



# INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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## Press Release

Unofficial

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### **Easing of the measures adopted by the International Court of Justice in response to the COVID-19 pandemic**

THE HAGUE, 3 June 2022. The International Court of Justice, the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, has taken steps to ease the measures it had previously adopted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

These steps include a return to in-person working methods for the Court's public hearings and other sessions taking place in the Great Hall of Justice, as well as for its private meetings.

Hearings and other Court sessions held in the ICJ's courtroom at the Peace Palace will continue to be closed to the public for now. This situation will be reviewed over the coming months.

It is recalled that the public hearings of the Court and the delivery of its decisions are streamed live and on demand (VOD) in English and French on the Court's website, as well as on UN Web TV. Public sittings of the Court can be followed in real time using the media player which can be accessed through the [homepage](#) or the [multimedia page](#) of the Court's website. The web stream starts a few minutes before the sitting is scheduled to begin.

All steps mentioned above are subject to change as the COVID-19 situation evolves.

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### **History of the COVID-19 measures adopted by the Court**

Details of the measures adopted by the Court in response to the COVID-19 pandemic can be found in [press releases](#) Nos. 2020/9, 2020/10, 2020/11 and 2020/16, available on 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, 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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