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United Nations

Report of the International Court of Justice

1 August 2025–31 July 2026

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Note

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Introduction

1. The International Court of Justice, which has its seat in The Hague, is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. It was established by the Charter of the United Nations in June 1945 and began its activities in April 1946.

2. The International Court of Justice is the only international court of a universal character with general jurisdiction. This jurisdiction is twofold: contentious and advisory.

3. This report provides an overview of the judicial and administrative work of the Court between 1 August 2025 and 31 July 2026. During this period, a total of 88 States were involved to varying extents in contentious or advisory proceedings before the Court.

4. During the same period, the Court handed down one judgment and two advisory opinions (detailed below in chronological order):

(a) *Obligations of Israel in relation to the Presence and Activities of the United Nations, Other International Organizations and Third States in and in relation to the Occupied Palestinian Territory*, advisory opinion delivered on 22 October 2025 (see paras. 244–249);

(b) *Sovereignty over the Sapodilla Cayes/Cayos Zapotillos (Belize v. Honduras: Guatemala intervening)*, judgment on the application filed by Guatemala for permission to intervene in the case delivered on 19 March 2026 (see paras. 151–158);

(c) *Right to Strike under ILO Convention No. 87*, advisory opinion delivered on 21 May 2026 (see paras. 234–243).

5. In addition, the Court, or its President, rendered 16 orders. By an order dated 12 September 2025 in the case concerning *Request relating to the Return of Property Confiscated in Criminal Proceedings (Equatorial Guinea v. France)*, the Court rejected a request for the indication of provisional measures submitted by Equatorial Guinea. By an order dated 19 September 2025 in the case concerning *Kohler and Paris (France v. Islamic Republic of Iran)*, the Court placed on record the discontinuance of the proceedings by France and directed that the case be removed from the General List. By an order of 5 December 2025 in the case concerning *Allegations of Genocide under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Ukraine v. Russian Federation)*, the Court found that the counter-claims submitted by the Russian Federation were admissible and set the time limits for the filing of a reply by Ukraine and a rejoinder by the Russian Federation. The other 13 orders rendered by the Court or its President were procedural and related solely to the organization of written pleadings and time limits.

6. During the period under review, the Court held public hearings in the following four cases (in chronological order):

(a) *Right to Strike under ILO Convention No. 87* (request for advisory opinion), hearings held from 6 to 8 October 2025 (see paras. 234–243);

(b) *Sovereignty over the Sapodilla Cayes/Cayos Zapotillos (Belize v. Honduras)*, hearings on the application filed by Guatemala for permission to intervene held from 24 to 26 November 2025 (see paras. 151–158);

(c) *Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (The Gambia v. Myanmar: 11 States intervening)*, hearings on the merits of the case held from 12 to 29 January 2026 (see paras. 68–84);

(d) *Arbitral Award of 3 October 1899 (Guyana v. Venezuela)*, hearings on the merits of the case held from 4 to 11 May 2026 (see paras. 50–67).

7. During the same period, the Court was seized of two new contentious cases (in chronological order):

(a) *Appeal from the ICAO Council Decision dated 30 June 2025 (Russian Federation v. Australia and Netherlands)* (see paras. 225–230);

(b) *Alleged Violations of Human Rights by Rwanda on the Territory of the Congo (Democratic Republic of the Congo v. Rwanda)* (see paras. 231–233).

8. In addition to the above cases, on 16 September 2025, Mali filed an application before the Court relating to a dispute between itself and Algeria. In accordance with article 38, paragraph 5, of the Rules of Court, the application of Mali was transmitted to the Government of Algeria. In the absence of Algeria's consent to the Court's jurisdiction in the case, no action was taken and the case was not entered in the Court's General List.

9. On 31 July 2026, the number of cases entered in the Court's General List stood at 24, all of which were contentious:

(a) *Gabčíkovo-Nagymaros Project (Hungary/Slovakia)*;

(b) *Certain Iranian Assets (Islamic Republic of Iran v. United States of America)*;

(c) *Alleged Violations of the 1955 Treaty of Amity, Economic Relations, and Consular Rights (Islamic Republic of Iran v. United States of America)*;

(d) *Arbitral Award of 3 October 1899 (Guyana v. Venezuela)*;

(e) *Relocation of the United States Embassy to Jerusalem (Palestine v. United States of America)*;

(f) *Guatemala's Territorial, Insular and Maritime Claim (Guatemala/Belize)*;

(g) *Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (The Gambia v. Myanmar: 11 States intervening)*;

(h) *Application of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Armenia v. Azerbaijan)*;

(i) *Application of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Azerbaijan v. Armenia)*;

(j) *Allegations of Genocide under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Ukraine v. Russian Federation)*;

(k) *Questions of Jurisdictional Immunities of the State and Measures of Constraint against State-Owned Property (Germany v. Italy)*;

(l) *Request relating to the Return of Property Confiscated in Criminal Proceedings (Equatorial Guinea v. France)*;

(m) *Sovereignty over the Sapodilla Cayes/Cayos Zapotillos (Belize v. Honduras: Guatemala intervening)*;

(n) *Application of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Canada and Netherlands v. Syrian Arab Republic)*;

(o) *Alleged Violations of State Immunities (Islamic Republic of Iran v. Canada)*;

(p) *Aerial Incident of 8 January 2020 (Canada, Sweden, Ukraine and United Kingdom v. Islamic Republic of Iran)*;

(q) *Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide in the Gaza Strip (South Africa v. Israel)*;

(r) *Alleged Breaches of Certain International Obligations in respect of the Occupied Palestinian Territory (Nicaragua v. Germany)*;

(s) *Embassy of Mexico in Quito (Mexico v. Ecuador)*;

(t) *Glas Espinel (Ecuador v. Mexico)*;

(u) *Appeal relating to the Jurisdiction of the ICAO Council under Article 84 of the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Islamic Republic of Iran v. Canada, Sweden, Ukraine and United Kingdom)*;

(v) *Alleged Smuggling of Migrants (Lithuania v. Belarus)*;

(w) *Appeal from the ICAO Council Decision dated 30 June 2025 (Russian Federation v. Australia and Netherlands)*;

(x) *Alleged Violations of Human Rights by Rwanda on the Territory of the Congo (Democratic Republic of the Congo v. Rwanda)*.

10. During the period under review, 12 States filed declarations of intervention under Article 63 of the Statute of the Court in contentious cases.

11. The States parties to contentious cases pending before the Court on 31 July 2026 included 3 States from the Group of Asia-Pacific States, 8 from the Latin American and Caribbean Group, 5 from the Group of African States, 8 from the Eastern European Group and 10 from the Group of Western European and Other States. The State of Palestine also participated in contentious proceedings during the period under review.

12. During the same period, Iceland filed a declaration recognizing as compulsory the jurisdiction of the Court, as contemplated by Article 36, paragraph 2, of the Statute. This brings the number of States Parties to have filed such declarations to 75 as at 31 July 2026. A list of those States and the texts of their declarations deposited with the Secretary-General are available, for information purposes, on the Court's website, in the "Declarations recognizing the jurisdiction of the Court as compulsory" section under "Jurisdiction".

13. The basic documents governing the Court are the Charter of the United Nations and the Statute of the Court, which is annexed to the Charter. They are supplemented by the Rules of Court and the Practice Directions, as well as by the Resolution concerning the Internal Judicial Practice of the Court. These documents can be found on the Court's website, under the heading "Basic Documents".

14. During the period under review, the Court amended article 78 of the Rules of Court in order to address the question of the publication of reports of the parties on compliance with provisional measures indicated by the Court.

15. The text of article 78 of the Rules of Court, as amended, entered into force on 2 February 2026, and reads as follows:

> “Article 78
>
> 1. The Court may request that the parties shall submit reports to it on measures they have taken to give effect to an Order indicating provisional measures, within a time-limit specified by the Court. The Court may also request information on other matters connected with any provisional measure it has indicated.
>
> 2. Where the Court requests the submission of a report pursuant to paragraph 1 of this Article, it shall, after ascertaining the views of the parties, make the report or parts thereof accessible to the public as soon as possible, unless, in case of an objection by a party, it decides otherwise.”

16. The sustained increase in new cases submitted to the Court and the significant number of decisions it delivered during the period under review reflect the institution’s important role within the United Nations system. In addition to working on pending cases, the Court actively reviews its procedures and working methods on an ongoing basis, including with a view to making greater use of new technologies.

17. In order to ensure the sound administration of justice, the Court sets itself a demanding schedule of hearings and deliberations, enabling it to consider several cases simultaneously and to deal with any associated incidental proceedings as promptly as possible.

18. It is worth recalling that having recourse to the principal judicial organ of the United Nations is a cost-effective solution. While the time frame for certain written proceedings may be relatively lengthy in view of the time required by the participating States for the preparation of their pleadings, it should be noted that, despite the complexity of the cases involved, the period between the conclusion of the oral proceedings and the delivery of a judgment or an advisory opinion by the Court does not, on average, exceed six months.

Chapter I
Organization of the Court

A. Composition of the Court

1. Members of the Court

19. The International Court of Justice consists of 15 judges elected for a term of nine years by the General Assembly and the Security Council. One third of the Court's membership is renewed every three years.

20. Following the resignation of Judge Abdulqawi A. Yusuf with effect from 30 September 2025, Ms. Phoebe N. Okowa was elected by the General Assembly and Security Council of the United Nations on 12 November 2025, and will hold office for the remainder of her predecessor's term, which was due to expire on 5 February 2027.

21. On 31 July 2026, the composition of the Court was thus as follows: President: Iwasawa Yuji (Japan); Vice-President: Julia Sebutinde (Uganda); Judges: Peter Tomka (Slovakia), Ronny Abraham (France), Xue Hanqin (China), Dalveer Bhandari (India), Georg Nolte (Germany), Hilary Charlesworth (Australia), Leonardo Nemer Caldeira Brant (Brazil), Juan Manuel Gómez Robledo (Mexico), Sarah H. Cleveland (United States of America), Bogdan-Lucian Aurescu (Romania), Dire Tladi (South Africa), Mahmoud Daifallah Hmoud (Jordan) and Phoebe N. Okowa (Kenya).

2. President and Vice-President

22. The President and the Vice-President of the Court are elected by the Members of the Court every three years by secret ballot (Statute, Article 21). The Vice-President replaces the President when the latter is absent or unable to exercise his or her duties, or in the event of a vacancy in the presidency. Among other things, the President:

(a) Presides at all meetings of the Court, directs its work and supervises its administration;

(b) In every case submitted to the Court, ascertains the views of the parties with regard to questions of procedure; for this purpose, the President summons the agents of the parties to a meeting as soon as possible after their appointment, and whenever necessary thereafter;

(c) Directs the Court's judicial deliberations;

(d) Has a casting vote in the event of votes being equally divided during judicial deliberations;

(e) Is ex officio a member of the drafting committee unless the President does not share the majority opinion of the Court, in which case the President is replaced by the Vice-President or, failing that, by a third judge elected by the Court;

(f) Is ex officio a member of the Chamber of Summary Procedure formed annually by the Court;

(g) Signs all judgments, advisory opinions and orders of the Court, and the minutes of meetings;

(h) Delivers the judicial decisions of the Court at public sittings;

(i) Chairs the Budgetary and Administrative Committee of the Court;

(j) In the third quarter of every year, addresses the representatives of the Member States in New York during plenary meetings of the session of the General Assembly in order to present the report of the Court;

(k) Receives, at the seat of the Court, heads of State and Government and other dignitaries during official visits;

(l) May be called upon to make procedural orders when the Court is not sitting.

3. Chamber of Summary Procedure and committees of the Court

23. In accordance with Article 29 of its Statute, the Court annually forms a Chamber of Summary Procedure, which, as at 31 July 2026, was constituted as follows:

(a) Members:

– President Iwasawa;

– Vice-President Sebutinde;

– Judges Nolte, Brant and Aurescu.

(b) Substitute members:

– Judges Charlesworth and Tladi.

24. The Court also forms committees to facilitate the performance of its administrative tasks. Their composition as at 31 July 2026 was as follows:

(a) Budgetary and Administrative Committee:

– President Iwasawa;

– Vice-President Sebutinde;

– Judges Tomka, Abraham, Xue, Nolte and Tladi.

(b) Rules Committee:

– Judge Tomka (Chair);

– Judges Charlesworth, Brant, Gómez Robledo, Cleveland, Aurescu and Hmoud.

(c) Library Committee:

– Judge Bhandari (Chair);

– Judges Nolte, Charlesworth, Brant, Tladi and Okowa.

4. Judges ad hoc

25. In accordance with Article 31 of the Statute, parties to a case that have no judge of their nationality on the bench may choose a judge ad hoc for the purposes of that case.

26. Listed below are the names of the judges ad hoc sitting in cases pending before the Court who were appointed during the period under review. The full list of judges ad hoc sitting in cases pending before the Court can be found on the Court's website, in the section entitled "The Court", under "Judges *ad hoc*", "Current Judges *ad hoc*".

(a) In the case concerning the *Aerial Incident of 8 January 2020 (Canada, Sweden, Ukraine and United Kingdom v. Islamic Republic of Iran)*, Jamal Seifi was chosen by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

(b) In the case concerning *Appeal relating to the Jurisdiction of the ICAO Council under Article 84 of the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Islamic Republic of Iran v. Canada, Sweden, Ukraine and United Kingdom)*, Donald M. McRae was chosen by the respondents and Nasrollah Ebrahimi was chosen by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

(c) In the case concerning *Appeal from the ICAO Council Decision dated 30 June 2025 (Russian Federation v. Australia and Netherlands)*, Bakhtiyar Tuzmukhamedov was chosen by the Russian Federation.

B. Registry

27. The Court is the only principal organ of the United Nations to have its own administration (Charter, Article 98). The Registry is the international secretariat of the Court. Since the Court is both a judicial body and an international institution, the Registry's functions include providing judicial support and acting as an administrative organ.

