Abstract

Proceedings before the European Court of Human Rights and their reform

The purpose of this thesis is to analyse and evaluate the proceedings before the European Court of Human Rights. This Court that exists within the Council of Europe is the guardian of guaranteed human rights and fundamental freedoms defined in the European Convention on Human Rights. Under this Convention an individual is entitled to submit an application to the Court and seek for the protection of his rights that were violated by one of the Member states. One of the conditions that ensure this protection is an effective and adequate proceedings before the Court. At present, the Court has to face many problems that are able to put this human rights protection in danger. Therefore the Member states decided to initiate a reform of the Court and its proceedings. The basic goal of this reform process is to ensure the long-term efficiency of the proceedings. This thesis analyzes the outcomes of this reform and how it affects the current proceedings.

Key words: the European Court of Human Rights, proceedings, reform, workload, caseload