the Armenian authorities.

In our submission to the December 2024 meeting of the CM we noted:

- that in the two and a half years since the ECtHR judgment there has been no progress in the domestic investigation
- the need for clear data on hate crimes, to provide transparency regarding the belief that there is a systemic failure to investigate homophobic hate crimes in Armenia, which has led to low reporting rates

The CM called on Armenia 'to take all the required measures to speed up the investigation to ensure evidence is not lost and those responsible are held accountable.' It also recommended that Armenia establish a system of disaggregated data collection on hate crime and show how provisions on hate crimes against LGBTI people are being applied. This data would allow the CM and civil society groups to properly assess progress.

Armenia's new 'Law on Ensuring Equality' is behind schedule. We have argued that this law must explicitly include sexual orientation and gender identity as protected grounds. It fails to do so in its current form. The CM asked Armenia 'to give a higher priority to LGBTI protection in this draft law.'



Children cross a destroyed bridge near Balakliya, Ukraine.

CONFLICT AND SECURITY FORCE ABUSES

Conflict-related abuses, enforced disappearances, arbitrary arrests and detentions, torture and ill-treatment, extrajudicial killings: these serious human rights violations fundamentally undermine the basic protections that national authorities are required to provide. Too often, they are used as tactics to suppress government critics and already-marginalised groups.

In 2024, our work included:

- seeking justice for Ukrainian victims of conflict-related sexual violence perpetrated by Russian forces in March 2022, following the full-scale invasion
- advocating on behalf of the many families who have seen loved ones disappeared by the Russian forces, or by those working for the Russian state, since 1996

Animated film focuses on experiences of families of the disappeared

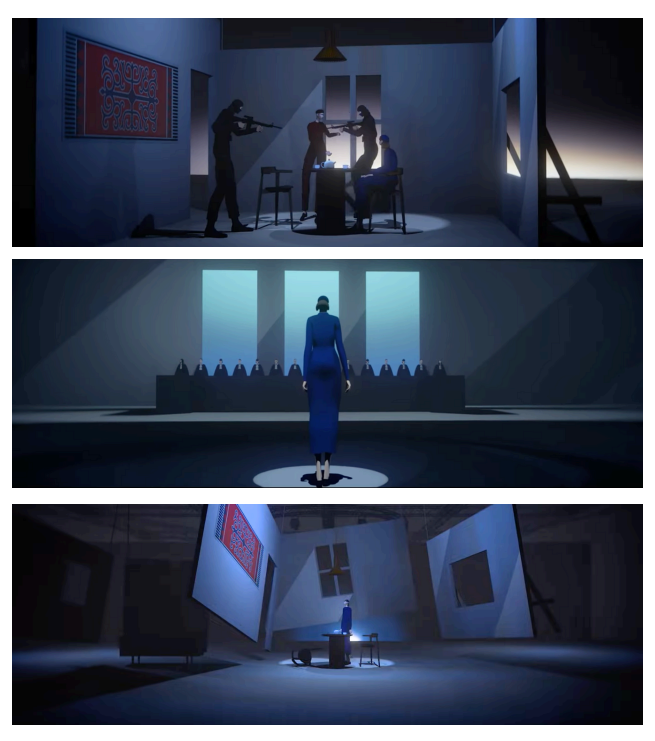
On 30 August, to mark the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances, we released a new animated film.

'In Limbo' seeks to capture the complex, ongoing suffering of the relatives of the disappeared and the courage they display in their often never-ending search for the truth.

The film seeks to challenge the presumption that enforced disappearances are something that happens only in far-flung places. Enforced disappearance has long been practiced in Europe, and its use is on the rise – evidence exists that it is being used widely by Russian forces in Ukraine.

In the first three months after its release, 'In Limbo' was viewed over 4,000 times on EHRAC's social media channels. The film has been endorsed by the Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances and has been shared by lawyers, academic experts and activists around the world. It was screened as part of the opening ceremony of the World Congress on Enforced Disappearances in January 2025.

Click here to watch ['In Limbo'](#), on YouTube.



