



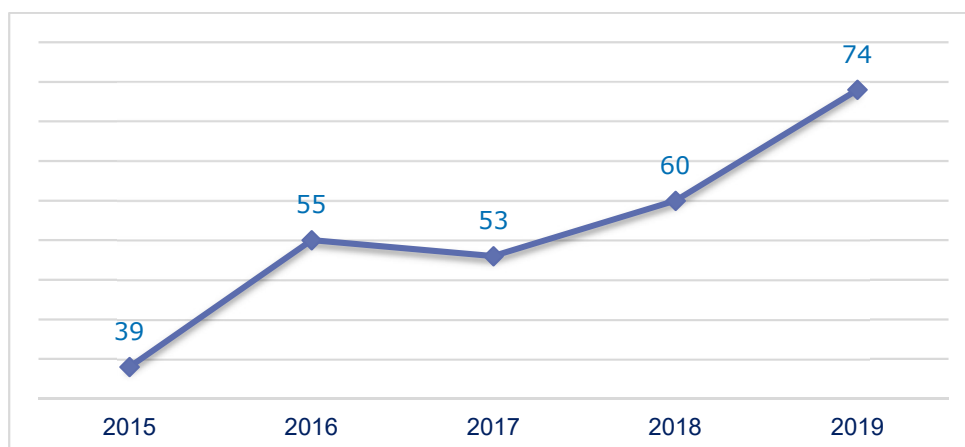
BULGARIA

Monitoring the Application of EUROPEAN UNION LAW

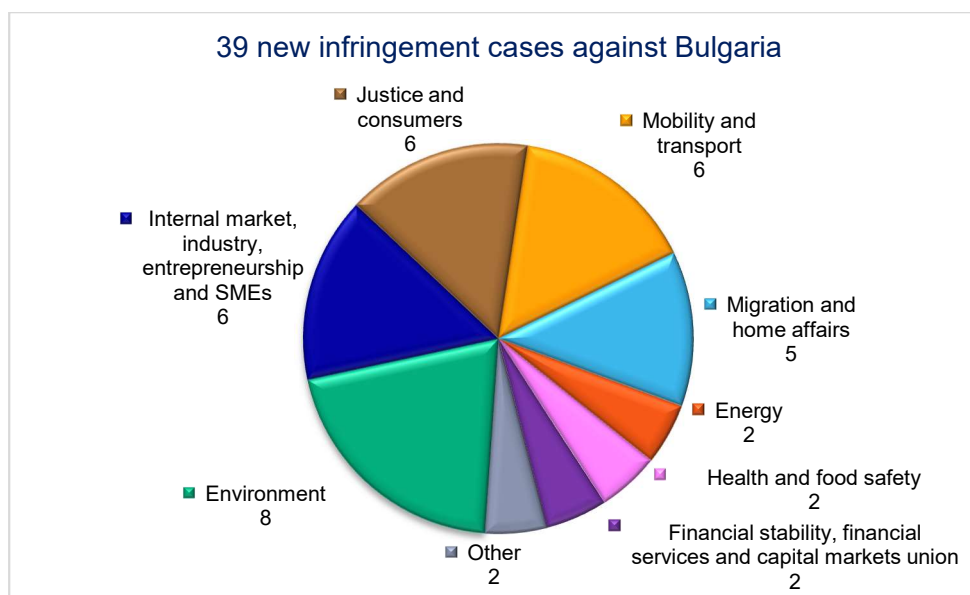
2019 Annual Report

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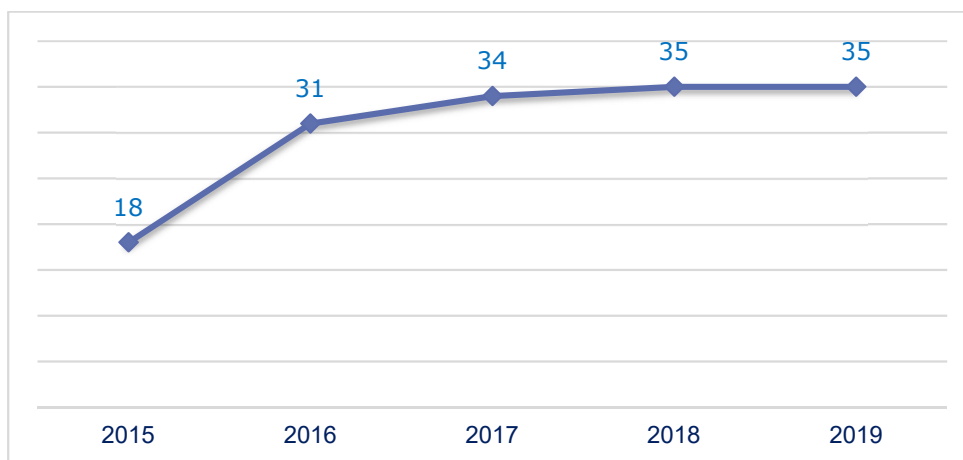
Infringement cases against Error! No text of specified style in document. **open on 31 December (2015-2019)**



