



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

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FOURTH SECTION

Application no. 20858/22
Mykola Oleksandrovykh KORUNNYI and Others against Russia
and 7 other applications
(see list appended)
communicated on 23 September 2026

SUBJECT MATTER OF THE CASE

The applications arise from the full-scale invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation, which began on 24 February 2022. They concern the alleged injuries, ill-treatment, forced labour and unlawful detention of a number of Ukrainian prisoners of war – some of the applicants and the remaining applicants' close relatives – by agents of the Russian Federation.

1. Application no. 20858/22

On 13 March 2022 the first, second and fourth applicants, servicemen of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, were captured by Russian forces near Kamianka, Zaporizhzhia region (see, for the context, *Ukraine and the Netherlands v. Russia* [GC], nos. 8019/16 and 3 others, § 70, 9 July 2025). The third applicant is the second applicant's sister.

The first applicant was injured in combat on 13 March 2022, prior to his capture. He sustained multiple shrapnel injuries, allegedly as a result of fire opened by Russian forces, as confirmed by medical certificates issued upon his release. Following his capture, he was detained in a basement, a metal container, and other unidentified premises from 13 to 16 March 2022; in a garage and other unidentified premises in Nova Kakhovka, Kherson region, from 16 to 17 March 2022; at a field hospital near Nova Kakhovka from 17 to 18 March 2022; and at a detention camp in Sevastopol, Crimea, from

18 March to 28 April 2022. He was released on 28 April 2022 as part of a prisoner exchange between Ukraine and the Russian Federation.

After his capture the second applicant was detained in the following places: a basement and a military base at unidentified locations from 13 to 14 March 2022; a metal container, a garage and a local police station in Nova Kakhovka from 14 to 16 March 2022; a colony and a disciplinary facility in Sevastopol from 16 March to 2 April 2022; pre-trial detention facility no. 2 in Taganrog, Rostov-on-Don region, Russian Federation, from 2 to 12 April 2022; pre-trial detention facility no. 2 in Borisoglebsk, Voronezh region, Russian Federation, from 12 to 19 April 2022; and correctional colony no. 9 in the Voronezh region from 19 April 2022 to 25 May 2025. He was released on 25 May 2025 pursuant to another prisoner exchange.

Lastly, after his capture the fourth applicant was detained at a military base, a military airfield, and other unidentified premises from 13 to approximately 15 March 2022; at unidentified premises in Nova Kakhovka from approximately 15 to 26 March 2022; at a military academy in Sevastopol from 26 March to 8 April 2022; at a pre-trial detention facility in the Rostov-on-Don region from 8 to 14 April 2022; at a pre-trial detention facility in the Voronezh region from 15 April to 1 October 2022; and at correctional colony no. 7 in Pakino, Vladimir region, Russian Federation, from 1 October 2022 to 26 April 2023. He was released in another prisoner exchange on 26 April 2023.

2. Application no. 25980/22

The applicant, a serviceman of the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine, was captured by Russian forces on Zmiinyi island on 24 February 2022.

After his capture, he was detained at the following places: military barracks in Sevastopol from 26 February to 11 March 2022; a tent camp in Shebekino, Belgorod region, Russian Federation, from 11 to 16 March 2022; pre-trial detention facility no. 2 in Staryy Oskol, Belgorod region, from 16 March to 19 April 2022; correctional colony no. 6 in Valuyki, Belgorod region, from 19 April to 15 September 2022; and correctional colony no. 4 in Alekseyevka, Belgorod region, from 15 September 2022 to 31 January 2024. On 31 January 2024 the applicant was released in a prisoner exchange.

3. Applications nos. 27968/22, 41145/22, 41313/22, 41317/22 and 42838/22

The first applicant in application no. 27968/22, the father of the applicant in application no. 41145/22, and the applicants in applications nos. 41313/22, 41317/22 and 42838/22 were servicemen of the National Guard of Ukraine. They were captured by Russian forces at the Chornobyl Nuclear Power Plant (“Chornobyl NPP”) in the Kyiv region on 24 February 2022 (see, for the

context, *Ukraine and the Netherlands v. Russia*, cited above, § 67). The second applicant in application no. 27968/22 is the first applicant's mother.

Following their capture, the prisoners of war concerned in the present applications remained detained at the Chornobyl NPP from 24 February to 31 March 2022.

