



EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS
COUR EUROPÉENNE DES DROITS DE L'HOMME

The SCN and Protocol No. 16:

both different and complementary

While the dynamic of a Formal Request would be similar to that of request for an advisory opinion under Protocol 16, in that a superior court put a Case-law related question to the ECHR, they are in substance very different:

- Further to a formal request in the SCN, the Registry of the ECHR provides a list of relevant case-law (no analysis) to the requesting SCN member court (not a judicial procedure).
- Under [Protocol No. 16](#), the ECHR can provide an analytical advisory opinion on a question of principle relating to the interpretation or application of the Convention to a designated court (a judicial procedure).

It would, of course, be important for a domestic court to have the relevant ECHR case-law to hand before considering, for example, a request for an advisory opinion under Protocol No. 16 to the Convention.