

Case summaries provided by the London-based [Media Legal Defence Initiative](#) and individual legal representatives

1	<p>12 March 2009</p> <p><i>Communicated 7 Jan 2014</i></p>	60659/08	<i>Khalil v. Azerbaijan</i>	<p>Aqil Khalil, a reporter for the newspaper <i>Azadliq</i>, was beaten while collecting information on the demolition of an olive grove in relation to a corrupt real estate deal. The complaint filed by Khalil alleges that his assailants were two high-ranking officials from the Ministry of National Security, which was allegedly responsible for the demolition.</p> <p>There has been no effective investigation into the incident. The petitioner was held for 19 hours without any access to counsel, etc. The government claimed that he was beaten by a jealous boyfriend (also see Application 53585/09).</p> <p>Violation of Convention Articles argued: 3, 5, 6, 10, 13</p>
2	<p>06 April 2010</p> <p><i>Communicated 7 Jan 2014</i></p>	53585/09	<i>Khalil v. Azerbaijan</i>	<p>This is a continuation of Application 60659/08.</p> <p>Khalil was stabbed by an unknown person, but he survived. The government claimed that the beating was carried out by a jealous boyfriend, an individual named “Sergey,” who also confessed to stabbing Khalil. Khalil said this was a false confession.</p>

				<p>Other than obtaining an alleged confession, the incident has been badly investigated. The National Security agency also allegedly tapped Khalil's phone, which would be a violation of his right to privacy.</p> <p>Violation of Convention Articles argued: 6, 8, 10</p>
3	<p>08 January 2010</p> <p><i>Communication 21 June 2013</i></p>	59135/09	<i>Huseynov v. Azerbaijan</i>	<p>Emin Huseynov, journalist and director of the Institute for Reporters' Freedom and Safety, was beaten at a police station. There was no proper investigation into the attack.</p> <p>Huseynov was brought to the police station because he attended a private party to commemorate the 80th anniversary of Che Guevara's birth. Police considered this an anti-government party and came to break it up. Police arrested Huseynov when he tried to call his colleagues to inform them about the events. According to his filed complaint, he was taken for questioning and beaten.</p> <p>Violation of Convention Articles argued: 3, 5, 10, 11</p>
4	<p>01 March 2010</p> <p><i>The application was lodged by Clifford Chance</i></p>	59075/09	<i>Mehdiyev v. Azerbaijan</i>	<p>Hakimeldostu Mehdiyev, a freelance journalist, was arrested and said he was tortured in custody after he criticized local authorities in a number of major newspapers. Mehdiyev often reported on human rights</p>

	<i>Communicated 18 September 2013</i>			<p>violations by local government authorities in Nakhchivan, an autonomous region of Azerbaijan known for its poor record on democracy and human rights. He said he was tortured in the office of a local branch of the Ministry of National Security.</p> <p>There has been no effective investigation into the incident, and local courts have refused to review Mehdiyev's complaints.</p> <p>Case available in English:</p>  <p>59075_09 Mehdiyev.DOC</p> <p>Violation of Convention Articles argued: 3, 5, 6, 10, 13, 14</p>
5	30 August 2011 <i><u>Not yet communicated</u></i>	35812/11	<p><i>Badalov and Aliyev v. Azerbaijan</i></p> <p>--The Xazar District Court dismissed the claim on October 26, 2010.</p> <p>--On November 2, 2010, the Xazar Court of Appeals confirmed the decision. (Note: There is a typo in the application in par. 27, which</p>	<p>According to their filed complaint, Elmin Badalov, a reporter for the newspaper <i>Yeni Musavat</i>, and Anar Aliyev (who is also known as Anar Geraily), a journalist for <i>Milli Yol</i>, were assaulted when they attempted to photograph the house of a government minister. The attacker, allegedly the minister's guard, took their camera and other equipment and beat Badalov, causing him several injuries to his face and body, and attacked Aliyev.</p>

