

# FRA's tools and material on the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights

FRA, Training for FRANET, 30 January 2026

## Objective of the training

1. Learn how to use and integrate FRA Charter tools and material in training and legal work.
2. Be able to showcase the tools and material in law training, EU funds, law drafting, at local level.
3. Identify and address key defensive points regarding the application of the Charter
4. Share and discuss training methodologies and templates (concepts and agendas)

## Charter tools and material

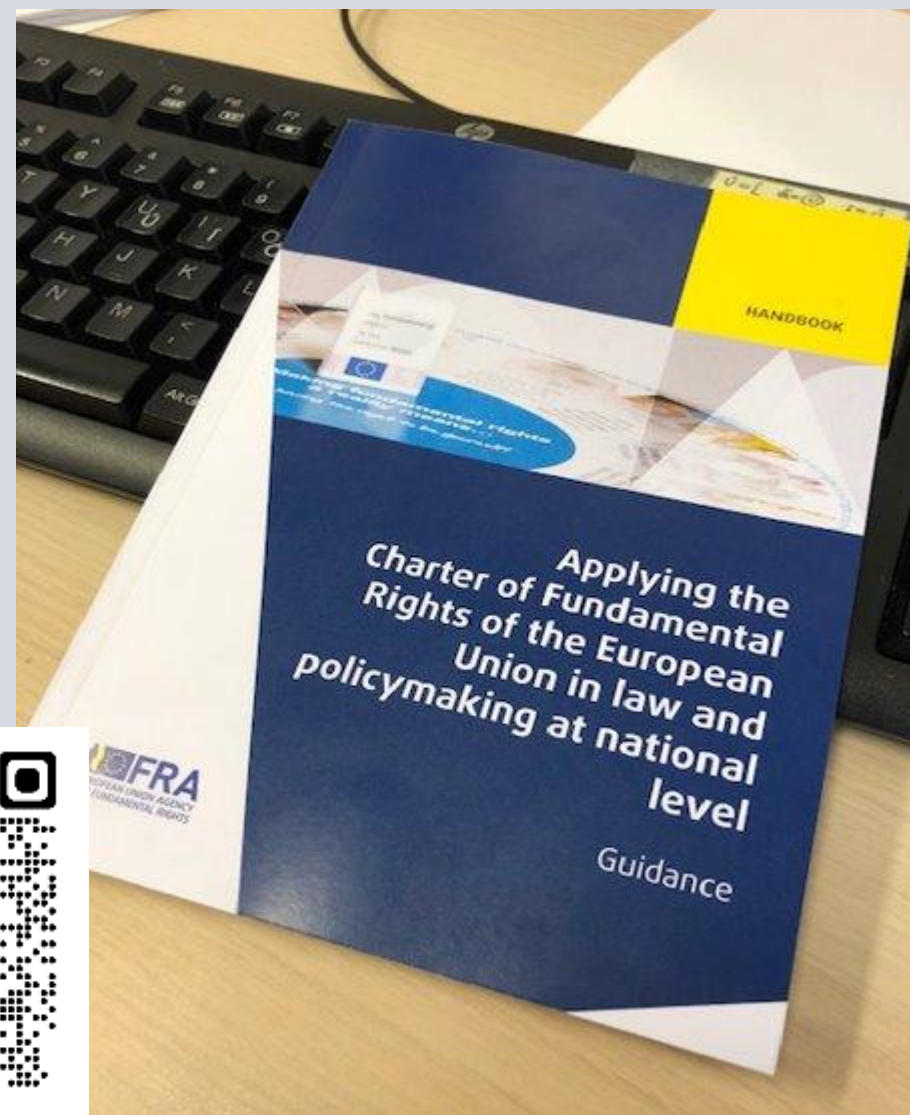
- Charter handbook – Charter checklist
- Charterpedia and case law database
- Charter e-learning
- Trainers' manual – case studies
- Country sheets
- Fundamental Rights Report – Charter chapter
- CharterXchange
- Report: Better legislation – Human rights impact assessments in lawmaking
- HELP course on the interplay between the Charter and the ECHR

# 1

## FRA Charter tools and material

# Charter Handbook

- <https://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2018/applying-charter-fundamental-rights-european-union-law-and-policymaking-national>
- Based on CJEU case law
- Short & Concise
- Checklist for applicability of Charter
- Checklist for Charter compliance
- Available in all EU languages