28. The duties of the Registry are set out in detail in instructions drawn up by the Registrar and approved by the Court (Rules, art. 28, paras. 2 and 3). The version of the Instructions for the Registry currently in force was adopted by the Court in March 2012 (A/67/4, para. 66) and is available on the Court's website under the heading "The Registry".

29. Registry officials are appointed by the Court on proposals by the Registrar or, for General Service staff, by the Registrar with the approval of the President of the Court. Temporary staff are appointed by the Registrar. Working conditions are governed by the Staff Regulations for the Registry adopted by the Court (Rules, art. 28, para. 4; the Staff Regulations are also available on the Court's website, under the heading "The Registry"). Registry officials enjoy, generally, the same privileges and immunities as members of diplomatic missions in The Hague of comparable rank. They enjoy remuneration and pension rights corresponding to those of United Nations Secretariat officials of equivalent category or grade.

30. The organizational structure of the Registry is fixed by the Court on proposals by the Registrar. The Registry consists of three departments and seven technical divisions (see annex) under the direct supervision of the Registrar or the Deputy-Registrar. As required under the Instructions for the Registry, the Registrar and Deputy-Registrar place particular emphasis on coordinating the activities of the various departments and divisions. Guidelines relating to the organization of work between the Registrar and the Deputy-Registrar were adopted by the Court in 2020 and reviewed in 2021, 2022 and 2025 with a view to achieving further efficiencies in the management and coordination of the Registry's activities.

31. As at 31 July 2026, the total number of posts in the Registry was 136, namely 74 posts in the Professional and higher categories and 62 in the General Service category.

32. The President of the Court and the Registrar are each aided by a special assistant (grade P-3). The members of the Court are each assisted by a law clerk (grade P-2). These 15 associate legal officers, who are assigned to individual judges, are members of the Registry staff. The law clerks carry out research for the members of the Court and work under their supervision. Four additional posts of law clerks have been approved to carry out research for the judges ad hoc under the supervision of the Head of the Department of Legal Matters. A total of 15 executive assistants, who are also members of the Registry staff, assist the members of the Court and the judges ad hoc.

1. Registrar

33. Pursuant to article 22 of the Rules of Court, the Court elects its Registrar by secret ballot for a term of seven years. The provisions of article 22 also apply to the election and term of office of the Deputy-Registrar (Rules, art. 23).

34. The Registrar of the Court during the period under review was Philippe Gautier, of Belgian nationality. He was elected by the members of the Court on 22 May 2019 for a period of seven years beginning on 1 August of the same year. On 7 May 2026, Santiago Villalpando, of Argentine nationality, was elected to the post of Registrar by the Members of the Court for a term of seven years beginning on 1 August of the same year.

35. The Registrar is responsible for all departments and divisions of the Registry. Pursuant to article 1 of the Instructions for the Registry, the staff are under the authority of the Registrar, who alone is authorized to direct the work of the Registry. In the discharge of his or her functions, the Registrar reports to the Court. The Registrar's role is threefold: judicial, diplomatic and administrative (Rules, art. 26).

36. The Registrar's judicial duties notably include those relating to the cases submitted to the Court. The Registrar, inter alia:

(a) Keeps the General List of all cases and is responsible for recording documents in the case files;

(b) Manages the proceedings in the cases;

(c) Is present in person, or represented by the Deputy-Registrar, at meetings of the Court and of Chambers; provides any assistance required and is responsible for the preparation of reports or minutes of such meetings;

(d) Countersigns all judgments, advisory opinions and orders of the Court, and the minutes of meetings;

(e) Maintains relations with the parties to a case and has specific responsibility for the receipt and transmission of various documents, most importantly those instituting proceedings (applications and special agreements) and all written pleadings;

(f) Is responsible for the translation, printing and publication of the Court's judgments, advisory opinions and orders, the pleadings, written statements and minutes of the public sittings in every case, and of such other documents as the Court may decide to publish;

(g) Has custody of the seals and stamps of the Court, of the archives of the Court, and of such other archives as may be entrusted to the Court (including the archives of the Permanent Court of International Justice).

37. In his diplomatic role, the Registrar:

(a) Attends to the Court's external relations and acts as the channel of communication to and from the Court;

(b) Manages external correspondence, including that relating to cases, and provides any consultations required;

(c) Manages relations of a diplomatic nature, in particular with the organs and States Members of the United Nations, with other international organizations and with the government of the country in which the Court has its seat;

(d) Is responsible for information concerning the Court's activities and for the Court's publications.

38. The administrative work of the Registrar includes:

(a) The Registry's internal administration;

(b) Financial management, in accordance with the financial procedures of the United Nations, and in particular preparing and implementing the budget;

(c) Making arrangements for such provision or verification of translations and interpretations into the Court's two official languages (English and French) as the Court may require.

39. The Registrar is accorded the same privileges and immunities as heads of diplomatic missions in The Hague and, on journeys to third States, all the privileges, immunities and facilities granted to diplomatic envoys.

2. Deputy-Registrar

40. The Deputy-Registrar of the Court is Jean-Pelé Fomété, of Cameroonian nationality. He was elected on 11 February 2013 for a period of seven years and re-elected on 20 February 2020 for a second term of seven years beginning on 1 April of the same year.

41. The Deputy-Registrar assists the Registrar and acts as Registrar in the latter's absence (Rules, art. 27).

C. Seat

42. The seat of the Court is established at The Hague; this, however, does not prevent the Court from sitting and exercising its functions elsewhere whenever the Court considers it desirable to do so (Statute, Article 22, para. 1; Rules, art. 55). The Court has so far never held sittings outside The Hague.

1. Annual contribution to the Carnegie Foundation

43. The Court occupies premises in the Peace Palace in The Hague. An agreement of 21 February 1946 between the United Nations and the Carnegie Foundation, which owns and manages the Peace Palace, determines the conditions under which the Court uses the premises, and provides for the United Nations to pay an annual contribution to the Foundation in consideration of the Court's use of those premises. That contribution was increased pursuant to supplementary agreements approved by the General Assembly in 1951, 1958, 1997 and 2007. The annual contribution by the United Nations to the Foundation was €1,781,394 for 2025 and €1,839,570 for 2026.

2. Asbestos removal works in the Peace Palace and renovation of the building

44. In 2020, the Court was informed by the host country that the latter planned to conduct a full renovation of the Peace Palace to remove any asbestos in the building, and that it was possible that the Court's Registry would have to be relocated during the renovation work.

45. In July 2022, the Court was informed that the host country was now contemplating a more limited approach. Under the plan put forward by the Netherlands authorities in the fourth quarter of 2022, as a first phase, asbestos would be removed from areas where it was known to be present, namely in the attic of the building (project A), and a thorough survey would be conducted to locate any other areas where asbestos might be found (project B). Based on the results of these further

investigations, the Netherlands authorities would then decide on the best approach to resolve the issue, which might or might not include a full or partial relocation of the Court's Registry.

46. In February 2025, the Court concluded the Supplemental Implementation Agreement for the Asbestos Projects A and B in the Peace Palace with the State of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the Carnegie Foundation and the Permanent Court of Arbitration. The Agreement sets out a governance framework for the implementation of the asbestos projects. Following the conclusion of the Agreement, the Court approved the start of the implementation of projects A and B. Project B (the survey of where asbestos might be found) was completed in the last quarter of 2025, while project A (removal of asbestos from the attic) remains under way and is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2027.

47. In September 2025, the Netherlands authorities announced the start of the preparation phase for the Peace Palace renovation project. According to the provisional timeline, this phase is scheduled to take place from 2026 to 2029, followed by the realization phase beginning in 2030. Consultations are currently under way between the host State, the Carnegie Foundation, the Permanent Court of Arbitration and the Court regarding the governance structure and organizational arrangements for the renovation project.

D. Privileges and immunities

48. Under Article 19 of the Statute of the Court, the members of the Court, when engaged in the business of the Court, enjoy diplomatic privileges and immunities. A comprehensive list of all texts related to privileges and immunities can be found on the website of the Court, in the section under "Basic Documents". For further details see the report of the Court for the period from 1 August 2023 to 31 July 2024 (A/79/4, paras. 48–53).

Chapter II
Judicial activity of the Court

A. Pending contentious proceedings during the period under review

49. The section below is focused on the pending contentious cases in which there were specific developments to report during the period under review. For a full list of cases pending before the Court during this period, see paragraph 9 above. For a recent summary of the cases not mentioned in the present section, see the reports of the Court for the periods from 1 August 2023 to 31 July 2024 (A/79/4) and from 1 August 2024 to 31 July 2025 (A/80/4).

1. *Arbitral Award of 3 October 1899 (Guyana v. Venezuela)*

50. On 29 March 2018, Guyana filed an application instituting proceedings against the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. In its application, Guyana asked the Court "to confirm the legal validity and binding effect of the Award Regarding the Boundary between the Colony of British Guiana and the United States of Venezuela, of 3 October 1899".

51. As basis for the jurisdiction of the Court, the applicant invoked Article 36, paragraph 1, of the Statute of the Court, article IV, paragraph 2, of the Agreement to Resolve the Controversy between Venezuela and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland over the Frontier between Venezuela and British Guiana, signed at Geneva on 17 February 1966 (the "Geneva Agreement"), and the decision of 30 January 2018 of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, pursuant to the Geneva Agreement, choosing the Court as the means for the settlement of the dispute.

52. On 18 June 2018, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela informed the Court that it considered that the Court manifestly lacked jurisdiction to hear the case and that it had decided not to take part in the proceedings.

53. By an order dated 19 June 2018, the Court decided that the written pleadings in the case should first address the question of the jurisdiction of the Court and fixed 19 November 2018 and 18 April 2019 as the respective time limits for the filing of the memorial of Guyana and the counter-memorial of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. The memorial of Guyana was filed within the time limit thus fixed.

54. By a letter dated 12 April 2019, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela confirmed its decision not to participate in the written proceedings, while indicating that it would provide timely information in order to assist the Court "in the fulfilment of its [duty] as indicated in Article 53, paragraph 2, of its Statute". On 28 November 2019, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela submitted to the Court a document entitled "Memorandum of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on the Application filed before the International Court of Justice by the Cooperative Republic of Guyana on March 29th, 2018".

55. A public hearing was subsequently held on 30 June 2020, with the participation of the delegation of Guyana. On 24 July 2020, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela submitted to the Court written observations on the arguments presented by Guyana at the oral proceedings. By a letter dated 3 August 2020, Guyana provided its views on that communication from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

56. On 18 December 2020, the Court delivered its judgment on the question of its jurisdiction, in which it concluded that it had jurisdiction to entertain the application filed by Guyana insofar as it concerned the validity of the Arbitral Award of 3 October 1899 and the related question of the definitive settlement of the land boundary dispute

between Guyana and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. However, the Court found that it did not have jurisdiction to entertain the claims of Guyana arising from events that had occurred after the signature of the Geneva Agreement.

57. By an order dated 8 March 2021, the Court fixed 8 March 2022 and 8 March 2023 as the respective time limits for the filing of the memorial of Guyana and the counter-memorial of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. The memorial of Guyana was filed within the time limit thus fixed.

58. On 7 June 2022, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela raised preliminary objections to the admissibility of the application of Guyana.

59. Public hearings on the preliminary objections raised by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela were held from 17 to 22 November 2022.

60. By a judgment of 6 April 2023, after determining that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela was in substance making only a single preliminary objection, the Court rejected that preliminary objection and found that it could adjudicate on the merits of the claims of Guyana insofar as they fell within the scope of the judgment of 18 December 2020 (see para. 56 above).

61. By an order of the same date, the Court fixed 8 April 2024 as the new time limit for the filing of the counter-memorial of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. That pleading was filed within the time limit thus fixed.

62. On 30 October 2023, Guyana filed a request for the indication of provisional measures. In its request, Guyana stated that on 23 October 2023, the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela had published a list of five questions that it planned to put before the Venezuelan people on 3 December 2023 as part of a consultative referendum, and requested the Court to indicate, inter alia, that "Venezuela [should] not proceed with the Consultative Referendum planned for 3 December 2023 in its present form".

63. On 1 December 2023, the Court rendered its order on the request of Guyana. In its order, the Court indicated provisional measures ordering the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to refrain from taking any action, pending a final decision in the case, which would modify the situation that currently prevails in the territory in dispute, whereby Guyana administers and exercises control over that area. The Court further instructed both parties to refrain from any action that might aggravate or extend the dispute or make it more difficult to resolve. By an order dated 14 June 2024, the Court fixed 9 December 2024 and 11 August 2025 as the respective time limits for the filing of the reply of Guyana and the rejoinder of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. Those pleadings were filed within the time limits thus fixed.

64. On 6 March 2025, Guyana filed a further request for the indication of provisional measures. Guyana contended that its request had been prompted "by Venezuela's announcement that it will soon hold elections in Guyana's sovereign territory, which Venezuela has purported to annex in violation of the Court's Order of 1 December 2023 and fundamental norms of international law".

65. By an order of 1 May 2025, the Court reaffirmed the provisional measures indicated in its order of 1 December 2023 and indicated a further provisional measure ordering that, pending a final decision in the case, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela "shall refrain from conducting elections, or preparing to conduct elections, in the territory in dispute, which … Guyana currently administers and over which it exercises control".

66. Public hearings on the merits of the case were held from 4 to 11 May 2026.

67. As at 31 July 2026, the case was under deliberation. The Court's judgment on the merits will be delivered at a public sitting, the date of which will be announced in due course.

