

European Court of Human Rights Portal

HUDOC User Guide





Contents

ABOUT THE DATABASE	1
WEB BROWSERS SUPPORTED	1
CASE-LAW COLLECTIONS	2
BASIC PRINCIPLES – EXAMPLE OF A SEARCH	3
HOW TO SORT YOUR RESULTS	4
THE RESULT LIST SCREEN	5
SEARCHING – EXPLAINED IN DETAIL	6
<i>TEXT SEARCHING</i>	6
<i>TEXT SEARCHING IN ZONES</i>	8
<i>LANGUAGE & IMPORTANCE LEVEL</i>	9
<i>SEARCH BY TITLE</i>	10
HOW TO USE THE LOOKUPS	11
SEARCH BY RESPONDENT STATE	13
SEARCH BY APPLICATION NUMBER	13
SEARCH BY ARTICLE NUMBER.....	14
SEARCH BY CONCLUSION.....	19
SEARCH BY DATE.....	20
THE SEARCH, NEW SEARCH AND COUNT BUTTONS	21
INTERFACE LANGUAGE.....	21
VIEWING SEARCH RESULTS	22
<i>DISPLAY METHOD</i>	23
<i>SORT BY</i>	23
<i>PRINTING THE RESULT LIST</i>	24
THE RESULT LIST	24
VIEWING THE DOCUMENTS.....	25
FINDING OTHER RELATED DOCUMENTS	28
VIEWING THE DOCUMENT NOTICE PAGE.....	29
VIEWING THE DOCUMENT SUMMARIES	30
THE SEARCH OPTIONS SCREEN	31
HOW TO COPY AND PASTE FROM THE SCREEN	32

ABOUT THE DATABASE

The European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) Portal is a powerful, user-friendly information system which provides access to the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights, the European Commission of Human Rights and the Committee of Ministers. The judgments, decisions, resolutions and reports of these bodies are held in a database and can be consulted via a sophisticated search screen.

To ensure the most efficient use of the database as a research tool, the Portal is updated regularly and may be searched at any time.

WEB BROWSERS SUPPORTED

The ECHR Portal supports the following platforms and web browsers:

Microsoft Windows:

- Internet Explorer 5.5 and upwards
- Netscape Navigator 6.1 and upwards
- Mozilla 1.4 and upwards
- Firefox 1.0 and upwards

Mac OS up to version 9.1:

- Netscape Navigator 6.1 and upwards
- Mozilla 1.4 and upwards

Mac OS X:

- Netscape Navigator 6.1 and upwards
- Mozilla 1.4 and upwards
- Firefox 1.0 and upwards
- Safari

If you have a previous version of any of these browsers please upgrade to the latest version.

CASE-LAW COLLECTIONS

The case-law of the Convention organs has been split into separate sections, which can be searched either individually or together - Judgments, Admissibility decisions and Resolutions of the Committee of Ministers.

Certain documents (such as Screening Panel decisions) ceased to be generated with the advent of the single Court on 1 November 1998. Others will soon follow suit (Resolutions under former Article 32 of the Convention and, as from 31 October 1999, Commission Reports). However, these categories of documents remain available for searching¹.

New documents are regularly added to the Portal and work is currently under way on introducing the backlog of old decisions and reports to the system. Presently, the availability of documents within the Portal is as follows:

Court	Judgments / Admissibility decisions (November 1998 →)	ALL
Court	Judgments / Screening Panel decisions (1959-October 1998)	ALL
Commission	Admissibility decisions (1986 →)	ALL
Commission	Admissibility decisions (1955 - 1986)	some published decisions
Commission	Reports (<i>public only</i>)	1986 →
Committee of Ministers	Resolutions (execution)	ALL
Committee of Ministers	Resolutions (merits)	ALL

¹ Admissibility decisions taken by committees of three Commission members/judges are not included in the database.

BASIC PRINCIPLES – EXAMPLE OF A SEARCH

When you connect to the portal the following search screen will appear:

The screenshot shows the ECHR Portal Search interface. On the left-hand side, there is a tree view under "ECHR Document Collections" with "HUDOC" expanded, showing "Decisions", "Judgments" (checked), "Reports *", and "Resolutions". The main search area includes a "Text" input field containing "Heathrow", a "Language" section with "English" checked and "French" unchecked, and "Importance Level" checkboxes for 1, 2, and 3. There are also fields for "Case Title", "Independent State", "Application Number", "Word", "Conclusion", and "Date". A "Sorted by" dropdown is set to "Relevance (descending)". Buttons for "Search", "Count", "New Search", and "Modify Options" are visible. A "French Interface" link is also present.

On the left-hand side of the screen you can choose which case-law collections you want to search in. Please note the default collection to search is **JUDGMENTS**. If you wish to search in other collections such as DECISIONS you must click on the appropriate collection box.

Click here to select the language of the documents you wish your search to return

Click here to change the interface language

The search you wish to conduct will be defined in these boxes. Search criteria can be entered in one or several boxes at a time, depending on the complexity of your request

In this example above we are looking for all documents from the Judgments collection containing the word “Heathrow”.

HOW TO SORT YOUR RESULTS

Having chosen the case-law collections in which you want to search and the language(s) of the documents you want to find, you can choose how you want the database to sort your results (N.B. the default sort is RELEVANCE).

Click on the arrow next to the **Sorted by** box on the right of the screen to select an item from the menu

Relevance (descending) - when searching for a particular term in the text, this option will give the document with the most occurrences of this term first

Date (Oldest first) - reverse chronological order

Date (Newest first) - chronological order

Title (A-Z) - alphabetical order by title

Title (Z-A) - reverse alphabetical order by title

Respondent State (A-Z) - alphabetical order by respondent state

Respondent State (Z-A) - reverse alphabetical order by respondent state

Application Number (A-Z) - numerical order by application numbers

Application Number (Z-A) - reverse numerical order by application numbers

When you click on the **Search** button the Portal will perform your search and return a result list.

THE RESULT LIST SCREEN

Click on the title of the case to see the document in Internet format (HTML).

Click on Search to return to the **Search** screen

European Court of Human Rights
Council of Europe
European Court of Human Rights Portal

Search Results Help Log Off

Display Method HTML Sort By Relevance (descending)

8 Results Found Result Page: 1

Case Title	Document Type	Size	Violation Status	Reference Number	Date	Country	Notice
1. CASE OF HATTON AND OTHERS v. THE UNITED KINGDOM	Judgment (Merits and Just Satisfaction)	236 Kb	No violation of Art...	36022/97	08/07/2003	United Kingdom	Notice
2. CASE OF HATTON AND OTHERS v. THE UNITED KINGDOM	Judgment (Merits and just satisfaction)	142 Kb	Violation of Art. 8 ...	36022/97	02/10/2001	the United Kingdom	Notice
3. CASE OF POWELL AND RAYNER v. THE UNITED KINGDOM	Judgment (Merits)	92 Kb	No violation of Art...	9310/81	21/02/1990	the United Kingdom	A172 Notice
4. CASE OF ATLAN v. THE UNITED KINGDOM	Judgment (Merits and just satisfaction)	114 Kb	Violation of Art. 6-...	36533/97	19/06/2001	the United Kingdom	Notice
5. CASE OF AIR CANADA v. THE UNITED KINGDOM	Judgment (Merits)	156 Kb	No violation of P1-1...	18465/91	05/05/1995	the United Kingdom	A316-A Notice
6. CASE OF VILVARAJAH AND OTHERS v. THE UNITED KINGDOM	Judgment (Merits)	221 Kb	No violation of Art...	13163/87;13164/87;13165/87;...	30/10/1991	the United Kingdom	A215 Notice
7. CASE OF MCGONNELL v. THE UNITED KINGDOM	Judgment (Merits and just satisfaction)	129 Kb	Preliminary objectio...	28488/95	08/02/2000	the United Kingdom	Reports of Judgments... Notice
8. CASE OF MORENO GOMEZ v. SPAIN	Judgment (Merits and Just Satisfaction)	89 Kb	Violation of Art. 8\...	4143/02	16/11/2004	Spain	Notice

Click on the icons to download an original version of this document or to open an original version within your browser (see the sections "Opening a Copy of the Original Document" and "Downloading and Opening a Copy of the Original Document" below).

