



INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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Press Release

Unofficial

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10 November 2023

Application of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Canada and the Netherlands v. Syrian Arab Republic)

Request for the indication of provisional measures

The Court to deliver its Order on Thursday 16 November 2023

THE HAGUE, 10 November 2023. On Thursday 16 November 2023, the International Court of Justice will deliver its Order on the request for the indication of provisional measures made by Canada and the Netherlands in the case concerning *Application of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Canada and the Netherlands v. Syrian Arab Republic)*. A public sitting will take place at 3 p.m. at the Peace Palace in The Hague, during which Judge Joan E. Donoghue, President of the Court, will read the Court's Order.

It is recalled that on 8 June 2023, Canada and the Kingdom of the Netherlands filed a joint [Application instituting proceedings](#) against the Syrian Arab Republic concerning alleged violations of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

Together with the Application, Canada and the Netherlands filed a [Request for the indication of provisional measures](#), “to preserve and protect the rights owed to them under the Convention against Torture, which Syria continues to violate, and protect the lives and physical and mental integrity of individuals within Syria who are currently, or are at risk of, being subjected to torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment” (see press release No. [2023/28](#)).

Members of the diplomatic corps, the media and the public will find below practical information regarding the organization of the sitting.

A. Practical information and admission procedures

There will be no parking on the Peace Palace grounds.

1. Members of the diplomatic corps

Owing to the limited number of seats available in the Great Hall of Justice, members of the diplomatic corps who wish to attend the sitting are requested to kindly fill out an [online registration form](#) by midnight (The Hague time) on Tuesday 14 November 2023. Seats in the Great Hall of Justice will be allocated on the basis of availability. On presenting a confirmation of registration from the Information Department and valid diplomatic ID at the main gate of the Peace Palace on the day of the sitting, diplomats will be given a badge providing access to the Great Hall of Justice.

2. Members of the public

A limited number of seats will be available in the public gallery for members of the public on a first-come first-served basis. There will be no advance registration procedure, and admission requests submitted beforehand will not be considered. Members of the public wishing to attend the reading are requested to present themselves at the main gate of the Peace Palace 40 minutes before the start of the public session. They will be given a badge providing access to the public gallery upon presentation of valid ID. The security officers at the gate will notify those concerned once all seats available for members of the public have been filled. Admission to the public gallery will close 20 minutes before the start of the sitting.

3. Media representatives

Media representatives who wish to attend the sitting are requested to kindly fill out an [online accreditation form](#) by midnight (The Hague time) on Tuesday 14 November 2023. Requests submitted after this deadline will not be considered. The Court's Press Room can accommodate 30 people only. Accreditation requests will be considered on a first-come first-served basis.

B. Further practical information for the media

1. Entry to the Peace Palace

Only duly accredited individuals with valid identification will be permitted to enter the Peace Palace grounds. Accredited media representatives must bring with them their personal ID and press card. They are asked to arrive at the Peace Palace gates no later than 30 minutes before the start of the sitting. The Press Room will be open one and a half hours before the start of the sitting and will close one hour after they conclude.

2. Access to the courtroom

Photographers and camera crews will only be permitted to enter the courtroom for a few minutes before the opening of the sitting. They will be accompanied by a member of the Information Department. Other media representatives will not have access to the courtroom.

3. Press Room

The sitting will be transmitted live on a large screen in the two official languages of the Court, English and French, in a press room equipped with shared internet access (Wi-Fi and Ethernet). TV crews can connect to the Court's PAL (HD and SD) and NTSC (SD) audiovisual system, and radio reporters to the audio system.

4. Multimedia

The sitting will be streamed live and on demand (VOD) in the two official languages of the Court, English and French, on the [Court's website](#) and on [UN Web TV](#). High-resolution video clips and still photos produced by the Registry during the sitting will be available free of charge and free of copyright for editorial, non-commercial use on the Court's website (to download, click on [Multimedia](#)) and X (formerly Twitter) feed (@CIJ_ICJ).

Earlier [press releases](#) relating to this case, including the history of the proceedings, are available on the Court's website.

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, 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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