			says that the decision was handed down on November 2, 2011. This is, of course, not possible since the application was filed in August 2011.)	<p>The Xazar district police denied that there had been any assault and claimed that Badalov had fallen.</p> <p>An official request for a criminal investigation was filed with Azeri courts, witnesses were interviewed, and several other motions were filed. The local courts dismissed a claim about the ineffective investigation.</p> <p>Violation of Convention Articles argued: 3, 6, 10, 13</p>
6	<p>28 December 2011</p> <p><i><u>Not yet communicated</u></i></p>	3650/12	<p><i>Haziye v. Azerbaijan</i></p> <p>--The Baku Court of Appeals gave an oral ruling on October 14, 2010.</p> <p>--The applicant received a written decision on July 1, 2011, and believes that this date should be seen as the beginning of the required six-month period. (According to its Admissibility Criteria, the European Court will accept applications filed no later than six months after the last decision made by the</p>	<p>Seymur Haziye v, a columnist for the newspaper <i>Azadliq</i>, was arrested during a May 2010 opposition rally and sentenced to jail for allegedly disobeying a police order. According to his filed complaint, Haziye v was abused in jail by officials who told him to stop writing articles criticizing top authorities.</p> <p>A complaint was filed with the prosecutor's office and the Ministry of Internal Affairs. An application with the Binaqadi District prosecutor, requesting information about the case, and a claim in court regarding the insufficient investigation and alleged misconduct by the investigators were also filed.</p>

			<p>national courts.)</p> <p>--With regards to the second request concerning the lack of investigation into the applicant's claim of abuse, the Baku Court of Appeals issued a ruling on November 14, 2011.</p>	<p>Haziyev (who is also known as Seymur Hazi) is currently serving a five-year prison term on fabricated charges of hooliganism.</p> <p>Violation of Convention Articles argued: 3, 5, 6, 10, 11, 13</p>
7	26 September 2013	[no application number yet]	<i>Ismayilova v. Azerbaijan</i>	<p>Khadija Ismayilova is an internationally renowned investigative journalist. In 2012, she started receiving threats that video footage showing her engaged in sexual intercourse in her bedroom would be published if she were to continue her journalistic work. Shortly after, the video was published online. Ismayilova was slandered in pro-government and government-run media. She found several hidden cameras in her house and evidence of a break-in.</p> <p>Ismayilova repeatedly complained, but the Baku Prosecutor Office failed to investigate the matter. Instead, upon her filing a complaint with the Chief Prosecutor Office, the Baku Prosecutor Office and Chief Prosecutor Office publicly released a "Status Report" containing language aimed at discrediting Ismayilova and revealing confidential and private information. She has</p>

				<p>since filed two applications with the court.</p> <p>The first application, dated September 26, 2013, relates to the disclosure of the Status Report, which violates Ismayilova's right to private life and right to freedom of expression, as well as the unmotivated rejection of a complaint regarding the Status Report, which violates her right to a fair trial.</p> <p>The second application, filed on July 31, 2014, concerns Azerbaijan's failure to effectively prosecute.</p> <p>Violation of Convention Articles argued: 6, 8, 10, 13</p>
8	1 November 2014	72611/14	<i>Tagiyeva v. Azerbaijan</i>	<p>Rafiq Tagi, a writer and freelance journalist, reported for, among others, <i>Sanat</i> newspaper and the Azerbaijani service of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL). Following his criticism of political Islam, he was targeted by the Iranian regime, which issued a fatwa calling for his death. Tagi had also been imprisoned on criminal charges for his criticism of the policies of the Azerbaijani government.</p> <p>On November 19, 2011, an unknown person stabbed Tagi repeatedly. Tagi was taken to a hospital but died four days later. There were conflicting reports as to the cause of his</p>

				<p>death in hospital, which occurred just as his health had stabilized. To date, no effective investigation has been carried out by the Azerbaijani authorities into the attack that led to his death.</p> <p>In November 2014, Tagi's widow, Mayila Tagiyeva, applied for redress to the European Court of Human Rights, after Azerbaijan suspended the investigation into Tagi's death.</p> <p>Violation of Convention Articles argued: 2, 10, 13</p>
9	6 May 2014	38323/14	<i>Abbasov v. Azerbaijan</i>	<p>Idrak Abbasov is an award-winning investigative journalist with the Russian-language newspaper <i>Zerkalo</i>. He also worked for the now-shuttered Baku-based Institute for Reporters' Freedom and Safety (IRFS) and the London-based Institute for War and Peace Reporting (IWPR). On April 18, 2012, Abbasov said he was attacked by more than 20 security guards of the State Oil Company of Azerbaijan Republic (SOCAR) while he was covering clashes between the guards and local residents protesting the demolition of their houses by SOCAR.</p> <p>Abbasov was hospitalized because of his injuries, which included a concussion, broken ribs, and trauma to his right eye. Police at the</p>

				<p>scene stood by as he was assaulted, the journalist's brother said.</p> <p>To date, there has been no effective investigation into the attack. No assailants have been brought to justice despite the presence of witnesses and footage of the attack. In May 2014, Idrak Abbasov applied for redress to the European Court of Human Rights citing the Azerbaijani government's failure to investigate.</p> <p>Violation of Convention Articles argued: 3, 10, 13</p>
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