

Cases and rulings

Country Code	Year	Reference details title	Reference details URL	Hate Bias motivation	Court / Body	Key facts of the case	Results (sanctions, outcome) and key consequences or implications of the case	Main reasoning / argumentation	Key issues (concepts, interpretations) clarified by the case	Key quotation in original language and translated into English with reference details
Serbia	2020	Serbia / Press Council/102	http://zalbe.rs/zalba/7545	Migrant status		Belgrade Centre for Human Rights filed a complaint against the daily "Blic" due to discriminatory comments below the text on the social network Facebook. With the comments below the text "INTRUSION INTO THE MIGRANT CENTRE: man from Obrenovac broke through military barricades by car and went wild in the reception centre shouting: 'I don't want a Muslim state!'. Published on May 6, 2020, on the Facebook page of the daily "Blic". "A large number of migrants in Serbia are Muslims or they are coming from states with a majority Muslim population. About statistics of a number of asylum seekers, refugees, and migrants you can find in this report: Petrović, Lena (2020), "Right to Asylum in the Republic of Serbia 2019", Belgrade Centre for Human Rights, pp. 13-15. This report is available in English on: http://azil.rs/en/right-to-asylum-in-the-republic-of-serbia-2019/	The Press Council ordered the daily "Blic" to publish the decision within five days from the date of delivery of the decision, and the Commission was published on the website of the Press Council (www.savetastampu.rs) and is available to the public.	It violated the point 1 of Section IV (Responsibility of journalists) of the Serbian Journalists' Code of Ethics, on the obligation of journalists to oppose anyone who violates human rights or advocates any kind of discrimination, hate speech and incitement to violence, as well as point 4 of Section V (Journalistic due attention) according to which a journalist must be aware of the danger of discrimination that can be spread by the media and should do everything to avoid discrimination based, among other things, on race, gender, age, sexual orientation, language, religion, political and other opinion, national or social origin.	From the rationale of the decision: "As for the content of the comments, the Council decided that they are undoubtedly discriminatory in relation to migrants, insulting to them, as well as calling for violence, either directly or through expressing support for a person who broke into the Reception Centre with a vehicle. Regardless of the fact that the text itself is not disputable, the editorial board had to take care that such comments undoubtedly encourage further spread of prejudice and hatred towards migrants, and that their removal in this case is not a restriction of freedom of speech, but an obligation of the editorial board to oppose those who violate human rights and advocate for discrimination, hatred and incitement to violence."	

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<http://fra.europa.eu/en/databases/anti-muslim-hatred/>

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