



EUROPEAN UNION

Delegation of the European Union to the Council of Europe

### **Weekly media report of developments in the Council of Europe**

23 - 27 February 2015

#### **RUSSIA**

##### [Savchenko says she could die by next court hearing](#)

25/02/2015 - UNIAN

"Let's start, because I could be dead by the next court hearing," she said before the hearing in Moscow's City Court on Wednesday, where the judges were considering an appeal on the extension of her arrest until May 13.

##### [Russia joins protocol to European Extradition Convention](#)

25/02/2015 - OANA

Russian Prosecutor General Yuri Chaika signed on behalf of the Russian Federation on Tuesday the Fourth Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Extradition of 1957 to simplify the procedures for the transfer of wanted persons.

##### [Court's Uzbek extradition decision forces Rule 39 declaration](#)

26/02/2015 - Human Rights Europe

Torture and ill-treatment fears have prompted human rights judges to impose a Rule 39 judgement on Russia, preventing the return to Uzbekistan of an alleged member of a banned Islamic organisation.

#### **AZERBAIJAN**

##### [PACE President on the situation in Azerbaijan](#)

25/02/2015 - Contact

"I am seriously concerned about the deteriorating human rights situation in Azerbaijan," wrote in his microblog on twitter President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe Anne Brasseur. Concerning the extension of detention spouses Arif and Leyla Yunus, Brasseur called on the Azerbaijani authorities to respect the standards of the European Court of Human Rights.

### [Leaders of religious faiths ask the ECHR to assess the Khojaly tragedy](#)

23/02/2015 - Contact

The leaders of religious confessions of Azerbaijan appealed to the European Court of Human Rights to recognize the Khojaly tragedy as an act of genocide.

### [Commissioner Muižnieks intervenes in cases concerning Azerbaijan before the ECHR](#)

24/02/2015 - Council of Europe

The Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, Nils Muižnieks, published [written observations](#) submitted to the European Court of Human Rights on the case of Hilal Mammadov against Azerbaijan, in which he stresses the systematic deficiencies in the area of freedom of expression, including judicial harassment of critical voices, and a pattern of retaliatory measures against those who co-operate with international organisations to expose human rights violations in the country.

## HUMAN RIGHTS

### [La Grèce doit lutter plus contre les violences et discours racistes](#)

24/02/2015 - Le Soir

Les discours de haine contre les immigrants ont « pris des proportions inquiétantes » en Grèce où les autorités doivent lutter davantage contre ce phénomène et la discrimination homophobe et anti-Roms, selon un [rapport](#) du Conseil de l'Europe publié mardi.

### [La justice européenne défend le droit à la caméra cachée](#)

24/02/2015 - Le Figaro

La Cour européenne des droits de l'homme, qui se prononçait sur la condamnation de quatre journalistes suisses ayant filmé un interlocuteur sans le prévenir, estime que cette pratique relève du droit à l'information. La décision pourrait influencer le droit français vis-à-vis d'enregistrements privés comme ceux de l'affaire Bettencourt.

### [Council of Europe censures Norway on racism](#)

25/02/2015 - The Foreigner

Scandinavian country fails to combat internet-based racism or help migrants sufficiently, COE body says. "Victims of discrimination do not receive sufficient assistance to secure their rights before courts." European Commission against Racism and Intolerance ([ECRI](#)) experts made this statement in connection with their fifth [report on Norway](#).

[Rigoni: It is important to resume dialogue between PACE, Belarus](#)

25/02/2015 - Belta

Andrea Rigoni thanked the Belarusian side for the organization of the visit and remarked that the previous visit of the rapporteur of the Council of Europe took place five years ago.

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