

Example 3

Everyone has the right to fair trial.

Each of us is equally entitled to a fair and public hearing by an independent court, in order to determine her/his rights and obligations and in case of any criminal charge against her/him, including such rule as presumption of innocence until proven guilty.

It is the essential civil human right in all countries respecting what we call the rule of law. It is explicitly mentioned in the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights as well as in the European Convention of Human rights. At the national level this right is usually entrenched in the relevant constitution. However, there is no exact definition of what fair trial is and its procedures vary from country to country. This right also includes delays of trials.

The right is often not respected in authoritarian and totalitarian regimes, like in the case of show trial with picture - Milada Horáková in former Communist Czechoslovakia. This courageous woman stood in front of so called “monster process” or show trial (similar to [Soviet great purges](#) in the 1930's) accused of treason and conspiracy. She did not have the real chance to defend against the invented charges. Milada Horáková was sentenced to death and executed in 1950.



Source: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/>