2. *Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (The Gambia v. Myanmar: 11 States intervening)*

68. On 11 November 2019, the Gambia filed in the Registry of the Court an application instituting proceedings against Myanmar concerning alleged violations of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide of 9 December 1948. In its application, the Gambia requested, inter alia, that the Court adjudge and declare "that Myanmar ha[d] breached and continue[d] to breach its obligations under the Genocide Convention", that it "must cease forthwith any … internationally wrongful act", that it "must perform the obligations of reparation in the interest of the victims of genocidal acts who [we]re members of the Rohingya group", and that it "must offer assurances and guarantees of non-repetition".

69. As basis for the Court's jurisdiction, the applicant invoked Article 36, paragraph 1, of the Statute of the Court and article IX of the Genocide Convention.

70. The application was accompanied by a request for the indication of provisional measures.

71. On 23 January 2020, the Court delivered an order indicating a number of provisional measures. In addition, Myanmar was ordered to submit a report to the Court on all measures taken to give effect to the order, within four months as from the date of the order, and thereafter every six months, until a final decision on the case is rendered by the Court. The full text of the order can be found on the case page of the Court's website.

72. By a further order dated 23 January 2020, the Court fixed 23 July 2020 and 25 January 2021 as the respective time limits for the filing of the memorial of the Gambia and the counter-memorial of Myanmar. By an order dated 18 May 2020, the Court extended those time limits to 23 October 2020 and 23 July 2021, respectively. The memorial of the Gambia was filed within the time limit thus extended.

73. On 20 January 2021, Myanmar raised preliminary objections to the jurisdiction of the Court and the admissibility of the application.

74. On 22 July 2022, following public hearings, the Court delivered its judgment, in which it rejected the preliminary objections raised by Myanmar. The Court found that it had jurisdiction to entertain the application filed by the Gambia on the basis of article IX of the Genocide Convention and that the application was admissible.

75. By an order of the same date, the Court fixed 24 April 2023 as the new time limit for the filing of the counter-memorial of Myanmar. Following a request by Myanmar, the Court extended that time limit, first to 24 May 2023 by an order dated 6 April 2023, and then to 24 August 2023 by an order dated 12 May 2023. The counter-memorial of Myanmar was filed within the time limit thus extended.

76. By an order dated 16 October 2023, the Court fixed 16 May 2024 and 16 December 2024 as the respective time limits for the filing of the reply of the Gambia and the rejoinder of Myanmar. By a letter dated 14 May 2024, the Registrar informed the Gambia that the reply would not be considered out of time if submitted by 23 May 2024. The reply of the Gambia was filed in accordance with that communication.

77. On 15 November 2023, Maldives filed a declaration of intervention in the case pursuant to Article 63 of the Statute of the Court. On the same date, a joint declaration

of intervention was filed, pursuant to the same provision, by Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Netherlands (Kingdom of the) and the United Kingdom.

78. Having heard the parties and the States seeking to intervene by way of a written procedure, the Court, by an order dated 3 July 2024, decided that these two declarations of intervention were admissible in so far as they concerned the construction of provisions of the Genocide Convention.

79. By an order dated 21 November 2024, the Court extended to 30 December 2024 the time limit for the filing of the rejoinder of Myanmar. That pleading was filed within the time limit thus fixed.

80. Four additional States subsequently filed declarations of intervention under Article 63 of the Statute of the Court: Slovenia (on 29 November 2024), Democratic Republic of the Congo (on 10 December 2024), Belgium (on 12 December 2024) and Ireland (on 20 December 2024).

81. By an order dated 25 July 2025, the Court decided that the declarations of intervention submitted by Slovenia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Belgium and Ireland were admissible insofar as they concerned the construction of provisions of the Genocide Convention; by the same order, the Court fixed 25 September 2025 as the time limit for the filing by Slovenia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Belgium and Ireland of their written observations on the subject matter of their intervention, in accordance with article 86, paragraph 1, of the Rules of Court. Slovenia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Belgium and Ireland filed those written observations within the time limit thus fixed.

82. Between 22 May 2020 and 21 November 2025, Myanmar submitted 12 reports on the measures taken to give effect to the Court's order of 23 January 2020. The Gambia submitted written observations on those reports.

83. Public hearings on the merits of the case were held from 12 to 29 January 2026.

84. As at 31 July 2026, the case was under deliberation. The Court's judgment on the merits will be delivered at a public sitting, the date of which will be announced in due course.

3. *Certain Iranian Assets (Islamic Republic of Iran v. United States of America)*

85. On 14 June 2016, the Islamic Republic of Iran filed an application instituting proceedings against the United States with regard to a dispute concerning "the adoption by the USA of a series of measures that, in violation of the Treaty of Amity, Economic Relations, and Consular Rights signed at Tehran on 15 August 1955 (the 'Treaty of Amity'), … have had, and/or are having a serious adverse impact upon the ability of Iran and of Iranian companies (including Iranian State-owned companies) to exercise their rights to control and enjoy their property, including property located outside the territory of Iran/within the territory of the USA".

86. As basis for the jurisdiction of the Court, the applicant invoked Article 36, paragraph 1, of the Statute of the Court and article XXI, paragraph 2, of the Treaty of Amity.

87. On 13 February 2019, following public hearings, the Court rendered its judgment on the preliminary objections raised by the United States on 1 May 2017. It found that it had jurisdiction to entertain part of the claims made by the Islamic Republic of Iran and that the application was admissible. It found that, insofar as the claims of the Islamic Republic of Iran concerned the alleged violation of rules of international law on sovereign immunities, the Court did not have jurisdiction to consider them. The Court also found that the third objection to jurisdiction, whereby

the respondent requested the Court to dismiss as outside its jurisdiction "all claims of purported violations of Articles III, IV, or V of the Treaty [of Amity] that are predicated on treatment accorded to the Government of Iran or to Bank Markazi", did not possess an exclusively preliminary character.

88. Public hearings on the merits of the case were held from 19 to 23 September 2022.

89. The Court delivered its judgment on the merits on 30 March 2023; in it, it found, inter alia, that the United States had violated its obligations under article III, paragraph 1, article IV, paragraphs 1 and 2, and article X, paragraph 1, of the Treaty of Amity, and that it was under an obligation to compensate the Islamic Republic of Iran for the injurious consequences of the violations of those international obligations. The Court also decided that "failing agreement between the Parties on the question of compensation due to the Islamic Republic of Iran within 24 months from the date of the present Judgment, this matter will, at the request of either Party, be settled by the Court".

90. By an order of 25 February 2026, the Court noted that the parties had been unable to reach an agreement on the issue of compensation within 24 months of the judgment of 30 March 2023 and, taking into account the agreement of the parties, fixed 25 November 2026 and 25 August 2027 as the respective time limits for the filing of the memorial of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the counter-memorial of the United States on the sole issue of compensation in the case.

4. *Application of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Armenia v. Azerbaijan)*

91. On 16 September 2021, Armenia filed an application instituting proceedings against Azerbaijan with regard to alleged violations of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. In its application, Armenia contended that "[f]or decades, Azerbaijan ha[d] subjected Armenians to racial discrimination" and that, "[a]s a result of this State-sponsored policy of Armenian hatred, Armenians ha[d] been subjected to systemic discrimination, mass killings, torture and other abuse". According to Armenia, those violations had been directed at individuals of Armenian ethnic or national origin regardless of their actual nationality. Armenia claimed that such "practices [had] once again c[o]me to the fore in September 2020, after Azerbaijan's aggression against the Republic of Artsakh and Armenia", and that "[d]uring that armed conflict, Azerbaijan [had] committed grave violations of the [Convention]". The applicant alleged that "[e]ven after the end of hostilities", following a ceasefire that had entered into effect on 10 November 2020, "Azerbaijan ha[d] continued to engage in the murder, torture and other abuse of Armenian prisoners of war, hostages and other detained persons".

92. As basis for the Court's jurisdiction, the applicant invoked Article 36, paragraph 1, of the Statute of the Court and article 22 of the Convention, to which both States are Parties.

93. The application was accompanied by a request for the indication of provisional measures. Public hearings on that request were held on 14 and 15 October 2021.

94. By an order dated 7 December 2021, the Court indicated certain provisional measures. The Court decided, inter alia, that, in accordance with its obligations under the Convention, Azerbaijan must "[p]rotect from violence and bodily harm all persons captured in relation to the 2020 Conflict who remain[ed] in detention, and ensure their security and equality before the law".

95. By an order dated 21 January 2022, the Court fixed 23 January 2023 and 23 January 2024 as the respective time limits for the filing of the memorial of Armenia and the counter-memorial of Azerbaijan. The memorial of Armenia was filed within the time limit thus fixed.

96. On 19 September 2022, Armenia, referring to article 76 of the Rules of Court, filed a request for the modification of the Court's order of 7 December 2021.

97. By an order dated 12 October 2022, the Court concluded that "the hostilities which [had] erupted between the Parties in September 2022 and the detention of Armenian military personnel d[id] not constitute a change in the situation justifying modification of the Order of 7 December 2021 within the meaning of Article 76 of the Rules of Court", and reaffirmed the provisional measures indicated in its order of 7 December 2021.

98. On 28 December 2022, Armenia submitted a second request for the indication of provisional measures. By an order dated 22 February 2023, following public hearings on that request, the Court indicated a new provisional measure ordering Azerbaijan to "take all measures at its disposal to ensure unimpeded movement of persons, vehicles and cargo along the Lachin Corridor in both directions".

99. On 21 April 2023, Azerbaijan raised two preliminary objections to the jurisdiction of the Court. In its first preliminary objection, Azerbaijan argued that the Court lacked jurisdiction under article 22 of the Convention, because the precondition of negotiation set out in that provision had not been satisfied. In its second preliminary objection, Azerbaijan contended that some of the claims made by Armenia were not within the scope of the Court's jurisdiction *ratione materiae* under article 22 of the Convention, because they were not based on one of the prohibited grounds of racial discrimination enumerated in article 1, paragraph 1, of the Convention.

100. On 15 May 2023, the Court received a request from Armenia asking it to modify its order of 22 February 2023 indicating a provisional measure. By an order dated 6 July 2023, the Court concluded that the circumstances to which Armenia referred in its request did not "constitute a change in the situation justifying modification of the Order of 22 February 2023".

101. On 28 September 2023, Armenia submitted a further request to the Court for the indication of provisional measures. Public hearings on that request were held on 12 October 2023.

102. By an order of 17 November 2023, the Court reaffirmed the provisional measures indicated in its orders of 7 December 2021 and 22 February 2023 and indicated three additional provisional measures. First, Azerbaijan was directed to ensure, in accordance with its obligations under the Convention, that persons who had left Nagorno-Karabakh after 19 September 2023 and who wished to return home were able to do so in a safe, unimpeded and expeditious manner; that persons who had remained in Nagorno-Karabakh after that date and who wished to depart were able to do so in the same safe manner; and that persons wishing to stay in Nagorno-Karabakh were free from the use of force or intimidation that might cause them to flee. Second, Azerbaijan was directed to protect and preserve registration, identity and private property documents and records that concerned the above-mentioned persons and have due regard to such documents and records in its administrative and legislative practices. Third, Azerbaijan was instructed to submit a report to the Court on the steps taken to give effect to the provisional measures indicated and the undertakings made by Azerbaijan during the hearings that had taken place on 12 October 2023.

103. Public hearings on the preliminary objections raised by Azerbaijan were held from 15 to 19 April 2024.

104. On 12 November 2024, the Court rendered its judgment on the preliminary objections raised by Azerbaijan, in which it rejected those preliminary objections and found that it had jurisdiction, on the basis of article 22 of the Convention, to entertain the application filed by Armenia on 16 September 2021.

105. By an order dated 12 November 2024, the Court fixed 12 November 2025 as the time limit for the filing of the counter-memorial of Azerbaijan. That pleading was filed within the time limit thus fixed.

106. By an order dated 17 December 2025, the Court fixed 19 October 2026 and 19 August 2027 as the respective time limits for the filing of the reply of Armenia and the rejoinder of Azerbaijan.

5. *Application of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Azerbaijan v. Armenia)*

107. On 23 September 2021, Azerbaijan filed an application instituting proceedings against Armenia concerning alleged violations of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

108. According to the applicant, "Armenia ha[d] engaged and [was] continuing to engage in a series of discriminatory acts against Azerbaijanis on the basis of their 'national or ethnic' origin within the meaning of [the Convention]". The applicant claimed that "through both direct and indirect means, Armenia continue[d] its policy of ethnic cleansing", and that it "incite[d] hatred and ethnic violence against Azerbaijanis by engaging in hate speech and disseminating racist propaganda, including at the highest levels of its Government". Referring to the period of hostilities between the two countries that had erupted in the fourth quarter of 2020, Azerbaijan contended that "Armenia [had] once again targeted Azerbaijanis for brutal treatment motivated by ethnic hatred". Azerbaijan further contended that "Armenia's policies and conduct of ethnic cleansing, cultural erasure and fomenting of hatred against Azerbaijanis systematically infringe[d] the rights and freedoms of Azerbaijanis, as well as Azerbaijan's own rights, in violation of [the Convention]".

109. As basis for the Court's jurisdiction, Azerbaijan invoked Article 36, paragraph 1, of the Statute of the Court and article 22 of the Convention, to which both States are Parties.

110. The application was accompanied by a request for the indication of provisional measures.

111. On 7 December 2021, following public hearings, the Court delivered its order on that request, indicating, inter alia, that Armenia must "take all necessary measures to prevent the incitement and promotion of racial hatred, including by organizations and private persons in its territory, targeted at persons of Azerbaijani national or ethnic origin".

112. By an order dated 21 January 2022, the Court fixed 23 January 2023 and 23 January 2024 as the respective time limits for the filing of the memorial of Azerbaijan and the counter-memorial of Armenia. The memorial of Azerbaijan was filed within the time limit thus fixed.

