



INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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Press Release

Unofficial

No. 2004/17

8 April 2004

Legality of Use of Force

(Serbia and Montenegro v. Belgium), (Serbia and Montenegro v. Canada);
(Serbia and Montenegro v. France); (Serbia and Montenegro v. Germany);
(Serbia and Montenegro v. Italy); (Serbia and Montenegro v. Netherlands);
(Serbia and Montenegro v. Portugal); and (Serbia and Montenegro v. United Kingdom)

Preliminary Objections

Schedule of public hearings to be held from 19 to 23 April 2004

THE HAGUE, 8 April 2004. As announced in Press Release 2004/13, the International Court of Justice (ICJ), principal judicial organ of the United Nations, will hold public hearings in the eight cases concerning Legality of Use of Force: (Serbia and Montenegro v. Belgium), (Serbia and Montenegro v. Canada), (Serbia and Montenegro v. France), (Serbia and Montenegro v. Germany), (Serbia and Montenegro v. Italy), (Serbia and Montenegro v. Netherlands), (Serbia and Montenegro v. Portugal) and (Serbia and Montenegro v. United Kingdom), from Monday 19 to Friday 23 April 2004 at the Peace Palace, seat of the Court.

The Court will sit in the morning from 10 a.m. and until 1 p.m. at the latest. In the afternoon, the Court will sit from 3 p.m. until 6 p.m. at the latest. The schedule for these hearings is as follows:

First round of pleadings

Monday 19 April 2004	morning:	Belgium The Netherlands
	afternoon:	Canada Portugal United Kingdom
Tuesday 20 April 2004	morning:	Germany France Italy
Wednesday 21 April 2004	morning:	Serbia and Montenegro

Second round of pleadings

Thursday 22 April 2004	morning:	Belgium The Netherlands Canada Portugal
	afternoon:	United Kingdom Germany France Italy
Friday 23 April 2004	afternoon:	Serbia and Montenegro

History of the proceedings

For the history of the proceedings, please refer to Press Release No. 2004/13 dated 16 March 2004 on the website of the Court (www.icj-cij.org). Click on “Docket”, then on the hyperlink for the case and select the requested Press Release.

NOTE TO THE PRESS

1. The public hearings will be held in the Great Hall of Justice of the Peace Palace in The Hague, Netherlands. Mobile telephones and beepers are allowed in the courtroom **provided they are turned off or set on silent mode**. Any offending device will be temporarily retained.

2. Members of the Press may attend on presentation of a press card. The tables reserved for them are situated to the far left of the public entrance to the courtroom.

3. Photographs and TV shots may be taken for a few minutes at the opening of each sitting. The proceedings will be displayed live on a large TV screen in the Press Room, located on the ground floor of the Peace Palace (Room 5). **In the Press Room, it will be possible for TV crews to connect recording equipment directly to the Court’s video system**, but advance notice of this should be given to the Information Department. There is also a facility for the connection of sound-only equipment to the Court’s audio system during the proceedings.

4. Telephone calls may be made from the phone located in the Press Room (collect calls only) or from the public payphones in the Post Office in the basement of the Peace Palace.

5. Verbatim records of the hearings will be published daily on the Court’s website (www.icj-cij.org), with translations to follow as soon as practicable thereafter.

6. Mr. Arthur Witteveen, First Secretary of the Court (tel: +31-70-302 2336), as well as Mrs. Laurence Blairon and Mr. Boris Heim, Information Officers, are available to deal with any requests from the Press (tel: +31-70-302 2337; e-mail address: information@icj-cij.org).