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| **European Convention on Human Rights**  **ECHR - Article 6:** Fair trial  **Article 6 – fair trial**  **Main article:** Article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights  Article 6 provides a detailed [**right to a fair trial**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Right_to_a_fair_trial)**,** including the right to a public hearing before an independent and impartial tribunal within reasonable time, the presumption of innocence, and other minimum rights for those charged with a criminal offence (adequate time and facilities to prepare their defence, access to legal representation, right to examine witnesses against them or have them examined, right to the free assistance of an interpreter).  The majority of convention violations that the court finds today are excessive delays, in violation of the "reasonable time" requirement, in civil and criminal proceedings before national courts, mostly in Italy and France. Under the "independent tribunal" requirement, the court has ruled that military judges in Turkish state security courts are incompatible with Article 6. In compliance with this Article, Turkey has now adopted a law abolishing these courts.  Another significant set of violations concerns the "confrontation clause" of Article 6 (i.e., the right to examine witnesses or have them examined). In this respect, problems of compliance with Article 6 may arise when national laws allow the use in evidence of the testimonies of absent, anonymous and vulnerable witnesses.   * [***Steel v. United Kingdom***](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/McLibel_Case) (1998) 28 EHRR 603 * [***Assanidze v. Georgia***](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assanidze_v._Georgia) [2004] ECHR 140 * [***Othman (Abu Qatada) v. United Kingdom***](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Othman_(Abu_Qatada)_v._United_Kingdom) (2012) – Abu Qatada could not be deported to Jordan as that would be a violation of Article 6 "given the real risk of the admission of evidence obtained by torture". This was the first time the court ruled that such an expulsion would be a violation of Article 6. |