

25 FÉVRIER 2026

ORDONNANCE

GLAS ESPINEL
(ÉQUATEUR c. MEXIQUE)

GLAS ESPINEL
(ECUADOR v. MEXICO)

25 FEBRUARY 2026

ORDER

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

YEAR 2026

**2026
25 February
General List
No. 195**

25 February 2026

GLAS ESPINEL

(ECUADOR v. MEXICO)

ORDER

Present: *President* IWASAWA; *Vice-President* SEBUTINDE; *Judges* TOMKA, ABRAHAM, XUE, NOLTE, CHARLESWORTH, BRANT, GÓMEZ ROBLEDÓ, CLEVELAND, AURESCU, TLADI, HMOUD, OKOWA; *Judge ad hoc* MCRAE; *Registrar* GAUTIER.

The International Court of Justice,

Composed as above,

After deliberation,

Having regard to Article 48 of the Statute of the Court and to Articles 31, 44, 45, paragraph 2, 48 and 80 of the Rules of Court,

Having regard to the Application filed in the Registry of the Court on 29 April 2024, whereby the Republic of Ecuador (hereinafter “Ecuador”) instituted proceedings against the United Mexican States (hereinafter “Mexico”) concerning the latter’s conduct between 17 December 2023 and 5 April 2024 in relation to the former Vice-President of Ecuador, Mr Jorge David Glas Espinel, which allegedly was in violation of Mexico’s obligations owed to Ecuador under international law,

Having regard to the Order of 19 July 2024, whereby the Court fixed 22 April 2025 and 22 January 2026 as the respective time-limits for the filing of a Memorial by Ecuador and a Counter-Memorial by Mexico,

Having regard to the Memorial and Counter-Memorial duly filed within the time-limits thus prescribed;

Whereas in its Counter-Memorial, Mexico, referring to Article 80 of the Rules of Court, “presents [its] counter-claim against Ecuador for violations of its obligations under the 1954 Caracas Convention [on Diplomatic Asylum]”;

Whereas, on 11 February 2026, a meeting was held by the President of the Court with the Agents of the Parties pursuant to Article 31 of the Rules of Court, in order to ascertain their views on the subsequent procedure in the case;

Whereas, at the meeting, the Co-Agent of Ecuador indicated that his Government was of the view that a second round of written pleadings was required in the present proceedings; whereas the Co-Agent, referring to the counter-claim made by Mexico in its Counter-Memorial, stated that Ecuador intended to present its position on all elements of this counter-claim, including issues relating to admissibility, in its Reply; whereas the Co-Agent requested that the Court grant a period of eight months for the preparation of Ecuador’s Reply; and whereas the Agent of Mexico stated that his Government agreed that it would be appropriate for the Court to authorize the filing of a Reply and a Rejoinder; whereas counsel for Mexico remarked, however, that a period of eight months for the filing of the Reply would be excessive in light of the fact that a period of nine months had been given for the filing of the Memorial and the Counter-Memorial, and that the counter-claim presented by Mexico was not lengthy; whereas counsel for Mexico noted that, according to Mexico, a period of four months would be suitable for the preparation by each Party of its respective written pleading, while adding that, in the interests of reaching an understanding between the Parties, Mexico would be prepared to accept a time-limit of five months;

Whereas the Co-Agent of Ecuador emphasized that the matters raised in the case required careful consideration and could not reasonably be dealt with over a period of four months; and whereas the Co-Agent further indicated that, in a spirit of compromise, his Government would be willing to accept a period of seven months for the preparation of its Reply;

Whereas, noting that Ecuador has stated its intention to address in its Reply all aspects of Mexico’s counter-claim, including its admissibility, the Court considers that it is not required, at the present stage of the proceedings, to rule definitively on whether the conditions set out in Article 80, paragraph 1, of the Rules of Court have been met;

Whereas, in order to safeguard the rights which third States entitled to appear before the Court derive from the Statute, the Court instructs the Registrar to transmit to them a copy of the present Order;

Taking into account the views of the Parties,

Authorizes the submission of a Reply by the Republic of Ecuador and a Rejoinder by the United Mexican States, concerning the claims presented by the Parties;

Fixes the following time-limits for the filing of the written pleadings:

25 August 2026 for the Reply of the Republic of Ecuador;

25 February 2027 for the Rejoinder of the United Mexican States; and

Reserves the subsequent procedure for further decision.

Done in French and in English, the French text being authoritative, at the Peace Palace, The Hague, this twenty-fifth day of February, two thousand and twenty-six, in three copies, one of which will be placed in the archives of the Court and the others transmitted to the Government of the Republic of Ecuador and the Government of the United Mexican States, respectively.

(Signed) IWASAWA Yuji,
President.

(Signed) Philippe GAUTIER,
Registrar.