Click on **Notice** to see the profile information associated with a document (see the section "Viewing The Document Notice Page" below).

Click on the three dots ... to expand and view the entire conclusion text

SEARCHING – EXPLAINED IN DETAIL

Search criteria can be entered into one or several of the fields on the search screen, depending on the complexity of the search and the precision of the desired result.

NOTE

As the Portal is highly intuitive, you do not need to worry about capital letters and foreign accents when creating your search. For example, the database will find the **Söderbäck** case whether you type with the accents or without (i.e. **Soderback**).

In the sections that follow the available fields on the search screen are described in detail.

TEXT SEARCHING

Entering terms in the **Text** box carries out a search for a particular "item" in the main text of a document, whether that item be a single word, a phrase, a sentence etc.

To find documents containing the word 'Heathrow', type **Heathrow** in the Text box.

Click here to conduct the search.

You will notice that in this example the search has been restricted to Judgments and Admissibility decisions, in both English and French, and will be sorted by Date (newest first), i.e. showing the most recent document first.

In addition to the simple search defined above you can use the Portal to formulate much more complex searches. To assist you the table below details the wide range of searching syntax that the Portal understands and provides practical examples of their use.

ECHR Portal Searching Syntax		
Search Parameters	Meaning	Examples, i.e. what to type in the 'Text' field
Word	A sequence of one or more adjacent letters or numbers, and including specific punctuation characters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Burglary ➤ Constitution
Phrase / sentence / Paragraph	Groups together words in the order you wish to find them – phrase searching – “word word”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ "prison sentence" ➤ "Court of Cassation" ➤ "Law no. 65-543"
AND	Finds documents containing both words in any order- word AND word .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ police AND violence ➤ infringement AND rights
OR	Finds documents containing either of the two words - word OR word .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ violence OR cruelty ➤ police OR army
NOT	Finds documents that do not contain the specified word - word NOT word .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NOT television ➤ NOT hearing
Proximity	Finds documents containing words which are within 80 words of each other in a document - word NEAR word .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ violence NEAR unnecessary ➤ violation NEAR damage
Precedence	Finds documents containing words which, although not necessarily together, must appear in the specified order - { word word }	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ {radio television} ➤ {hearing conviction}
Multiple character wildcard	Replaces any number of missing letters - *ab, a*b, or ab*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ violat* (violation, violate, violates, violated, violator, violating etc.)
Single character wildcard	Replaces any single letter - a?b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ violate? (violated, violates)

Combinations of the above search criteria are also possible. E.g.

To find the phrase 'court of appeal' within 80 words of the word 'impartial':

Text	"court of appeal" NEAR impartial
------	----------------------------------

To find documents containing either the word 'prejudice' or all words beginning with 'discrim':

Text	prejudice OR discrim*
------	-----------------------

To find documents which contain the word 'democratic' before the word 'vote', as well as, the words 'free elections' together:

Text	{democratic vote} AND "free elections"
------	--

TEXT SEARCHING IN ZONES

You can further refine your text search by choosing an option from the zone list. The default option is to search the **complete text** of each document for the term(s) you enter in the **Text** field.

For text, search in	Complete Text	Zone
---------------------	---------------	------

However using this list you can choose from one of ten zones which correspond to sections which appear in many documents within the HUDOC collection. Tracing a certain theme in judges' separate opinions or tracking down a particular statute of national law thus become much more manageable tasks.

The screenshot shows the ECHR Portal Search interface in Microsoft Internet Explorer. The browser address bar shows the URL: <http://cmiskp.echr.coe.int/tkp197/search.asp?sessionId=1221650&skin=hudoc-en>. The page title is "European Court of Human Rights Portal". The search form includes a "Text" field, a "Language" dropdown, an "Importance Level" dropdown (set to 3), and a "Zone" dropdown menu. The "Zone" dropdown is open, showing a list of options: "The Law", "Complete Text", "Introduction", "Procedure", "The Facts", "Commission Procedure", "The Law", "Reasons", "Separate Opinions", "Opinion", "Recapitulation", and "Appendix". A callout box with an arrow pointing to the "Zone" dropdown contains the text: "Click and choose from this list to carry out a Text search in a more precise zone within the documents." Other search options include "Search", "Count", "New Search", "Modify Options", "French Interface", and "Sorted by" (set to "Relevance (descending)"). The date range is set to "from" to "18/11/2004" in "dd/mm/yyyy" format. The left sidebar shows "ECHR Document Collections" with "HUDOC" expanded to show "Decisions", "Judgments", "Reports", and "Resolutions".

LANGUAGE & IMPORTANCE LEVEL

You can use the **language boxes** to indicate that you want the documents returned by your search to either be in English or French. By selecting both boxes results will be returned in both languages. Each document from the HUDOC case-law collection has been assigned an importance level of either 1, 2 or 3² (with 1 having the highest importance rating). Therefore by selecting or unselecting the 'Importance Level' boxes you can search on and return documents according to level of importance.

TIP

To view the importance level for a document from the HUDOC collection you can open its Notice page (see the section 'Viewing the Document Notice Page' below).

2. IMPORTANCE LEVEL :

This enables you to perform a search according to the Importance Level of the case-law collection(s):

1. = High importance, Judgments which the Court considers make a significant contribution to the development, clarification or modification of its case-law, either generally or in relation to a particular State.
2. = Medium importance, Judgments which do not make a significant contribution to the case-law but nevertheless do not merely apply existing case-law.
3. = Low importance, Judgments with little legal interest - those applying existing case-law, friendly settlements and striking out judgments (unless these have any particular point of interest).

SEARCH BY TITLE

The title is the official name of the document, e.g. AFFAIRE DUPONT, CASE OF SMITH v. FRANCE etc. Any word from the title can be entered in the **Title** search box.

Remember that capitals and accents are not necessary for the Portal to understand what you are looking for, just type in lower case. The multiple and single character wildcards can also be used here (see the table on page 7 for more information).

Type a word from the title of a case here. e.g. if you are looking for documents with the word 'Société' in the title, type **societe**.

If you are looking for documents which contain a word beginning with 'Mich' in the title, type **mich***

Use these buttons **...** if you are not sure how to spell a particular word or if you simply wish to browse through an alphabetical list of all the possible entries. This will open a new window called a **Lookup**.

