The European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR; formally the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms) is an international treaty to protect human rights and political freedoms in Europe (Drafted in 1950). It is the primary source of international human rights law for countries that have adhered to it. One of the main instruments of the Council of Europe, the ECHR entered into force in 1953. All Council of Europe member states are party to the ECHR. The Convention protects a broad range of human rights such as freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and protection from discrimination. It is enforced through the European Court of Human Rights, which can hear complaints from individuals regarding alleged violations of the rights protected by the ECHR. The court has the power to order immediate measures to prevent a violation of the rights and freedoms laid down in the Convention, and to order States to make their laws and practices compatible with those rights and freedoms. The European Convention on Human Rights was drafted in 1950 as part of the Council of Europe's efforts to promote democracy and human rights in Europe after World War II. It was the first international human rights treaty to come into force, and its success has inspired similar conventions around the world. The ECHR has been amended several times since its adoption, with the most recent amendment coming into force in 2018. The convention has had a significant impact on the development of human rights law and continues to be an important source of protection for individuals' rights in Europe.

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