113. On 4 January 2023, Azerbaijan filed a second request for the indication of provisional measures, asking the Court to order Armenia to "immediately take all necessary steps to enable Azerbaijan to undertake the prompt, safe and effective demining of the towns, villages, and other areas to which Azerbaijani civilians will return in the Lachin District, Kalbajar District and other formerly occupied districts of Azerbaijan" and to "immediately cease and desist from any further efforts to plant or to sponsor or support the planting of landmines and booby traps in these areas to

which Azerbaijani civilians will return in Azerbaijan's territory, including, but not limited to, the use of the Lachin Corridor for this purpose".

114. By an order dated 22 February 2023, following public hearings, the Court rejected the request of Azerbaijan for the indication of provisional measures submitted on 4 January 2023.

115. On 21 April 2023, Armenia raised three preliminary objections to the jurisdiction of the Court and the admissibility of the application. In its first preliminary objection, Armenia argued that the Court lacked jurisdiction *ratione temporis* with respect to the claims of Azerbaijan concerning alleged acts that occurred between 23 July 1993 and 15 September 1996, the period during which Armenia was a State Party to the Convention while Azerbaijan was not, or that, alternatively, such claims were inadmissible. In its second preliminary objection, Armenia contended that the Court lacked jurisdiction *ratione materiae* with respect to the claims of Azerbaijan concerning the alleged placement of landmines and booby traps. In its third preliminary objection, Armenia submitted that the Court lacked jurisdiction *ratione materiae* with respect to the claims of Azerbaijan concerning alleged environmental harm.

116. Public hearings on the preliminary objections raised by Armenia were held from 22 to 26 April 2024.

117. On 12 November 2024, the Court rendered its judgment on the preliminary objections of Armenia, in which it upheld the first and third preliminary objections, but rejected the second objection.

118. The Court also found that, subject to its findings regarding the first and third preliminary objections of Armenia, it had jurisdiction, on the basis of article 22 of the Convention, to entertain the application filed by Azerbaijan on 23 September 2021.

119. By an order of 12 November 2024, the Court fixed 12 November 2025 as the new time limit for the filing of the counter-memorial of Armenia. That pleading was filed within the time limit thus fixed.

120. By an order dated 17 December 2025, the Court fixed 19 October 2026 and 19 August 2027 as the respective time limits for the filing of the reply of Azerbaijan and the rejoinder of Armenia.

6. *Allegations of Genocide under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Ukraine v. Russian Federation)*

121. On 26 February 2022, Ukraine filed an application instituting proceedings against the Russian Federation concerning "a dispute … relating to the interpretation, application and fulfilment of the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide".

122. In its application, Ukraine contended, inter alia, that "the Russian Federation ha[d] falsely claimed that acts of genocide ha[d] occurred in the Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts of Ukraine, and on that basis recognized the so-called 'Donetsk People's Republic' and 'Luhansk People's Republic', and then declared and implemented a 'special military operation' against Ukraine". Ukraine "emphatically denie[d]" that such acts of genocide had occurred and stated that it had submitted the application "to establish that Russia ha[d] no lawful basis to take action in and against Ukraine for the purpose of preventing and punishing any purported genocide".

123. As the basis for the Court's jurisdiction, Ukraine invoked Article 36, paragraph 1, of the Statute of the Court and article IX of the Genocide Convention, to which both States are Parties.

124. The application of Ukraine was accompanied by a request for the indication of provisional measures.

125. By an order dated 16 March 2022, following public hearings with the participation of the delegation of Ukraine, the Court indicated certain provisional measures, by which it ordered the Russian Federation to immediately suspend the military operations that it had commenced on 24 February 2022 in the territory of Ukraine and to ensure that any military or irregular armed units which might be directed or supported by it, as well as any organizations and persons which might be subject to its control or direction, took no steps in furtherance of such military operations. The Court further directed both parties to refrain from any action which might aggravate or extend the dispute before the Court or make it more difficult to resolve.

126. By an order dated 23 March 2022, the Court fixed 23 September 2022 and 23 March 2023 as the respective time limits for the filing of the memorial of Ukraine and the counter-memorial of the Russian Federation. The memorial of Ukraine was filed within the time limit thus fixed.

127. On 17 August 2022, the European Union, referring to Article 34, paragraph 2, of the Statute of the Court, and article 69, paragraph 2, of the Rules of Court, furnished, on its own initiative, information that it considered relevant to the case.

128. On 3 October 2022, the Russian Federation raised preliminary objections to the jurisdiction of the Court and the admissibility of the application.

129. From 21 July to 15 December 2022, 33 States filed in the Registry declarations of intervention in the case, pursuant to Article 63, paragraph 2, of the Statute of the Court.

130. By an order dated 5 June 2023, the Court decided that the declarations of intervention under Article 63 of the Statute submitted by Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada and Netherlands (Kingdom of the) (jointly), Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom were admissible at the preliminary objections stage of the proceedings insofar as they concerned the construction of article IX and other provisions of the Genocide Convention that were relevant for the determination of the jurisdiction of the Court. The Court also decided that the declaration of intervention under Article 63 of the Statute submitted by the United States was inadmissible insofar as it concerned the preliminary objections stage of the proceedings.

131. By the same order, the Court fixed 5 July 2023 as the time limit for the filing of written observations on the subject matter of their interventions by the States whose declarations of intervention had been deemed admissible at the preliminary objections stage of the proceedings. Thirty-one intervening States filed written observations within the time limit thus fixed.

132. Public hearings on the preliminary objections raised by the Russian Federation were held from 18 to 27 September 2023. Thirty-two intervening States presented oral observations at the hearings.

133. On 2 February 2024, the Court rendered its judgment on the preliminary objections raised by the Russian Federation. In its judgment, the Court concluded that it had jurisdiction, on the basis of article IX of the Convention, to entertain submission (b) in paragraph 178 of the memorial of Ukraine, whereby Ukraine had requested the Court to “[a]djudge and declare that there [was] no credible evidence that Ukraine [was] responsible for committing genocide in violation of the Genocide Convention in the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts of Ukraine”, and that that submission

was admissible. However, the Court found that it did not have jurisdiction to entertain submissions (c) and (d) in paragraph 178 of the memorial of Ukraine, whereby Ukraine had requested the Court to "[a]djudge and declare that the Russian Federation's use of force in and against Ukraine beginning on 24 February 2022 violate[d] Articles I and IV of the Genocide Convention" and "that the Russian Federation's recognition of the independence of the so-called 'Donetsk People's Republic' and 'Luhansk People's Republic' on 21 February 2022 violate[d] Articles I and IV of the Genocide Convention".

134. By an order of the same date, the Court fixed 2 August 2024 as the new time limit for the filing of the counter-memorial of the Russian Federation. The Court extended this time limit to 18 November 2024 by an order dated 9 September 2024.

135. By a letter dated 18 June 2024, the Registrar invited those States that had previously filed declarations of intervention pursuant to Article 63 of the Statute of the Court to indicate, by 2 August 2024, whether they wished to file a new declaration, maintain their original declaration or, if necessary, file an adjusted declaration for the purposes of the merits stage of the proceedings.

136. By 2 August 2024, six States had notified the Registrar that they wished to maintain their original declaration of intervention (in order of receipt of notification: Romania, Portugal, France, Canada and Netherlands (Kingdom of the) (jointly), and Italy); eight States had filed adjusted declarations of intervention (in order of receipt: Lithuania, Latvia, New Zealand, Luxembourg, Sweden, Australia, United Kingdom and Denmark); and nine States had filed new declarations of intervention (in order of receipt: Poland, Spain, Estonia, Germany, Austria, Czechia, Finland and Slovenia (jointly), and Bulgaria). Poland also filed an application for permission to intervene under Article 62 of the Statute of the Court.

137. In accordance with article 83, paragraph 1, of the Rules of Court, Ukraine and the Russian Federation were invited to furnish written observations on the admissibility of those declarations of intervention at the merits stage. The Russian Federation and Ukraine filed their written observations on 4 and 5 November 2024, respectively.

138. On 18 November 2024, within the time limit fixed by the Court, the Russian Federation filed its counter-memorial, which contained counter-claims. Ukraine subsequently objected to the admissibility of the counter-claims.

139. In accordance with article 80, paragraph 3, of the Rules of Court, the Court invited Ukraine and the Russian Federation to submit their views on the matter by 20 May 2025 and 22 September 2025, respectively. Ukraine and the Russian Federation submitted their written observations on the admissibility of the counter-claims within the time limits thus fixed.

140. By an order dated 5 December 2025, the Court found the counter-claims of the Russian Federation to be admissible. By the same order, the Court authorized Ukraine to submit a reply and the Russian Federation to submit a rejoinder, and fixed 7 December 2026 and 7 December 2027 as the respective time limits for the filing of those pleadings.

7. *Request relating to the Return of Property Confiscated in Criminal Proceedings (Equatorial Guinea v. France)*

141. On 29 September 2022, Equatorial Guinea instituted proceedings against France with regard to a dispute concerning the alleged violation by France of its obligations under the United Nations Convention against Corruption of 31 October 2003. In its application, Equatorial Guinea contended that France had violated its obligations under the Convention "by not returning to Equatorial Guinea property … which

constitute[d] the proceeds of a crime of misappropriation of public funds committed against it, including immovable property [a building located in avenue Foch in Paris] of which it was the effective and legitimate owner before its confiscation by France", and "by not extending to Equatorial Guinea the co-operation and assistance required for the purpose of returning [such property to it]".

142. As basis for the jurisdiction of the Court, the applicant invoked Article 36, paragraph 1, of the Statute of the Court and article 66 of the Convention against Corruption.

143. The application was accompanied by a request for the indication of provisional measures. By an order dated 21 October 2022, the President of the Court placed on record the withdrawal by Equatorial Guinea of its request for the indication of provisional measures.

144. By an order dated 15 December 2022, the Court fixed 17 July 2023 and 19 February 2024 as the respective time limits for the filing of a memorial by Equatorial Guinea and a counter-memorial by France. Those pleadings were filed within the time limits thus fixed.

145. By an order dated 28 May 2024, the Court fixed 28 March 2025 and 28 January 2026 as the respective time limits for the filing of a reply by Equatorial Guinea and a rejoinder by France. By an order dated 27 February 2025, the Court extended those time limits to 28 July 2025 and 28 May 2026, respectively. The pleadings were filed within the time limits thus fixed.

146. On 3 July 2025, Equatorial Guinea filed a second request for the indication of provisional measures, in which it requested, inter alia, that France be directed to take all necessary measures to ensure that the building was not offered for sale and to ensure that Equatorial Guinea had immediate, full and unimpeded access to the entire building.

147. Public hearings on that request took place on 15 July 2025.

148. By an order dated 12 September 2025, the Court rejected the request of Equatorial Guinea, concluding "that Equatorial Guinea ha[d] not demonstrated, in the course of these incidental proceedings concerning the indication of provisional measures, that it possesse[d] a plausible right to the return of the building located at 42 avenue Foch in Paris on the basis of the provision it invoke[d] in that respect".

149. The Court recalled that the conditions for the indication of provisional measures were cumulative, and having found that one such condition had not been met, the Court observed that it was not required to examine whether the other conditions were satisfied.

150. The Court concluded that the circumstances, as they then presented themselves, did not require the exercise of its power under Article 41 of the Statute to indicate provisional measures.

8. *Sovereignty over the Sapodilla Cayes/Cayos Zapotillos (Belize v. Honduras: Guatemala intervening)*

151. On 16 November 2022, Belize instituted proceedings against Honduras with regard to a dispute concerning sovereignty over the Sapodilla Cayes (referred to by Honduras as the "Cayos Zapotillos"), which Belize describes as a group of cayes lying in the Gulf of Honduras at the southern tip of the Belize Barrier Reef. In its application, Belize requested the Court to "adjudge and declare that, as between Belize and Honduras, Belize is sovereign over the Sapodilla Cayes".

152. As basis for the jurisdiction of the Court, the applicant invoked Article 36, paragraph 1, of the Statute of the Court and article XXXI of the American Treaty on Pacific Settlement (Pact of Bogotá) of 30 April 1948, to which both States are Parties.

153. By an order dated 2 February 2023, the Court fixed 2 May and 4 December 2023 as the respective time limits for the filing of the memorial of Belize and the counter-memorial of Honduras. Those pleadings were filed within the time limits thus fixed.

154. On 1 December 2023, Guatemala, referring to Article 62 of the Statute of the Court, filed an application for permission to intervene in the case. According to Guatemala, the submission of Belize in the case overlapped with its submissions in another case pending before the Court, concerning *Guatemala's Territorial, Insular and Maritime Claim (Guatemala/Belize)*. In the latter case, both Belize and Guatemala claim sovereignty over the Sapodilla Cayes/Cayos Zapotillos. In its application for permission to intervene, Guatemala contended that it had "a clear interest of a legal nature [in the *Belize v. Honduras* case] since … it ha[d] a longstanding claim of sovereignty over the Sapodillas, which [wa]s part of the subject matter of the pending *Guatemala/Belize* case before the Court", and which might be affected by a decision of the Court in the present case.

155. Public hearings on the application of Guatemala for permission to intervene were held from 24 to 26 November 2025. In its closing arguments at the end of the hearings, Belize stated that it had no objection to Guatemala being permitted to intervene in the case. Honduras, however, considered that the application was "redundant and an abuse of the institution of intervention", and must therefore be found inadmissible.

156. In its judgment of 19 March 2026, the Court concluded that "Guatemala's Application for permission to intervene satisfies all substantive and procedural conditions under Article 62 of the Statute and Article 81 of the Rules of Court" and did not accept the argument put forward by Honduras that the application for permission to intervene should be rejected on the ground that Guatemala had abused the process.

157. The Court decided that Guatemala is permitted to intervene as a non-party in the case. Recalling that "Guatemala has sought permission to intervene to protect its legal interests in relation to the question of sovereignty over the cays", the Court further decided that its "intervention is to be limited to the issue of sovereignty over the Sapodilla Cayes/Cayos Zapotillos, including fishing rights in the waters surrounding them".