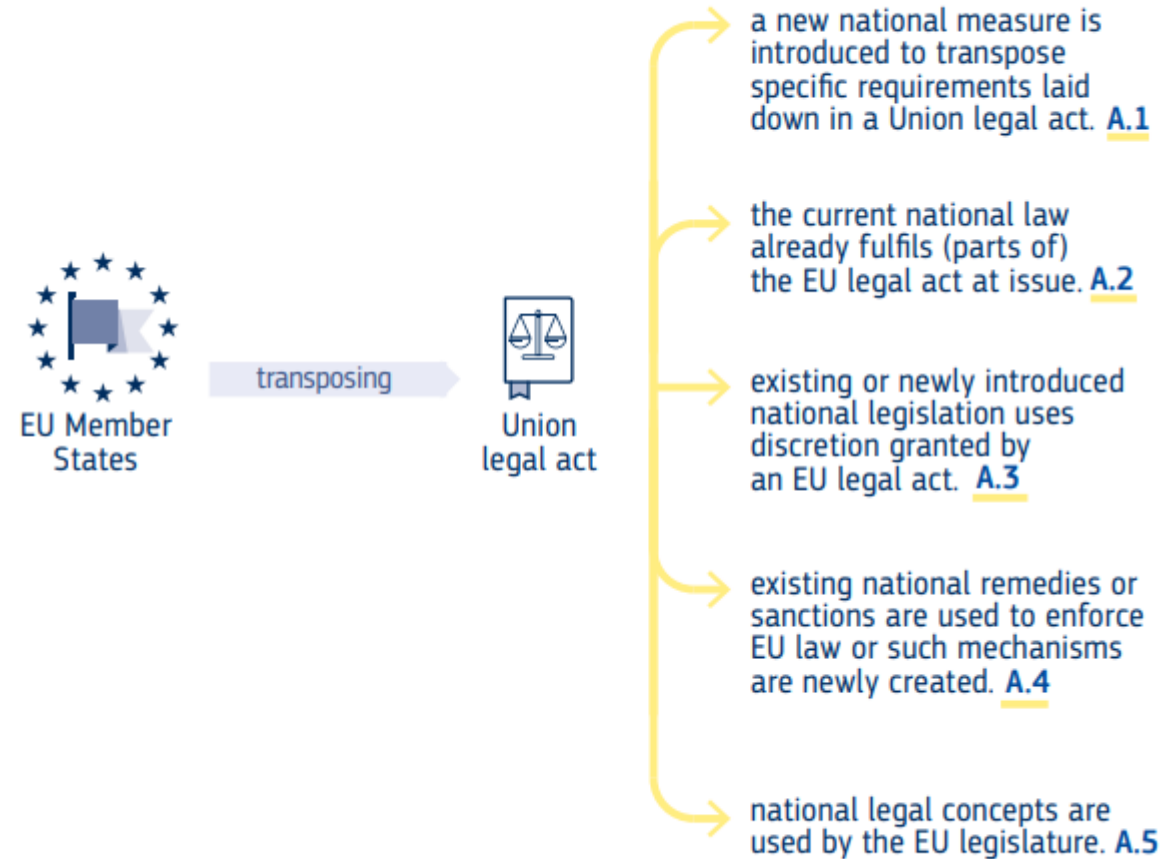


# Charter Guidance checklist

## Article 51 of the Charter - Field of application

1. The provisions of this Charter are addressed to the institutions, bodies, offices and agencies of the Union with due regard for the principle of subsidiarity and to the Member States **only** when they are implementing Union law. They shall therefore respect the rights, observe the principles and promote the application thereof in accordance with their respective powers and respecting the limits of the powers of the Union as conferred on it in the Treaties.

Figure 7: Situations of Charter application in response to a Union legal act



# Charterpedia

<https://fra.europa.eu/en/eu-charter>

- National and European case law
- Relevant national constitutional provisions, EU law, international law
- Publications and data



## Charterpedia

Charterpedia is an online tool maintained by the European Union Agency of Fundamental Rights (FRA). It provides easy-to-access information about the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and its provisions. It allows to track the concrete application of the Charter in the EU's Member States and offers regularly updated information providing guidance when concretely applying and interpreting the Charter.

Charterpedia information can be found within the section on the [EU Charter of Fundamental Rights >>](#)

### Who is Charterpedia made for?

Charterpedia is of obvious interest and value for legal practitioners, academic researchers, and other interested persons be it lawyers in private practice, judges, prosecutors, company lawyers, civil servants in the public administration working on fundamental rights, NHRIs, equality bodies, civil society organisations, academics and law students as well as anyone interested in fundamental rights.

### What does the Charterpedia include?

For each Charter Article, Charterpedia includes the official explanations of the Charter Articles, related European and national case law, related provisions in national constitutions as well as in EU legislation and international law. It also contains references to academic analysis and related FRA publications.

### How and how often is Charterpedia updated?

The examples of Charter use at national level - such as national court decisions or examples how the Charter was referred to in national parliaments - are collected via the agency's multidisciplinary research network FRANET on an annual basis. The selection of examples is based on their relevance for the interpretation and application of the Charter.

Under "national constitutional law", those provisions are listed that are part of the main text of the national constitution and that reflect (at least in parts of) the respective Charter provision. Under "international law" and "EU law" preference is given to binding norms that are of relevance to the interpretation of the respective Charter provision. Where not much legally binding sources are available, Charterpedia provides examples of relevant soft law.

Different from national sources, the sections "international law" and "EU law" are not regularly updated (neither is the section "national constitutional law").

### What is the difference between the Charterpedia and the Case Law Database?

Although the Case Law Database and Charterpedia cover the same datasets, the Case Law database allows for more sophisticated searches for instance by deciding body or by country. It is intended for judges, prosecutors, court staff, lawyers in private practice, notaries, and other legal professionals.

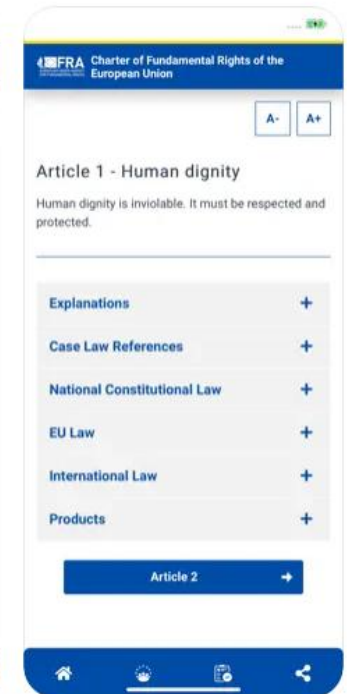
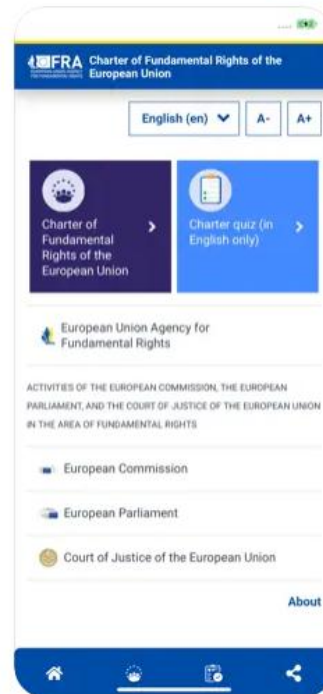
# Charter App

<https://fra.europa.eu/en/charterapp>



**EU Charter** 4+  
European Union Apps  
Designed for iPad  
Free

## Screenshots iPad iPhone



# Case law database

<https://fra.europa.eu/en/case-law-database>

Search tool of case law with direct references to the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights from

- Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU)
- European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR)
- a selection of national case law from all EU Member States.

The screenshot shows the FRA Case Law Database search interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the FRA logo and menu items: WORK ON RIGHTS, EU CHARTER OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS, TOOLS, and PRODUCTS. Below the navigation bar, the breadcrumb trail reads "Home > Tools > Case Law Database". The main heading is "Case Law Database". Below the heading, there is a descriptive text: "Here you can find case law of the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) and the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) with direct references to the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, as well as a selection of national case law with direct references to the Charter from all EU Member States." Below this text, there is a "FILTER BY:" section with four dropdown menus: "EU Charter of fundamental rights", "ECHR Article(s) referenced", "Deciding bodies", and "Countries". All dropdown menus are currently set to "None selected". Below the filter section, there is a "Keyword Search" input field and a "SEARCH" button. At the bottom of the page, it displays "1469 case law references found" and a pagination control showing "Sort by date" and "Sort by name" options, along with a page number "1" and a range of numbers from 2 to 9.