New Search clears the contents of the search fields, enabling you to start afresh.

Sorted by Relevance (d)

Modify Options
French Interface

Search
Count
New Search

Help Log Off

ECHR Document Collections
HUDOC
Decisions
Judgments
Reports *
Resolutions

* Texts no longer adopted under the Convention protection system

Complete Text Zone

Text

Language English French

Importance Level 1 2 3

Case Title

Respondent State

Application Number

Article


Keyword


Conclusion

Date from

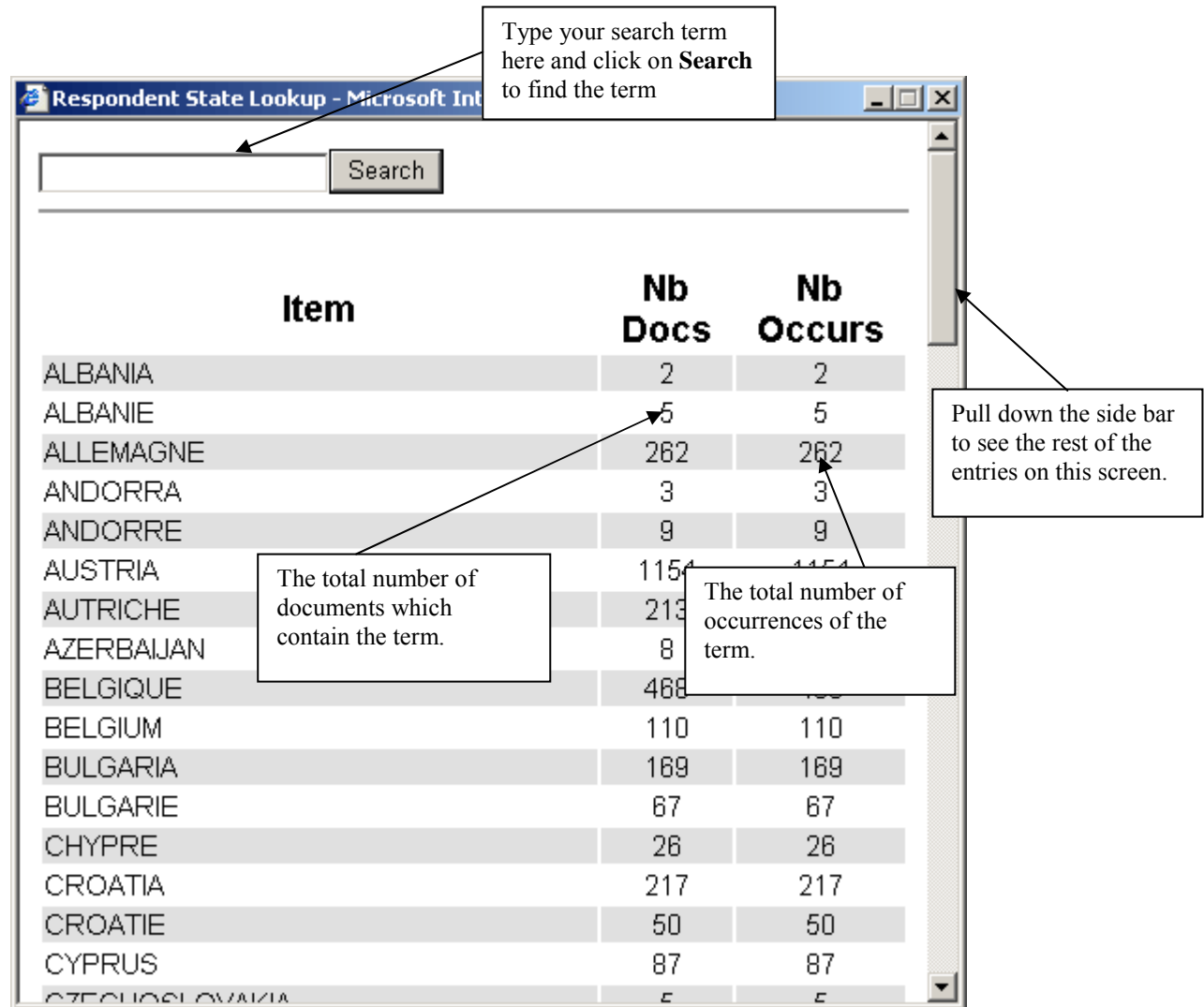
Local intranet

HOW TO USE THE LOOKUPS

Many search fields have a  button located just to the right of the field which when clicked on will open a look-up. e.g.

Case Title 

If you click this button a window, similar to that displayed below, will appear:



Type your search term here and click on **Search** to find the term

Pull down the side bar to see the rest of the entries on this screen.

Item	Nb Docs	Nb Occurs
ALBANIA	2	2
ALBANIE	5	5
ALLEMAGNE	262	262
ANDORRA	3	3
ANDORRE	9	9
AUSTRIA	1154	1154
AUTRICHE	213	213
AZERBAIJAN	8	8
BELGIQUE	468	468
BELGIUM	110	110
BULGARIA	169	169
BULGARIE	67	67
CHYPRE	26	26
CROATIA	217	217
CROATIE	50	50
CYPRUS	87	87
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	5	5

The total number of documents which contain the term.

The total number of occurrences of the term.

This window is called a **Lookup** in the Portal. Lookups contain a list of only valid terms for a particular search field. For example the 'Defending State' lookup contains an alphabetical list of all the counties in the database.

TIP

Lookups are particularly useful if you wish to search for a certain term but are unsure of the spelling. All of the terms you see in the lookups are generated from the database, therefore you can be sure they are valid.

You can use the search field on the Lookup to locate a particular term. For example if you were unsure of the spelling of the term "kanagaratnam" you could open the case title lookup and enter the following into the search field:

A screenshot of a search interface. It features a text input field containing the text "ka*", followed by a button labeled "Search" with a small downward-pointing arrow to its right.

By clicking the search button all terms that begin with "ka" and have any number of following characters would then returned (including the term "kanagaratnam").

You can navigate through the list of terms in a Lookup by using the up and down arrows

A screenshot of a search interface. It features a text input field containing the text "a", followed by a button labeled "Search" with two small arrows (one pointing up, one pointing down) to its right.

Once you have located the term you are looking for click on it once. The Lookup window will then close and the selected term will be inserted into the relevant search field and enclosed in double quotation marks.

TIP

You can locate and add as many terms as you wish to the fields on the search screen via the Lookups.

NOTE

The contents of the Lookups are dependent upon:

- The case-law collection(s) selected and
- The language(s) chosen.

The lookups will only display terms specific to the case-law collections selected on the left-hand-side of the screen. For example if you have the Judgments and Reports collections selected then only terms related to both these collections will appear in the lookups. However if you de-select the Judgments collection then only terms related to the Reports collection will appear in the lookups.

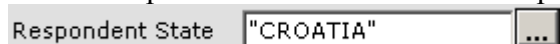
In addition the language selected on the search screen has an impact upon the contents of lookups. For example if you have only English selected as below:

A screenshot of a language selection interface. It shows the label "Language" followed by two radio buttons. The first radio button is checked and labeled "English". The second radio button is unchecked and labeled "French".

then only English terms will appear in any of the lookups. If you have both English and French selected then both English and French terms will appear in the lookups.

