Sciences Po Strasbourg

École de l'Université de Strasbourg

The European Convention of Human Rights

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Summary

This 18-hour course provides an introduction to the European Convention of Human Rights and to the European Court of Human Rights. In the aftermath of World War II and at the beginning of the cold War, Western European nations established the Council of Europe (1949). The ECHR is an international treaty that was created under the aegis of the Council of Europe and signed in Rome in 1950. The Convention entered into force in 1953. The ECHR is widely regarded as the most successful international mechanism for human rights protection. That is due to the fact that an efficient individual complaint mechanism was set up. The purpose of these lectures is to present the enforcement machinery of the ECHR and the rights guaranteed by the Convention.

Prospective lectures

Lectures 1-2: Introduction to the ECHR

Lecture 3: The scope of the Convention

Lecture 4: The right of individual application

Lecture 5: The rights protected by the Convention

Lecture 6: The interpretation of the Convention and the Right to life

Lecture 7: Prohibition of torture, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment

Lecture 8: Freedom of thought, conscience and religion

Lecture 9: Freedom of expression

Recommended textbook

B. Rainey, P. McCormick and C. Ovey, Jacobs, White and Ovey: The European Convention on Human Rights, OUP, 8th edition, 2021

Additional material will be placed on moodle. Register yourself to the course European Convention on Human Rights with the key ECHR.

Assessment

Assessment will take the form of a one-hour written exam.