Supreme Court rules in favor of UNE in Christian convert asylum case

The Supreme Court upheld the decision to deny refugee status to a Christian convert. The case revolved around whether the individual would practice Christianity discreetly upon returning to Iran and the reasons behind such discretion. The Court of Appeal assumed the asylum seeker would act discreetly, thereby avoiding persecution. The Supreme Court evaluated whether fear of persecution or social pressure was the motive for discretion. The asylum seeker argued that fear of persecution would justify asylum, but social pressure would not. This reasoning, known as the causal method, was previously applied in a 2012 judgment concerning sexual orientation but had not been used for other asylum grounds.

Source(s)

- Immigration Appeals Board | Utlendingsnemnda (2 January, 2025), Høyesterett ga UNE medhold [The Supreme Court ruled in favour of UNE], https://www.une.no/en/see-more-news/archive/2025/hoyesterett-ga-une-medhold/

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