



International court of justice

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The Court

- ▶ The International Court of Justice (ICJ) is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations (UN). It was established in June 1945 by the Charter of the United Nations and began work in April 1946.

- ▶ The Court is composed of 15 judges, who are elected for terms of office of nine years by the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council. It is assisted by a Registry, its administrative organ. Its official languages are English and French.



Members of the Court

Elections

- ▶ Elections are held in New York (United States of America) on the occasion of the annual autumn session of the General Assembly.
- ▶ All States parties to the Statute of the Court can propose candidates.
- ▶ The Court may not include more than one national of the same State. Moreover, the Court as a whole must represent the main forms of civilization and the principal legal systems of the world.



Presidency

- ▶ The President and the Vice-President are elected by the Members of the Court every three years by secret ballot. An absolute majority is required and there are no conditions with regard to nationality. The President and the Vice-President can be re-elected.
- ▶ The President presides at all meetings of the Court; he/she directs its work and supervises its administration.
- ▶ In The Hague, where he/she is obliged to reside, the President of the Court takes precedence over the doyen of the diplomatic corps.
- ▶ On 6 February 2015 the Court elected Judge Ronny Abraham (France) to be President and Judge Abdulgawi Ahmed Yusuf (Somalia) to be Vice-President.



List of judges

The following judges served as President or Vice-President before the present holders of those offices:

- 1946-1949 Guerrero and Basdevant
- 1949-1952 Basdevant and Guerrero
- 1952-1955 Sir Arnold McNair and Guerrero
- 1955-1958 Hackworth and Badawi
- 1958-1961 Klaestad and Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan
- 1961-1964 Winiarski and Alfaro
- 1964-1967 Sir Percy Spender and Wellington Koo
- 1967-1970 Bustamante y Rivero and Koretsky
- 1970-1973 Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan and Ammoun
- 1973-1976 Lachs and Ammoun
- 1976-1979 Jiménez de Aréchaga and Nagendra Singh
- 1979-1982 Sir Humphrey Waldock and Elias (Sir Humphrey Waldock died on 15 August 1981. The functions of the Presidency were thereafter exercised by Judge Elias as Acting President, by virtue of Articles 13 and 14 of the 1978 Rules of Court.)
- 1982-1985 Elias and Sette-Camara 1985-1988 Nagendra Singh and Ladreit de Lacharrière (Judge Ladreit de Lacharrière died on 10 March 1987. On 6 May 1987 the Court elected Judge Mbaye to be its Vice-President for the remainder of his predecessor's term.)
- 1988-1991 J. M. Ruda and Mbaye
- 1991-1994 Sir Robert Jennings and Oda
- 1994-1997 Bedjaoui and Schwebel
- 1997-2000 Schwebel and Weeramantry
- 2000-2003 Guillaume and Shi
- 2003-2006 Shi and Ranjeva
- 2006-2009 Higgins and Al-Khasawneh
- 2009-2012 Owada and Tomka



How the Court works

- ▶ The Court may entertain two types of cases: legal disputes between States submitted to it by them (Contentious cases) and requests for advisory opinions on legal questions



Bibliographic list:

- ▶ official website of the international court
- ▶ study guide Levansky
- ▶ official website UN

93 INDIVIDUALS INDICTED BY THE ICTR



Thank you for the attention