SEARCH BY RESPONDENT STATE

If you want to search for all cases against a particular country, enter the name of the country in the 'Respondent State' field. For example:



Respondent State

You can search on more than one State name by enclosing each one in double quotes and separating it from the next term with a space. For example:

"Norway" "Germany" "Finland"

In addition you can use all of the searching syntax the Portal understands (see the table on page 7 for a complete list) within the 'Respondent State' field to formulate more complex searches.

TIP

A search for **Suède** or **Pays-Bas** will not return any results if you have only checked the English language box on the search screen.

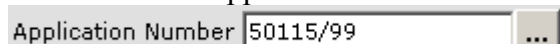


Language English French

If you wish to search for a particular country name but are unsure of the correct spelling or if you just wish to browse through an alphabetical list of valid terms, click the button to the right of the 'Respondent State' field. This will open the Defending State lookup. Lookups are described in detail in the section 'How to use the Lookups' above.

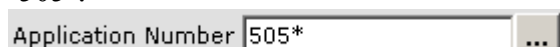
SEARCH BY APPLICATION NUMBER

If you know the application number for a particular case, you can search on it by entering that number in the 'Application Number' field. For example:



Application Number

If you cannot recall the entire application number you can search on just part of it. For example the search below would return all cases with application numbers that begin with '505':




Application Number

You can also search on more than one application number by separating the numbers (enclosed in double quotes) with a space. E.g.:

"68255/01" "68256/01" "68257/01"

Additionally you can use all of the searching syntax the Portal understands (see the table on page 7 for a complete list) within the 'Application Number' field to formulate more complex searches.

If you wish to search for a particular application number but are unsure of the entire sequence of numbers or if you just wish to browse through an alphabetical list of valid terms, click the  button to the right of the 'Application Number' field. This will open the Application Number lookup. Lookups are described in detail in the section 'How to use the Lookups' above.

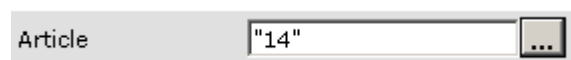
SEARCH BY ARTICLE NUMBER


The article numbers in the Portal database are those set out in the European Convention on Human Rights as it stands today.

Simply follow the format in the table below for the Portal to be able to process your search. You will see that you do not need to type the words **Article**, **Art.**, **paragraph** or **§** in the Article box.

To search for	Type the following
Article 8	8
Article 5 § 2	5-2
Article 6 §. 3 d)	6-3-d
Article 2 of Protocol no. 1	P1-2
Article 14 in conjunction with Article 3	14+3
Article 6 in general and/or any paragraph of Article 6	6*

If you want to search for all cases which contain a particular article number, enter it into the 'Article Number' field. For example:




Article 

You can search on more than one article number by separating the numbers (enclosed in double quotes) with a space. E.g.:

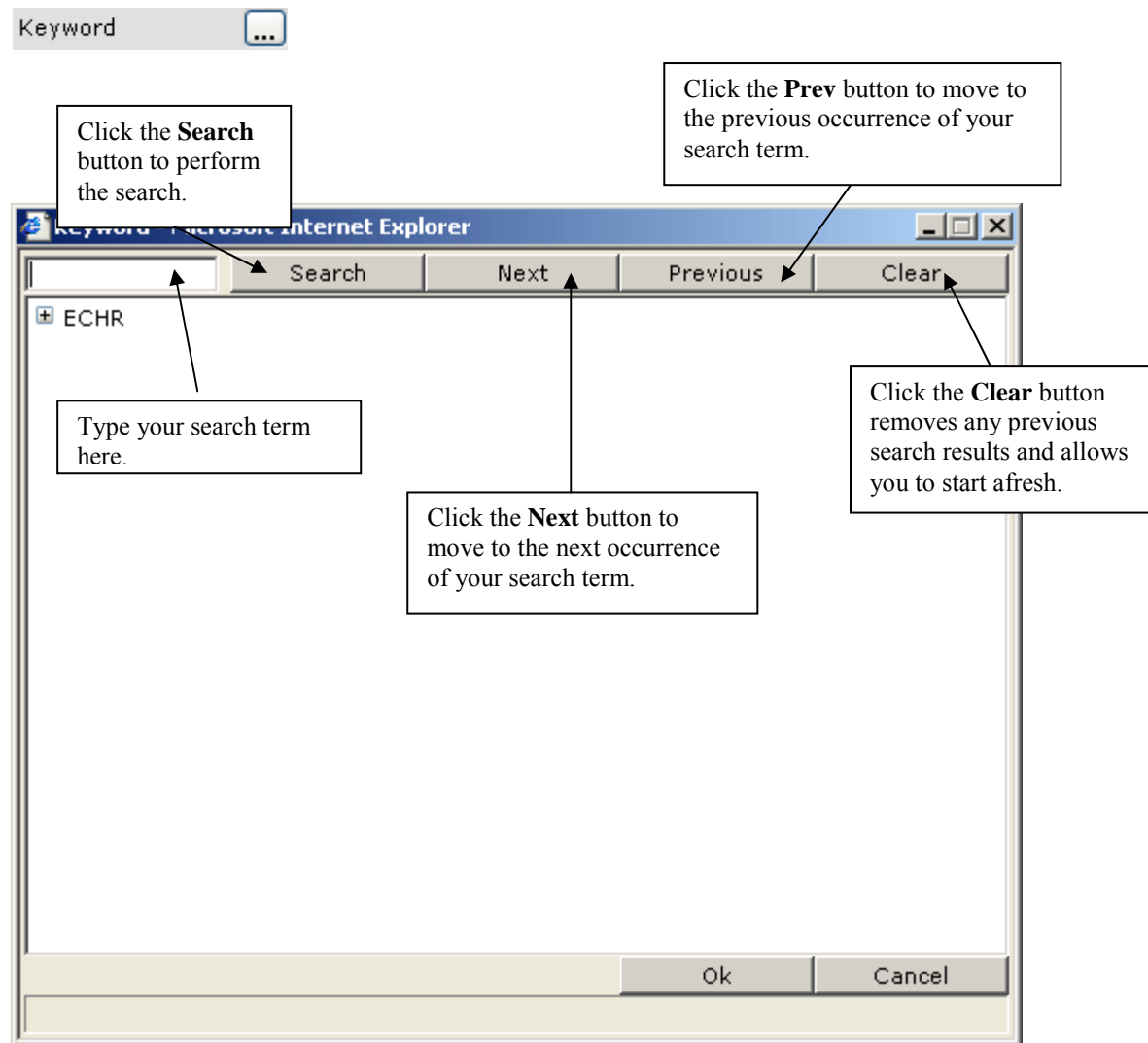
"13+10" "9-1" "6"

In addition you can use all of the searching syntax the Portal understands (see the table on page 7 for a complete list) within the 'Article Number' field to formulate more complex searches.

If you wish to search for a particular article number but are unsure of the entire sequence of numbers or if you just wish to browse through an alphabetical list of valid terms, click the  button to the right of the 'Article Number' field. This will open the Article Number lookup. Lookups are described in detail in the section 'How to use the Lookups' above.