# Charter e-learning course

- <https://e-learning.fra.europa.eu/>
- Charter e-guidance: 10 concrete examples
- Charter videos
- Handbook on the applicability of the Charter
- Trainers' area
- Now available in **all EU languages**, except Maltese and Gaelic

FRA  
EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY  
FOR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

eLearning

English **Log In**

## FRA e-learning

Looking to strengthen your knowledge of fundamental rights? This website brings together all FRA's e-learning courses in one place.

### AVAILABLE COURSES

#### E-MEDIA TOOLKIT

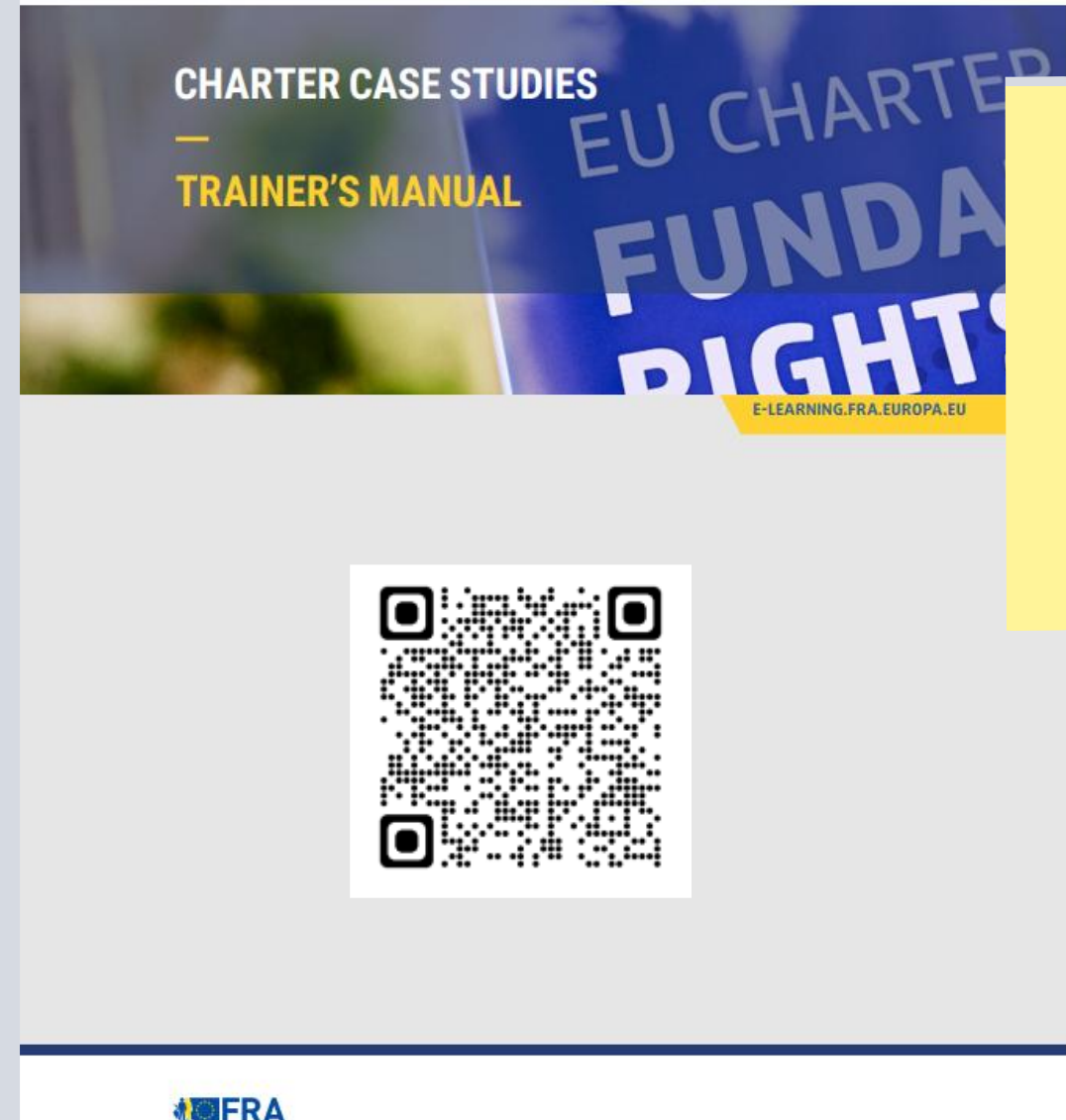
This toolkit brings together factual reporting examples from different media sectors and essential tools, such as...

#### CHARTER COURSES

These courses provide judges and other legal practitioners with practical guidance and how the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights applies to their work.

# Charter case studies – Trainer's manual

- <https://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2022/charter-case-studies-trainers-manual>
- This trainer's manual aims at providing guidance on both the organisation and the implementation of such trainings based on a series of case studies, which will be extended in the future.
- 8 Practical case studies
- How to use the manual, facts, the law, questions, background info for trainers
- For Charter trainers
- Available in all EU languages



## Country sheets

- <https://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2019/eu-charter-fundamental-rights-use-and-added-value-eu-member-states>
- Examples of the Charter's use for each Member State.
- Constitutional law relevance
- Links to the national case law which has a direct reference to the Charter
- The Charter added value
- Comparison to ECHR and national catalog of fundamental rights



# THE EU CHARTER OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

## in Ireland

CHARTER COUNTRY-SHEET

// [N]ational authorities (judicial authorities, law enforcement bodies and administrations) are **key actors** in giving concrete effect to the rights and freedoms enshrined in the Charter"

European Parliament (2015), Resolution on the situation of fundamental rights in the European Union (2013–2014) 2014/2254(INI), Strasbourg, 8 September 2015, recital P.

