

A CALL UPON THE ARAB GOVERNMENTS TO JOIN INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT (ICC)



المركز العربي لاستقلال القضاء والمحاماة
THE ARAB CENTER FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF
THE JUDICIARY AND THE LEGAL PROFESSION
(ACIJP)



مؤسسة دعم العدالة
JUSTICE SUPPORT FOUNDATION (JSF)

Cairo November 12, 2023.

In implementation of the decisions of the Arab Islamic Summit Conference held in the city of Riyadh yesterday, Saturday, November 11th, 2023, which included a call on the ICC Public Prosecutor to complete the investigation into war crimes and crimes against humanity committed by Israel against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories. The resolution also included establishing two legal monitoring and documentation units to document crimes and prepare legal pleadings regarding the crimes of the occupation.

The Justice Support Foundation affiliated with the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP) renews its repeated call on the Arab countries, since 2002, to join and ratify the Rome Convention establishing the International Criminal Court, as an effective international criminal mechanism specialized in considering the most serious crimes, which are war crimes, genocides, crimes against humanity and crimes of aggression.

ACIJLP reiterates its call on the Arab countries that have not yet ratified or joined the Rome Convention establishing the International Criminal Court, to adopt the model law for ratification of the Convention prepared by the League of Arab States in 2004, as a model framework for Arab countries that wish to join the International Criminal Court to achieve constitutional and legislative compatibility for those countries.

ACIJLP stresses the importance of the Arab countries joining the International Criminal Court, so that they can have an effective and influential role in the court's role of reducing the phenomenon of impunity and confronting the perpetrators of the most serious crimes that fall within the court's jurisdiction.

It is noteworthy that the International Criminal Court was established based on a multilateral international agreement in 1998 in Rome, and has been enforced in 2002. Only five Arab countries have ratified it, namely Jordan, Djibouti, Comoros, Tunisia, and lately Palestine that joined in 2015, becoming the last Arab country to join the Court, and which had previously submitted a request to investigate the crimes that occurred in Gaza in 2014. The Palestinian situation is still being considered before the court.