



INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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Press Release

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United Nations General Assembly and Security Council elect Mr Mahmoud Daifallah Hmoud as Member of the Court

THE HAGUE, 27 May 2025. The General Assembly and the Security Council of the United Nations today elected Mr Mahmoud Daifallah Hmoud as a Member of the International Court of Justice, with immediate effect.

Of Jordanian nationality, Mr Hmoud succeeds Judge Nawaf Salam, who resigned on 14 January 2025 (see press release No. [2025/3](#)). Pursuant to Article 15 of the [Statute of the Court](#), Mr Hmoud will hold office for the remainder of Judge Salam's term, which was due to expire on 5 February 2027.

Mr Hmoud's biography is annexed to this press release.

Photographs taken of the election in the General Assembly and the Security Council will be available on the [United Nations website](#).

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Composition of the Court

The International Court of Justice comprises 15 judges, who are each elected to a nine-year term of office and may be re-elected. In order to ensure a measure of continuity in the composition of the Court, one third of the membership is renewed every three years. In accordance with Article 2 of the Statute of the Court, judges are elected "regardless of their nationality from among persons of high moral character, who possess the qualifications required in their respective countries for appointment to the highest judicial offices, or are jurisconsults of recognized competence in international law". Article 9 of the Statute further requires that "in the body as a whole the representation of the main forms of civilization and of the principal legal systems of the world should be assured". No two Members of the Court may be of the same nationality.

Following the election held today by the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council, the composition of the Court is as follows:

President	Iwasawa Yuji (Japan)
Vice-President	Julia Sebutinde (Uganda)
Judges	Peter Tomka (Slovakia)
	Ronny Abraham (France)
	Abdulqawi Ahmed Yusuf (Somalia)
	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)

Submission of candidacies

All States parties to the Statute of the Court (currently 193) have the right to propose candidates. However, candidates are not nominated directly by governments but by the national groups in the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) or, in the case of States not participating in the PCA, by similarly constituted national groups. The Permanent Court of Arbitration, which is based in The Hague, was established under the Hague Conventions of 1899 and 1907. Each State party to those Conventions has its own national group, that is to say, a group of up to four jurists who can be called upon to serve as members of an arbitral tribunal under the Conventions. When an election takes place to fill vacancies at the International Court of Justice, each national group can propose up to four candidates, not more than two of whom may be of its own nationality. The others may be from any other country. The names of candidates must be communicated to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Election procedure

Members of the Court are elected by the General Assembly and by the Security Council through parallel procedures. Both organs vote at the same time but independently of one another. This system is intended to ensure, as far as possible, that the vote in one organ does not influence the vote in the other. In order to be elected, a candidate must obtain an absolute majority of votes both in the General Assembly and in the Security Council. Currently, 97 votes out of 193 constitute an absolute majority in the General Assembly. In the Security Council, where no right of veto applies for the purpose of the election and no distinction is made between the votes of the permanent and non-permanent members of the Council, eight votes out of fifteen constitute an absolute majority.

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 (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 agencies of the system.

Information Department:

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Annex

Curriculum vitae*

Hmoud, Mahmoud Daifallah (Jordan)

[Original: Arabic and English]

Professional Experience

Current Positions:

- Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the United Nations in New York (August 2021-)
- Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to Cuba -Non-resident (April 2023-).
- Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the Dominican Republic -Non-resident (August 2023-).

Former Positions:

- Member of the International Law Commission (2007-2022): Chair of the Commission during its 72nd session (2021); Chair of the Drafting Committee (2012); First Vice-Chair (2019); Second Vice-Chair (2008); Chair of the Working Group on the long-term programme of work (2017-2022).
- Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the Republic of Singapore (2018-2021).
- Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam -Non-resident (2020-2021)
- Legal Advisor and Director of the Legal Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, Amman, Jordan (2016-2018).
- Senior Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Jordan to the UN, New York (2013-2015).
- Legal Advisor and Director of the Legal Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, Amman, Jordan (1999-2001, 2006-2009, 2013-2013).
- Director of the Negotiations Coordination Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates (2013-2013).
- Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Jordan to the United States (2010-2013).
- Legal Advisor: Jordan's Nuclear Energy Commission (2007-2009).
- Diplomat and Legal Advisor at the Jordanian Mission to the United Nations, New York (2001-2006).
- Vice-Chairman of the Legal (Sixth) Committee during the Sixtieth session of the United Nations General Assembly.
- Legal Advisor at the Office of HRH Prince El-Hassan bin Talal, Amman, Jordan. (1994-1999).

* Curricula vitae are issued without formal editing.

- Legal Advisor to Jordan during the Middle East peace process negotiations.
- The Jordanian Follow up Committee on the Euro-Med Partnership (Barcelona process).