The first applicant in application no. 27968/22 was subsequently transferred to unidentified premises in Naroulia, Gomel region, Belarus, where he was detained from 31 March to 2 April 2022. He was further held at a pre-trial detention facility in Novozybkov, Bryansk region, Russian Federation, from 2 April 2022 to 9 April 2023. He was released on 10 April 2023 pursuant to another prisoner exchange.

According to statements provided by released prisoners of war, the applicant's father in application no. 41145/22 was subsequently detained at pre-trial detention facility no. 2 in Novozybkov from May 2022 to 13 May 2023 and at correctional colony no. 1 in Donskoy, Tula region, Russian Federation, from 13 May 2023 to at least 3 January 2024. On 24 January 2024 Russian media reported that he was on board the Russian military aircraft Il-76, which crashed on the same date while allegedly transporting Ukrainian prisoners of war. In a letter dated 25 June 2026, the Ukrainian Government informed the Court that the applicant's father had died on 24 January 2024.

The applicants in applications nos. 41313/22, 41317/22 and 42838/22 were subsequently detained at unidentified premises in Kamaryn, Gomel region, from 31 March to 2 April 2022; at pre-trial detention facility no. 2 in Novozybkov from 2 April 2022 to 13 May 2023; and at correctional colony no. 1 in Donskoy from 13 May 2023 until their respective release dates. The applicants were released as part of other prisoner exchanges on 14 September 2024, 5 February 2025, and 24 August 2024, respectively.

4. *Application no. 48449/22*

The first applicant, a serviceman of the National Guard of Ukraine, was captured by Russian forces at the Azovstal Iron and Steel Works in Mariupol, Donetsk region, on 20 May 2022 (see, for the context, *Ukraine and the Netherlands v. Russia*, cited above, § 69). The second applicant was the first applicant's wife at the material time.

The first applicant was injured in combat on 16 April 2022, prior to his capture. He sustained a shrapnel injury to his leg, as confirmed by medical certificates issued upon his release. After his capture, he was detained at Volnovakha correctional colony no. 120 in Olenivka, Donetsk region, from 20 May to 17 July 2022; at a prosecutor's office in Donetsk, from 17 to 20 July 2022; and at a pre-trial detention facility in Donetsk from 20 July 2022 to 2 February 2023. He was released on 4 February 2023 as part of a prisoner exchange.

5. Conditions of detention

All applicants allege that they or their relatives were detained in inhuman and degrading conditions and repeatedly subjected to torture and inhuman and degrading treatment.

The applicant in application no. 25980/22 further alleges that he was subjected to forced labour.

COMPLAINTS

Relying on Articles 3 and 5 of the Convention, the first, second and fourth applicants in application no. 20858/22, the first applicants in applications nos. 27968/22 and 48449/22, and the applicants in applications nos. 25980/22, 41145/22, 41313/22, 41317/22 and 42838/22 complain that they or, in application no. 41145/22, the applicant's relative, were unlawfully detained in inhuman and degrading conditions and subjected to torture and inhuman treatment by agents of the Russian Federation. Invoking the procedural limb of Article 3, they further complain of the failure of the Russian Federation to carry out effective investigations.

Referring to Article 3 of the Convention, the first applicant in application no. 20858/22 complains that, as he had sustained serious injuries, the torture to which he was subjected caused him particularly severe pain and suffering. Under the same provision, the first applicant in application no. 48449/22 alleges that, despite having sustained injuries, he did not receive the necessary medical assistance while in detention.

Under Article 3 of the Convention, the first applicant in application no. 27968/22 and the applicants in applications nos. 41145/22, 41313/22, 41317/22 and 42838/22 complain that the conditions in which they or, in application no. 41145/22, the applicant's relative, were detained at the Chernobyl NPP were inadequate on account of excessive exposure to radiation and the resulting adverse effects on their health.

Relying on Article 3 of the Convention, the third applicant in application no. 20858/22, the second applicants in applications nos. 27968/22 and 48449/22 and the applicant in application no. 41145/22 complain that they suffered severe mental distress as a result of their relatives' disappearance and the absence of any information from the Russian authorities regarding their fate.

Referring to Article 3 of the Convention, the first, second and fourth applicants in application no. 20858/22, the first applicant in application no. 48449/22, and the applicants in applications nos. 25980/22, 41145/22, 41313/22, 41317/22 and 42838/22 complain that the Russian authorities denied them or, in application no. 41145/22, the applicant's relative, contact with their families and the outside world while in detention.

