



INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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Press Release

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Opening of a Court Twitter account

THE HAGUE, 5 November 2015. The International Court of Justice (ICJ), the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, has today opened a Twitter account. The account will enable embassies, the media, the academic world and civil society generally to be kept abreast of latest developments at the Court.

The account's verified name is: @CIJ_ICJ.

Along with its Twitter account, the Court has made it easier for Internet users to share information posted on the Court's website to their own Twitter accounts.

The relevant links have been marked with a Twitter icon; they relate to the following:

- the official texts, in French and English, of the Court's latest decisions;
- press releases;
- employment vacancies in the Registry.

Disclaimer

This account simply provides information; it does not accept enquiries or requests for information, and the items posted do not constitute official Court documents. For all enquiries or requests, please consult the Court's website (www.icj-cij.org) and use the contact form provided. The ICJ does not guarantee the truthfulness, accuracy, or validity of any comments posted to its social media outlets. Users must not post any content that is obscene, defamatory, profane, libellous, threatening, harassing, abusive, hateful or embarrassing to any person or entity. The ICJ reserves the right to delete or edit any comments that it considers inappropriate or unacceptable.

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. It was established by the United Nations Charter in June 1945 and began its activities in April 1946. The seat of the Court is at the Peace Palace in The Hague (Netherlands). Of the six principal organs of the United Nations, it is the only one not located in New York. The Court has a twofold role: first, to settle, in accordance with international law, legal disputes submitted to it by States (its judgments have binding force and are without appeal for the parties concerned); and, second, to give advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by duly authorized United Nations organs and agencies of the system. The Court is composed of 15 judges elected for a nine-year term by the General Assembly and the Security Council of the United Nations. Independent of the United Nations Secretariat, it is assisted by a Registry, its own international secretariat, whose activities are both judicial and diplomatic, as well as administrative. The official languages of the Court are French and English. Also known as the “World Court”, it is the only court of a universal character with general jurisdiction.

The ICJ, a court open only to States for contentious proceedings, and to certain organs and institutions of the United Nations system for advisory proceedings, should not be confused with the other — mostly criminal — judicial institutions based in The Hague and adjacent areas, such as the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY, an ad hoc court created by the Security Council), the International Criminal Court (ICC, the first permanent international criminal court, established by treaty, which does not belong to the United Nations system), the Special Tribunal for Lebanon (STL, an international judicial body with an independent legal personality, established by the United Nations Security Council upon the request of the Lebanese Government and composed of Lebanese and international judges), or the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA, an independent institution which assists in the establishment of arbitral tribunals and facilitates their work, in accordance with the Hague Convention of 1899).

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