

Call for applications - EIN training on how NGOs can advance ECHR judgment implementation

16 December 2020

The European Implementation Network ([EIN](#)) and the Netherlands Helsinki Committee ([NHC](#)) are calling for applications by non-governmental organisations (NGOs), human rights defenders and human rights lawyers to participate in a training on advocating for full and effective implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR, 'the Court') in Russia.

The magnitude of the non-implementation problem is of concern in Russia: of the 'leading' judgments from the last ten years, i.e. those identifying new and structural problems calling for wider reforms, 88% remain pending. Out of those, Article 10 cases, relating to freedom of expression, are particularly numerous.

All of these represent a problem, but also an opportunity to challenge the lack of progress in national legislative and judicial systems to tackle the policies and practices at the root of these repeated violations.

NGOs are accorded a critical role in the Council of Europe's (CoE) process that underpins the supervision, by the Committee of Ministers (CM), of the implementation of these judgments (known as the CM judgment execution process). This is made possible under Rule 9.2. of the [Rules of the CM](#). To translate into real human rights gains, NGO recommendations must also be supported by sustained advocacy at the domestic level.

The aims of the training are to equip NGOs so that they know how to use the CM judgment execution process and which domestic advocacy tools they can apply to support full and effective implementation of ECtHR judgments. The training will equip participants to work on all types of ECHR cases. A thematic session will be focused on the implementation of ECHR judgments related to freedom of expression.

For information about EIN, visit our website, at <http://www.einnetwork.org/>, follow us on Twitter @EIN_Network, and [subscribe](#) to our quarterly Newsletter.

For information about the NHC, visit our website at <https://www.nhc.nl/> and/or follow us on Twitter @NHC_nl, [Facebook](#) or [LinkedIn](#).

Date and place of the training:

We will organise 1 training in Russia. The training is expected to last 1,5 days.

Place/ Time: Russia in the week of 12 April 2021 (exact dates and place tbc).

Should the health situation related to the COVID-19 pandemic not allow for international travel, the training will be held online. Decisions on whether the training will be held online or not will be taken at least 3 weeks before the event.

Training content:

The training will underline the importance of a holistic approach to ECHR judgment implementation and deal with:

- The Strasbourg level: the CM execution process and the role of NGOs. How to use Rule 9.2 submissions to advocate for effective implementation of the ECtHR's case law;
- The national level: Putting implementation onto the agenda at the national level. Importance of a constructive engagement with the authorities; forming and strengthening domestic advocacy coalitions; communicating effectively about non-implementation.

Training methodology:

The training will combine:

- Presentations by experts and peers on how to engage effectively with the CM judgment execution process, both at the Strasbourg and national levels;
- Sharing of learning by participants who have already engaged with implementation of ECtHR judgments, whether through the CM judgment execution process or at the domestic level;
- Group exercises to draft a Rule 9.2 submission on a case pending before the CM. *The session is aimed at helping participants who have not engaged with the CM judgment execution process to do so – acquiring knowledge and expertise from other participants*
- Brainstorming sessions to set up (joint) strategies for the implementation of pending cases.

Changes are possible if the trainings are organised online.

Target audience:

Staff of NGOs working on, or planning to work on, implementation of ECtHR judgments in Russia; independent lawyers or human rights defenders supporting NGOs in these activities.

Staff from specialised organisations working on freedom of expression who intend to engage into the ECHR judgment implementation process.

People do not have to be based in the target country, but must have a clear work focus on Russia.

Criteria for selection of participants:

Participants will be selected on the basis of following criteria:

- The impact resulting from full and effective implementation of any (leading) cases their organisation is supporting.
- Any relevant experience the participant is able to share. The training methodology requires a number of participants with particular attributes – some with experience in different aspects of implementation, others with cases which will be particularly suitable for group exercises.

Participants are required to have a good working knowledge of English. Simultaneous interpretation may be provided, depending on the needs of participants. Selected participants must be present for the full duration of the training.

Budget:

The number of participants is limited to 20. This number may be increased if the trainings are organised online.

Costs for participants based outside the city where the training will be held:

The organisers can support the costs for local transportation to the meeting place, and accommodation for 2 nights, for up to 8 participants. They will be selected on the basis of this call.

Costs covered for all participants:

A lunch and a coffee break is provided on the 1,5 days of each training.

Application process:

If you would like to attend a training, please:

- complete the [application form \(attached to the email\)](#) and return it to: hrd@nhc.nl

-arrange for your organisation to send a letter supporting your application, confirming that you have a good working knowledge of English and can be present for the full duration of the training.

Deadline to apply: 29/01/2021

The results of the application review will be made known to applicants 2 to 4 weeks after the deadline for application.

Questions:

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the EIN: contact@einnetwork.org