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Referring to Article 3 of the Convention, the applicant in application no. 25980/22 complains that, while in detention, he was photographed and filmed by the Russian authorities without his consent.

Invoking Article 4 of the Convention, the applicant in application no. 25980/22 complains that he was subjected to forced labour by the Russian authorities while in detention.

The applicants in all applications also complain of the absence of effective remedies in the Russian Federation in respect of the violations complained of, in breach of Article 13 of the Convention.

Lastly, under Article 34 of the Convention, the second and fourth applicants in application no. 20858/22, the applicant in application no. 25980/22 and the first applicants in applications nos. 27968/22 and 48449/22 complain that the Russian Federation failed to comply with the interim measures indicated by the Court in their respective cases.

QUESTIONS TO THE PARTIES

1. Have the applicants complied with the admissibility requirements set forth in Article 35 § 1 of the Convention? In particular, have the second applicant in application no. 20858/22, the applicant in application no. 25980/22 and the first applicant in application no. 48449/22 complied with the time-limit laid down in that provision? Have the latter applicants shown the required degree of diligence in lodging their complaints with the Court without undue delay (see, *mutatis mutandis*, *Melnichuk and Others v. Romania*, nos. 35279/10 and 34782/10, §§ 80-83, 5 May 2015)?

2. Has the right to life of the first applicants in applications nos. 20858/22 and 48449/22, ensured by Article 2 of the Convention, been violated on account of the injuries they allegedly sustained (see *Ukraine and the Netherlands v. Russia* [GC], nos. 8019/16 and 3 others, §§ 429-31, 743, 747 and 1033-34, 9 July 2025)?

The parties are requested to submit all the evidence in their possession concerning the exact circumstances of the injuries in question.

The first applicant in application no. 48449/22 is further requested to submit documents showing that he suffered the injury complained of while serving as a military serviceman.

3. Has there been a violation of the right to life, as guaranteed by Article 2 of the Convention, in respect of the first applicant in application

no. 27968/22, the applicant's father in application no. 41145/22, and the applicants in applications nos. 41313/22, 41317/22 and 42838/22, on account of the alleged adverse effects of radiation exposure on their health? In particular, did the Russian Federation fail to comply with its positive obligation to take appropriate steps to safeguard their lives?

4. Were the first, second and fourth applicants in application no. 20858/22, the first applicants in applications nos. 27968/22 and 48449/22, the applicant's father in application no. 41145/22, and the applicants in applications nos. 25980/22, 41313/22, 41317/22 and 42838/22 subjected to torture or inhuman or degrading treatment, in breach of Article 3 of the Convention (see *Ukraine and the Netherlands v. Russia*, cited above, § 1076)? Having regard to the procedural obligation under Article 3, have any investigations been carried out by the Russian authorities into the applicants' allegations of a violation of Article 3 of the Convention, as required by that provision (see *Mocanu and Others v. Romania* [GC], nos. 10865/09 and 2 others, §§ 315-26, ECHR 2014 (extracts))?

5. Were the third applicant in application no. 20858/22, the second applicants in applications nos. 27968/22 and 48449/22, and the applicant in application no. 41145/22 subjected to inhuman or degrading treatment, in breach of Article 3 of the Convention, in respect of their suffering due to the uncertainty surrounding the fate of their relatives (see *Orhan v. Turkey*, no. 25656/94, §§ 359-60, 18 June 2002 and *Ukraine and the Netherlands v. Russia*, cited above, § 1081)?

6. Do the facts complained of by the applicant in application no. 25980/22 amount to a violation of Article 4 of the Convention (see *Ukraine and the Netherlands v. Russia*, cited above, §§ 1093-99)?

7. Were the first, second and fourth applicants in application no. 20858/22, the first applicants in applications nos. 27968/22 and 48449/22, the applicant's father in application no. 41145/22, and the applicants in applications nos. 25980/22, 41313/22, 41317/22 and 42838/22 deprived of their liberty in breach of Article 5 § 1 of the Convention (see *Ukraine and the Netherlands v. Russia*, cited above, §§ 427-30; *Hassan v. the United Kingdom* [GC], no. 29750/09, §§ 100-07, 16 September 2014)?

