INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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Press Release

Unofficial

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

The Court to deliver its Judgment on Thursday 19 November 2026 at 10 a.m.

THE HAGUE, 3 November 2026. On Thursday 19 November 2026, the International Court of Justice will deliver its Judgment in the case concerning *Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (The Gambia* v. *Myanmar: 11 States intervening)*. A public sitting will take place at 10 a.m. at the Peace Palace in The Hague, during which Judge Iwasawa Yuji, President of the Court, will read out the Court's Judgment.

It is recalled that, 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 (the "Genocide Convention"). In it, The Gambia requests, among other things, that the Court adjudge and declare that Myanmar has breached its obligations under the Genocide Convention, that it must cease forthwith any ongoing internationally wrongful act, that it must provide reparation in the interest of the victims of genocidal acts who are members of the Rohingya group, and that it must offer assurances and guarantees of non-repetition of violations of the Convention. As basis for the Court's jurisdiction, the Applicant invokes Article IX of the Genocide Convention. The Application was accompanied by a request for the indication of provisional measures.

On 23 January 2020, the Court made an Order indicating certain provisional measures addressed to Myanmar.

Following the filing of the Memorial by The Gambia, Myanmar raised preliminary objections to the jurisdiction of the Court and the admissibility of the Application. By its Judgment of 22 July 2022, the Court found that it had jurisdiction, on the basis of Article IX of the Genocide Convention, to entertain The Gambia's Application and that the Application was admissible.

Myanmar subsequently filed its Counter-Memorial; this was followed by the filing of a Reply and a Rejoinder by The Gambia and Myanmar, respectively.

Declarations of intervention under Article 63 of the Statute of the Court were filed by Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the United Kingdom (jointly), as well as by the Maldives, Slovenia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Belgium and Ireland. The Court found those Declarations to be admissible (see Order dated 3 July 2024 and Order dated 25 July 2025).

The intervening States were informed that the Court considered that it had been sufficiently informed of their positions by way of their written observations, and that it had decided that it was not necessary for them to take part in the oral proceedings, in accordance with Article 86, paragraph 2, of the Rules of Court.

Public hearings devoted to the merits of the case were held from Monday 12 to Thursday 29 January 2026 and included the examination of witnesses and an expert called by the Parties.

Earlier press releases relating to this case are available on the Court's website.

Members of the diplomatic corps, the public and the media will find below practical information regarding the organization of the reading.

A. Practical information and admission procedures

There will be no parking on the Peace Palace grounds.

1. Members of the diplomatic corps

Members of the diplomatic corps who wish to attend the reading are requested to kindly fill out an online registration form by 12 noon (The Hague time) on Tuesday 17 November 2026. **Requests submitted after this deadline will not be considered**. Seats in the Great Hall of Justice will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. On presenting a confirmation of registration from the Information Department and valid diplomatic ID at the main gate of the Peace Palace on the day of the sitting, diplomats will be given a badge providing access to the Great Hall of Justice.

2. Members of the public

Only 15 seats will be available in the public gallery for members of the public on a first-come, first-served basis. There will be no advance registration procedure, and admission requests submitted beforehand will not be considered. Members of the public wishing to attend the reading are requested to present themselves at the main gate of the Peace Palace at least 40 minutes before the start of the sitting. They will be given a badge providing access to the public gallery upon presentation of valid ID. The security officers at the gate will notify those concerned once all available seats have been filled.

3. Media representatives

Media representatives who wish to attend the sitting are requested to kindly fill out an online accreditation form by 12 noon (The Hague time) on Tuesday 17 November 2026. Requests submitted after this deadline will not be considered. The Court's press room can accommodate only a limited number of people. Accreditation requests will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis. **No requests received by phone or email will be accepted**.

B. Further practical information for the media

1. Entry to the Peace Palace

Only duly accredited individuals with valid identification will be permitted to enter the Peace Palace grounds. Accredited media representatives must bring with them their personal ID and press card. They are asked to arrive at the Peace Palace gates no later than 30 minutes before the start of the sitting.

2. Access to the courtroom

A limited number of professional photographers and camera operators will be permitted to enter the courtroom for a few minutes before the start of the sitting. They will be accompanied by members of the Information Department. Other media representatives will not have access to the courtroom.

3. Press Room

The reading will be transmitted live in the two official languages of the Court, English and French, in a press room equipped with shared internet access (Wi-Fi and Ethernet). TV crews can connect to the Court's PAL (HD and SD) and NTSC (SD) audiovisual system, and radio reporters to the audio system. The press room will be open one and a half hours before the start of the sitting and will close one hour after it concludes.

4. Multimedia

The reading will be streamed live and on demand (VOD) in the two official languages of the Court, on the Court's website, the section of the Journal of the United Nations dedicated to the ICJ and on UN Web TV. High-resolution cover shots and still photos produced by the Registry during the sitting will be available free of charge and free of copyright for editorial, non-commercial use, on the Court's website (to download, click on Multimedia), LinkedIn account and X feed (@CIJ_ICJ).

Note: The Court's press releases are prepared by its Registry for information purposes only and do not constitute official documents.

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. It was established by the United Nations Charter in June 1945 and began its activities in April 1946. The Court is composed of 15 judges elected for a nine-year term by the General Assembly and the Security Council of the United Nations. The seat of the Court is at the Peace Palace in The Hague (Kingdom of the Netherlands). The Court has a twofold role: first, to settle, in accordance with international law, legal disputes submitted to it by States; and, second, to give advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by duly authorized United Nations organs and specialized agencies.

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