



RRU CENTRE
for
RCIL
INTERNATIONAL LAW

RCIL INTERNATIONAL LAW NEWS COVERAGE

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1 November to 20 November

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UN INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION

- The Official Report of the International Law Commission (**Seventy-fourth session**) has been published. The report includes information concerning the organisation of the session, the progress of work and the future work of the Commission on the topics given substantive consideration during the session, the texts of draft articles and commentaries adopted by the Commission during the session, any procedural recommendations of the Commission calling for a decision on the part of the General Assembly as well as other decisions and conclusions of the Commission.
- Prof Bimal N Patel addressed forty-five faculty members of law, PhD scholars, and practitioners of Public International Law in India and abroad. In his conversation, he provided insights into the functioning and activities of the International Law Commission and the work accomplished in the 73rd Session. He underscored the importance of diversity and inclusivity, particularly from the Asian and African perspective, which has been missing in the contributions made to the discussion at the UN International Law Commission. [Link](#)



- Prof Bimal N Patel spoke at the 61st AALCO Annual Session, held in Bali, Indonesia wherein he addressed the issue of Regional Representation at the United Nations International Law Commission. [Link](#)

UNGA SIXTH COMMITTEE (LEGAL)

- Currently, the seventy-eighth session, the Sixth Committee is in progress. For the month of December, the following will be pursued:

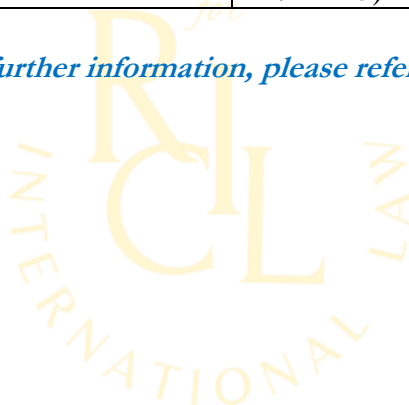
No	Deadline	Agenda
1	1 December, 2023	Crimes Against Humanity - States are invited to submit written comments and observations on the draft articles on prevention and punishment of crimes against humanity, and on the recommendation of the Commission to elaborate a convention by the Assembly or by an international conference of plenipotentiaries on the basis of the draft articles.
2	1 December, 2023	Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventy-third session - States are invited to submit comments on the Draft articles on immunity of State officials from foreign criminal jurisdiction, adopted, on first reading, by the International Law Commission at its seventy-third session.

For further information, please refer [here](#)

UN TREATY COLLECTION – DEPOSITORY NOTIFICATIONS

Date	Country	Issue	Action
1/11/23	Germany	Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Chapter IV-5)	Withdrawal
8/11/23	Russian Federation	Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Chapter XXVI-4)	Partial Withdrawal
14/11/23	Armenia	Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Chapter XVIII-10)	Ratification
14/11/23	Congo	International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (Chapter XVIII-15)	Accession

For further information, please refer [here](#).



UNITED NATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL LAW

1. SC/15493 15 NOVEMBER 2023

Security Council Renews Mandate of UN Mission in Central African Republic, Adopting Resolution 2709 (2023)

The United Nations Security Council has extended the mandate of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) until November 15, 2024.

The resolution, adopted with 14 votes in favour and 1 abstention (Russian Federation), maintains current troop levels and outlines MINUSCA's priority tasks, including protection of civilians, support for state authority, peace process facilitation, and humanitarian assistance. The resolution also grants MINUSCA authorization for various tasks such as human rights protection, assistance in local elections, security sector reform, and support for justice.

The Council urges respect for the ceasefire, implementation of the Political Agreement, and preparation for inclusive local elections. The Secretary-General is requested to provide an independent strategic review of MINUSCA by August 15, 2024, with recommendations for mandate reconfiguration and a transition plan. Despite positive changes, Russia expressed concerns about obsolete elements in the resolution. The United States supported MINUSCA's renewal, emphasizing its role in peace and security, while China, Council President for November, highlighted the critical transition from peacekeeping to peacebuilding.

The Central African Republic expressed acceptance of the resolution, commending MINUSCA's collaboration in restoring state authority and expressing readiness for a strategic review to facilitate a future transition and withdrawal of the Mission.

2. SC/15495 15 NOVEMBER 2023

Subsidiary Body Chairs Highlight Expanded Cooperation between Counter-Terrorism Committees to Combat Global Threats, in Annual Briefing to Security Council

During their annual briefing to the United Nations Security Council, Chairs of three counter-terrorism-related Committees emphasized increased coordination among subsidiary bodies to strengthen global counter-terrorism efforts. The Chairs highlighted collaborative efforts in addressing the evolving threat of terrorism worldwide. Lana Zaki Nusseibeh of the United Arab Emirates spoke on behalf of the Chairs of the Committees related to Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida, counter-terrorism, and non-proliferation.

The Committees have worked together to enhance counter-terrorism approaches, prevent weapons of mass destruction proliferation by non-State actors, and draft

guiding principles on countering the use of new technology for terrorist purposes. The Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate, Monitoring Team, and 1540 Group of Experts continue to cooperate, including through joint visits at the invitation of Member States.

In individual briefings, Vanessa Frazier (Malta) emphasized maintaining the resolution 1267 (1999) sanctions regime as a global counter-terrorism priority, especially in addressing threats from terrorist groups in Afghanistan, the Sahel, and Sudan. Andrés Efrén Montalvo Sosa (Ecuador), Chair of the 1540 Committee, highlighted the vital role of resolution 1540 (2004) in preventing non-State actors' access to weapons of mass destruction and the Committee's cooperation with Member States. Nusseibeh, also Chair of the Counter-Terrorism Committee, underscored the Committee's assessment of Member States' implementation efforts, facilitated dialogue, and provided technical assistance.