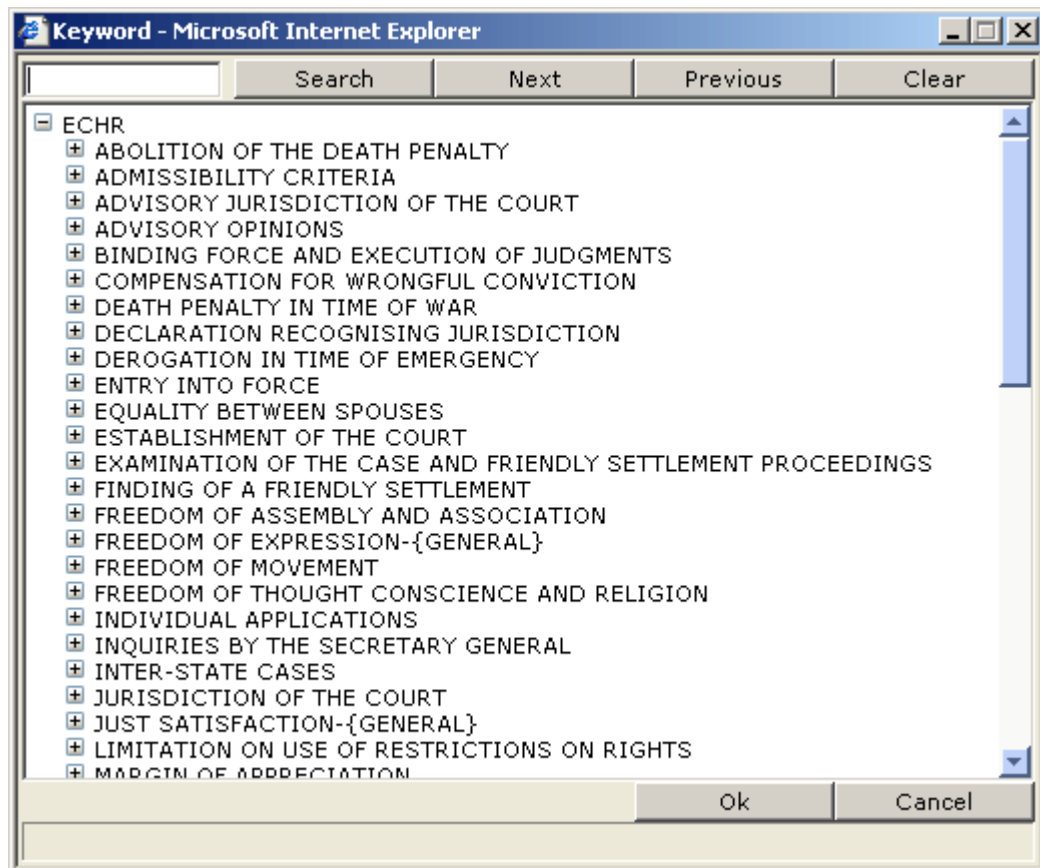
SEARCH BY KEYWORD

If you click the 'Keyword' lookup button on the search screen the Keyword window will appear:



NOTE

When you open this window only ECHR will be displayed. However if you click the icon then a hierarchy of terms will appear (see below)



These terms are called **Keywords** in the Portal. Each case from the HUDOC collection has a list of keywords associated with it that summarise the legal issues examined. The keywords were (in most instances) taken directly from the text of the European Convention on Human Rights. Performing a search in the Portal using these keywords will enable you to find a group of documents with similar legal content.

For example if you enter FREEDOM and do a search the following screen appears:



e.g. freedom to impart information
 necessary in a democratic society
 obtain attendance of witnesses

TIP

In order to view the list of keywords associated with a case from the HUDOC case-law collection you can open its Notice page (see the section 'Viewing the Document Notice Page' below for more information on the Notice page).


NOTE

The Keyword button will only appear on the search screen when one or more boxes from the HUDOC case-law collection are selected.

Each keyword in the hierarchy can contain ‘child’ keywords which are directly related to the ‘parent’ keyword. By clicking the  icon next to a keyword you can view any child keywords. For example click the  icon next to the ‘Equality Between Spouses’ keyword and the following three child keywords will appear:


```

 EQUALITY BETWEEN SPOUSES
   MEASURES NECESSARY IN THE INTERESTS OF CHILDREN
   RELATIONS WITH CHILDREN
   SPOUSES
  
```



If you then click on the  icon next to the ‘Relations with Children’ keyword a further three child keywords will appear:

```


 EQUALITY BETWEEN SPOUSES
   MEASURES NECESSARY IN THE INTERESTS OF CHILDREN
   RELATIONS WITH CHILDREN
     AS TO MARRIAGE
     DURING MARRIAGE
     IN THE EVENT OF DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE
   SPOUSES
  
```

You can click the  icon to contract a keyword and hide any child keywords.

In order to locate a keyword there are two main approaches:

- Firstly you can navigate through the hierarchy via the  and  icons.
- Secondly you can enter a search term in the field at the top of the window and perform a search of the entire hierarchy. For example if you entered the following term into the search field:

use of force

and then clicked the  button the system would locate the term, highlight it in red and automatically expand the hierarchy to display it:

```

 RIGHT TO LIFE
   COMPETENT COURT
   DEATH PENALTY
   LIFE
   NON-DEROGABLE RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS
   PRESCRIBED BY LAW-{ART 2}
   USE OF FORCE
   RIGHT TO MARRY
   RIGHT TO RESPECT FOR PRIVATE AND FAMILY LIFE
  
```

TIP

In addition to searching for a particular keyword (such as 'use of force') you can also search on just part of a keyword using the * symbol. For example if you entered the following:

proc*

then 'PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS RELATING TO EXPULSION OF ALIENS' would be located and highlighted in red.

If there was more than one match for your search term you can use the button to move to the next occurrence of the term in the hierarchy or you can use the button to move back to the previous occurrence of the term.

Additionally you can use all of the searching syntax the Portal understands (see the table on page 7 for a complete list) within the 'Application Number' field to formulate more complex searches.

TIP

If you click the button then any keywords highlighted in red as a result of a search you have performed will have the red highlighting removed. This button removes any search results and allows you to perform a new search.

In order to select a keyword click on it once. It will then become highlighted in black bold text. You can select several keywords in this way. e.g.:

- PROHIBITION OF SLAVERY AND FORCED LABOUR
 - ALTERNATIVE CIVIL SERVICE
 - COMPULSORY LABOUR**
 - FORCED LABOUR**
 - NORMAL CIVIC OBLIGATIONS
 - SERVICE EXACTED IN CASE OF CALAMITY
 - SERVICE EXACTED IN CASE OF EMERGENCY
 - SERVICE OF MILITARY CHARACTER
 - SERVITUDE
 - SLAVERY**
 - WORK REQUIRED OF DETAINEES
 - WORK REQUIRED TO BE DONE DURING CONDITIONAL RELEASE

Once you have selected one or more keywords click the button at the bottom of the screen. The window will then close and the selected keyword(s) will appear on the search screen. e.g.:

Keyword "COMPULSORY LABOUR" "FORCED LABOUR"
SLAVERY

You can then perform a search for all documents which contain those keywords.

NOTE

You cannot add, modify or delete keywords directly from the search screen. You must open and use the Keyword window instead.

