



INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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Press Release

Unofficial

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1 December 2021

Swearing in of H.E. Ms Hilary Charlesworth, new Member of the Court

Tuesday 7 December 2021 at 2.30 p.m.

THE HAGUE, 1 December 2021. The International Court of Justice, the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, will hold a public sitting on Tuesday 7 December 2021 at 2.30 p.m. at the Peace Palace in The Hague, the seat of the Court, during which H.E. Ms Hilary Charlesworth, a new Member of the Court elected by the General Assembly and the Security Council of the United Nations on 5 November 2021, will be officially sworn in.

Ms Charlesworth will make the solemn declaration provided for in Article 20 of the Statute, which states that “[e]very Member of the Court shall, before taking up [their] duties, make a solemn declaration in open court that [they] will exercise [their] powers impartially and conscientiously”.

Ms Charlesworth succeeds the late Judge James Richard Crawford, who passed away on 31 May 2021 (see press release No. 2021/17). Pursuant to Article 15 of the Statute of the Court, Ms Charlesworth will hold office for the remainder of Mr. Crawford’s term, which was due to expire on 5 February 2024.

In view of the current COVID-19 pandemic, the sitting will be held in a hybrid format. Some Members of the Court will attend the sitting in person in the Great Hall of Justice, while others will participate remotely by video link. Members of the diplomatic corps, the media and the public will be able to follow the event on a live webcast on the Court’s website, as well as on UN Web TV, the United Nations online television channel.

The Court will retire briefly after the sitting and will return to the Great Hall of Justice shortly afterwards to deliver its Orders on the provisional measures requested in the cases concerning *Application of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Armenia v. Azerbaijan)* and *Application of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Azerbaijan v. Armenia)*.

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The biography of each Member of the Court can be found on the Court's website (www.icj-cij.org), under the heading "The Court/Members of the Court/Current Members".

Multimedia

The sitting will be streamed [live](#) and on demand (VOD) in English and French on the Court's website, as well as on [UN Web TV](#).

Still photographs of the sitting will be published on the Court's website and Twitter feed (@CIJ_ICJ). Selected high-resolution video footage (b-roll) of the sitting will be available for TV use on the Court's website.

All photographs and videos made available to the media by the ICJ are free of charge and free of copyright for editorial, non-commercial use.

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, through judgments which have binding force and are without appeal for the parties concerned, 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.

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