



INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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Press Release

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Application of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Georgia v. Russian Federation)

Preliminary Objections

Conclusion of the public hearings; Court to begin its deliberation

THE HAGUE, 17 September 2010. The public hearings on the preliminary objections raised by the Russian Federation in the case concerning Application of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Georgia v. Russian Federation) were concluded today. The Court will now begin its deliberation.

During the hearings, which opened on Monday 13 September 2010 at the Peace Palace, seat of the Court, the delegation of the Russian Federation was led by Their Excellencies Mr. Kirill Gevorgian, Director, Legal Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation and Mr. Roman Kolodkin, Ambassador of the Russian Federation to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, as Agents. The Republic of Georgia was led by Their Excellencies Ms Tina Burjaliani, First Deputy-Minister of Justice and Mr. Shota Gvineria, Ambassador of Georgia to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, as Agents.

The Court's Judgment on these preliminary objections will be rendered at a public sitting, the date of which will be announced in due course.

Submissions of the Parties

At the end of the oral proceedings, the Agents of the Parties presented the following submissions to the Court:

For the Russian Federation:

“For the reasons advanced in the written Preliminary Objections and during the oral pleadings, the Russian Federation requests the Court to adjudge and declare that it lacks jurisdiction over the claims brought against the Russian Federation by Georgia, referred to it by the Application of Georgia of 12 August 2008.”

For Georgia:

“For the reasons advanced in the Written Statement of Georgia on Preliminary Objections and during the oral pleadings, Georgia respectfully requests the Court:

1. To dismiss the preliminary objections presented by the Russian Federation;
2. To hold that it has jurisdiction to hear the claims presented by Georgia, and that these claims are admissible.”

The verbatim records of the hearings held between 13 and 17 September 2010 are available on the Court’s website (www.icj-cij.org).

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