JUDGMENTS

Achieving a judgment requires years of collaborative work with our partners. In 2024 we won:

6 positive judgments

Five of these positive judgment came at the ECtHR, with our applicants awarded

262,500 euros in compensation

These five positive judgments at the ECtHR included:

- In the landmark case of *F.M. and Others v Russia*, concerning five women from Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan who were trafficked to Moscow by the owners of a chain of convenience stores, the ECtHR found discriminatory trafficking and forced labour of women for the first time.
- In *Babayeva v Azerbaijan*, concerning the beating, by guards, of an inmate in an Azerbaijani prison and his subsequent death in custody, it found violations of the prohibition of ill-treatment and torture and the right to life.
- In *Taganova and Others v Georgia and Russia*, a number of families who were forced from their properties in the early 1990s as a result of the conflict in Abkhazia were found to have suffered violations of their right to property and family life.

We also won a landmark decision at the UN Human Rights Committee, in a case challenging Russia's forced naturalisation programme in Crimea.

JUDGMENTS AND DECISIONS

UN Human Rights Committee finds Russia's forced naturalisation programme in Crimea violated Ukrainian citizens' rights, imposition of Russian law illegal

In May, the UN Human Rights Committee (HRC) delivered a landmark decision regarding Russia's use of forced naturalisation in Crimea.

In March 2014, the Russian Federation formally annexed the Crimean peninsula, imposing Russian law. The three Ukrainian complainants in this case were in detention at the time. Two saw their convictions 'reclassified' under Russian criminal law. The third detainee's charge was swapped to an 'analogous' Russian charge. All three had Russian citizenship imposed on them, with no option to refuse. They were subsequently transferred from Crimea to Russia, where they were held despite requests to be transferred back to Ukraine.

The HRC found that the imposition of Russian law in Crimea and its retroactive application was unlawful, and resulted in the arbitrary detention of the three complainants; and that the Russian Federation's forced naturalisation program and the complainants' subsequent transfer to Russia violated their civil and political rights. In a novel decision these violations were held to be discriminatory on the basis, respectively, of nationality and 'protected status' under Geneva Convention IV.

The HRC's decision is the first from an international human rights body to address

individual claims of human rights violations resulting from Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea. It is:

- the first time the HRC has interpreted and applied the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) with reference to international humanitarian law
- the first time it has found that the ICCPR protects against the forced imposition of foreign citizenship
- the first international decision finding forced naturalisation discriminatory on grounds of national origin
- the first time an international human rights tribunal has found discrimination on the grounds of 'protected persons' status under Geneva Convention IV

The HRC's decision has implications for forced naturalisation programmes in other occupied territories.

'This decision is utterly ground-breaking in its recognition of the abusiveness of the strategy of forced naturalisation not only as a violation of the Convention, but constituting racial discrimination on the basis of national origin. No other international body has made such a far-reaching finding with respect to the regime in Crimea.'

Sergiy Zayets, Ukrainian human rights lawyer

JUDGMENTS AND DECISIONS

Landmark judgment finds trafficking and treatment of women rooted in discrimination

In December, the ECtHR delivered its judgment in *FM and others v Russia*, a case concerning five women from Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan who were trafficked to Russia by the owners of a Moscow-based chain of convenience stores. The women were held in appalling conditions and subjected to gender-based crimes.

EHRAC and Russian partner lawyers represented four of the five applicants. We argued the applicants were targeted due to their gender, ethnicity, migrant status and social position. To support this we commissioned an expert report from Women's Link Worldwide, evidencing the gendered nature of trafficking as a form of violence and discrimination against women.

This case is the first time the ECtHR has considered trafficking from a gendered perspective. In a ground-breaking decision, it found substantive and procedural violations of the prohibition of slavery and forced labour and the prohibition of discrimination.

'(T)he Court considers that the inaction of the respondent State in honouring its positive obligations under (the Prohibition of slavery and forced labour) amounted to repeatedly condoning trafficking, labour exploitation and related gender-based violence and reflected a discriminatory attitude towards the applicants as women who were foreign workers with an irregular immigration status. The respondent State authorities' general and discriminatory passivity created a climate that was conducive to their trafficking and exploitation.'