158. By an order of the same date, the Court fixed 19 May 2026 as the time limit for the submission by Guatemala of a written statement and 20 July 2026 as the time limit within which the parties might furnish their written observations on the statement by Guatemala. By an order dated 16 April 2026, the Court extended those time limits to 19 June 2026 and 21 September 2026, respectively. Guatemala submitted its written statement within the time limit thus fixed.

9. *Alleged Violations of State Immunities (Islamic Republic of Iran v. Canada)*

159. On 27 June 2023, the Islamic Republic of Iran filed an application instituting proceedings against Canada concerning alleged violations of State immunities.

160. In its application, the Islamic Republic of Iran contended that, since 2012, "Canada ha[d] adopted and implemented a series of legislative, executive and judicial measures against Iran and its property", which "ha[d] abrogated the immunities to which Iran [was] entitled, both with respect to jurisdictional immunity and immunity from measures of constraint". The Islamic Republic of Iran thus requested the Court,

inter alia, to adjudge and declare that, by failing to respect the immunities of the Islamic Republic of Iran and its property, Canada had violated its international obligations towards it, in particular by allowing claims to be brought against the Islamic Republic of Iran for alleged support of terrorism, by recognizing or enforcing in Canada foreign judgments rendered against the Islamic Republic of Iran for alleged support of terrorism, and by allowing and adopting pre-judgment and post-judgment measures of constraint against property of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

161. The Islamic Republic of Iran sought to found the Court's jurisdiction on the declarations by which both States had accepted the compulsory jurisdiction of the Court pursuant to Article 36, paragraph 2, of its Statute.

162. By an order dated 16 October 2023, the Court fixed 16 October 2024 and 16 October 2025 as the respective time limits for the filing of a memorial by the Islamic Republic of Iran and a counter-memorial by Canada. The memorial of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the counter-memorial of Canada were filed within the time limits thus fixed.

163. By an order dated 9 December 2025, the Court fixed 9 September 2026 and 9 June 2027 as the respective time limits for the filing of a reply by the Islamic Republic of Iran and a rejoinder by Canada.

10. *Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide in the Gaza Strip (South Africa v. Israel)*

164. On 29 December 2023, South Africa filed an application instituting proceedings against Israel concerning alleged violations by Israel of its obligations under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide in relation to Palestinians in the Gaza Strip.

165. The acts and omissions by Israel of which South Africa complained included killing Palestinians in Gaza, causing them serious bodily and mental harm, and inflicting on them conditions of life calculated to bring about their physical destruction. According to the applicant, those acts and omissions were "genocidal in character, as they [were] committed with the requisite specific intent … to destroy Palestinians in Gaza as a part of the broader Palestinian national, racial and ethnical group". Accordingly, South Africa alleged that the conduct of Israel in relation to Palestinians in Gaza was in violation of its obligations under the Genocide Convention. South Africa contended that "Israel, since 7 October 2023 in particular, ha[d] failed to prevent genocide and ha[d] failed to prosecute the direct and public incitement to genocide", and that "Israel ha[d] engaged in, [was] engaging in and risk[ed] further engaging in genocidal acts against the Palestinian people in Gaza".

166. South Africa sought to found the Court's jurisdiction on Article 36, paragraph 1, of the Statute of the Court and on article IX of the Genocide Convention, to which both South Africa and Israel are Parties.

167. The application was accompanied by a request for the indication of provisional measures to "protect against further, severe and irreparable harm to the rights of the Palestinian people under the Genocide Convention" and "to ensure Israel's compliance with its obligations under the Genocide Convention not to engage in genocide, and to prevent and to punish genocide".

168. Public hearings on the request of South Africa were held on 11 and 12 January 2024.

169. The Court ruled on the request by an order dated 26 January 2024, in which it indicated provisional measures directing Israel to take all measures within its power to prevent the commission of all acts within the scope of article II of the Genocide

Convention in relation to Palestinians in Gaza; to ensure with immediate effect that its military did not commit any such acts; to take all measures within its power to prevent and punish the direct and public incitement to commit genocide in relation to members of the Palestinian group in the Gaza Strip; to take immediate and effective measures to enable the provision of urgently needed basic services and humanitarian assistance to address the adverse conditions of life faced by Palestinians in the Gaza Strip; to take effective measures to prevent the destruction and ensure the preservation of evidence related to allegations of acts within the scope of articles II and III of the Genocide Convention; and to submit a report to the Court on all measures taken to give effect to the order within one month as from the date thereof.

170. By a letter dated 12 February 2024, South Africa, referring to "the developing circumstances in Rafah", called upon the Court urgently to exercise its power under article 75, paragraph 1, of the Rules of Court.

171. On 16 February 2024, the Court decided that the recent developments in the Gaza Strip, and in Rafah in particular, did not demand the indication of additional provisional measures. It noted, however, that the situation called for the immediate and effective implementation of the provisional measures indicated in its order of 26 January 2024, which were applicable throughout the Gaza Strip, including in Rafah. The Court further emphasized "that the State of Israel remains bound to fully comply with its obligations under the Genocide Convention and with the said Order, including by ensuring the safety and security of the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip". The Court's decision was communicated to the parties by letters from the Registrar.

172. On 6 March 2024, South Africa requested the Court "to indicate further provisional measures and/or to modify its provisional measures indicated on 26 January 2024". On 15 March 2024, Israel furnished its written observations on that request.

173. The Court ruled on the request of South Africa by an order dated 28 March 2024, in which it reaffirmed the provisional measures indicated in its order of 26 January 2024 and indicated additional provisional measures directing Israel to "[t]ake all necessary and effective measures to ensure, without delay, in full co-operation with the United Nations, the unhindered provision at scale by all concerned of urgently needed basic services and humanitarian assistance, including food, water, electricity, fuel, shelter, clothing, hygiene and sanitation requirements, as well as medical supplies and medical care to Palestinians throughout Gaza, including by increasing the capacity and number of land crossing points and maintaining them open for as long as necessary".

174. In its order, the Court also directed Israel to "[e]nsure with immediate effect that its military d[id] not commit acts which constitute[d] a violation of any of the rights of the Palestinians in Gaza as a protected group under the [Genocide Convention], including by preventing, through any action, the delivery of urgently needed humanitarian assistance". In addition, Israel was ordered to submit a report to the Court on all measures taken to give effect to the order within one month as from the date thereof.

175. By an order dated 5 April 2024, the Court fixed 28 October 2024 and 28 July 2025 as the respective time limits for the filing of the memorial of South Africa and the counter-memorial of Israel. The memorial of South Africa was filed within the time limit thus fixed.

176. On 10 May 2024, South Africa submitted to the Court an "urgent Request for the modification and indication of provisional measures" pursuant to Article 41 of the Statute of the Court and articles 75 and 76 of the Rules of Court. On 16 and 17 May 2024, the Court held public hearings on that request.

177. The Court ruled on the request by an order of 24 May 2024, in which it reaffirmed the provisional measures indicated in its orders of 26 January 2024 and 28 March 2024 and indicated additional provisional measures. In particular, it directed Israel, "in conformity with its obligations under the [Genocide Convention], and in view of the worsening conditions of life faced by civilians in the Rafah Governorate", to "[i]mmediately halt its military offensive, and any other action in the Rafah Governorate, which may inflict on the Palestinian group in Gaza conditions of life that could bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part". Israel was also directed to "[m]aintain open the Rafah crossing for unhindered provision at scale of urgently needed basic services and humanitarian assistance" and to "[t]ake effective measures to ensure the unimpeded access to the Gaza Strip of any commission of inquiry, fact-finding mission or other investigative body mandated by competent organs of the United Nations to investigate allegations of genocide". Lastly, Israel was ordered to submit a report to the Court on all measures taken to give effect to the order, within one month as from the date thereof.

178. On 31 May 2024, pursuant to Security Council resolution 9 (1946) (adopted by the Council by virtue of the powers conferred on it by Article 35, paragraph 2, of the Statute), the State of Palestine filed in the Registry of the Court a declaration accepting "with immediate effect the competence of the International Court of Justice for the settlement of all disputes that may arise or that have already arisen covered by Article IX of the [Genocide Convention], to which the State of Palestine acceded on 2 April 2014". On the same day, the State of Palestine filed an application for permission to intervene in the proceedings under Article 62 of the Statute of the Court and a declaration of intervention under Article 63 of the Statute.

179. By an order dated 14 April 2025, the Court extended to 12 January 2026 the time limit for the filing of the counter-memorial of Israel.

180. By an order dated 20 October 2025, the President of the Court further extended to 12 March 2026 the time limit for the filing of the counter-memorial of Israel. The counter-memorial was filed within the time limit thus extended.

181. By an order dated 21 May 2026, the Court fixed 22 November 2027 and 22 May 2029, respectively, as the time limits for the filing of the reply of South Africa and the rejoinder of Israel.

182. As at 31 July 2026, the following States had filed declarations of intervention under Article 63 of the Statute (in chronological order): Colombia (on 5 April 2024); Libya (on 10 May 2024); Mexico (on 24 May 2024); State of Palestine (on 31 May 2024); Spain (on 28 June 2024); Türkiye (on 7 August 2024); Chile (on 12 September 2024); Maldives (on 1 October 2024); Bolivia (Plurinational State of) (on 8 October 2024); Ireland (on 6 January 2025); Cuba (on 10 January 2025); Belize (on 30 January 2025); Brazil (on 17 September 2025); Comoros (on 29 October 2025); Belgium (on 23 December 2025); Paraguay (on 3 March 2026); Netherlands (Kingdom of the) (on 11 March 2026); Iceland (on 11 March 2026); Namibia (on 12 March 2026); United States (on 12 March 2026); Hungary (on 12 March 2026); and Fiji (on 12 March 2026). The State of Palestine and Belize also filed applications for permission to intervene under Article 62 of the Statute, on 31 May 2024 and 30 January 2025, respectively.

11. *Alleged Breaches of Certain International Obligations in respect of the Occupied Palestinian Territory (Nicaragua v. Germany)*

183. On 1 March 2024, Nicaragua filed an application instituting proceedings against Germany for alleged violations by Germany of its obligations under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Additional Protocols thereto, as well as "intransgressible

principles of international humanitarian law and other peremptory norms of general international law" in relation to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, in particular the Gaza Strip.

184. In its application, Nicaragua states that "[e]ach and every Contracting Party to the Genocide Convention has a duty under the Convention to do everything possible to prevent the commission of genocide" and that, since October 2023, there has been "a recognised risk of genocide against the Palestinian people, directed first of all against the population of the Gaza Strip".

185. Nicaragua further argued that by providing political, financial and military support to Israel and by defunding the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, "Germany [was] facilitating the commission of genocide and, in any case ha[d] failed in its obligation to do everything possible to prevent the commission of genocide".

186. Nicaragua sought to found the Court's jurisdiction on the declarations by which both States had accepted the compulsory jurisdiction of the Court pursuant to Article 36, paragraph 2, of its Statute and on article IX of the Genocide Convention.

187. The application was accompanied by a request for the indication of provisional measures, in which Nicaragua asked the Court to indicate provisional measures with respect to the "participation [of Germany] in the ongoing plausible genocide and serious breaches of international humanitarian law and other peremptory norms of general international law occurring in the Gaza Strip".

188. Public hearings on the request were held on 8 and 9 April 2024.

189. The Court ruled on the request of Nicaragua by an order dated 30 April 2024, in which it found that the circumstances, as they then presented themselves to the Court, were not such as to require the exercise of its power under Article 41 of the Statute to indicate provisional measures.

190. By an order dated 19 July 2024, the Court fixed 21 July 2025 and 21 July 2026 as the respective time limits for the filing of the memorial of Nicaragua and the counter-memorial of Germany. The memorial of Nicaragua was filed within the time limit thus fixed.

191. On 21 October 2025, Germany filed preliminary objections to the jurisdiction of the Court and to the admissibility of certain claims contained in the memorial of Nicaragua.

192. By an order dated 22 October 2025, the President of the Court fixed 23 February 2026 as the time limit within which Nicaragua might present a written statement of its observations and submissions on the preliminary objections raised by Germany. Nicaragua submitted its statement within the time limit thus fixed.

12. *Embassy of Mexico in Quito (Mexico v. Ecuador)*

193. On 11 April 2024, Mexico filed an application instituting proceedings against Ecuador with regard to a dispute relating to "legal questions concerning the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means and diplomatic relations, and the inviolability of a diplomatic mission and its members".

194. In its application, Mexico stated that, on 5 April 2024, "[a]round 15 special operations agents" from Ecuador had entered the Embassy of Mexico in Quito "by forcible means and without authorization". It further stated that during the incident, the Deputy Chief of Mission, Roberto Canseco Martínez, had been "violently assaulted" and that "[t]he agents then took Jorge David Glas Espinel …, former Vice-president of the Republic of Ecuador, placing him inside one of the vehicles and

leaving the premises". Mexico contended that the incident of 5 April was not isolated but followed "a series of continued acts of intimidation and harassment" prompted by the arrival of Mr. Glas at the Embassy on 17 December 2023 and his subsequent request for asylum, which had been formally filed on 20 December 2023 and had later been granted.

195. The applicant claimed that "Ecuador ha[d] violated Mexico's rights under customary and conventional international law, as well as fundamental principles upon which the international legal system is based".

196. Mexico invoked as basis for the Court's jurisdiction Article 36, paragraph 1, of the Statute of the Court and article XXXI of the American Treaty on Pacific Settlement (Pact of Bogotá) of 30 April 1948, to which both States are Parties. In the light of the violations alleged, Mexico requested the Court to award remedies, including full reparation, and "[t]o suspend Ecuador as member of the United Nations".

197. The application was accompanied by a request for the indication of provisional measures. Public hearings on that request were held on 30 April and 1 May 2024.

198. On 23 May 2024, the Court delivered its order on the request of Mexico. It found that the circumstances, as they then presented themselves to the Court, were not such as to require the exercise of its power under Article 41 of the Statute to indicate provisional measures.

