



UNITED NATIONS
HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR REFUGEES

2000



COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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**Second Colloquy on the European Convention on Human Rights and
the Protection of Refugees, Asylum Seekers
and Displaced Persons**

***Consolidation and Development of the Asylum-Related Jurisprudence of
the European Court of Human Rights***

**Council of Europe, Human Rights Building
Meeting Room of the Directorate General of Human Rights, Garden Level**

19 - 20 May 2000

PROGRAMME

Friday 19 May 2000

10.00 **Introduction**

- a. Opening Statement by Mr Pierre-Henri Imbert, Director General of Human Rights - DG II, Council of Europe;
- b. Opening Statement by Mr Christos L. Rozakis, Vice-President of the European Court of Human Rights;
- c. Opening Statement by Ms Erika Feller, Director of Department of International Protection, UNHCR.

10.30 **Session I : Protection of refugees against expulsion or extradition**

Chair: Mr Rudolf Bernhardt, Former President of the European Court of Human Rights.

- a. Cases in which expulsion or extradition would amount to inhuman treatment within the meaning of Article 3 of the Convention (including interim measures);
- b. Cases in which expulsion or extradition interferes with private and family life (Articles 8 and 12 of the Convention);
- c. Procedural guarantees against expulsion and extradition.

Presentation by two keynote speakers:

Mr Peer Lorenzen, Judge at the European Court of Human Rights;

Ms Nuala Mole, Director of the AIRE Centre (Advice on Individual Rights in Europe).

11.30-13.00 **Discussion/Debate**

Contributions from a panel of speakers, including:

Mr Wolfgang Strasser, Deputy to the Registrar of the European Court of Human Rights;

Mr Mark Kelly, Secretariat of the Committee for the Prevention of Torture, Directorate General of Human Rights, Council of Europe;

Mr Pierre Boussaroque, for the Agent of the French Government.

13.00 **Lunch Break**

14.30 **Session II : Status of refugees in the country where they seek asylum**

Chair: Mr Rick Towle, Senior Liaison Officer, Promotion of Refugee Law Section, Department of International Protection, UNHCR.

- a. Detention;
- b. Freedom of Movement and right to peaceful enjoyment of property;
- c. Access to welfare and social benefits;
- d. Non-discrimination.

Presentation by two keynote speakers:

Mr Ireneu Cabral Barreto, Judge at the European Court of Human Rights;

Mr Nicolas Blake, QC.

15.30-17.30 **Discussion/Debate**

Contributions from a panel of speakers, including:

Ms Nina Vajic, Judge at the European Court of Human Rights;

Mr Tekin Akillioğlu, Member of the European Committee of Social Rights, Council of Europe;

Mr Christian Levrat, Swiss Refugee Council.

18.00 **Reception hosted by the Director General of Human Rights** Cafeteria of the Human Rights Building

Saturday 20 May 2000

09.30 **Session III : Implementation and Impact of the European Court of Human Rights Judgments in the Member States, and on other International Conventions and Treaty Bodies**

Chair: Mr Hanno Hartig, Head of Department, Directorate General of Human Rights, Council of Europe

- a. The execution of the judgments of the European Court by the national authorities in asylum seeker and refugee cases;
- b. How the Committee of Ministers draws on the case law of the European Court of Human Rights and on other input to assist national legislation, policies and practices relating to asylum;
- c. Influence of the Court's judgements on other international treaty bodies (UN Human Rights Committee, Committee against Torture);
- d. Problems raised by the entry into force of the Dublin Convention and the Amsterdam Treaty (after Tampere).

Presentation by keynote speakers, including:

Mr Fredrik Sundberg, Principal Administrator, Department for the Execution of Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, Directorate General of Human Rights, Council of Europe;

Mr Geza Tessényi, Secretary of Ad Hoc Committee of Experts on Legal Aspects of Territorial Asylum, Refugees and Stateless Persons (CAHAR), Directorate General of Legal Affairs, Council of Europe;

Dr. Hélène Lambert, Lecturer, School of Law, University of Exeter.

10.30-12.00 **Discussion/Debate**

Contributions from a panel of speakers, including:

Mr Josep Casadevall, Judge at the European Court of Human Rights;

Baroness Sarah Ann Ludford, MEP, Co-ordinator for the Citizens' Freedoms and Rights, Justice and Home Affairs Committee, the European Parliament;

Mr Rick Towle, Senior Liaison Officer, Promotion of Refugee Law Section, Department of International Protection, UNHCR.

12.00 **Conclusion/Wrap-up Session**

Chair: Mr Jean-François Durieux, Deputy Director of the Bureau for Europe, UNHCR.

12.30 **End of the Colloquy**