'This is a precedent-setting judgment that will have ramifications beyond Russia, given that trafficking is a global phenomenon. The Court has for the first time recognised the gendered nature of trafficking women and the multiple vulnerabilities that were exploited. The Court also specifically acknowledged the gendered abuses enabled by the captivity of the women, including forced reproduction.'

Jessica Gavron, Co-Director, EHRAC

KNOWLEDGE AND NETWORK BUILDING

In 2024, we continued to work with our partners to develop relevant training and resources, to support them and our wider networks. Our training offer included a four-part webinar series on Trauma-Informed Legal Practice, and sessions looking at admissibility and the process of litigating cases of enforced disappearance before UN mechanisms.

RESOURCES

Our legal resources provide information and analysis for lawyers and human rights defenders. In 2024, our Resource pages were viewed almost 3,000 times. We also submitted a joint report to the Council of Europe's GREVIO committee on Ukraine's compliance with its obligations as a signatory to the Istanbul Convention on violence against women and domestic violence.

Sexual Violence and Stigmatisation of Victims in Ukraine

In July, with partners, we published the NGO Shadow Report on the Implementation of The Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence in Ukraine.

The report was co-authored by EHRAC, La Strada Ukraine, Women's Initiatives for Gender Justice (WISG), Equality Now, the Ukrainian Legal Advisory Group (ULAG), and the independent legal consultant Carolyn Edgerton. It was published on the second anniversary of Ukraine completing ratification of the Istanbul Convention. It examines in detail the role of structural inequality, discriminatory attitudes and gender-based myths and stereotypes on investigations, on the courts' interpretation of consent, and on judgments and sentencing in sexual violence cases.

The report was submitted to the GREVIO Committee, the body responsible for monitoring compliance with the Istanbul Convention. You can read the report in [Ukrainian](#) and [English](#).



COMMUNICATIONS

Our LinkedIn channel passed **11,000** followers, continuing its growth of over **250%** since the start of 2023.

The EHRAC website was visited by **21,145** users from **167** countries. Our Enforced Disappearance Legal Database was used

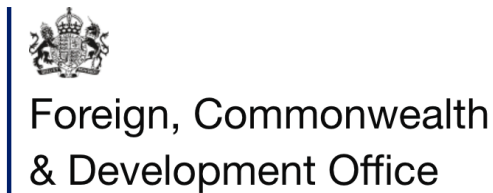
by **2,991** people from **121** countries.

OUR FUNDERS

We appreciate the funding received from a small number of committed donors in 2024, including some whose support is too sensitive for us to name them.



**OPEN SOCIETY
FOUNDATIONS**



SIGRID RAUSING TRUST

OUR LITIGATION IN 2024

Name	App. No.	Date	Overview of facts	Type of submission	Co-litigated with
Armenia					
Oganezova v. Armenia	71367/12, 72961/12	21/10/2024	Attack on an underground LGBTI bar in Yerevan.	Rule 9.2	PINK Armenia, ILGA Europe
Azerbaijan					
E.F. v. Azerbaijan	393/25	17/12/2024	Pegasus spyware revelations in Azerbaijan. Several hundred Azerbaijani individuals, primarily Government critics (HRDs, journalists, activists, politicians, etc) found their phone numbers on the leaked Pegasus lists, making them potential targets of secret surveillance.	Rule 9.2	PINK Armenia, ILGA Europe
Ibadoghlu v. Azerbaijan	33067/23	12/12/2024	Case concerning compatibility of applicant's health during detention and conditions of detention.	Replied to Govt Observations	Independent partner lawyers
		06/06/2024		Replied to FS proposal	
		26/03/2024		Reply to Government comments on Rule 39	
		08/03/2024		Rule 39 submission	
A.S. v. Georgia and Azerbaijan	36296/24	09/12/2024	Case concerning the intended extradition of an Azeri journalist from Georgia to Azerbaijan.	Request for interim measures	SJC
R.B. and N.G. v. Azerbaijan	33860/23	04/11/2024	Domestic violence from ex-husband of first applicant and attempted killing of first applicant and her mother (second applicant).	Replied to Govt Obs	Independent partner lawyer
Sargsyan v Azerbaijan	40167/06	22/10/2024	Property rights of refugees who fled Nagorno-Karabakh.	Rule 9.1	Independent partner lawyers
		09/08/2024		Rule 9.1	
Babayeva v Azerbaijan	33184/16	17/10/2024	Death of applicant's brother in prison and ill treatment by prison guards.	Judgment	Independent partner lawyers
Farid Mehralizade v Azerbaijan	29209/24	04/10/2024	Concerning the arrest and pre-trial detention, and subsequent extension of pre-trial detention, of the Azerbaijani economist and journalist.	Application lodged	Independent partner lawyer