# Fundamental Rights Report – Charter chapter

- Link training to issues identified in the FRR
- Use national case law for case studies



# Better legislation – Human rights impact assessments in lawmaking – FRA’s report follow-up

- Link to the report:  
<https://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2025/better-legislation-human-rights-impact-assessments-lawmaking>
- Exchanges among experts
- Possible support to the Member States





## Overview of all FRA Charter materials

<https://fra.europa.eu/en/eu-charter/fra-charter-resources>



# 2

## Training methodology

# Training methodology

- As participants to register to the Charter e-learning before the training
- Upfront presentations max. 20 minutes long
- Prioritise practical exercises:
  - Workshops - e.g. the target group brings a case that they are working on to be discussed together with the trainer and other participants
  - Case studies – Trainers' manual/e-learning, e-guidance
- Breaks: online 5-10 minutes, in person 20-30 minutes
- Feedback form

## Example of training agenda – basic Charter training

- **Welcome** [5 min.]
- **Round of introductions** [10-20 minutes depending on the number of participants; if participants do not know each other, they are asked to shortly introduce themselves and indicate what they expect from the training]
- **History, structure and scope of the EU Charter** [30-45 min.]
- Break [5-30 min., depending whether the training is organised online or in-person]
- **How FRA can help your daily work: Charterpedia, e-learning and other tools and material** [20 min.]
- **Case study on the Charter** [1 hour; from the trainers' manual or the e-learning]

# Example of training agenda – advanced training on the Charter

- **Welcome** [5 min.]
- **Round of introductions** [10-20 minutes depending on the number of participants; if participants do not know each other, they are asked to shortly introduce themselves and indicate what they expect from the training]
- **Relationship between the Charter, national human rights and the ECHR** [30-45 min.]
- Break [5-30 min., depending whether the training is organised online or in-person]
- **How FRA can help your daily work: Charterpedia, e-learning and other tools and material** [20 min.]
- **Case study on the Charter** [1 hour; e.g. case study 7 from the trainers' manual or the e-learning]



## Alternative topics:

- **Dialogue between European courts (national courts and ECHR and CJEU)**
- **The Charter added value to the judicial activities of a national judge**
- **The Charter in national impact assessments of legislation ex ante and ex post**
- **The Charter horizontal enabling condition in EU funds**
- **The Charter at local level**

# 3

## Practical examples of training elements

# The 54 Charter provisions

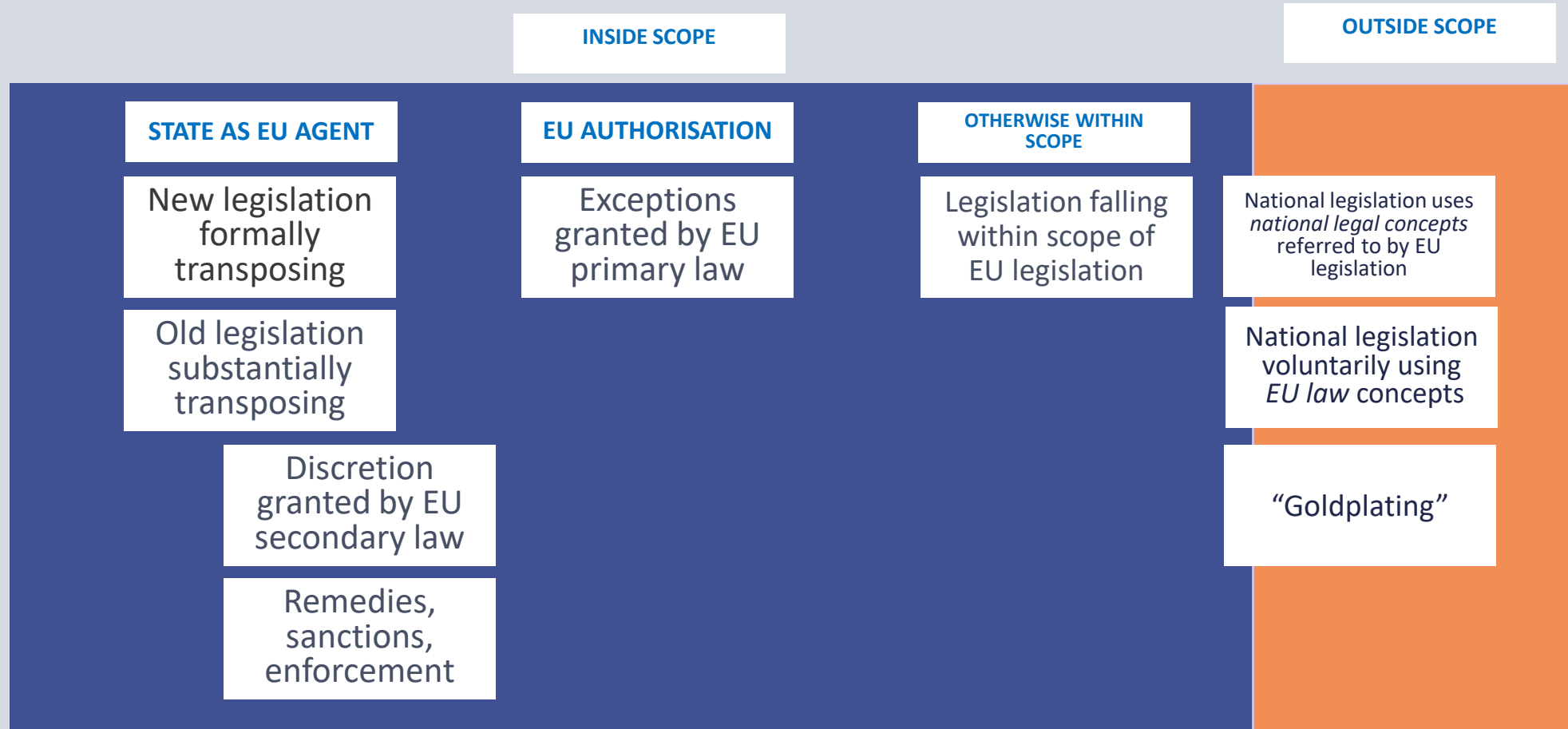
Preamble	Peace – common values	Universal values	Diversity, etc	Rights more visible	Reaffirms const. and int'l rights	Rights, duties, responsibilities	Rights, freedoms and principles
I Dignity (Articles 1–5)	1 Human dignity	2 Life	3 Integrity of the person	4 Torture; inhuman, degrading treatment	5 Slavery and forced labour		
II Freedoms (Articles 6–19)	6 Liberty and security	7 Private and family life	8 Personal data	9 Marry and found family	10 Thought conscience and religion		
	11 Expression and information	12 Assembly and association	13 Arts and sciences	14 Education	15 Choose occupation and engage in work		
	16 Conduct a business	17 Property	18 Asylum	19 Removal, expulsion or extradition			
III Equality (Articles 20–26)	20 Equality before the law	21 Non-discrimination	22 Cultural, religious and linguistic diversity	23 Equality: men and women	24 The child	25 Elderly	26 Integration of persons with disabilities
IV Solidarity (Articles 27–38)	27 Workers right to info. and consultation	28 collective bargaining and action	29 Access to placement services	30 Unjustified dismissal	31 Fair and just working conditions		
	32 Prohibition of child labour; prot. at work	33 Family and professional life	34 Social security and assistance	35 Health care	36 Access to services of economic interest	37 Environmental protection	38 Consumer protection
V Citizens' rights (Articles 39–46)	39 Vote and stand as candidate to EP	40 Vote and candidate at municipal elections	41 Good administration	42 Access to documents	43 European ombudsman	44 Petition (EP)	45 Movement and residence
	46 Diplomatic and consular protection						
VI Justice (Articles 47–50)	47 Effective remedy and fair trial	48 Presump. innocence; right of defence	49 Legality and prop. of offences and penalties	50 Ne bis in idem			
VII General provisions (Articles 51–54)	51 Application	52 Scope and interpretation	53 Level of protection	54 Prohibition of abuse of rights			

