

Press Release

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Case of Dorigo against Italy: sentence suspended to comply with the European Convention on Human Rights

Strasbourg, 29.03.2006 – The Committee of Ministers yesterday welcomed the suspension of the enforcement of the prison sentence imposed on Paolo Dorigo, following proceedings held to be in breach of the European Convention on Human Rights.

Noting that the case had been referred to the Constitutional Court, the Committee expressed satisfaction at the willingness of the Italian judiciary to interpret national law in the light of the country's international commitments and the need to comply with the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights.

The Constitutional Court will shortly take a position on existing Italian law which still does not allow re-opening of cases found to be in violation of the Convention.

The Committee encouraged the Italian authorities to seek appropriate means of erasing the consequences of the violations found in the applicant's case and to find a legal means of reopening the proceedings.

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Under the European Court of Human Rights, the finding of a violation requires respondent states, under the supervision of the Committee of Ministers, to adopt all measures to ensure adequate redress the applicant's situation and to avoid new, similar violations in the future.

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