OUR LITIGATION IN 2024 (2)

Name	App. No.	Date	Overview of facts	Type of submission	Co-litigated with
Azerbaijan (contd.)					
Anar Mammadli v Azerbaijan	25885/24	06/09/2024	Concerning the arrest of the applicant (a prominent human rights defender) and his pre-trial detention, the subsequent extension of his pre-trial detention, and the search of his home and seizure of his possessions.	Application lodged	Independent partner lawyer
Mammadli v Azerbaijan group of cases	47145/14	08/08/2024	Arbitrary arrests and pre-trial detentions of Azerbaijani human rights defenders, a journalist and activists.	Rule 9.2	IPHR, Free Voice Collective, Independent Lawyers Network
G.Z. v Azerbaijan	-	20/07/2024	Pegasus spyware revelations in Azerbaijan. Several hundred Azerbaijani individuals, primarily Government critics (HRDs, journalists, activists, politicians, etc) found their phone numbers on the leaked Pegasus lists, making them potential targets of secret surveillance.	Application lodged	Independent partner lawyer
Hasanov v. Azerbaijan I	68035/17	18/07/2024	Disbarment of human rights lawyer following politically-motivated conviction for slander, aimed at preventing him from continuing his professional activities.	Decision	Independent partner lawyer
		22/03/2024		Reply to unilateral declaration	
Hasanov v. Azerbaijan II	39834/16	18/07/2024	Court proceedings of the applicant (Lawyer predominantly representing activists) for slander in breach of fair trial standards.	Decision	Independent partner lawyer
		22/03/2024		Reply to unilateral declaration	
A.M. and Others v. Azerbaijan	20096/24	12/07/2024	Pegasus spyware revelations in Azerbaijan. Several hundred Azerbaijani individuals, primarily Government critics (HRDs, journalists, activists, politicians, etc) found their phone numbers on the leaked Pegasus lists, making them potential targets of secret surveillance.	Application lodged	Independent partner lawyer
Rasul Jafarov v Azerbaijan II	38127/16	11/07/2024	Case concerning Rasul Jafarov's conviction and tax proceedings against him.	Decision	Independent partner lawyer
		18/03/2024		Update to the Court	
Aliyev v. Azerbaijan IV	22365/18	11/07/2024	Case concerning the applicant's five-year travel ban, which was automatically imposed following his release from prison.	Judgment	Independent partner lawyer
Namazov v Azerbaijan group of cases	74354/13	02/05/2024	This group concerns the disbarment of lawyers in Azerbaijan.	Rule 9.2	Independent partner lawyer
A and others v. Azerbaijan	17184/18	11/04/2024	The case concerned the raids launched by the police in mid-September 2017, targeting actual or perceived transgender and homosexual sex workers in Baku.	Decision	Independent partner lawyer

OUR LITIGATION IN 2024 (3)

