

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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- Press Release

No. 2005/27 21 December 2005

<u>Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide</u> (Bosnia and Herzegovina v. Serbia and Montenegro)

Schedule of public hearings to be held from 27 February to 9 May 2006

THE HAGUE, 21 December 2005. As announced previously, the International Court of Justice (ICJ), principal judicial organ of the United Nations, will hold public hearings in the case concerning <u>Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Bosnia and Herzegovina v. Serbia and Montenegro)</u>, starting on Monday 27 February 2006, at the Peace Palace in The Hague, seat of the Court.

The hearings will continue until Tuesday 9 May 2006. The morning sittings will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and the afternoon sessions from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m..

The schedule for the hearings is as follows:

First round of oral argument

Monday 27 February	morning	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Tuesday 28 February	morning and afternoon	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Wednesday 1 March	morning	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Thursday 2 March	morning and afternoon	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Friday 3 March	morning	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Monday 6 March	morning and afternoon	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Tuesday 7 March	morning	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Tuesday 7 March Wednesday 8 March	morning morning	Bosnia and Herzegovina Serbia and Montenegro
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Wednesday 8 March	morning	Serbia and Montenegro
Wednesday 8 March Thursday 9 March	morning morning and afternoon	Serbia and Montenegro Serbia and Montenegro

Wednesday 15 March	morning and afternoon
Thursday 16 March	morning

Serbia and Montenegro Serbia and Montenegro

Hearing of experts, witnesses and witness-experts

Friday 17 March	morning	Bosnia and Herzegovina	hearing of experts
Monday 20 March	morning	Bosnia and Herzegovina	hearing of experts
Tuesday 21 March	morning	Bosnia and Herzegovina	hearing of experts
Wednesday 22 March	morning	Serbia and Montenegro	hearing of witnesses and witness-experts
Thursday 23 March	morning	Serbia and Montenegro	hearing of witnesses and witness-experts
Friday 24 March	morning	Serbia and Montenegro	hearing of witnesses and witness-experts
Monday 27 March	morning	Serbia and Montenegro	hearing of witnesses and witness-experts
Tuesday 28 March	morning	Serbia and Montenegro	hearing of witnesses and witness-experts

Second round of oral argument

Tuesday 18 April	morning and afternoon	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Wednesday 19 April	morning	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Thursday 20 April	morning and afternoon	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Friday 21 April	morning and afternoon	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Monday 24 April	morning	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Tuesday 2 May	morning and afternoon	Serbia and Montenegro
Wednesday 3 May	morning	Serbia and Montenegro
Thursday 4 May	morning and afternoon	Serbia and Montenegro
Monday 8 May	morning and afternoon	Serbia and Montenegro
Tuesday 9 May	morning	Serbia and Montenegro

History of the proceedings

For the history of the proceedings, please refer to Press Release No. 2004/37, dated 8 December 2004, on the website of the Court (www.icj-cij.org). On the homepage, 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. 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. Mrs. Laurence Blairon, Head of the Information Department (tel: +31-70-302 2336), as well as Mr. Boris Heim and Mr. Maxime Schouppe, Information Officers, are available to deal with any requests from the Press (tel: +31-70-302 2337; e-mail address: information@icj-cij.org).