SEARCH BY CONCLUSION

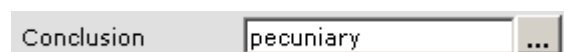
A number of documents in the HUDOC collection contain a brief summary of the outcome of the case, for example whether there has been a violation of the Convention and whether any damage has been awarded. Conclusions such as the following exist in the Portal:

- Violation of Art. 6-1
- Pecuniary damage - financial award
- No violation of Art. 14+8
- Struck out of the list (friendly settlement)

TIP

In order to view the conclusion(s) associated with a case from the HUDOC case-law collection you can open its Notice page (see the section ‘Viewing the Document Notice Page’ below for more information on the Notice page).

You can enter a single word into the ‘Conclusion’ field and perform a search for all documents which contain that word in the text of their conclusions. For example searching on the term below would return all documents which contain the word ‘pecuniary’ in their conclusion text:



Conclusion ...


However a single word may appear in the conclusion text of more than one case. You can be more precise by enclosing several words in sequence in double quotes, e.g.:

"pecuniary damage - financial award"

You can also search on more than one conclusion by separating the search terms (enclosed in double quotes) with a space. E.g.:

"partly admissible" "partly inadmissible"

In addition you can use all of the searching syntax the Portal understands (see table on page 7 for more information) within the ‘Conclusion’ field to formulate more complex searches.

If you wish to search on a particular conclusion but are unsure of the spelling of certain words or if you just wish to browse through an alphabetical list of valid terms, click the  button to the right of the ‘Conclusion’ field. This will open the Conclusion lookup. Lookups are described in detail in the section ‘How to Use the Lookups’ above.

SEARCH BY DATE

By default, when you perform a search in the Portal it is not restricted to any specific date range. When you open the Portal you will notice that today's date is displayed in the **to** field:

Date from to 15/03/2004 dd/mm/yyyy

However you can restrict your search to a period of your choosing. To do this enter a date in the **from** box and/or change the date in the **to** box. For example if you wanted to search for and return all documents from the sixth of March 2004 until the eleventh of March 2004 you would enter the following:

Date from 06/03/2004 to 11/03/2004 dd/mm/yyyy

Enter a date here to define the start of the period that you want to search on.

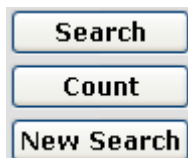
Change the date here to set the end of the period that you want to search on.

There are two things to remember:

- Dates must always be entered in the format **DD/MM/YYYY**.
- Dates are inclusive. For example searching from 01/01/1996 to 31/12/1996 will return all 1996 documents. Searching from 01/09/1994 to 30/09/1994 will return all documents from September 1994.

THE SEARCH, NEW SEARCH AND COUNT BUTTONS

The following three buttons appear on the search screen:



When you click the **Search** button the Portal performs a search and, should any results be found, displays those results.

When you click the **Count** button the Portal determines the total number of documents that your search returned and displays that total. For example:

4638 results found for this search.

Click [here](#) to see the first 100 results or [here](#) to return to the search screen.


You are given the option to view the results or to return to the search screen.

When you click the **New Search** button the Portal clears the contents of every search field and option on the search screen. Each search field and option is thus returned to its default state and you are free to define a new search.

INTERFACE LANGUAGE

The Portal is available in both an French and English interface. When using the English interface you can swap to the French interface by clicking the **French Interface** link on the search screen. Equally when using the French interface you can jump to the English Interface by clicking the **Interface en Anglais** link on the search screen.

VIEWING SEARCH RESULTS

When you click the  button, the Portal will analyse the information you entered on the search screen and produce a list of results in the order you specified. This process may take a few seconds depending on the complexity of the request. The screenshot below displays a typical result list:

Click here to return to the search screen

The total number of items in the result list will be displayed here. For this particular search, the Portal found 33 documents, of which it has displayed the first ten.

If your search returned more results that can fit on a single page you can jump to a specific page here.

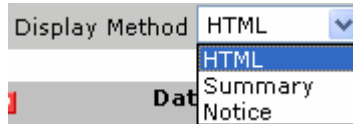
Case Name	Document Type	File Size	Document Number	Date	Country	Notice
1. CASE OF BURSUC v. ROMANIA	Judgment (Merits and Just Satisfaction)	20 Kb	42066/98	12/10/2004	Romania	Notice
2. CASE OF CARABULEA v. ROMANIA	Decision			21/09/2004	Romania	Notice
3. CASE OF ABDULSAMET YA...	Judgment (Merits and Just Satisfaction)					Notice
4. CASE OF ISSA AND OTHER...	Judgment (Merits)	178 Kb	31821/96			
5. SAID v. THE NETHERLANDS	Decision (Final)	67 Kb	2345/02	05/10/2004		
6. CASE OF KRASTANOV v. BULGARIA	Judgment (Merits and Just Satisfaction)	126 Kb	50222/99	30/09/2004	Bulgaria	Notice
7. CASE OF CELIK AND IMRET v. TURKEY	Judgment (Merits and Just Satisfaction)	113 Kb	44093/98	26/10/2004	Turkey	Notice
8. GOMES v. SWEDEN	Decision (Partial)	62 Kb	34566/04	12/10/2004	Sweden	Notice
9. MIKHEYEV v. RUSSIA						Notice

NOTE

By default the Portal will retrieve the first one hundred matching results and display them on pages of ten at a time. If you want to increase the number of results returned (up to a maximum of 200) or change the number of results shown on each Result page see the section 'The Search Options Screen' below.

DISPLAY METHOD

At the top of the result list screen is the ‘Display Method’ list. This list allows you to select one of three options:

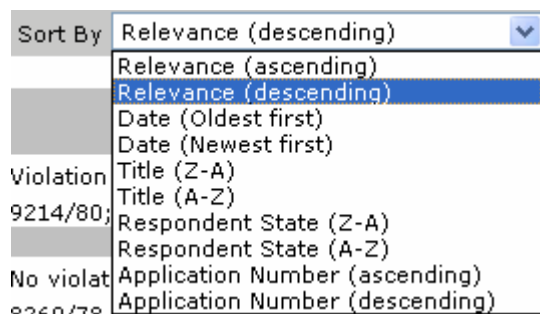


These options affect how each of the documents in the result list will open.

- **HTML**
This is the default option. If selected documents will open in HTML view (see the section ‘Viewing the Documents’ below for more information).
- **Summary**
If Summary is selected an automatic summary of the document will appear (see the section ‘Viewing the Document Summaries’ below for more information).
- **Notice**
If Notice is selected then the notice page will appear (see the section ‘Viewing the Document Notice Page’ below for more information).

SORT BY

Also at the top of the result list screen is the **Sort By** list:



This list contains the same sort options as in the **Sort By** list on the Search screen and allows you to quickly and easily sort the results of your search.

PRINTING THE RESULT LIST

Also at the top of the result list screen is the 'Print' icon:



By clicking on this icon you can print the current result list page.

THE RESULT LIST

The result list provides a certain amount of information about each document including the title, the application number and the date.

Click here to move between the result list pages

Case Title

Conclusion

Date

Document Type

Application Number(s)

Publication

Relevance indicator (Text search only) - the larger the black section from left to right, the more relevant your search term is in this document.

As space can be limited, some of the result list entries might be truncated. Leave the cursor on this symbol or click on it to see the complete information.

