



# INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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## Press Release

Unofficial

No. 2026/8  
10 April 2026

### **Visit to the International Court of Justice by the President of the Republic of Estonia, HE Mr Alar Karis, and First Lady Ms Sirje Karis**

THE HAGUE, 10 April 2026. HE Mr Alar Karis, President of the Republic of Estonia, and First Lady Ms Sirje Karis, accompanied by a delegation led by HE Mr Paul Teesalu, Ambassador of the Republic of Estonia to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, paid a visit yesterday to the International Court of Justice at its seat at the Peace Palace in The Hague.

President Karis, the First Lady and their delegation met with the President of the Court, HE Judge Iwasawa Yuji, and the Registrar, HE Mr Philippe Gautier. President Karis and the First Lady were given a guided tour of the rooms used by the Court in the Peace Palace, including its courtroom, the Great Hall of Justice. During the meeting, President Karis, the First Lady and members of the delegation also engaged in a discussion touching on aspects of the history, functioning and activities of the Court with President Iwasawa and the Registrar.

At the end of the meeting, President Karis signed the Visitors' Book of the Court, expressing his appreciation for the Court's valuable and irreplaceable work.

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Photographs of the visit are available in the [Multimedia](#) section of the Court's website.

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

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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 specialized agencies.

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