

# Developments in Interstate Dispute Settlement before Regional Human Rights Courts



American Society  
of International Law

## Joint Webinar

American Society of International Law  
International Courts and Tribunals Interest Group  
&  
European Society of International Law  
Interest Group on International Courts and Tribunals

**13 December 2023, 10:00-11:00 EST/16:00-17:00 CET**

Registration for this webinar is free and open to the public at  
[www.asil.org/event/developments-interstate-dispute-settlement-regional-human-rights-courts](http://www.asil.org/event/developments-interstate-dispute-settlement-regional-human-rights-courts)

Regional human rights courts provide an important forum for interstate dispute settlement. The European Court of Human Rights has experienced an extraordinary rise in the number of interstate cases over the past decade. These include high-profile disputes relating to Russia's use of armed force in Georgia and Ukraine, as well as the conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh. At the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, states have instead used that court's advisory function to address a range of interstate disputes. For its part, the African Court of Human and Peoples' Rights has not experienced similar levels of interstate activity, notwithstanding the possibility for states to do so. Taken together, this record highlights the opportunities and challenges of interstate adjudication by judicial bodies at the regional level.

This joint ASIL/ESIL webinar will examine the phenomenon of interstate dispute settlement before regional human rights courts, including whether more states could begin turning to such courts to adjudicate interstate claims. Speakers will address topics including the rise in interstate cases arising out of armed conflict, the challenges posed by parallel proceedings or multi-forum litigation, and issues of procedure and fact-finding. When it comes to adjudicating international disputes, what do the regional human rights courts offer that other dispute settlement bodies do not?

**Moderators:**

- Michael A. Becker, Assistant Professor of International Human Rights Law, Trinity College Dublin; Co-convener, ESIL Interest Group on International Courts and Tribunals
- Cecily Rose, Associate Professor, Leiden University; Co-convener, ESIL Interest Group on International Courts and Tribunals

**Speakers:**

- Jorge Contesse, Professor of Law, Rutgers Law School
- Philip Leach, Professor of Human Rights Law, Middlesex University
- Isabella Risini, Senior Research Associate, Ruhr-University Bochum
- Manisuli Ssenyonjo, Professor of International Law and Human Rights, Brunel Law School