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| **European Convention on Human Rights****ECHR - Article 7:** Retroactivity**Article 7 – retroactivity****Main article:** Article 7 of the European Convention on Human RightsSee also: [Ex post facto law](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ex_post_facto_law)Article 7 prohibits the retroactive criminalisation of acts and omissions. No person may be punished for an act that was not a criminal offence at the time of its commission. The article states that a criminal offence is one under either national or international law, which would permit a party to prosecute someone for a crime which was not illegal under domestic law at the time, so long as it was prohibited by international law. The Article also prohibits a heavier penalty being imposed than was applicable at the time when the criminal act was committed.Article 7 incorporates the legal principle [nullum crimen, nulla poena sine lege](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nullum_crimen%2C_nulla_poena_sine_lege%22%20%5Co%20%22Nullum%20crimen%2C%20nulla%20poena%20sine%20lege) into the convention.Relevant cases are:* [***Kokkinakis v. Greece***](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kokkinakis_v._Greece)***[1993] ECHR 20***
* [***S.A.S. v. France***](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/S.A.S._v._France)***[2014] ECHR 69***
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