Case Title	Document Type	Relevance Indicator	Conclusion	Date	Application Number(s)	Publication
1. CASE OF HATTON AND OTHERS v. THE UNITED KINGDOM	Judgment (Merits and just satisfaction)	142 Kb	Violation of Art. 8 ...	02/10/2001	36022/97	the United Kingdom
2. CASE OF HATTON AND OTHERS v. THE UNITED KINGDOM	Judgment (Merits and Just Satisfaction)	236 Kb	No violation of Art....	08/07/2003	36022/97	United Kingdom
3. AFFAIRE HATTON ET AUTRES c. ROYAUME-UNI	Arrêt (Au principal)	250 Kb	Non-violation de l'a...	08/07/2003	36022/97	Royaume-Uni
4. CASE OF HATTON AND OTHERS v. THE UNITED KINGDOM	Judgment (Merits)	92 Kb	No violation of Art....	21/02/1990	9310/81	the United Kingdom
5. AFFAIRE POWELL ET RAYNER c. ROYAUME-UNI	Arrêt (Au principal)	91	No violation of Art....	21/02/1990		Royaume-Uni
6. CASE OF ATLAN v. THE UNITED KINGDOM	Judgment (Merits and just satisfaction)	115 Kb	Violation of Art. 6-...	19/06/2001	36533/97	the United Kingdom
7. CASE OF AIR CANADA v. THE UNITED KINGDOM	Judgment (Merits)	156 Kb	No violation of P1-1...	05/05/1995	18465/91	the United Kingdom
8. AFFAIRE AIR CANADA c. ROYAUME-UNI	Arrêt (Au principal)		Non-violation de P1-...	05/05/1995	8465/91	Royaume-Uni
9. CASE OF VILLY...	Contains commands for...					

Directly below the title of each document is a relevance indicator, showing the relative number of occurrences of your search term(s) in the document. This is particularly useful when searching in the Text, as it will give you an indication of how pertinent your search item is in the given document.

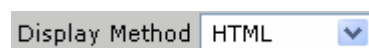
VIEWING THE DOCUMENTS

You can view documents in one of 3 ways:

- View a HTML version of the Document
- Open a copy of the Original Document
- Download and open a copy of the original document

Viewing a HTML Version of a Document

If you have the **Display Method** set to **HTML**:



You can simply click on a case title and the document will open in HTML view:

 A screenshot of the ECHR Portal HTML view in Microsoft Internet Explorer. The page title is "European Court of Human Rights Portal". The main content area shows the case "In the case of I.J.L. and Others v. the United Kingdom". There are several callout boxes with arrows pointing to specific elements:

- One box points to the "Summary" link in the navigation bar, with the text: "Click here to see a **summary** of the document".
- Another box points to the "Notice" link in the navigation bar, with the text: "Click here to see the Document's **notice** page".
- A third box points to the "Close" link in the navigation bar, with the text: "Click here to **close** the document and return to the result list".
- A fourth box points to the "Previous" and "Next" document navigation buttons, with the text: "Click on these buttons to see the previous/next document in the result list".
- A fifth box points to the "Text" search function, with the text: "If you have carried out a **text**, click here to go straight to the next (or previous) occurrence of that term in the document."

TIP

When printing a document in HTML view, remember that the format (including page breaks) may be different to the original. If you want to print a document with the original layout intact, see the sections "Opening a Copy of the Original Document" and "Downloading and Opening a Copy of the Original Document" below.

Opening a Copy of the Original Document

You can also open a copy of the original document directly in your word processor or text editor. As the formatting of a document can often be different when viewed in an Internet browser, this function is particularly interesting for those who want to peruse a document in its original layout (particularly valid for more recent cases). Not only will the database open up an original version of the case file for you, but this will enable you to cut, copy and paste more easily.

To open the original version of the document you simply click on the document icon in the result list. You will see two different document icons in the Portal:



This is the document icon means that the document exists only in text (.txt) format.



This is the Word document icon means that the document exists in Microsoft Word (.doc) format.

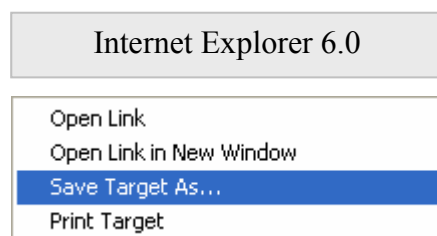
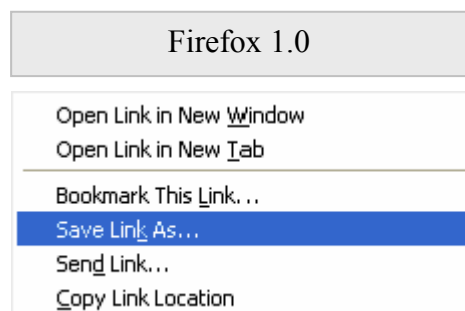
NOTE

Beneath each document icon is the size of the document in kilobytes (Kb). Larger documents may take slightly longer to open than smaller documents.

Downloading and Opening a Copy of the Original Document

You also have the option to download a copy of the original document to your computer. You might want to do this if you are doing a lot of work on one or two particular cases. Rather than having to locate the documents in the Portal each time, instead you can save copies and work on those.

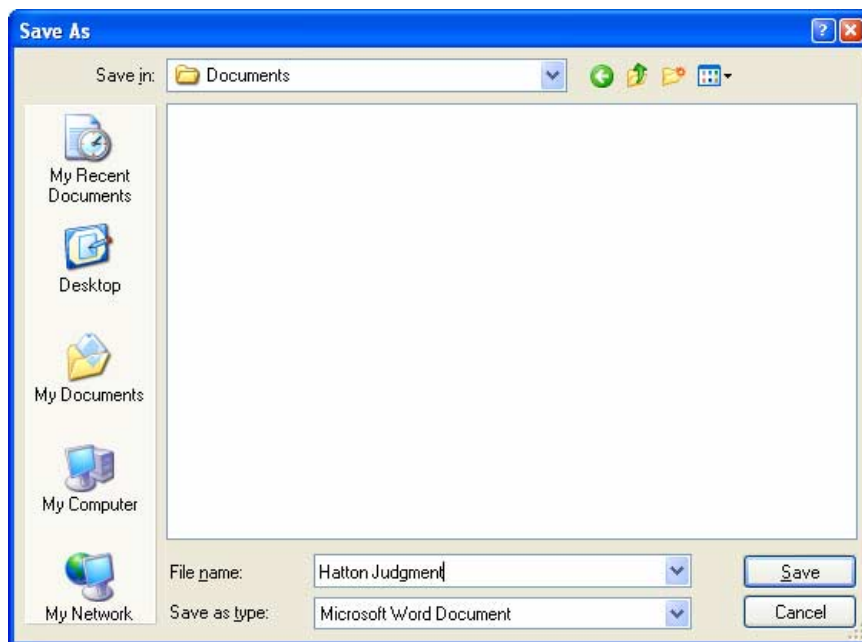
To download a particular document, right-click on a document icon in the result list and, depending on the type and version of the browser you are using, select the **Save Link As** or **Save Target As** option:



You will then need to specify:

- Where you want to save the document on your PC
- The name of the document you wish to save

Again this exact process will differ depending upon your operating system. However the screenshot below was taken from a Microsoft Windows XP PC where a document named **Hatton Judgment** is being saved in a folder called **Documents**:



FINDING OTHER RELATED DOCUMENTS

If you want to find other documents which are specifically related to the document you are currently viewing you can use the **Go To** list near the top of the screen:



The system will open a new window with another list of results for you to choose from (N.B. to close this particular window, click on the X in the top right-hand corner.)

