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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Ratification of the basic treaty | Judicial control | Right of individual application/petition | Control of implementation/execution of judgments |
| European System (European Convention on Human Rights/ECHR) | Ratification is a requirement for Council of Europe membership (if the State ceases to be a member of the Council of Europe its participation in the ECHR is terminated: art. 58.3 ECHR) | Yes (European Court of Human Rights) **N.B.:** *compulsory jurisdiction* | Yes  **N.B.**: automatic right of individual petition (Article 34 ECHR) | Dedicated mechanism (Article 46 ECHR), the central element of which is the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe |
| Inter-American system (American Convention on Human Rights) | Ratification of the American Convention is not a requirement for OAS membership | Yes (Inter-American Court for Human Rights) **N.B**.: *optional jurisdiction* | Not to the Court (victims/victims’ representatives can apply to the Inter-American Commission and it is then for the latter to decide whether to take a case to the Court, *if the State has accepted the Court’s jurisdiction*) | Directly handled by the Inter-American Court through a specially devised procedure |
| African System (African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights) | Ratification of the African Charter is not a requirement for AU membership | Yes (African Court of Human and Peoples’ Rights) **N.B**.: *optional jurisdiction* (may be accepted by ratifying the Protocol to the Charter instituting the African Court) | Yes (*but it is optional*: the State having ratified the Protocol may also declare that it accepts the right of individual petition) | The African Union’s Executive Council monitors judgments’ implementation. The African Court can report about States not complying with its judgments at any time. |
| Arab System (Revised Arab Charter) | Ratification of the Arab Charter is not a requirement for membership in the League of Arab States | No | No | \_ |

**Main *instrumental* differences among regional human rights protection mechanisms**