8. Has there been a breach of the rights of the first, second and fourth applicants in application no. 20858/22, the first applicant in application no. 48449/22, the applicant's father in application no. 41145/22, and the applicants in applications nos. 25980/22, 41313/22, 41317/22 and 42838/22 under Article 8 of the Convention on account of the alleged denial of contact with their families and the outside world while in detention (see *El-Masri*

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v. “*the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*” [GC], no. 39630/09, §§ 236, 248-50, 13 December 2012 and *Khoroshenko v. Russia* [GC], no. 41418/04, § 106, 30 June 2015, with further references)?

9. Did the photographing and filming of the applicant in application no. 25980/22 amount to an interference with his right to respect for his private life, within the meaning of Article 8 § 1 of the Convention? If so, was that interference compatible with the requirements of Article 8 § 2?

10. Did the applicants in all applications have at their disposal an effective domestic remedy for their Convention complaints, as required by Article 13 of the Convention (see *Ukraine and the Netherlands v. Russia*, cited above, §§ 1617-22)?

11. Have the Government of the Russian Federation complied with the interim measures indicated under Rule 39 of the Rules of Court in applications nos. 20858/22, 25980/22, 27968/22 and 48449/22? If the answer is in the negative, was there a hindrance by the Russian Government with the effective exercise of the applicants’ right of individual application, as ensured by Article 34 of the Convention (see *Mamatkulov and Askarov v. Turkey* [GC], nos. 46827/99 and 46951/99, §§ 128-29, ECHR 2005-I)?

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APPENDIX

No.	Application no.	Case name	Lodged on	Applicant Year of Birth Place of Residence Nationality	Represented by	Date and place of capture
1.	20858/22	Korunny and Others v. Russia	28/04/2022	Mykola Oleksandrovych KORUNNY 1998 Zhuravlivka Ukrainian Igor Igorovych BADAYEV 1997 Stryzhavka Ukrainian Iryna Igorivna KOSTYUK 1987 Vinnytsya Ukrainian Dmytro Igorovych SHAPOVALOV 1992 Vinnytsya Ukrainian	Mykhaylo Oleksandrovych TARAKHKALO	13/03/2022 Kamianka Zaporizhzhia region
2.	25980/22	Chernyshov v. Russia	30/05/2022	Oleg Yuriyovych CHERNYSHOV 1989 Vilkove Ukrainian	Mykhaylo Oleksandrovych TARAKHKALO	24/02/2022 Zmiinyi island

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No.	Application no.	Case name	Lodged on	Applicant Year of Birth Place of Residence Nationality	Represented by	Date and place of capture
3.	27968/22	Kachanenko v. Russia	09/06/2022	Oleksandr Oleksandrovych KACHANENKO 1998 Chernigiv Ukrainian Yuliya Oleksandrivna KACHANENKO 1977 Goncharivske Ukrainian	Mykhaylo Oleksandrovych TARAKHKALO	24/02/2022 Chornobyl NPP Kyiv region
4.	41145/22	Oleksiienko v. Russia	29/08/2022	Valeriya Valeriyivna OLEKSIYENKO 2002 Slavutych Ukrainian	Alina Viktorivna PAVLYUK	24/02/2022 Chornobyl NPP Kyiv region
5.	41313/22	Kygym v. Russia	29/08/2022	Dmytro Oleksandrovych KYGYM 1987 Slavutych Ukrainian	Alina Viktorivna PAVLYUK	24/02/2022 Chornobyl NPP Kyiv region
6.	41317/22	Trukhan v. Russia	29/08/2022	Oleksandr Mykolayovych TRUKHAN 1984 Slavutych Ukrainian	Alina Viktorivna PAVLYUK	24/02/2022 Chornobyl NPP Kyiv region
7.	42838/22	Syvoraksha v. Russia	07/09/2022	Denys Vasylyovych SYVORAKSHA 1996 Slavutych Ukrainian	Alina Viktorivna PAVLYUK	24/02/2022 Chornobyl NPP Kyiv region

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No.	Application no.	Case name	Lodged on	Applicant Year of Birth Place of Residence Nationality	Represented by	Date and place of capture
8.	48449/22	Yukhymchuk and Golovchenko v. Russia	14/10/2022	Maksym Oleksandrovych YUKHYMCHUK 1992 Pidgorodnye Ukrainian Maryna Yuriyivna GOLOVCHENKO 1993 Pidgorodnye Ukrainian	Mykhaylo Oleksandrovych TARAKHKALO	20/05/2022 Mariupol Donetsk region