



INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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Press Release

Unofficial

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

The Republic of Armenia requests the Court to indicate provisional measures

THE HAGUE, 29 December 2022. Yesterday, the Republic of Armenia filed in the Registry of the International Court of Justice, the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, a Request for the indication of provisional measures in the case concerning *Application of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Armenia v. Azerbaijan)*, referring to Article 41 of the Statute of the Court and Article 73 of the Rules of Court.

In its Request, Armenia states that “[o]n 12 December 2022, Azerbaijan orchestrated a blockade of the only road connecting the 120,000 ethnic Armenians in Nagorno-Karabakh with the outside world, thereby preventing anyone and anything from entering or exiting”. It further claims that “[the] blockade is ongoing as of the date of [its] Request, and there are no signs that it will be lifted any time soon”.

Armenia requests the Court to indicate the following provisional measures:

“Azerbaijan shall cease its orchestration and support of the alleged ‘protests’ blocking uninterrupted free movement along the Lachin Corridor in both directions.

Azerbaijan shall ensure uninterrupted free movement of all persons, vehicles, and cargo along the Lachin Corridor in both directions.”

Pursuant to Article 74 of the Rules of Court, “[a] request for the indication of provisional measures shall have priority over all other cases”.

History of the proceedings

The history of the proceedings can be found in [press releases](#) Nos. 2021/20, 2021/27, 2021/34, 2022/40 and 2022/55, available on the Court's website.

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

Armenia's Request for the indication of provisional measures will be available shortly on the Court's [website](#).

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 (Netherlands). The Court has a twofold role: first, to settle, in accordance with international law, through judgments which have binding force and are without appeal for the parties concerned, 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 agencies of the system.

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