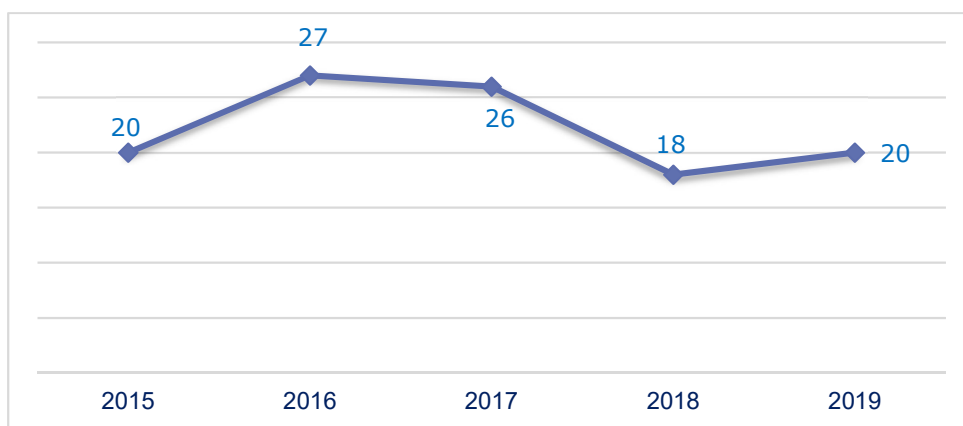
New infringement cases opened in 2019: main policy areas



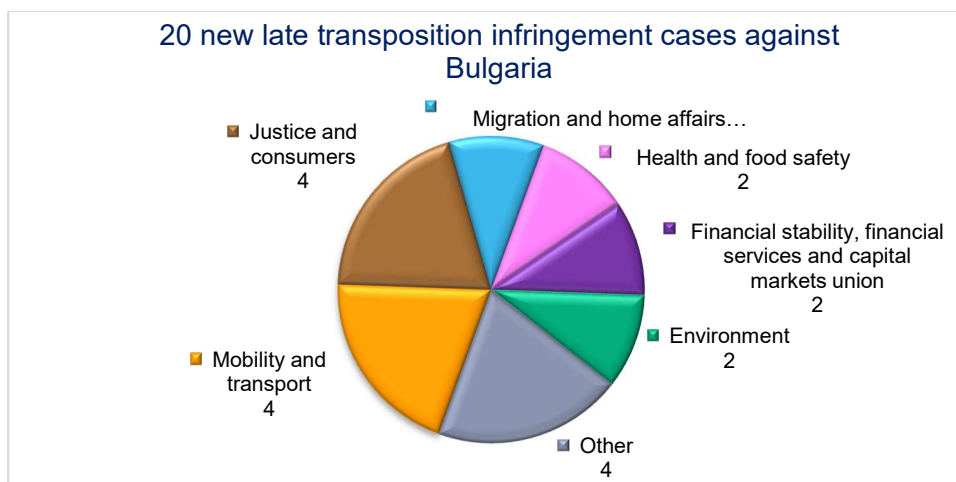
Late transposition infringement cases against Bulgaria on 31 December (2015-2019)



New late transposition infringement cases against Bulgaria (2015-2019)



New late transposition infringement cases opened in 2019: main policy areas



IMPORTANT JUDGMENTS

Court rulings¹

There were no major Court rulings in 2019.

Preliminary rulings

The Court addressed the following preliminary rulings to the Bulgarian judiciary:

- The Procedural Rights Directives² apply to judicial proceedings leading to compulsory medical internment of persons having committed acts representing a danger to society. Because of their mental state, these persons are to be considered vulnerable persons for the purpose of these Directives³.
- National legislation obliging apartment owners in buildings in co-ownership to pay for the thermal energy used by the common parts and the internal installation of the building is compatible with EU law, even if the owners do not use that thermal energy in their own apartments. In such buildings, the bills for thermal energy consumption by the internal installation are calculated for each property owner in the building in proportion to the heated volume of their apartment⁴.
- The Court gave guidance as to the relevant criteria under the Electricity Directive to distinguish between transmission and distribution systems⁵.

¹ These rulings are almost exclusively handed down in infringement procedures.

² Directives [2012/13/EU](#), [2013/48/EU](#) and [2016/343/EU](#).

³ EP Case [C-467/18](#).

⁴ Joined cases [C-708/17](#) and [C-725/17](#) *EVN Bulgaria Toplofikatsia and Toplofikatsia Sofia*.

⁵ *Elektrorazpredelenie Yug* Case [C-31/18](#), Directive [2009/72/EC](#).