199. By an order dated 19 July 2024, the Court fixed 22 April 2025 and 22 January 2026 as the respective time limits for the filing of the memorial of Mexico and the counter-memorial of Ecuador. The memorial of Mexico and the counter memorial of Ecuador were filed within the time limits thus fixed.

200. By an order dated 25 February 2026, the Court fixed 25 August 2026 and 25 February 2027 as the respective time limits for the filing of the reply of Mexico and the rejoinder of Ecuador.

13. *Glas Espinel (Ecuador v. Mexico)*

201. On 29 April 2024, Ecuador filed an application instituting proceedings against Mexico with regard to a dispute relating to the alleged violation by Mexico of a series of obligations owed to Ecuador under international law arising, inter alia, from the conduct of Mexico in relation to Jorge David Glas Espinel, former Vice-President of Ecuador.

202. In its application, Ecuador contended that Mexico had used the premises of its diplomatic mission in Quito between 17 December 2023 and 5 April 2024 "to shield Mr. Glas from enforcement by Ecuador of its criminal law" in relation to several criminal proceedings and investigations instituted by Ecuador against him, and that those actions "constituted, among other things, a blatant misuse of the premises of a diplomatic mission". Ecuador further accused Mexico of unlawfully granting Mr. Glas political asylum and of interfering in its internal affairs.

203. Ecuador sought to found the Court's jurisdiction on Article 36, paragraph 1, of the Statute of the Court and on article XXXI of the American Treaty on Pacific Settlement (Pact of Bogotá) of 30 April 1948, to which both States are Parties.

204. By an order dated 19 July 2024, the Court fixed 22 April 2025 and 22 January 2026 as the respective time limits for the filing of the memorial of Ecuador and the counter-memorial of Mexico. The memorial of Ecuador and the counter-memorial of Mexico were filed within the time limits thus fixed.

205. By an order dated 25 February 2026, the Court fixed 25 August 2026 and 25 February 2027 as the respective time limits for the filing of the reply of Ecuador and the rejoinder of Mexico.

14. *Appeal relating to the Jurisdiction of the ICAO Council under Article 84 of the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Islamic Republic of Iran v. Canada, Sweden, Ukraine and United Kingdom)*

206. On 17 April 2025, the Islamic Republic of Iran instituted proceedings against Canada, Sweden, Ukraine and the United Kingdom. According to the Islamic Republic of Iran, its application "constitute[d] an appeal against the decision rendered by the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization" (ICAO) on 17 March 2025, in proceedings initiated jointly by the above-mentioned States against the Islamic Republic of Iran on 8 January 2024, pursuant to article 84 of the 1944 Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention).

207. In its application, the Islamic Republic of Iran stated that the proceedings before the ICAO Council "concern[ed] a disagreement relating to the interpretation and application of the Chicago Convention with respect to the erroneous shooting down of a civil aircraft in flight – Ukraine International Airlines Flight 752 … by Iran's military on 8 January 2020". The Islamic Republic of Iran further stated that "[t]he subject-matter of the dispute referred to the Court is Iran's appeal against the validity and correctness of the Decision of the ICAO Council rendered on 17 March 2025 in relation to the preliminary objections" raised by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

208. The Islamic Republic of Iran sought to found the Court's jurisdiction on article 84 of the Chicago Convention, in conjunction with Article 36, paragraph 1, and Article 37 of the Statute of the Court.

209. By an order of 19 June 2025, the Court fixed 19 January 2026 and 19 August 2026 as the respective time limits for the filing of the memorial of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the counter-memorial of Canada, Sweden, Ukraine and the United Kingdom. The memorial of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the counter-memorial of the respondents were filed within the time limits thus fixed.

210. By an order dated 21 May 2026, the Court fixed 21 September 2026 and 21 January 2027 as the respective time limits for the filing of the reply of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the rejoinder of Canada, Sweden, Ukraine and the United Kingdom.

15. *Kohler and Paris (France v. Islamic Republic of Iran)*

211. On 16 May 2025, France filed an application instituting proceedings against the Islamic Republic of Iran with regard to a dispute concerning alleged violations by the latter of its obligations under Article 36 of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations of 24 April 1963 in the context of the arrest, detention and trial of several French nationals in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

212. The application related to "the hostage policy pursued by Iran against French nationals since May 2022". France contended that that policy "target[ed] French nationals travelling in or visiting Iran by accusing them of various offences relating to Iranian national security".

213. The application specifically concerned the detention by the Islamic Republic of Iran of two French nationals, Cécile Kohler and Jacques Paris.

214. The applicant sought to found the Court's jurisdiction on Article 36, paragraph 1, of the Statute of the Court and on article I of the Optional Protocol to the Vienna

Convention on Consular Relations concerning the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes of 24 April 1963, to which both France and the Islamic Republic of Iran are Parties.

215. By an order dated 17 July 2025, the Court fixed 2 December 2025 and 17 April 2026 as the respective time limits for the filing of the memorial of France and the counter-memorial of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

216. By a letter dated 15 September 2025, the agent of France, referring to article 89 of the Rules of Court, informed the Court that his Government wished to discontinue the proceedings. By a letter dated 17 September 2025, the agent of the Islamic Republic of Iran informed the Court that his Government had no objection to the discontinuance of the proceedings as requested by France.

217. By an order dated 19 September 2025, the Court placed on record the discontinuance by France of the proceedings instituted by its application filed on 16 May 2025 and directed that the case be removed from the General List.

16. *Alleged Smuggling of Migrants (Lithuania v. Belarus)*

218. On 19 May 2025, Lithuania filed an application instituting proceedings against Belarus with regard to a dispute relating to alleged breaches by Belarus "of its obligations under the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (the 'Protocol'), in relation to the large-scale smuggling of irregular migrants from Belarus into Lithuania".

219. According to Lithuania, Belarus had "breached many of its obligations under the Protocol by: facilitating, supporting, and enabling the smuggling of migrants, and also failing to take necessary border measures to prevent and detect the smuggling of migrants and to ensure the security and control of documents ...; failing to exchange information to prevent, detect, and investigate the smuggling of migrants, strengthen cooperation with Lithuania's border control agencies, and cooperate in the field of public information to prevent potential migrants from falling victim to organised criminalized groups ...; and failing to preserve and protect the rights of migrants and afford them appropriate assistance". Lithuania contended that "[t]he smuggling of migrants through Belarus into Lithuania ha[d] caused serious harm to Lithuania's sovereignty, security, and public order, as well as to the rights and interests of the smuggled migrants themselves, who ha[d] been exposed to grave abuses in trying to reach Lithuanian territory".

220. The applicant sought to found the Court's jurisdiction on Article 36, paragraph 1, of the Statute of the Court and on article 20, paragraph 2, of the Protocol, to which both Lithuania and Belarus are Parties.

221. By an order dated 17 July 2025, the Court decided that the parties' written pleadings should first be addressed to the question of the jurisdiction of the Court and that of the admissibility of the application. The Court fixed 19 January and 20 July 2026 as the respective time limits for the filing of the memorial of Belarus and the counter-memorial of Lithuania on those questions. The memorial of Belarus and the counter-memorial of Lithuania were filed within the time limits thus fixed.

222. On 30 June 2026, Poland filed in the Registry of the Court a declaration of intervention in the case, pursuant to Article 63 of the Statute of the Court.

223. On 20 July 2026, the European Union, referring to article 43, paragraph 2, and article 69, paragraph 2, of the Rules of Court, filed a memorial in the case.

224. On the same date, the Russian Federation filed in the Registry of the Court a declaration of intervention in the case pursuant to Article 63 of the Statute of the Court.

17. *Appeal from the ICAO Council Decision dated 30 June 2025 (Russian Federation v. Australia and Netherlands)*

225. On 18 September 2025, the Russian Federation filed an application instituting proceedings against Australia and Netherlands (Kingdom of the). According to the Russian Federation, its application "constitute[d] an appeal from the decision that the Council of International Civil Aviation Organization (the 'ICAO Council') made on 30 June 2025 in proceedings brought by the Commonwealth of Australia and the Kingdom of the Netherlands ... against the Russian Federation on 14 March 2022 under Article 84 of the 1944 Convention on International Civil Aviation (the 'Chicago Convention')".

226. In its application, the Russian Federation stated that the proceedings before the ICAO Council "concerned a disagreement relating to the interpretation and application of the Chicago Convention regarding the aerial incident of the Boeing 777 Malaysian Airlines Flight MH17 ('Flight MH17') that occurred on 17 July 2014", and that Australia and Netherlands (Kingdom of the) "claimed before the ICAO Council that the Russian Federation was internationally responsible under the Chicago Convention for the shooting down of Flight MH17 with a 'Buk' surface-to-air missile system". The Russian Federation opposed that claim.

227. On 30 June 2025, the ICAO Council rendered a decision in the matter, in which it found the claim of Australia and Netherlands (Kingdom of the) to be well-founded and considered that "the shooting down of Flight MH17 on 17 July 2014 constitute[d] a non-conformity by the [Russian Federation] with its obligations under Article 3 *bis* of the Chicago Convention".

228. In its application, the Russian Federation requested the Court to adjudge and declare that, "in adopting [its decision of 30 June 2025], the ICAO Council erred in fact and in law, [and] breached fundamental principles of proper administration of justice".

229. The applicant sought to found the Court's jurisdiction on article 84 of the Chicago Convention, read in conjunction with Articles 36, paragraph 1, and 37 of the Statute of the Court.

230. By an order dated 27 November 2025, the Court fixed 29 June 2026 and 29 January 2027 as the respective time limits for the filing of the memorial of the Russian Federation and the counter-memorial of Australia and Netherlands (Kingdom of the). The memorial of the Russian Federation was filed within the time limit thus fixed.

18. *Alleged Violations of Human Rights by Rwanda on the Territory of the Congo (Democratic Republic of the Congo v. Rwanda)*

231. On 26 June 2026, the Democratic Republic of the Congo filed an application instituting proceedings against Rwanda with regard to a dispute concerning "abuses attributable to Rwanda over a period extending from 1996 to the present day".

232. According to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, "[t]hese abuses, committed as part of a campaign of genocide and serious, widespread human rights violations waged by the Rwandan authorities in eastern Zaire, and subsequently in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, have primarily targeted Hutus present on Zairian, and subsequently Congolese, territory following the genocide against the Tutsi in

1994. However, they have also been directed against other Congolese ethnic groups, in particular the Nyindu …, as well as the Bembe, the Lega, the Nande, the Hunde and the Bashi".

233. The applicant sought to found the Court's jurisdiction on Article 36, paragraph 1, of the Statute of the Court and on article IX of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide of 9 December 1948, article 22 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination of 7 March 1966, article 29 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women of 18 December 1979 and article 30 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment of 10 December 1984.

B. Pending advisory proceedings during the period under review

1. *Right to Strike under ILO Convention No. 87*

234. On 10 November 2023, the Governing Body of the International Labour Organization (ILO), at its 349th bis (special) session, adopted a resolution on the interpretation of the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87), with respect to the right to strike, in which it requested an advisory opinion from the Court. In its resolution, the Governing Body, stating that it was "[c]onscious that there [was] serious and persistent disagreement" among the Organization's tripartite constituents on the interpretation of the Convention, decided, in accordance with article 37, paragraph 1, of the ILO Constitution, "[t]o request the International Court of Justice to render urgently an advisory opinion under Article 65, paragraph 1, of the Statute of the Court, and under Article 103 of the Rules of Court, on the following question: Is the right to strike of workers and their organizations protected under the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87)?"

235. The request for an advisory opinion was transmitted to the Court by the Director-General of ILO by a letter dated 13 November 2023.

236. By an order dated 16 November 2023, the Court decided, pursuant to Article 66, paragraph 1, of its Statute, that ILO and the States Parties to Convention No. 87 were likely to be able to furnish information on the question submitted to the Court for an advisory opinion. The Court fixed 16 May 2024 as the time limit within which written statements on the question might be presented to the Court, in accordance with Article 66, paragraph 2, of its Statute, and 16 September 2024 as the time limit within which States and organizations having presented written statements might submit written comments on the written statements made by other States or organizations, in accordance with Article 66, paragraph 4, of the Statute.

237. By the same order, the Court further decided that six organizations that had been granted general consultative status at ILO by the Governing Body (International Organization of Employers, International Trade Union Confederation, World Federation of Trade Unions, International Cooperative Alliance, Organization of African Trade Union Unity and Business Africa) were also likely to be able to furnish information on the question submitted to it for an advisory opinion, and it invited those organizations to make written contributions to the Court within the above-mentioned time limits.

238. The Court subsequently authorized the United States and Brazil, members of ILO not Parties to Convention No. 87, as well as the Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States, to participate in the proceedings.

239. Thirty-one written statements were filed in the Registry by (in order of receipt): International Cooperative Alliance, the International Labour Office of ILO, France, Vanuatu, Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States, Spain, Italy, International Trade Union Confederation, World Federation of Trade Unions, United Kingdom, Colombia, Bangladesh, Germany, Poland, Business Africa, International Organization of Employers, South Africa, Canada, Switzerland, Norway, Tunisia, United States, Australia, Japan, Costa Rica, Indonesia, Mexico, Somalia, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), Belize and Brazil.

240. Fifteen sets of written comments on those statements were filed in the Registry by (in order of receipt): International Trade Union Confederation, Japan, Mexico, International Cooperative Alliance, Tunisia, Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States, South Africa, Switzerland, United States, International Organization of Employers, Business Africa, Australia, Bangladesh, Netherlands (Kingdom of the) and Vanuatu.

241. On 3 October 2024, the Government of the United Kingdom notified the Court of the withdrawal of its written statement. On 8 September 2025, the Government of the United States notified the Court of the withdrawal of its written statement and written comments.