Other Professional Experience:

- Negotiated several of Jordan's bilateral and multilateral treaties and agreements, including peace and security related treaties, judicial cooperation, human rights, counterterrorism, border demarcation, investment, commercial, transportation, energy and international loan treaties and agreements.
- During Jordan's membership at the UN Security Council (2014-2015), negotiated several Council resolutions relating to the Middle East and North Africa, sanctions, and counterterrorism.
- Advised the Jordanian government on legal matters related to the various aspects of Jordan's foreign policy.
- Advised the Jordanian government on issues related to the accession to the World Trade Organization, including intellectual property matters (TRIPs agreement).
- Participated in preparing and drafting several economic legislations in Jordan, including those related to intellectual property protection.
- Supervision and coordination of the Jordanian legal claims before the United National Compensation Commission, (UNCC).
- Advised the Jordanian government on matters related to the Jordan-EU Association agreement.
- Advised the Jordanian government on certain privatization matters.
- Legal counsel for Jordan in proceedings before the International Court of Justice, including the Advisory Opinions on the "Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, (2004); "Accordance with international law of the unilateral declaration of independence in respect of Kosovo" (2010) and the "Legal Consequences arising from the Policies and Practices of Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem" (2024).
- Counsel for Jordan in claims before tribunals of the International Center for the Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID).
- Legal Counsel for Jordan in proceedings before the Appeals Chamber of the International Criminal Court (2018).
- Member of the International Advisory Panel of American Law Institute Restatement of the Law Fourth, Foreign Relations of the United States.
- Member of the International Advisory Panel of the Centre for International Law, at the National University of Singapore.
- Legal Training: At the offices of lawyers Daifallah Hmoud and Moh'd abu Jbara. Finished the requirements of legal training for the Jordanian Bar Association in July 1994.
- Intellectual Property Internship: At the Law Firm of Beveridge, Degrandi, Weilacher & Young (LLP), Washington D.C., May 1998 (later acquired by Clifford Chance).

Selected Conference Participation

- Middle East and North Africa Economic Summit, October 1995, Amman, Jordan.
- Global Panel (Economic) Conference, December 1996, The Hague, The Netherlands.
- Several World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) conferences and seminars.
- Chairman at the International Symposium on Intellectual Property and Knowledge Based Economy, October 1999, Beijing, China.
- International Law Seminar, July 2000, Geneva, Switzerland.
- Jordan's representative to the Legal Committee during the 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st and 62nd sessions of the U.N. General Assembly, New York.
- Jordan's representative to the 8th, 9th and 10th sessions of the Preparatory Committee of the International Criminal Court (2001-2002).
- Jordan's representative to the sessions of the Assembly of State Parties to Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005, 2006, 2007, and 2008) New York and The Hague.
- Rapporteur of the UN General Assembly Ad hoc Committee for the elaboration of an international convention against the reproductive cloning of human beings, 2002, New York.
- Vice-Chairman of the UN General Assembly Ad hoc Committee on the scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of the United Nations and Associated Personnel, 2003- 2005, New York.

Selected Publications, Research, and Lectures

- 'Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Law Making Policy', 1993, (on file at George Washington University, National Law Center).
- Foreign Investment under Jordanian Law, 1994 (in Arabic), (on file at Jordan Bar Association Library).
- 'The Use of Force Against Iraq', 36 Cornell Int'l L.J. (2004) 435-453.
- United Nations Meeting on the Question of Palestine, 8-9 March 2005, Geneva: Presentation on the Significance of the ICJ Advisory Opinion on the Construction of a Wall in OPT.
- American Bar Association Section of International Law: Speaker/Panelist at the 2005 Spring Meeting, Washington D.C.
- 2005 UNITAR Summer Institute on Global Issues Facing the United Nations, 6-10 June 2005, United Nations Headquarters, New York: Speaker/Panelist on U.N. Standards Setting – Method, Technique and Implementation.
- 'Organization of the Islamic Conference', in Giuseppe Nesi (Ed), *International Cooperation in Counter-Terrorism, the United Nations and Regional Organizations in the Fight Against Terrorism*, (U.K.: Ashgate Publishing Limited) 161-170.

- ‘Negotiating the Draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism: Major Bones of Contention’, Journal of International Criminal Justice 2006; doi: 10.1093/jicj/mql081.
- ‘Are the Principles Really Needed? The Potential of the Established Distinction between Responsibility for Attacks by Non-State Actors and the Law of Self-Defence, the American Journal of International Law (Vol. 107; 576).
- Mahmoud Hmoud, ‘Sources of International Law’ in Mario J. A. Oyarzabal (ed.), International Law for Diplomats, Brill, forthcoming 2025.
- Written papers submitted to the ILC Study Group on the “Most-Favoured Nation Clause” (attached to the relevant ILC annual reports).
- Lectured, chaired and participated in panels on various topics relating to Jordan’s foreign policy, international law, international humanitarian law, intellectual property, foreign investments, international and diplomatic affairs, use of force and counterterrorism in different fora, including the World Bank, Columbia University Law School, University of Jordan, the National University of Singapore, the George Washington University Law School, Washington University Law School, Oxford University and Cambridge University.
- Panelist and participant in numerous events held at the United Nations on matters related to international law, multilateralism and the work of the organization.

Education

High School: Terra Sancta College, Amman, Jordan.
Date of Graduation: June 1988
Degree: **G.C.E.**

Undergraduate: University of Jordan Law School, Amman, Jordan.
Date of Graduation: August 1992
Degree: **B.A. Law**

Postgraduate:

- The George Washington University, National Law Center (Law School), Washington D.C., U.S.A.
Date of Graduation: May 1993
Degree: Master of Laws (**LL.M.**)
Specialization: International and Comparative Law.
- Lund University, Raoul Wallenberg Institute, Lund, Sweden.
Date of Degree: May 1996
Degree: Diploma in International Human Rights.
- Franklin Pierce Law Center (currently the University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law), Concord, New Hampshire, U.S.A.
Date of Graduation: May 1998
Degree: Master of Laws (**LL.M.**)
Specialization: Intellectual Property Rights.

Awards

- Jordan’s Istiklal (Independence) medal of the 3rd order. Awarded 2004.
- Jordan’s Istiklal (Independence) medal of the 1st order. Awarded 2018.

Languages

- Arabic and English: Fluent.
 - French: Conversational.
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