Name	App. No.	Date	Overview of facts	Type of submission	Co-litigated with
Georgia					
Tsaava and Others v. Georgia	32245/19	28/11/2024	The case concerns violations arising from the policing of a mass protest. Without providing any warning, police officers indiscriminately used tear gas, rubber bullets and water cannons against the whole crowd, seriously injuring applicants.	Grand Chamber written submission	GYLA
		02/08/2024		Request for referral to GC	
		07/05/2024		Judgment	
N.M. and Others v. Georgia	16764/23	04/11/2024	The applicants in this case have suffered years of psychological and physical abuse whilst resident in a boarding school.	Replied to Govt Observations	Union Sapari
		14/06/2024		Reply to Government request to suspend proceedings	
Tkheldidze v. Georgia group of cases	33056/17	22/10/2024	Failure to take preventive action to protect domestic violence victim and to investigate police inaction, against backdrop of systemic failures and gender based discrimination.	Rule 9.1 and 9.2	GYLA and Union Sapari
Georgian Young Lawyers' Association (GYLA) and Others v. Georgia	31069/24	18/10/2024	The case concerns the introduction of the Transparency of Foreign Influence Law.	Application lodged	GYLA
M.D. v. Georgia	33066/22	25/09/2024	Insufficient and ineffective criminal investigation into the applicant's sexual assault, and her re-victimisation during the investigation.	TPI	Union Sapari
Identoba and Others v. Georgia	73235/12	02/08/2024	Police raid on LGBTI organisation, personal searches and hate speech.	Rule 9.1 and 9.2	WISG, GYLA, ILGA Europe, TGEU
Mikeladze & Others v. Georgia	54217/16	02/08/2024	Physical and verbal assaults, discriminatory insults, and ineffective investigations into arrest and detention of members of Muslim minority community	Rule 9.2	Social Justice Center
		27/01/2024			
Machalikashvili v. Georgia	32245/19	02/08/2024	Death of applicant's relative as a result of fatal wound received during arrest operation by security services of Georgia.	Rule 9.1	Social Justice Center
A.D. and Others v Georgia	57864/17, 79087/17, 55353/19	01/08/2024	State's failure to provide quick, transparent and accessible procedures for legal gender recognition	Rule 9.2	WISG, GYLA, ILGA-Europe and Transgender Europe (TGEU)
Mikeladze and others v. Georgia	13829/24	13/05/2024	Illegal surveillance of seven individuals who are lawyers and human rights defenders.	Decision	Social Justice Center
		10/05/2024		Application lodged	

OUR LITIGATION IN 2024 (4)

Name	App. No.	Date	Overview of facts	Type of submission	Co-litigated with
Georgia (contd.)					
Gabitashvili and Others v. Georgia	13356/24	01/05/202	This case was taken by the family of an individual that died whilst driving during a mudslide/flooding of the Vere River arising from heavy rainstorms in the Tbilisi area.	Application lodged	GYLA
N.G. v. Georgia	199/2023	08/03/2024	The case concerns rape of a minor, NG, and the failure to effectively investigate and prosecute the case.	Replied to Govt Observations	GYLA, Equality Now
Tsintsabadze Group v. Georgia	35403/06	23/02/2024 24/01/2024	This group of cases concerns ill-treatment, torture and death in Georgian prisons and ineffective investigations into the actions of law enforcement agents.	Rule 9.1 Rule 9.1 and Rule 9.2	GYLA
A. v. Georgia	34585/23	06/02/2024	The case concerns a hate-motivated ill-treatment of the applicant by a police officer on account of his belonging to LGBTI community.	TPI	Georgian NGO, WISG, ILGA Europe
Ukraine					
Trotsenko v. Ukraine	X23843/24	03/08/2024	The case concerns the violations of Articles 10 and 6 of the Convention, stemming from the government's failure to protect journalists from violence, ensure effective investigations, and uphold access to justice in civil claims arising from criminal proceedings.	Application lodged	RPDI and independent lawyer
Denisov v. Ukraine	76639/11	23/02/2024	The case concerns the applicant's dismissal from the position of president of a court of appeal which constituted an unlawful and disproportionate interference with his private life.	Rule 9.1	-
Russian Federation					
Karpyuk v. Russia	77068/14	11/01/2024	Politically-motivated prosecution, conviction and sentencing of Ukrainian citizen in Russia.	Judgment	ULAG
Taganova and Others v. Russia and Georgia	18102/04, 5148/05, 26166/05, 42765/05, 48656/06	17/12/2024	The case concerns the applicant property in Abkhazia which was looted and burned down and they were forcibly removed from remaining houses.	Judgment	Independent partner lawyers
F.M. & others v Russia	71671/16	10/12/2024	Ill-treatment and forced labour of migrant/trafficked women in Moscow.	Judgment	Human rights organisation in Russia
Khashiyev and Akayeva group of cases v. Russia	57942/00	25/10/2024	Enforced disappearances.	Rule 9.2	