In the ensuing debate, Council members commended the cooperation among the Committees but expressed concerns about evolving terrorism threats. Ghana encouraged convergence of actions in implementing the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, emphasizing the importance of Member States' commitment to sanctions, information sharing, and international cooperation. Brazil stressed the appropriateness of collaboration when addressing non-State actors designated as terrorist entities but noted the independence of State obligations on non-proliferation from Security Council designations. Russia expressed concerns about the 1540 Committee's capacity and mandate, warning against diluting its non-proliferation focus and interfering in domestic affairs.

Several speakers raised concerns about blocking the 1540 Committee Chair's attempts to fill gaps in the Group of Experts, with the United Kingdom highlighting the undermining of support to prevent chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons proliferation. Switzerland called for the appointment of proposed experts for the 1540 Committee and emphasized the importance of civil society voices in Counter-Terrorism Committee assessments. Albania stressed the need for human rights at the core of UN efforts to combat terrorism, advocating for prevention, addressing root causes, and undermining terrorist recruitment.

3. **GA/SHC/4402**
16 NOVEMBER 2023

Concluding Its Session, Third Committee Approves 11 Draft Resolutions, Including Texts on Youth, Girl Child, Racism, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

The Third Committee (Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural) has concluded its work, approving 11 draft resolutions on various issues, including the rights of the child, protection of migrants, elimination of racism, and youth programs. One notable resolution on youth programs expressed concern over violence, discrimination, and exclusion of young people.

While some welcomed references to the UN Youth Office and the role of youth in fighting climate change, others expressed regret over the deletion of paragraphs related

to comprehensive education on sexual and reproductive health. The Committee also approved resolutions on the rights of the child, the girl child, and the elimination of racism, with the latter causing discord due to references to the Durban conference.

Additionally, drafts on various topics, including protection of migrants, self-determination, and crime prevention, were approved. The Committee concluded its session after engaging in numerous meetings and discussions, approving a total of 62 draft resolutions and one decision on critical human rights and social issues.



INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

- On 10 November 2023, the Court will deliver its order on Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (**Canada and the Netherlands v. Syrian Arab Republic**). Available in: **English, French**.
- On 10 November 2023, the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council of the United Nations elected five Members of the International Court of Justice for the term of nine years, beginning on 6 February 2024. Available in: **English, French**

Judge Hilary Charlesworth (Australia) was re-elected as Member of the Court. Mr Bogdan-Lucian Aurescu (Romania), Ms Sarah Hull Cleveland (United States of America), Mr Juan Manuel Gómez Robledo Verduzco (Mexico) and Mr Dire Tladi (South Africa) were elected as new Members of the Court.

- On 14 November 2023, the International Labour Organization (ILO) adopted a resolution on the interpretation of the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87) with respect to the right to strike, requesting an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice. Available in: **English, French**.
- On 16 November 2023, the Court indicated provisional measures in the case of **Canada and the Netherlands v. Syrian Arab Republic**. Available in: **English, French**.
- On 16 November 2023, countries such as Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom (jointly) and the Maldives file declarations of intervention in the proceedings under Article 63 of the Statute in the **Gambia v. Myanmar** case. Available in: **English, French**.

INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

- From 27 November to 1 December 2023, the Court shall conduct the trial hearing in Courtroom II, in the case of **The Prosecutor v. Ali Muhammad Ali Abd-Al-Rahman**. Available in: **English, French**.
- From 11 December to 14 December 2023, the Court shall conduct trial hearing in Courtroom I, in the case of **The Prosecutor v. Alfred Yekatom and Patrice-Edouard Ngaïssona**. Available in: **English, French**.

INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA

No such updates as such. For more information, please [visit](#).

INTERNATIONAL LAW CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND LECTURES

1. **Call for Scholarship: 2nd RRU Investment Arbitration Academy, 2023**
 - **Hosted by:** [RRU Centre for International Law](#)
 - **Further Details:** [here](#)
 - **Deadline:** 22nd November, 2023
2. **Call for Abstracts: “Securing the Future”**
 - **Hosted by:** ANU National Security College
 - **Further Details:** [here](#)
 - **Deadline:** 20 November, 2023
3. **Call for Abstracts: Journal of National Law University, Delhi (Volume 10, 2023-24, ISSN No: 2277-4017)**
 - **Hosted by:** NLU-Delhi
 - **Further Details:** [here](#)
 - **Deadline:** 15 February, 2023
4. **Call for Paper: The law applicable to the use of biometric by armed forces**
 - **Hosted by:** NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence (CCDCOE), War Studies Research Centre (WSRC) of Netherlands Defence Academy, and the Amsterdam Centre for International Law.
 - **Further Details:** [here](#)
 - **Expression of Interest:** 1 December, 2023
5. **Call for blog: Current debates on International Investment Screening and Economic Security Law and Practice**
 - **Hosted by:** CELIS Institute, Berlin
 - **Further Details:** blog@celis.institute
 - **Deadline:** On-rolling basis

THIS WEEK'S READS

1. Contesting global justice from the South: redistribution in the international order

By: Arnulf Becker Lorca

2. Nuclear weapon-free zones and the issue of maritime transit in Latin America

By: J Luis Rodriguez, Elizabeth Mendenhall

3. International law and its transformation through the outlawry of war

By: Oona A. Hathaway, Scott J. Shapiro



Next Issue: 27 November 2023

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