



EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS
COUR EUROPÉENNE DES DROITS DE L'HOMME

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FIFTH SECTION

Application no. 43292/20
Volodymyr Viktorovych SILYAKOV
against Ukraine
lodged on 19 September 2020
communicated on 6 July 2026

SUBJECT MATTER OF THE CASE

The application concerns the applicant's complaint that a television broadcaster was ordered to retract statements he had made as a journalist (Article 10 of the Convention).

The applicant, in his capacity as a journalist, participated in a TV programme and alleged that the Ministry of Defence had concluded a number of contracts with the I. company after the company had supplied free good (weapons) to the ministry. According to the allegations made during the TV programme, the ministry subsequently handed those weapons over to high-ranking officials. Other participants of the programme made statements to a similar effect. The programme referred both to the statements issued by the Ministry of Defence confirming that it had received goods from the I. company free of charge and to information available from open sources that the I. company had won a number of tenders organised by the ministry.

The I. company instituted judicial proceedings against the TV broadcaster, seeking the retraction of certain statements made during the programme.

The courts found in favour of the I. company and obliged the TV broadcaster to air a statement declaring that the disputed statements were untrue (final decision of the Supreme Court on 29 November 2019).

On 19 December 2019 the applicant's representative received the decision of the Supreme Court.

QUESTIONS TO THE PARTIES

Has there been an interference with the applicant's right to freedom of expression, in particular, his right to impart information and ideas, within the meaning of Article 10 § 1 of the Convention? If so, was that interference prescribed by law and necessary in terms of Article 10 § 2? In particular, to what extent are the duties and responsibilities inherent in the applicant's profession relevant to his complaint and the State's margin of appreciation in this field?