242. Public hearings were held from 6 to 8 October 2025. During the hearings, 18 States and five international organizations presented oral statements (in the following order): International Labour Office of ILO, International Trade Union Confederation, International Organization of Employers, South Africa, Germany, Australia, Bangladesh, Colombia, Brazil, Spain, Indonesia, Mauritius, Mexico, Norway, Panama, United Kingdom, Egypt, Uruguay, Somalia, Switzerland, Vanuatu, International Cooperative Alliance and Business Africa.

243. On 21 May 2026, the Court delivered its advisory opinion, the operative part of which reads as follows:

> “For these reasons,
>
> The Court:
>
> (1) Unanimously,
>
> Finds that it has jurisdiction to give the advisory opinion requested;
>
> (2) Unanimously,
>
> Decides to comply with the request for an advisory opinion;
>
> (3) By ten votes to four,
>
> Is of the opinion that the right to strike of workers and their organizations is protected under the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87).
>
> In favour: President Iwasawa; Vice-President Sebutinde; Judges Bhandari, Nolte, Charlesworth, Brant, Gómez Robledo, Cleveland, Aurescu, Tladi;
>
> Against: Judges Tomka, Abraham, Xue, Hmoud.”

2. *Obligations of Israel in relation to the Presence and Activities of the United Nations, Other International Organizations and Third States in and in relation to the Occupied Palestinian Territory*

244. On 19 December 2024, the General Assembly adopted resolution 79/232, in which, referring to Article 96 of the Charter of the United Nations and Article 65 of the Statute of the Court, it requested the Court to give an advisory opinion on the following question:

> “What are the obligations of Israel, as an occupying Power and as a member of the United Nations, in relation to the presence and activities of the United Nations, including its agencies and bodies, other international organizations and third States, in and in relation to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including to ensure and facilitate the unhindered provision of urgently needed supplies essential to the survival of the Palestinian civilian population as well as of basic services and humanitarian and development assistance, for the benefit of the Palestinian civilian population, and in support of the Palestinian people’s right to self-determination?”

245. The request for an advisory opinion was transmitted to the Court by the Secretary-General of the United Nations by a letter dated 20 December 2024, which was received in the Registry on 23 December 2024.

246. By an order dated 23 December 2024, the President of the Court decided, pursuant to Article 66, paragraph 2, of the Statute of the Court, that the United Nations and its Member States, as well as the State of Palestine, were likely to be able to furnish information on the question submitted to the Court for an advisory opinion, and fixed 28 February 2025 as the time limit within which written statements on the question might be presented to the Court.

247. Forty-five written statements were filed in the Registry by (in order of receipt): Chile, Malaysia, Russian Federation, Organization of Islamic Cooperation, Türkiye, Pakistan, Qatar, Secretary-General of the United Nations, Slovenia, Spain, Philippines, Kuwait, Hungary, South Africa, Namibia, Ireland, Maldives, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Luxembourg, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Indonesia, China, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Algeria, Senegal, Bangladesh, Comoros, League of Arab States, Belgium, Vanuatu, Tunisia, Norway, Egypt, Iceland, Israel, France, Poland, State of Palestine, United States, Mexico, Colombia and African Union.

248. Public hearings were held from 28 April to 2 May 2025. During the hearings, the State of Palestine, 38 States Members of the United Nations, the United Nations and three other international organizations presented oral statements (in the following order): United Nations, State of Palestine, Egypt, Malaysia, South Africa, Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Belgium, Colombia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Spain, United States, Russian Federation, France, Hungary, Indonesia, Türkiye, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kuwait, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mexico, Namibia, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Poland, Qatar, United Kingdom, China, Senegal, Slovenia, Sudan, Switzerland, Comoros, Tunisia, Vanuatu, League of Arab States, Organization of Islamic Cooperation and African Union.

249. On 22 October 2025, the Court delivered its advisory opinion, the operative part of which reads as follows:

> “For these reasons,
>
> The Court:
>
> (1) Unanimously,
>
> Finds that it has jurisdiction to give the advisory opinion requested;
>
> (2) Unanimously,
>
> Decides to comply with the request for an advisory opinion;
>
> (3) Is of the opinion that the State of Israel, as an occupying Power, is required to fulfil its obligations under international humanitarian law. These obligations include the following:

(a) Unanimously,

to ensure that the population of the Occupied Palestinian Territory has the essential supplies of daily life, including food, water, clothing, bedding, shelter, fuel, medical supplies and services;

(b) By ten votes to one,

to agree to and facilitate by all means at its disposal relief schemes on behalf of the population of the Occupied Palestinian Territory so long as that population is inadequately supplied, as has been the case in the Gaza Strip, including relief provided by the United Nations and its entities, in particular the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, other international organizations and third States, and not to impede such relief;

In favour: President Iwasawa; Judges Tomka, Abraham, Xue, Nolte, Charlesworth, Brant, Gómez Robledo, Cleveland, Tladi;

Against: Vice-President Sebutinde;

(c) Unanimously,

to respect and protect all relief and medical personnel and facilities;

(d) Unanimously,

to respect the prohibition on forcible transfer and deportation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory;

(e) Unanimously,

to respect the right of protected persons from the Occupied Palestinian Territory who are detained by the State of Israel to be visited by the International Committee of the Red Cross; and

(f) Unanimously,

to respect the prohibition on the use of starvation of civilians as a method of warfare;

(4) By ten votes to one,

Is of the opinion that, as an occupying Power, the State of Israel has an obligation under international human rights law to respect, protect and fulfil the human rights of the population of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including through the presence and activities of the United Nations, other international organizations and third States, in and in relation to the Occupied Palestinian Territory;

In favour: President Iwasawa; Judges Tomka, Abraham, Xue, Nolte, Charlesworth, Brant, Gómez Robledo, Cleveland, Tladi;

Against: Vice-President Sebutinde;

(5) By ten votes to one,

Is of the opinion that the State of Israel has an obligation to co-operate in good faith with the United Nations by providing every assistance in any action it takes in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, including the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, in and in relation to the Occupied Palestinian Territory;

In favour: President Iwasawa; Judges Tomka, Abraham, Xue, Nolte, Charlesworth, Brant, Gómez Robledo, Cleveland, Tladi;

Against: Vice-President Sebutinde;

(6) By ten votes to one,

Is of the opinion that the State of Israel has an obligation under Article 105 of the Charter of the United Nations to ensure full respect for the privileges and immunities accorded to the United Nations, including its agencies and bodies, and its officials, in and in relation to the Occupied Palestinian Territory;

In favour: President Iwasawa; Judges Tomka, Abraham, Xue, Nolte, Charlesworth, Brant, Gómez Robledo, Cleveland, Tladi;

Against: Vice-President Sebutinde;

(7) By ten votes to one,

Is of the opinion that the State of Israel has an obligation under Article II of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations to ensure full respect for the inviolability of the premises of the United Nations, including those of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, and for the immunity of the property and assets of the Organization from any form of interference;

In favour: President Iwasawa; Judges Tomka, Abraham, Xue, Nolte, Charlesworth, Brant, Gómez Robledo, Cleveland, Tladi;

Against: Vice-President Sebutinde;

(8) By ten votes to one,

Is of the opinion that the State of Israel has an obligation under Articles V, VI and VII of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations to ensure full respect for the privileges and immunities accorded to the officials and experts on mission of the United Nations, in and in relation to the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

In favour: President Iwasawa; Judges Tomka, Abraham, Xue, Nolte, Charlesworth, Brant, Gómez Robledo, Cleveland, Tladi;

Against: Vice-President Sebutinde.”

Chapter III
Information on other activities of the Court

250. The Court endeavours to ensure that its work and activities are understood and publicized as widely as possible, through public speeches, meetings with high-level officials and presentations, through the use of multimedia platforms, the Court's website and social media channels, and through various outreach initiatives and cooperation with the United Nations Secretariat.

1. Solemn commemorative sitting to mark the eightieth anniversary of the Court

251. On 17 April 2026, the Court held a solemn sitting to celebrate the eightieth anniversary of its inaugural session in the presence of King Willem-Alexander of the Kingdom of the Netherlands; the Secretary-General of the United Nations, António Guterres; the President of the General Assembly, Annalena Baerbock; the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Tom Berendsen; and the President of the Security Council, Jamal Alrowaiei.

252. Also present were members of the diplomatic corps and the international judicial corps, representatives of the Government and other institutions of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and senior officials of international organizations.

253. Speeches were delivered by the President of the Court, Iwasawa Yuji, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the President of the General Assembly, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the President of the Security Council.

254. On the same day, a side event was held to mark the launch of an association for the alumni of the Court's Judicial Fellowship Programme.

2. Statements by the President of the Court

255. During the period under review, the President of the Court, Iwasawa Yuji, gave a number of speeches on various aspects of the Court's work. In particular, on 30 October 2025, he delivered a speech at the eightieth session of the General Assembly, where he gave an overview of the Court's activities in the period from 1 August 2024 to 31 July 2025. On 31 October 2025, he delivered a speech before the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly. On 17 April 2026, he delivered a speech at the solemn sitting to mark the Court's eightieth anniversary, and on 15 May 2026, he delivered a speech at the seventy-seventh session of the International Law Commission. The full texts of the President's speeches can be found on the website of the Court, in the "Statements by the President" section under "The Court".

256. The President of the Court has engaged with State representatives and various groups at meetings in The Hague and New York. The primary focus of these meetings has been to provide comprehensive details on the extensive judicial caseload of the Court, to emphasize the need for corresponding budgetary adjustments and to call for enhanced financial support to effectively address the evolving demands on the Court.

3. Visits to the Court

257. From August 2025 to July 2026, the Court welcomed a number of high-level visitors to its seat at the Peace Palace. During these visits, the President, other members of the Court, the Registrar and Registry officials exchanged views with their guests on the role and activities of the Court and its importance in ensuring peace and justice. The following dignitaries were received by the Court during the period under review: on 21 October 2025, the Minister of Justice of North Rhine-Westphalia,

Benjamin Limbach; on 3 November 2025, a delegation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia; on 15 December 2025, a delegation of Tunisian parliamentarians; on 4 February 2026, the President of the Bundesrat of Germany, Andreas Bovenschulte; on 6 February 2026, the Federal Minister of Justice and Consumer Protection of Germany, Stefanie Hubig; on 10 April 2026, the President of Estonia, Alar Karis, and the First Lady, Sirje Karis; on 13 May 2026, a delegation from the Mission of the People's Republic of China to the European Union; on 26 May 2026, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Belize, Francis Fonseca; on 18 June 2026, the Emperor of Japan; on 29 June 2026, the Prime Minister of Luxembourg, Luc Frieden; and on 3 July 2026, the Head of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Ignazio Cassis.

4. Outreach activities and presentations

258. The President, other members of the Court, the Registrar and various members of the Registry staff also regularly give presentations both in The Hague and outside the Kingdom of the Netherlands on the functioning, procedure and jurisprudence of the Court. Such presentations enable diplomats, academics, representatives of judicial authorities, students, media representatives and the general public to gain a better understanding of the role and activities of the Court.

259. During the period under review, these activities included: on 13 August 2025, a presentation to a delegation of judges of the Supreme Court of Nigeria; on 16 September 2025, a guided tour for representatives of the Supreme Court of Slovenia; on the same day, a briefing to the European Commission Legal Service; on 18 September 2025, a visit from a delegation of Japanese parliamentarians; on 22 September 2025, a presentation for a group from the Indonesian Dispute Board; on 29 September 2025, a guided tour of the Court for a delegation of judges from the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea; on 14 October 2025, a briefing for a delegation of Mexican judges; on 20 October 2025, a visit from members of the Human Rights Foundation, New York; on 13 November 2025, a presentation to a group of Chinese diplomats at Clingendael – the Netherlands Institute of International Relations; on 20 November 2025, a presentation to a group from the Royal Military Academy of Belgium; on 21 November 2025, a presentation for Qatari judges; on 9 February 2026, a delegation from the Syrian National Commission for Transitional Justice; on 7 July 2026, a guided tour for a delegation of parliamentarians from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe; on 16 July 2026, a visit of a delegation from the Nigerian judiciary; and, throughout the period under review, multiple presentations to study groups of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research.

5. Museum

260. Through a combination of archive material, art works and audiovisual presentations, the museum of the International Court of Justice traces the major stages in the establishment of the Court and its role in the peaceful settlement of international disputes. The exhibition provides a detailed introduction to the role and activities of the United Nations and the Court, which continues the work of its predecessor, the Permanent Court of International Justice. The Registry is in the process of updating the exhibition, with the work scheduled for completion by the end of 2026.

6. Cooperation with the Secretariat regarding public information

261. During the period under review, the Court's Information Department continued to strengthen its cooperation with the Secretariat's Department of Global Communications.

262. The Information Department regularly provides to the relevant services in New York publication-ready information on the Court's activities, including its calendar of public sittings, announcements on the delivery of decisions, brief summaries of the Court's judgments and orders, and background information. This information is used by the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General in daily briefings, in the press releases that result from those briefings, in the *Journal of the United Nations*, in the *Week Ahead at the United Nations*, by United Nations News in articles, and in posts published on the Organization's social networking platforms. The teams responsible for managing the United Nations website and United Nations Web TV also provide the Court's Information Department with substantial support by disseminating information on the Court's activities and by broadcasting live and recorded coverage of the Court's public sittings.

7. Judicial Fellowship Programme

263. The Court is committed to improving young people's understanding of international law and the Court's procedures. Its annual Judicial Fellowship Programme enables interested universities to nominate recent law graduates to pursue their training in a professional context at the Court for a period of about 10 months. The Court normally accepts up to 16 participants each year from various universities across the world.

