

Annual Rule of Law Report - Council of Europe contribution



2026

Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law (DG I)

Italy

I Justice System

CEPEJ

The European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ) regularly collects data on judicial systems concerning efficiency and quality of the justice system. In the framework of the CEPEJ Study for the EU Justice Scoreboard, CEPEJ prepares Country profiles annually, including [Italy](#).

The 2024 data have been collected, quality checked and sent to DG-JUST in the framework of the 2026 EU Justice Scoreboard. The publication of the country profiles based on 2024 data will depend on final acceptance of the CEPEJ Study by DG-JUST. The CEPEJ Secretariat (christel.schurrer@coe.int) remains at the disposal of European Commission for any question related to these data.

EXECUTION OF JUDGMENTS OF THE EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Official statistics on the execution of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights are published in the Committee of Ministers [Annual reports on the execution](#) (next edition to be published in March 2026). The Department for the Execution of Judgments can be consulted for any question on statistics: DGI-Execution@coe.int.

Length of proceedings

One group of cases in enhanced supervision concerning the excessive length of bankruptcy proceedings (*Collarile*); one group of cases concerning the excessive length of civil proceedings (*Trapani*) was transferred from enhanced to standard supervision, in light of the substantial progress achieved in terms of clearance rate before each level of jurisdiction, global reduction of pending cases and consolidation of positive trends on average length before first instance and appeal courts; one group of cases concerning the excessive length of criminal proceedings (*Ledonne No. 1*) was closed in 2025.

[Collarile](#) (No. 10652/02)

Latest decisions: [CM/Del/Dec\(2025\)1537/H46-18](#)

Latest submissions: [DH-DD\(2025\)756](#)

[Trapani](#) (No. 45104/98)

Latest decisions: [CM/Del/Dec\(2025\)1537/H46-20](#)

Latest submissions: [DH-DD\(2025\)754](#)

[Ledonne No.1](#) (No. 35742/97)

Final resolution: [Resolution CM/ResDH\(2025\)256](#)

Implementation by the public administration and state institutions of final court decisions

Two groups of cases in ENHA concerning the impossibility for the applicants to have final domestic judicial decisions enforced to recover money owed to them by insolvent private and public companies to which the State had delegated its powers (*Croce and Others*) and by municipal authorities which became insolvent (*Pennino*).

[Croce and Others](#) (No. 17607/08)

Latest decisions: [CM/Del/Dec\(2025\)1521/H46-20](#)

Latest submissions: [DH-DD\(2024\)1504](#)

[Pennino](#) (No. 43892/04)

Latest decisions: [CM/Del/Dec\(2025\)1521/H46-20](#)

Latest submissions: [DH-DD\(2024\)1504](#)

On 24-25 June 2025, the Department for the Execution of Judgments held in-depth consultations in Rome with the Italian authorities on the implementation of the European Court's judgments, including the status of execution, current obstacles and future perspectives regarding the *Croce and Others* and *Pennino* groups of cases.

II Anti-corruption framework

N/A

III Media pluralism

N/A

IV Other institutional issues related to checks and balances

COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

[Statement](#) from the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, Michael O'Flaherty, following his visit to Italy from 12 to 16 January 2026, published on 19 January 2026. The statement urged Italian authorities, inter alia, to strengthen the country's human rights architecture, including by establishing an independent National Human Rights Institution (NHRI). The Commissioner noted that Italy remained one of the few Council of Europe member states without an NHRI or a decisive movement towards establishing one. While acknowledging that multiple bills had been introduced in parliament for the establishment of an NHRI, the Commissioner encouraged the authorities to prioritise this matter, and to ensure that, at a minimum, the NHRI be fully compliant with the Principles relating to the Status of National Institutions (the so-called Paris Principles) to be accredited with "Status A" by the Global Alliance of NHRIs. The Commissioner underscored that an NHRI should be fully independent of the government in terms of its structure, functions, staffing and culture; that it should have a broad mandate encompassing all human rights; and that it should be adequately resourced to function effectively. The Commissioner also noted that reforms required under EU legislation, such as the adoption of minimum standards for equality bodies and the designation of independent authorities to monitor the screening of procedures at borders and to protect human rights in relation to the use of artificial intelligence, should provide impetus for a review of Italy's existing human rights structures. He also remarked that existing human rights bodies should be reinforced. In particular, he urged Italian authorities to strengthen their independence

– including through transparent, participatory and merit-based recruitment processes, and by ensuring they have adequate resources, including permanent staff.

Venice Commission

[CDL-AD\(2025\)033](#) - Urgent amicus curiae brief for the European Court of Human Rights in *Grande Oriente d'Italia v. Italy* on procedural guarantees in the exercise of powers by Parliamentary Inquiry Committees.