# How the Charter adds value to the ECHR

LEGEND	
No ECHR equivalent	More extensive than ECHR
EU context-specific	Equivalent protection to ECHR

I Dignity (Arts. 1-5)	1 Human dignity	2 Life	3 Integrity of the person	4 Torture; inhuman, degrading treatment	5 Slavery and forced labour		
II Freedoms (Arts. 6-19)	6 Liberty and security	7 Private and family life	8 Personal data	9 Marry and found a family	10 Thought, conscience and religion		
	11 Expression and information	12 Assembly and association	13 Arts and sciences	14 Education	15 Choose occupation and engage in work		
	16 Conduct business	17 Property	18 Asylum	19 Removal, expulsion or extradition			
III Equality (Arts. 20-26)	20 Equality before the law	21 Non-discrimination	22 Cultural, religious and linguistic diversity	23 Equality: men and women	24 The Child	25 Elderly	26 Integration of persons with disabilities
IV Solidarity (Arts. 27-38)	27 Workers right to info. and consultation	28 Collective bargaining and action	29 Access to placement services	30 Unjustified dismissal	31 Fair and just working conditions		
	32 Prohibition of child labour; prot. at work	33 Family and professional life	34 Social security and assistance	35 Health care	36 Access to services of economic interest	37 Environmental protection	38 consumer protection
V Citizens' rights (Arts. 39-46)	39 Vote and stand as candidate to EP	40 Vote and candidate at municipal elections	41 Good administration	42 Access to documents	43 European Ombudsman	44 Petition (EP)	45 Movement and residence
	46 Diplomatic and consular protection						
VI Justice (Arts. 47-50)	47 Effective remedy and fair trial	48 Presump. innocence; right of defence	49 Legality, prop. of offences and penalties	50 <i>Ne bis in idem</i>			
VII General provisions (Arts. 51-54)	51 Application	52 Scope and interpretation	53 Level of protection	54 Prohibition of abuse of rights			

# Using the Charter handbook examples – Within and beyond the Charter’s scope



# Using Charter handbook examples of EU law implementation

- Adoption of national legislation/measures transposing regulations, directives, external agreements
- EU grants MS discretionary powers
  - e.g. MS adopts additional measures to safeguard or promote the integration of persons with disabilities into the working environment under Article 7 of Directive 2000/78 (*Milkova C-406/15*)
- MS uses national criminal or administrative law to sanction and enforce EU law
  - e.g. imposing penalties for VAT evasion (*Åkerberg Fransson C-617/10*)
- EU law refers to a concept of national law (e.g. pay)
- Pre-existing national legislation used for EU law implementation
  - e.g. German Civil Code in *Kucukdeveci C-555/07*
- MS provides for restrictions on EU law freedoms and must justify them in line with FR
  - e.g. MS restricts the operation of slot machines and impairs the freedom to provide services (*Berlington C-98 14*)

# Using case law examples from the Fundamental Rights Reports

## ❖ Scope analysis under Art. 51(1)

*In Austria, the Supreme Administrative Court held that Article 47(2) of the Charter (right to an effective remedy and to a fair trial) applies to the application of the Austrian Environmental Impact Assessment Act 2000, which was introduced to implement the EU directive on the assessment of the effects of projects on the environment.*

## ❖ Use of the Charter to give direct access to an individual right

*In Cyprus, a deportation order issued against a Syrian beneficiary of international protection on the grounds of public security was annulled, based on the principle of proportionality and the right to a hearing enshrined in the Charter, when implementing the qualification directive (Directive 2011/95/EU).*

## ❖ Finding of a breach of the Charter

*In Bulgaria, a national court concluded that national law violated the applicant's right to work (Article 15) and the presumption of innocence (Article 48) in a case concerning the applicant's dismissal following a criminal charge.*

# Using case studies from the trainers' manual

- Provide copies of the Trainers' manual copies in the relevant national language or
- Print handouts from the e-learning platform
- Present the case studies as recommended in the Trainers' manual:
  - Facts
  - EU law
  - National law
  - Questions

# Training for the managing authorities and monitoring committees of EU funds

- ❖ Present the Common Provisions Regulation (CPR)
- ❖ Highlight consequences of violations
- ❖ Showcase FRA research on national implementation, key findings and opinions
  - Input from EEA/Norway Grants Projects: Greece and NHRIs of Croatia, Cyprus, Latvia, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, project
  - [EU funds: Ensuring compliance with fundamental rights report](#)
  - Fundamental Rights Report - Charter chapter 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 (in June)
  - Annual EU CharterXchange 2023 and 2024
- ❖ Use CSOs reports
- ❖ Highlight promising practices
  - E.g. from FRA's report on EU Funds