264. In 2021, the Court welcomed the establishment of the trust fund for the Judicial Fellowship Programme of the Court, following the adoption by consensus, on 14 December 2020, of General Assembly resolution 75/129. As stated in the terms of reference of the trust fund, which are annexed to the resolution, the purpose of the fund is to "grant fellowship awards to selected candidates who are nationals of developing countries from universities based in developing countries, thereby guaranteeing the geographic and linguistic diversity of the participants in the Programme". Under the initiative, the trust fund – rather than the relevant nominating university – will provide funding to a number of selected candidates.

265. The fund is administered by the Secretary-General and is open to contributions from States, international organizations and private donors. In order to preserve its impartiality and independence, the Court does not directly engage with individual Member States to mobilize contributions to the trust fund, nor is it directly involved in the administration of the financial resources collected.

266. The first three judicial fellows sponsored by the trust fund joined the Court as part of the 2022/23 cohort. Three judicial fellows were sponsored by the trust fund in 2023/24, four in 2024/25 and four in 2025/26. For the 2026/27 Judicial Fellowship Programme, the Court received 164 eligible applications from 108 nominating universities from all over the world, with 71 universities seeking sponsorship through the trust fund for the 99 candidates that they nominated. Sixty-five candidates were nominated by universities that offered to provide financial support for those applicants. The number and diversity of the applications received demonstrate the continuing interest in the Programme and its trust fund.

267. Of the 16 candidates selected by the Court to take part in the Programme in 2026/27, five are nationals of developing countries who were nominated by universities located in developing countries (Chile, Georgia, Mexico, Mongolia and United Republic of Tanzania) and are in receipt of an award from the trust fund. Since

its establishment, the trust fund has enabled the participation of a total of 19 fellows nominated by universities located in the following countries: Brazil, Chile, Congo, Eritrea, Georgia, Guatemala, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Mexico, Mongolia, Pakistan, Philippines, South Africa, Tunisia and Türkiye and United Republic of Tanzania.

268. On 31 July 2026, the trust fund stood at $549,035.95. The Court greatly appreciates the generous contributions received to date and the interest shown in the Judicial Fellowship Programme by both contributors and nominating universities.

269. The Court is optimistic that the opportunities provided by the trust fund will continue to grow, allowing a wider pool of young lawyers to gain professional experience in public international law by participating in the work of the Court. The next call for applications for the Judicial Fellowship Programme will be published on the Court's website in the fourth quarter of 2026.

Chapter IV
Publications

270. The publications of the Court are made available to the Governments of all States entitled to appear before it, to international organizations and to the world's major law libraries. A catalogue of these publications, which is produced in English and French, is available on the Court's website under the heading "Publications". A revised and updated version of the catalogue was published in the second half of 2025.

271. The publications of the Court consist of several series. The following two series are published annually: the *Reports of Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders (I.C.J. Reports*) and the *C.I.J. Annuaire-I.C.J. Yearbook*, published in bilingual format since 2013–2014. The three bound volumes of *I.C.J. Reports 2024* were published during the period under review and the decisions delivered by the Court from January to May 2025 were published in separate fascicles. The *Yearbook* for 2022–2023 was published in 2025, and the *Yearbook* for 2023–2024 will be published in the last quarter of 2026.

272. The Court also publishes bilingual print versions of the instruments instituting proceedings in the contentious cases brought before it (applications instituting proceedings and special agreements), and any requests for advisory opinions that it receives.

273. The pleadings and other documents submitted to the Court in a case are published after the instruments instituting proceedings, in the series *Pleadings, Oral Arguments, Documents*. The volumes of the series, which contain the full texts of the written pleadings, including QR codes pointing to digital annexes, as well as the verbatim records of the public hearings, give practitioners a complete view of the arguments put forward by the parties. Six volumes, along with 67,000 pages of digital annexes, were published in the series during the period covered by the present report.

274. In the series *Acts and Documents concerning the Organization of the Court*, the Court publishes the instruments governing its organization, functioning and judicial practice, along with an analytical index. The newly revised edition of this publication, *I.C.J. Acts and Documents No. 8*, which was produced in-house on 1 June 2024 and is made available on a print-on-demand basis, includes the latest amendments to the Rules of Court, the Practice Directions of the Court and the Resolution concerning the Internal Judicial Practice of the Court. This eighth edition is available in a bilingual print version and digitally on the Court's website, under the heading "Publications". In addition, unofficial translations of the Rules of Court in the other official languages of the United Nations can be found on the home page of the Court's website, under the heading "Multilingual resources".

275. The Registry publishes a *Bibliography* listing such works and documents relating to the Court as have come to its attention. *Bibliographies Nos. 1–18* formed Chapter IX of the relevant *Yearbook* or *Annuaire* up to the 1963–1964 issues. *Bibliographies Nos. 19–57* were issued annually as separate fascicles from 1964 to 2003. Since 2004, *Bibliographies* have been prepared in-house for print-on-demand in multi-year volumes. The most recent volume, *Bibliography No. 62*, was issued in the last quarter of 2023 and covers the years 2020 to 2022. A new edition will be published in the last quarter of 2026.

276. A special illustrated book entitled *The International Court of Justice: 80 Years in the Service of Peace and Justice* was published during the period covered by the present report, in English and French, to mark the eightieth anniversary of the Court. This fully revised and updated edition of the coffee-table book that was originally released in 2021 was produced by the Registry. It describes the Court, its role and its

activities in clear and accessible language, with the aim of fostering a better understanding of the institution and providing answers to the most frequently asked questions about the Court.

277. The Court also produces the *Handbook*, which is intended to facilitate a better understanding of its history, organization, jurisdiction, procedures and jurisprudence. The latest edition of the *Handbook* was published, in the Court's two official languages, in 2019 and is available on the Court's website, under the heading "Publications".

Chapter V
Finances of the Court

1. Budget of the Court

(a) Budget for 2025

278. By its resolution 79/257 of 24 December 2024, the General Assembly approved all the resources requested by the Court in its proposed programme budget for 2025, including the establishment of seven posts. The Court's approved budget for 2025 amounted to $34,661,600.

(b) Budget for 2026

279. By its resolution 80/242 of 30 December 2025, the General Assembly endorsed the recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to approve the establishment of 11 of the 15 posts requested by the Court. The General Assembly further approved the recommendations of the Advisory Committee with respect to non-post requirements, resulting in reductions to the Court's proposed budget of $62,400, and approved across-the-board reductions for the entire regular budget, which for the Court amounted to $13,100 of its proposed budget. The Court's approved budget for 2026 amounts to $39,381,400.

(c) Proposed programme budget for 2027

280. In early 2026, the Court submitted its proposed programme budget for 2027 to the Assistant Secretary-General for Programme Planning, Finance and Budget, Controller. The increase reflected in the Court's budget proposal for 2027 is for the most part related to statutory expenditures over which the Court has no discretion, in particular those relating to the triennial change in the composition of the Court, as well as the adjustments to standards applicable to posts and positions. The budget proposal provides for the implementation of a case management system, which is essential for the Court to manage its growing volume of case-related documentation in a secure, efficient and systematic manner in a single integrated platform, allowing for the electronic filing, distribution and retrieval of case-related materials. The proposed budget for 2027 amounts to $41,719,200, representing an overall increase of $2,337,800 compared with the approved appropriations for 2026.

2. Method of covering expenditure

281. In accordance with Article 33 of the Statute of the Court, "[t]he expenses of the Court shall be borne by the United Nations in such a manner as shall be decided by the General Assembly". Since the budget of the Court is incorporated in the budget of the United Nations, Member States participate in the expenses of both in the same proportion, in accordance with the scale of assessments decided by the Assembly.

3. Budget formulation

282. In accordance with articles 24 to 28 of the Instructions for the Registry, a preliminary draft budget is prepared by the Registrar. This preliminary draft is submitted for the consideration of the Budgetary and Administrative Committee of the Court, before going to the full Court for approval.

283. Once approved, the draft budget is forwarded to the United Nations Secretariat for incorporation in the draft budget of the United Nations. It is then examined by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and is subsequently

submitted to the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly. Lastly, it is adopted by the Assembly in plenary meeting, within the framework of decisions concerning the budget of the Organization.

4. Budget implementation

284. Responsibility for the implementation of the budget is assigned to the Registrar, who is assisted in this by the Finance Division. The Registrar must ensure that proper use is made of the funds voted and must see that no expenses are incurred that are not provided for in the budget. The Registrar alone is entitled to incur liabilities in the name of the Court, subject to any possible delegations of authority. In accordance with a decision of the Court, the Registrar regularly communicates a statement of accounts to the Court's Budgetary and Administrative Committee.

285. The accounts of the Court are audited by the Board of Auditors appointed by the General Assembly.

Budget of the Court for 2025 (appropriations), as adopted by the General Assembly

(United States dollars)

Budget class	
Members of the Court	
Non-staff compensation	8 783 900
Experts	85 200
Travel	32 000
Subtotal	**8 901 100**
Registry	
Posts	16 999 300
Other staff costs	3 449 800
Hospitality	10 200
Consultants	48 700
Travel of staff	41 100
Contractual services	157 300
Grants and contributions	140 200
Subtotal	**20 846 600**
Programme support	
Contractual services	1 741 900
General operating expenditures	2 593 600
Supplies and materials	271 100
Furniture and equipment	307 300
Subtotal	**4 913 900**
Total	**34 661 600**

Budget of the Court for 2026 (appropriations), as adopted by the General Assembly

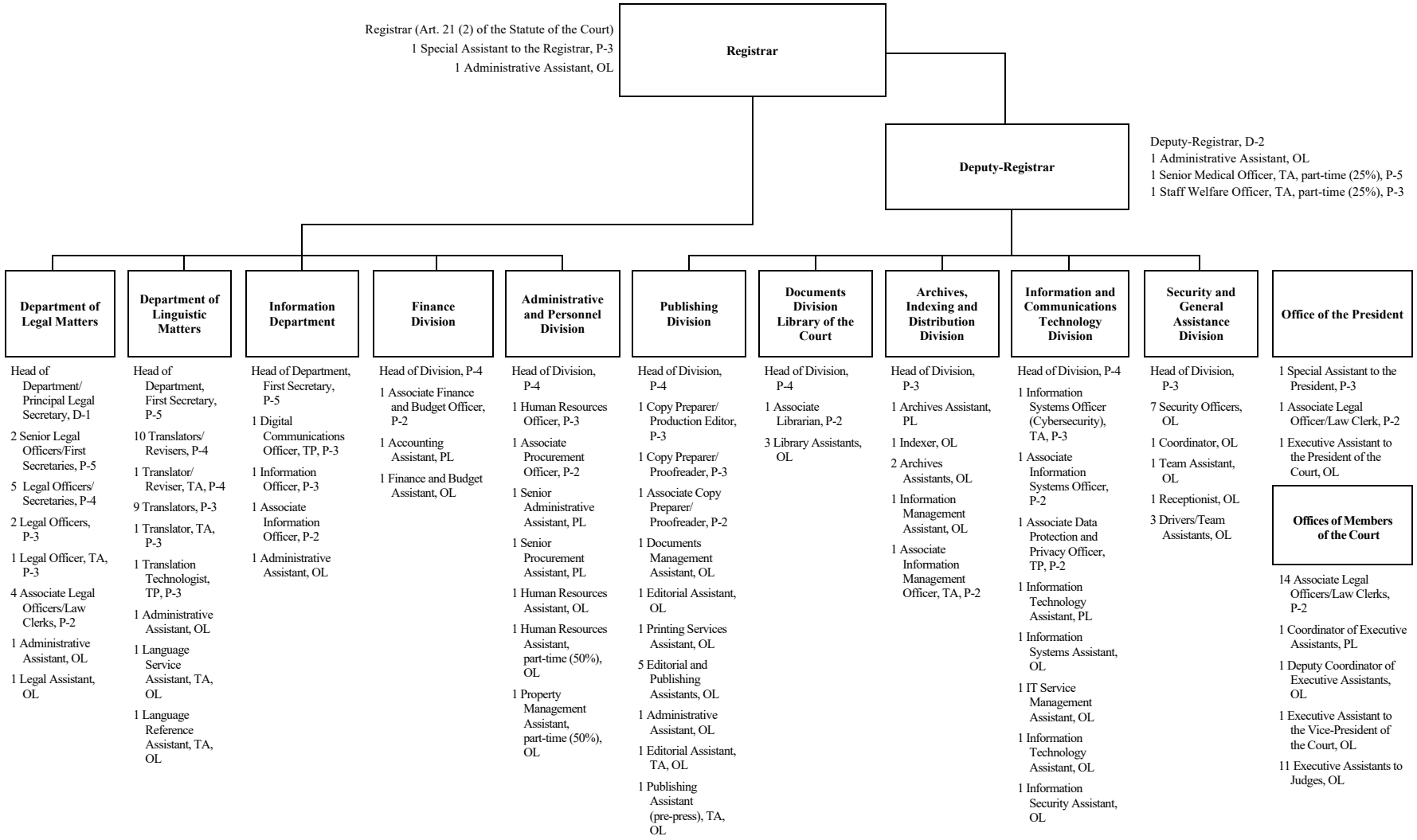
(United States dollars)

Budget class	
Members of the Court	
Non-staff compensation	9 324 800
Experts	55 000
Travel	36 400
Subtotal	**9 416 200**
Registry	
Posts	20 509 500
Other staff costs	3 591 300
Hospitality	37 900
Consultants	48 700
Travel of staff	35 500
Contractual services	157 300
Grants and contributions	124 300
Subtotal	**24 504 500**
Programme support	
Contractual services	2 071 600
General operating expenditures	2 695 500
Supplies and materials	310 700
Furniture and equipment	382 900
Subtotal	**5 460 700**
Total	**39 381 400**

(*Signed*) **Iwasawa** Yuji
President of the International Court of Justice

The Hague, 1 August 2026

International Court of Justice: organizational structure and post distribution of the Registry on 31 July 2026



Abbreviations: OL, Other level; PL, Principal level; TA, temporary assistance; TP, temporary post.