

European Court of Human Rights - Case of Zielinski and Pradal and Gonzalez v. France
(October 1999) (excerpts)

(...)

§ 57. The Court reaffirms that while in principle the legislature is not precluded in civil matters from adopting new retrospective provisions to regulate rights arising under existing laws, the principle of the rule of law and the notion of fair trial enshrined in Article 6 preclude any interference by the legislature – other than on compelling grounds of the general interest – with the administration of justice designed to influence the judicial determination of a dispute (see the following judgments, cited above: *Stran Greek Refineries and Stratis Andreadis*, p. 82, § 49; *Papageorgiou*, p. 2288, § 37; and *National & Provincial Building Society, Leeds Permanent Building Society and Yorkshire Building Society*, p. 2363, § 112).

(...)