OUR LITIGATION IN 2024 (5)

Name	App. No.	Date	Overview of facts	Type of submission	Co-litigated with
Russian Federation (contd.)					
E.A., E.S. and N.S. v Russia	85-87/2023	25/07/2024	Three prominent Crimean Tatar lawyers – E.S., N.S. and E.A. – have been subject to ongoing harassment by the authorities in Crimea relating to the fact that they are Crimean Tatar lawyers representing the rights and interests of other Crimean Tatars.	Comments on State Party Submission	RPDI and Independent partner lawyers
Kogan and Others v. Russia	54003/20	13/08/2024	Two human rights lawyers and their two minor children were forced to leave Russia following the revocation of a residence permit on undisclosed ‘national security grounds’.	Rule 9.2	Stitching Justice Initiative
Bezazyeva v. Russia	1385/23	19/07/2024	A school teacher in Crimea was fined for allegedly discrediting the military after she made remarks about the sexual violence committed by Russian soldiers in Ukraine.	Reply to Govt Third Party Intervention	RPDI and independent partner lawyers
Bratsylo & others v. Russia	3022/2017	27/04/2024	Ukrainian detainees on criminal charges under Ukrainian law were reconvicted under Russian law after occupation and transferred to detention facilities in Russia and automatically given Russian citizenship. Russia rejected their request to be transferred back to Ukraine.	Decision	RCHR
Okropiridze v Russia	10667/09	14/06/2024	Russia-Georgia conflict case	Reply to Govt Third Party Intervention	GYLA
Elikashvili and others v Russia	8576/09	13/06/2024	Russia-Georgia conflict case	Reply to Govt Third Party Intervention	GYLA
Ablalimova and others v Russia	41261/17	23/02/2024	The applicants, some of whom are Crimean Tatars, were forcibly displaced.	Submission to the UN Human Rights Committee	Independent partner lawyer
Volodina v. Russia	41261/17	14/02/2024	Volodina group of cases relates to the systemic discriminatory failure to protect women and girls from domestic violence and conduct an effective investigation into reports of this violence.	Rule 9.2	SJI
Ecodefence & Others v. Russia	9988/13, 7098/15, 61989/16	06/02/2024	Challenge to the law on ‘Foreign Agents’.	Rule 9.2	Various human rights and media organisations in Russia

WOMEN-LED AND INTERNATIONAL

EHRAC is led by Co-Directors Jessica Gavron and Laure Trebosc, and benefits from an international team of human rights experts and lawyers. In 2024, our 21-member team featured 17 nationalities, including colleagues from some of the countries our work focuses on.

OUR TEAM IN 2024

Camilla Alonzo

Lawyer

Elba Bendo

Lawyer

Charlotta Blomqvist

Legal Officer

Toby Collis

Lawyer

Tina Devadasan

Programme and Finance Advisor

Jessica Gavron

Co-Director, Head of Legal

Dariana Gryaznova

Legal Consultant (left during 2024)

Jadesola Ighodalo

Finance and Grants Officer

Mariat Imaeva

Legal Consultant

Barbara Karch

Finance and Grants Manager

Kate Levine

Senior Legal Consultant (left during 2024)

Stephen Matthews

Senior Media and Communications Consultant

Laura McCartan

Programme and MEL Manager

Lindsay Owen

Development Manager

Ramute Remezaite

Senior Legal Consultant/Implementation Lead

Sofia Roma

General Legal Consultant (left during 2024)

James Smith

Projects Officer

Nataliia Stepanenko

Legal Consultant, Ukraine

Laure Trebosc

Co-Director, Head of Programmes

WHERE YOU'LL FIND US

EHRAC has been based at the School of Law, Middlesex University since 2013.

We benefit from being situated in the University, and the opportunity to collaborate with leading experts in international and human rights law.

SUPPORT EHRAC

EHRAC relies on grants and charitable donations.

Your generous support could enable us to:

- represent more victims of human rights abuse at the ECtHR and through UN mechanisms
- continue collaborating with lawyers in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Ukraine
- translate and disseminate vital human rights resources

If you would like to support our work with a donation of any size, please visit [our Committed Giving page](#). Thank you.



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