# 4

## Other relevant information

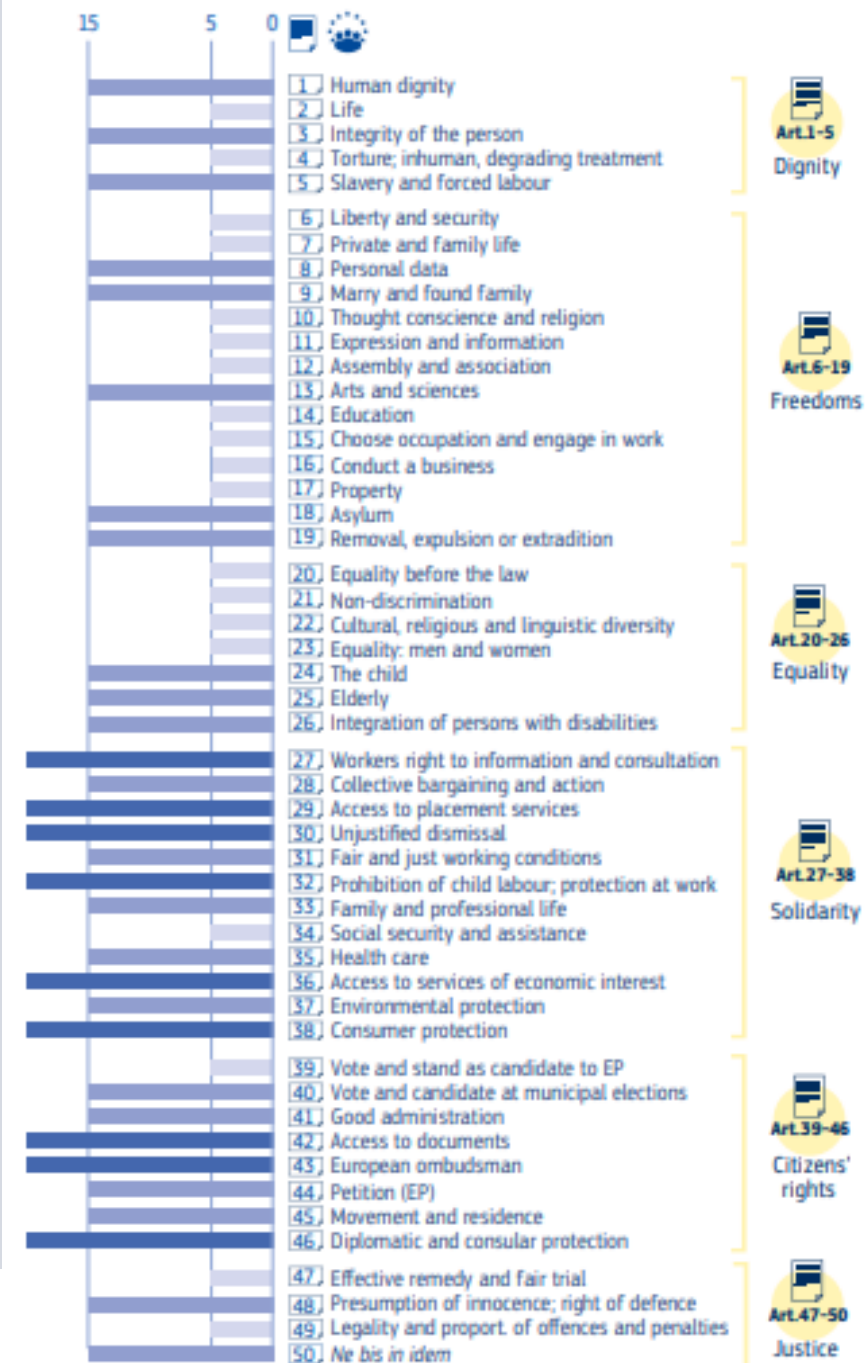
# The Charter's added value

- **EU's own catalogue:**
  - **supremacy and direct effect;**
  - **use of preliminary rulings and infringement procedure**
  - **EU specific rights (esp. title V)**
- **Increases visibility of rights (role beyond the limits of its applicability)**
- **More encompassing than most other written HR catalogues**

# The Charter v. national constitutions

*The figure is based on a textual comparison of the Charter and written constitutional law of the EU Member States in order to show under which provisions the Charter is most likely to increase the visibility of entitlements. EU-specific entitlements (citizens' rights) were considered as reflected in national constitutions if a comparable provision could be identified (for instance a constitutional provision concerning a national Ombudsperson). Source: FRA, 2019*

Number of EU Member States per Charter article that do not have equivalent and explicit provisions in constitutional texts (rough clusters: 0-5; 5-15; over 15)



# European Commission's tools on the Charter

- [Annual reports on the application of the Charter](#)
- [Manual on fundamental rights in EU funding](#)
- [Updated guidance on fundamental rights in impact assessments](#)
- [Special Eurobarometer on awareness of and interest in the Charter](#)
- [Series of videos](#) with people across the EU reflecting on how fundamental rights matter in daily life
- [Charter tutorial](#)
- In the pipeline: e-capsules on CJEU case law
  - *More info at [Your rights in the EU](#) and the [e-justice portal](#)*

# 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Online EU CharterXchange

- In cooperation with the European Commission
- A forum to promote the application of the Charter at national level
- Specific sessions for legal professionals
- Online on 23-24 November 2026
- *See the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Online CharterXchange summary and recordings at: [3<sup>rd</sup> Annual EU CharterXchange | European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights](#)*