Possible uses of this function include the following:

- You are looking at a judgment in English and you want to see the equivalent French translation
- You are looking at a decision in French and want to see the subsequent judgment and Committee of Minister's report.

VIEWING THE DOCUMENT NOTICE PAGE

Notice or profile information is associated with each document in the HUDOC collection and provides a brief idea of the scope of the case. The Notice includes basic data such as *Title*, *Date*, *Respondent* etc., as well as more specific legal data, such as *Keywords*, the national *Law at Issue*, who the case was *Referred by*, the *Strasbourg Case-Law* (jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights referred to in the document) etc.

To view the notice page associated with a particular document either

- Click on the **Notice** link in the result list or
- Set the Display Method to Notice and then click on one of the case titles in the result list

ECHR Portal Notice View - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Home Search Favorites Media

Address <http://cmiskp.echr.coe.int/tkp197/view.asp?item=7&portal=hbk&action=prof&highlight=austria%20%7C%20criminal%20%7C%20> Go Links Google

European Court of Human Rights Council of Europe

European Court of Human Rights Portal

Search Results Help Log Off

View Notice Summary Close All related English documents go to

Originating Body Court (First Section)
Document Type Judgment (Merits)

Applicant [Redacted]
Respondent State [austria](#)
Date of Judgment 08/04/2004
Conclusion No violation of Art. 6-1
Articles 6-1
Separate Opinions Yes
Law at Issue Motor Vehicles Act, section 103(2)

Strasbourg Case Law Allen v. the United Kingdom (dec.), no. 76574/01, ECHR 2002-VIII ; Funke v. France, judgment of 25 February 1993, Series A no. 256-A, p. 22, § 44 ; Heaney and McGuinness v. Ireland, no. 34720/97, § 40, 41, 47, 55-59, ECHR 2000-XII ; I.J.L. and Others v. the United Kingdom, no. 29522/95, §§ 82-83, 100, ECHR 2000-IX ; J.B. v. Switzerland, no. 31827/96, §§ 63, 64, 66-71, ECHR 2001-III ; John Murray v. the United Kingdom, judgment of 8 February 1996, Reports 1996-I, p. 49, §§ 45, 47 ; P., R. and H. v. [austria](#), nos. 15135/89, 15136/89 and 15137/89, Commission's decision of 5 September 1989, Decisions and Reports 62, p. 319 ; Salabiaku v. France, judgment of 7 October 1988, Series A no. 141, pp. 15, 28 ; Saunders v. the United Kingdom, judgment of 17 December 1996, Reports 1996-VI, p. 2064, §§ 67-69 ; Serves v. France, judgment of 20 October 1997, Reports 1997-VI, pp. 2172-2174, §§ 42, 46 ; Soering v. the United Kingdom, judgment of 7 July 1989, Series A no. 161, p. 35, § 90 ; Tora Tolmos v. Spain, no. 23816/94, decision of 17 May 1995, Decisions and Reports 81, p. 82 ; Vasileva v. Denmark, no. 52792/99, § 34, 25 September 2003

Keywords "criminal PROCEEDINGS" "FAIR HEARING"

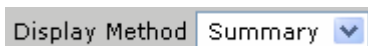
To link to this result use the following URL:
<http://cmiskp.echr.coe.int/tkp197/view.asp?action=html&key=35415&portal=hbk&source=external&table=285953B33D3AF94893DC49EF6600CEBD4>

Loading document CASE OF WEH v. AUSTRIA... Local intranet

VIEWING THE DOCUMENT SUMMARIES

If you perform a search for a specific keyword or phrase the Portal can generate an automatic summary of the information surrounding your search term.

For example if you perform a search for the Keyword **proportionality** you can view the summary for a specific document by selecting 'Summary' from the **Display Method** list on the result list screen and then clicking on the document title.



The system will then locate each occurrence of the search term in the document and display it, highlighted in red, along with the 10 words immediately preceding the term and the 10 words immediately following the term.

In the case of the **proportionality** search therefore a summary might look as follows:

...environment, the Government had not exceeded any relevant principle of **proportionality**, in that all reasonable and practicable measures had been and ...applicant's right to a court or transgress the principle of **proportionality** in breach of Article 6 (1) of the Convention. (d) ...rights or freedoms guaranteed by the Convention, the principle of **proportionality** may oblige it to make sure that such restrictions do ...environment, the Government had not exceeded any relevant principle of **proportionality**, in that all reasonable and practicable measures had been and

NOTE

In order for a summary to be generated you must search using a term that appears in the text of one or more documents. If you search for a term that appears only on the notice page associated with a document but not within the document itself you will get the following message when trying to view the summary:

None of the searched for criteria exist in the text of the document so no summary available

THE SEARCH OPTIONS SCREEN

By clicking on the [Modify Options](#) link on the search page you can alter how the Portal will return and display your search results.

Search Options

Type of Document Summary	Concept ▼
Number or Percentage of Sentences to Return for Concept Summary	Number of Sentences ▼
Number of Sentences to Return for Concept Summary	10
Percentage of Sentences to Return for Concept Summary	20
Maximum Number of Results to Find	100 ▼
Maximum Number of Results to Display on a Single Page	10 ▼

Apply

Click the **Apply** button to register your changes and return to the search screen

Maximum Number of Results to Find

This option determines the maximum number of documents that any search you perform will return. There are 4 possible values:

100 ▼
1
10
100
200

NOTE

By default the Portal will return a maximum of 100 documents but you can increase this to 200 if required. If your search returns more than 200 documents and you would like to know the exact number of results you can use the **Count** button on the search screen.

Maximum Number of Results to Display on a Single Page

In addition to specifying the maximum number of results to return you can also specify how many of those results should appear on a single result list page. By default the system will display 10 results per page but you can specify that up to 200 results should appear on a single result list page:

10 ▼
1
10
100
200

TIP

This option is particularly useful if you wish to print out a large number of cases. Rather than print several result list pages, each containing 10 results, you can print a single page of up to 200 results

NOTE

Be careful when modifying the '**Maximum Number of Results to Find**' and the '**Maximum Number of Results to Display on a Single Page**' options as they can combine to produce seemingly unexpected results. For example if you set the 'Maximum Number of Results to Find' option to 100 and the 'Maximum Number of Results to Display on a Single Page' to 200 then the system would only return a single result list page of 100 items. You would need to increase the 'Maximum Number of Results to Find' option in order to get all 200 results to display.

HOW TO COPY AND PASTE FROM THE SCREEN

Basic copying and pasting functions are available in the Portal, either by using the browser menu (Edit, Copy/Paste) or the keyboard shortcuts (Ctrl + C, Ctrl + V) after selecting the text to be copied.

However, depending on the word processor, some formatting styles may be different and the copied section may not look exactly the same as the original version.

For more information on how to get around this problem, see the sections on "How to view an original version of a document" and "How to download an original version of a document" above.