



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

FIFTH SECTION

CASE OF LAVRENTYEV AND OTHERS v. UKRAINE

*(Applications nos. 12573/16 and 5 others –
see appended list)*

JUDGMENT

STRASBOURG

8 October 2026

This judgment is final but it may be subject to editorial revision.

In the case of Lavrentyev and Others v. Ukraine,

The European Court of Human Rights (Fifth Section), sitting as a Committee composed of:

Andreas Zünd, *President*,

Vahe Grigoryan,

Sébastien Biancheri, *judges*,

and Viktoriya Maradudina, *Acting Deputy Section Registrar*,

Having deliberated in private on 17 September 2026,

Delivers the following judgment, which was adopted on that date:

PROCEDURE

1. The case originated in applications against Ukraine lodged with the Court under Article 34 of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (“the Convention”) on the various dates indicated in the appended table.

2. The Ukrainian Government (“the Government”) were given notice of the applications.

THE FACTS

3. The list of applicants and the relevant details of the applications are set out in the appended table.

4. The applicants complained of the excessive length of civil proceedings and of the lack of any effective remedy in domestic law.

THE LAW

I. JOINDER OF THE APPLICATIONS

5. Having regard to the similar subject matter of the applications, the Court finds it appropriate to examine them jointly in a single judgment.

II. THE *LOCUS STANDI* OF MR DMYTRO VYACHESLAVOVYCH OLIYNYK IN APPLICATION NO. 52295/16

6. The Court notes that the applicant in application no. 52295/16 died on 28 July 2020, while the case was pending before the Court. The applicant’s heir (according to the will made by the applicant on 24 July 2013), Mr Dmytro Vyacheslavovych Oliynyk, requested to pursue the application on the late applicant’s behalf. The Court notes that in various cases, where applicants died in the course of the proceedings, it has taken into account the wishes of their heirs or close members of their families to pursue the proceedings before the Court (see, for example, *X. v. France*, Series A no. 234-C, p. 89, § 26, and

Jama v. Slovenia, no. 48163/08, § 28, 19 July 2012). It sees no reason to reach a different conclusion in the present case and, therefore, accepts that the applicant's heir, Mr Dmytro Vyacheslavovych Oliynyk, can pursue the application. However, reference will still be made to the applicant throughout the present judgment.

III. ALLEGED VIOLATION OF ARTICLE 6 § 1 AND ARTICLE 13 OF THE CONVENTION

7. The applicants complained that the length of the civil proceedings in question had been incompatible with the "reasonable time" requirement and that they had no effective remedy in this connection. They relied on Article 6 § 1 and Article 13 of the Convention.

8. The Court reiterates that the reasonableness of the length of proceedings must be assessed in the light of the circumstances of the case and with reference to the following criteria: the complexity of the case, the conduct of the applicants and the relevant authorities and what was at stake for the applicants in the dispute (see *Frydlender v. France* [GC], no. 30979/96, § 43, ECHR 2000-VII).

9. In the leading case of *Karnaushenko v. Ukraine* (no. 23853/02, 30 November 2006), the Court already found a violation in respect of issues similar to those in the present case.

10. Having examined all the material submitted to it, the Court has not found any fact or argument capable of justifying the overall length of the proceedings at the national level. Having regard to its case-law on the subject, the Court considers that in the instant case the length of the proceedings was excessive and failed to meet the "reasonable time" requirement.

11. The Court further notes that the applicants did not have at their disposal an effective remedy in respect of these complaints.

12. These complaints are therefore admissible and disclose a breach of Article 6 § 1 and of Article 13 of the Convention.

IV. APPLICATION OF ARTICLE 41 OF THE CONVENTION

13. Regard being had to the documents in its possession and to its case-law (see, in particular, *Karnaushenko*, cited above, §§ 70 and 75), the Court considers it reasonable to award the sums indicated in the appended table.

FOR THESE REASONS, THE COURT, UNANIMOUSLY,

1. *Decides* to join the applications;

2. *Decides* that Mr Dmytro Vyacheslavovych Oliynyk, an heir of the applicant in application no. 52295/16, has *locus standi* in the proceedings;
3. *Declares* the applications admissible;
4. *Holds* that these applications disclose a breach of Article 6 § 1 and Article 13 of the Convention concerning the excessive length of civil proceedings and the lack of any effective remedy in domestic law;
5. *Holds*
 - (a) that the respondent State is to pay the applicants, within three months, the amounts indicated in the appended table, to be converted into the currency of the respondent State at the rate applicable at the date of settlement;
 - (b) that from the expiry of the above-mentioned three months until settlement simple interest shall be payable on the above amounts at a rate equal to the marginal lending rate of the European Central Bank during the default period plus three percentage points.

Done in English, and notified in writing on 8 October 2026, pursuant to Rule 77 §§ 2 and 3 of the Rules of Court.

Viktoriya Maradudina
Acting Deputy Registrar

Andreas Zünd
President

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APPENDIX

List of applications raising complaints under Article 6 § 1 and Article 13 of the Convention
(excessive length of civil proceedings and lack of any effective remedy in domestic law)

No.	Application no. Date of introduction	Applicant's name Year of birth	Representative's name and location	Start of proceedings	End of proceedings	Total length Levels of jurisdiction	Amount awarded for non-pecuniary damage per applicant /household (in euros) ¹
1.	12573/16 20/02/2016 (3 applicants)	<u>Household</u> Vyacheslav Volodymyrovych LAVRENTYEV 1972 Zoya Ivanivna LAVRENTYEVA 1947 <u>Household</u> Olga Yevgenivna DOBROVOLSKA 1955	Zbarska Nataliya Lvivna Kharkiv	06/08/2007	04/09/2015	8 year(s) and 1 month(s) 4 level(s) of jurisdiction	500
2.	52295/16 06/10/2016	Mariya Andriyivna ANTONOVA 1923 Died in 2020		14/02/2011	12/06/2019	8 year(s) and 4 month(s) 4 level(s) of jurisdiction	500
3.	963/25 14/12/2024	Lyudmyla Mykhaylivna ILNYTSKA 1971		21/01/2019	15/08/2024	5 year(s) and 6 month(s) and 26 day(s) 1 level(s) of jurisdiction	1,800

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No.	Application no. Date of introduction	Applicant's name Year of birth	Representative's name and location	Start of proceedings	End of proceedings	Total length Levels of jurisdiction	Amount awarded for non-pecuniary damage per applicant /household (in euros) ¹
4.	32599/25 08/10/2025	Sergiy Valeriyovych TOPOR 1985	Kozachuk Mykhaylo Vasylyovych Kyiv	28/09/2018	16/06/2026	7 year(s) and 8 month(s) and 20 day(s) 3 level(s) of jurisdiction	1,200
5.	34441/25 23/10/2025	Nataliya Oleksiyivna YAKUNINA 1978	Yelmanova Viktoriya Anatoliyivna Kyiv	07/12/2016	02/07/2025	8 year(s) and 6 month(s) and 26 day(s) 3 level(s) of jurisdiction	1,800
6.	36523/25 30/10/2025	Vasyl Ivanovych NAUMCHUK 1960		18/09/2017	30/06/2025	7 year(s) and 9 month(s) and 13 day(s) 3 level(s) of jurisdiction	1,200

Heir(s) in application no. 52295/16

Decedent	Heir
Mariya Andriyivna ANTONOVA Died in 2020	Dmytro Vyacheslavovych OLIYNYK Born in 1971

¹ Plus any tax that may be chargeable to the applicants.