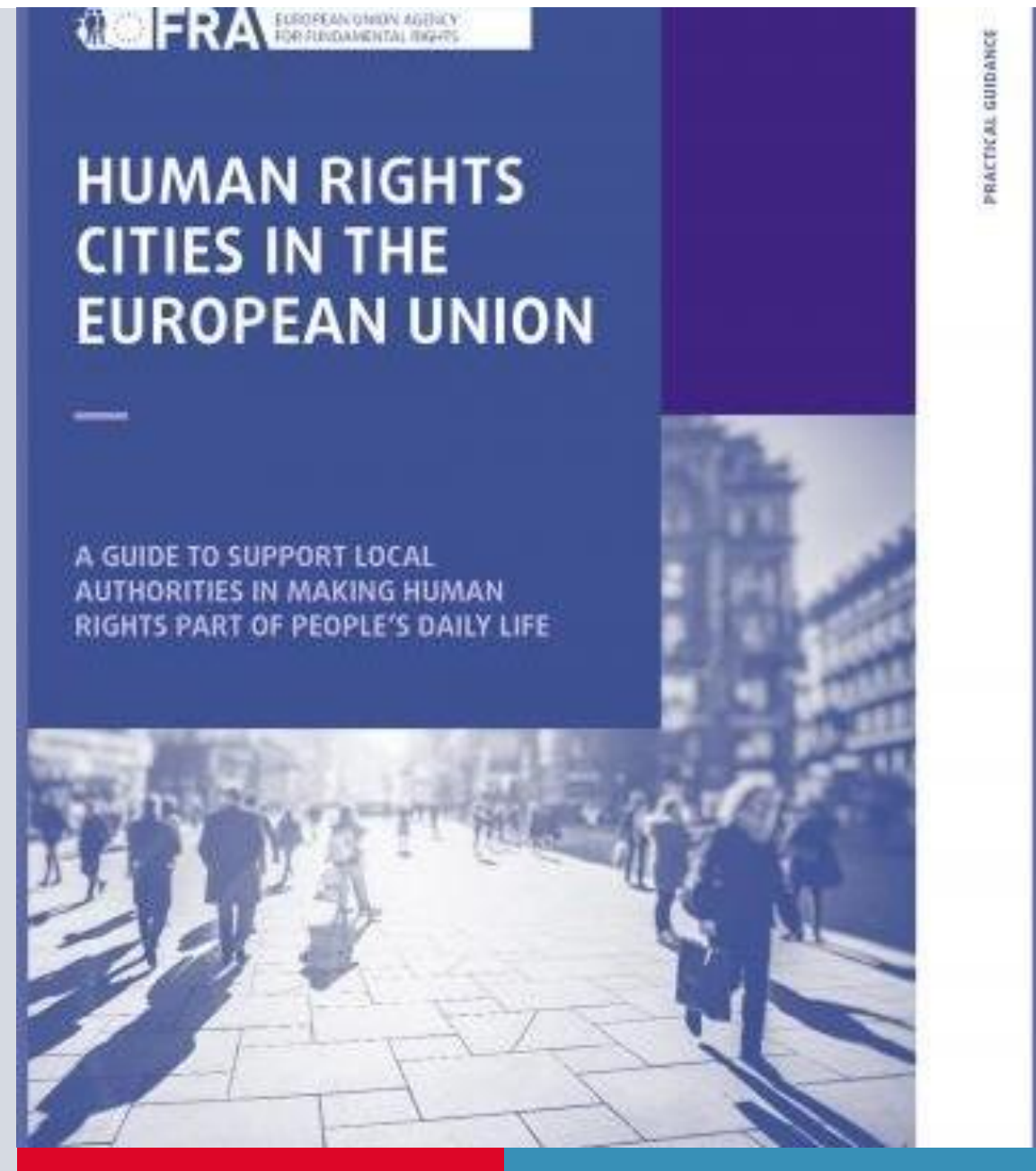
# Charter experts' newsletter

- Information about relevant documents from EU institutions, FRA, CJEU case law, training opportunities and academic articles.
- Quarterly, next in April 2026
- To be included in the newsletter, please write to [charter@fra.europa.eu](mailto:charter@fra.europa.eu)

# Human rights cities in the EU

Guide to support local authorities in making human rights part of people's daily life

- A reference point for cities to assess their own state of development as a human rights city
- A source of inspiration for new activities by cities in fundamental rights
- A guide for more cities to join the group of 'declared' EU human rights cities
- A catalyst for cities cooperation (e.g. peer-to-peer exchange, label or accreditation process for becoming a human rights city)

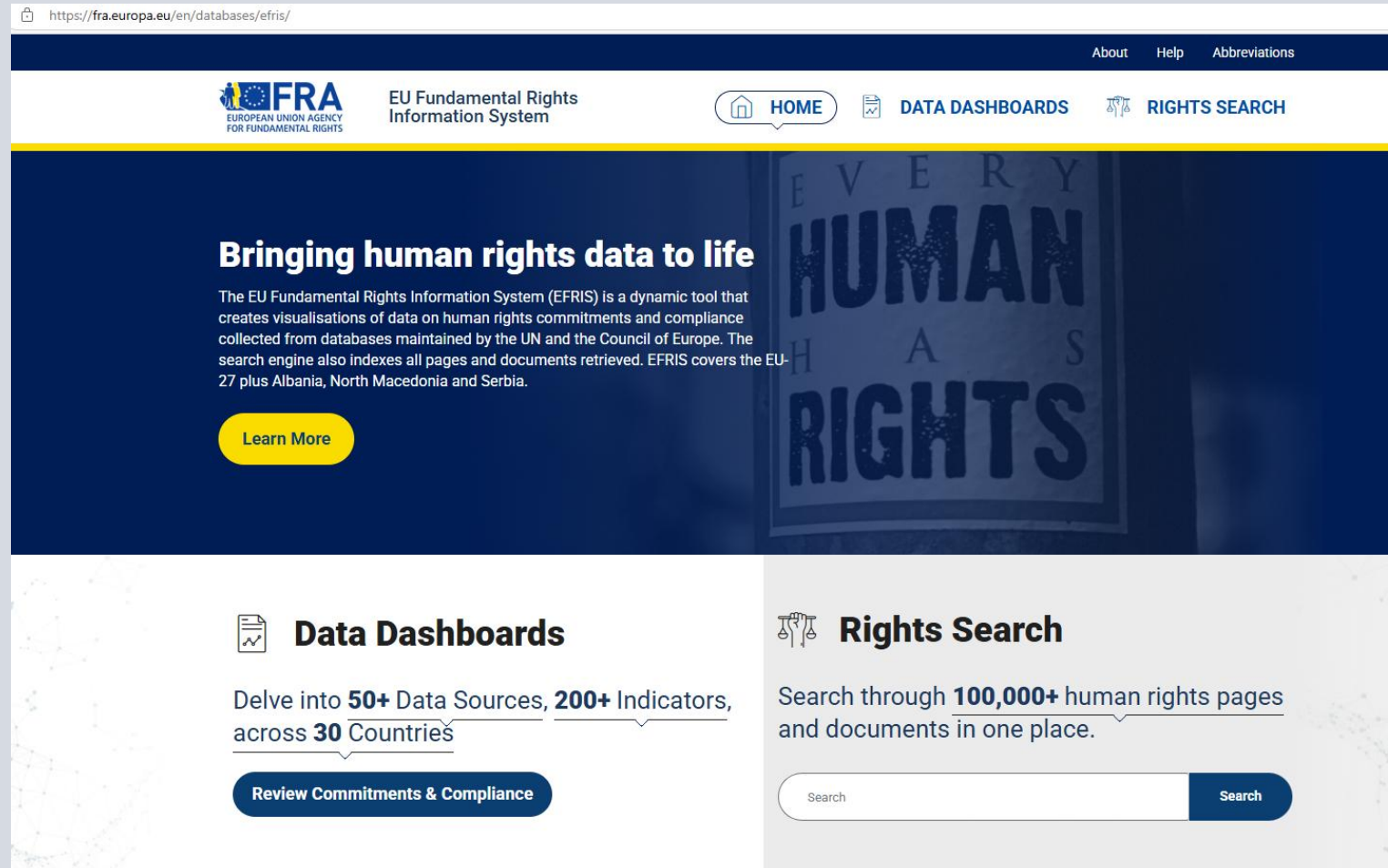


# ECHR/FRA joint factsheets

- ECtHR / FRA cooperation
- Focus on areas where EU law is prominent in ECtHR case law and where coherence between EU law and ECHR law is of particular importance.
- Relevant case law presented in a short and concise way
  - European Arrest Warrant
  - Right to be forgotten
  - Mass surveillance
  - Reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities
  - Climate change

# EU Fundamental Rights Information System (EFRIS)


<https://fra.europa.eu/en/databases/efris/>






The screenshot shows the homepage of the EU Fundamental Rights Information System (EFRIS). The browser address bar displays the URL <https://fra.europa.eu/en/databases/efris/>. The page features a dark blue header with the FRA logo and navigation links for 'About', 'Help', and 'Abbreviations'. Below the header, there are three main navigation buttons: 'HOME', 'DATA DASHBOARDS', and 'RIGHTS SEARCH'. The main content area has a dark blue background with the text 'Bringing human rights data to life' and a description of the system. A yellow 'Learn More' button is positioned below the text. At the bottom, there are two white boxes: 'Data Dashboards' with a 'Review Commitments & Compliance' button, and 'Rights Search' with a search input field and a 'Search' button.

<https://fra.europa.eu/en/databases/efris/>

About Help Abbreviations

 **FRA**  
EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY  
FOR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

EU Fundamental Rights  
Information System

 HOME  DATA DASHBOARDS  RIGHTS SEARCH

## Bringing human rights data to life

The EU Fundamental Rights Information System (EFRIS) is a dynamic tool that creates visualisations of data on human rights commitments and compliance collected from databases maintained by the UN and the Council of Europe. The search engine also indexes all pages and documents retrieved. EFRIS covers the EU-27 plus Albania, North Macedonia and Serbia.

[Learn More](#)

### Data Dashboards

Delve into **50+** Data Sources, **200+** Indicators,  
across **30** Countries

[Review Commitments & Compliance](#)

### Rights Search

Search through **100,000+** human rights pages  
and documents in one place.

[Search](#)

# Criminal detention database updated

- Information on detention conditions in all 27 EU Member States + UK
- National and international standards, case law and monitoring reports
- Cell space, sanitary conditions, access to healthcare and protection against violence
- <https://fra.europa.eu/en/databases/criminal-detention/>

Criminal Detention Database 2015-2022 combines in one place information on detention conditions in all 27 EU Member States as well as in the UK. It does not 'rank' countries, but informs – drawing on national, European and international standards, case law and monitoring reports – on various aspects of detention conditions: including cell space, sanitary conditions, access to healthcare and protection against violence. The database is especially useful for judges and legal practitioners involved in cross-border cases.

## Access data per country

 Austria	 Belgium	 Bulgaria	 Croatia
 Cyprus	 Czechia	 Denmark	 Estonia
 Finland	 France	 Germany	 Greece
 Hungary	 Ireland	 Italy	 Latvia
 Lithuania	 Luxembourg	 Malta	 Netherlands
 Poland	 Portugal	 Romania	 Slovakia
 Slovenia	 Spain	 Sweden	 United Kingdom

## Access data by keyword

<b>Cell space</b>	Effective remedy	<b>Healthcare</b>	Juvenile prisoners	Living conditions	Nutrition
<b>Protection against violence</b>	Responsible authorities	<b>Sanitary conditions</b>			
Solitary confinement	<b>Time out of cell</b>	Women in detention			

# Database on anti-Muslim hatred

- International and national case law and decisions.
- Findings of national human rights bodies
- Reports, studies and statistics
- Victims' support organisations
- In EU Member States, Albania, Serbia and North Macedonia. Data for the United Kingdom exists up to 2025.
- <https://fra.europa.eu/en/databases/anti-muslim-hatred/>

database provides an overview of relevant international, European and national case law and decisions. It also provides findings of national human rights bodies related to anti-Muslim hatred incidents, such as violence, property offences, incitement to violence or hatred, other forms of hate speech, discrimination. In addition, it provides relevant research findings, including reports, studies and statistics on these issues, as well as information on victim support organisations providing support to victims of hate-motivated crime in EU Member States, Albania, Serbia and North Macedonia. Data for the United Kingdom exists up to 2019.

## Access data per country

 Albania	 Austria	 Belgium	 Bulgaria
 Croatia	 Cyprus	 Czechia	 Denmark
 Estonia	 Finland	 France	 Germany
 Greece	 Hungary	 Ireland	 Italy
 Latvia	 Lithuania	 Luxembourg	 Malta
 North Macedonia	 Netherlands	 Poland	 Portugal
 Romania	 Serbia	 Slovakia	 Slovenia
 Spain	 Sweden	 United Kingdom	

## Access data by keyword

Anti-Muslim hatred Discrimination Ethnic minorities Ethnic origin Ethnic profiling General population  
Hate crime Hate speech **Hatred** Integration & inclusion Islamophobia Migrants **Muslims**  
Nationality People of African descent & Black Europeans People with migrant background Public perceptions & attitudes Race

# Thank you!

FRA – EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY FOR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

Schwarzenbergplatz 11 – 1040 Vienna – Austria

T +43 158030-0 – F +43 158030-699

[Charter@fra.europa.eu](mailto:Charter@fra.europa.eu)

[sanja.jovicic@fra.europa.eu](mailto:sanja.jovicic@fra.europa.eu)

 [facebook.com/fundamentalrights](https://facebook.com/fundamentalrights)

 [twitter.com/EURightsAgency](https://twitter.com/EURightsAgency)

 [linkedin.com/company/eu-fundamental-rights-agency](https://linkedin.com/company/eu-fundamental-rights-agency)

[fra.europa.eu](https://fra.europa.eu)