

# On the World Day of International Criminal Justice: ACIJLP Calls on the Egyptian Government and the Arab League to Ratify and Join the International Criminal Court



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



مؤسسة دعم العدالة  
JUSTICE SUPPORT FOUNDATION (JSF)



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**On the World Day of International Criminal Justice:  
ACIJLP Calls on the Egyptian Government and the Arab League  
to Ratify and Join the International Criminal Court**

On the occasion of the World Day of International Criminal Justice, which coincides with the 26th anniversary of the Rome Statute issued on July 17, 1998, **the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP)**, as a coordinating member of the Arab Coalition for the International Criminal Court, calls on the Egyptian government to swiftly ratify and join the International Criminal Court.

Especially since the Arab Republic of Egypt signed the Rome Statute establishing the International Criminal Court on December 28, 2000, the only step remaining for this system to come into effect is the Egyptian Parliament's ratification of this treaty, in accordance with Article 151 of the Egyptian Constitution.

The Center indicates that by ratifying the statute and joining the International Criminal Court, this framework becomes part of domestic legislation. This initiates a collaborative relationship between the Egyptian judiciary and the International Criminal Court concerning the prosecution and accountability of those involved in the most serious crimes, such as war crimes, crimes against humanity, genocide, and aggression.

The Center, in calling upon Egyptian authorities to ratify and join the International Criminal Court, affirms that this step will place Egypt among the countries committed to strengthening international criminal justice and opposing impunity. It will underscore Egypt's respect for its international commitments and obligations according to Article no. 93 of the Constitution. Furthermore, it will support the role of the International Criminal Court as a judicial mechanism dedicated to pursuing and holding accountable those involved in the most serious crimes.

The Center points out that Egypt and the Arab Group played a pioneering role in drafting and discussing the statute of the International Criminal Court. Egypt was among the first countries to sign the Rome Statute; however, it has not yet ratified the treaty. Only five Arab states—Jordan, Djibouti, Comoros, Tunisia, and Palestine—have joined the ICC from the Arab region. This situation does not align with the significant role played by the Arab Group in the preparatory committees discussing the statute of the court from 1998 until the statute came into force on July 17, 2002.

The Arab Coalition also calls upon the Secretary-General of the Arab League to urge member states of the League to swiftly ratify and join the International

Criminal Court, and to activate the Model Law for Ratification of the Rome Statute, which was prepared by the Arab League in 2004 to assist member states in achieving constitutional compatibility for ratification and accession procedures. This call is especially relevant given that many Arab countries are currently experiencing armed conflicts where acts may rise to the level of crimes falling within the jurisdiction of the ICC. Joining and ratifying the Rome Statute could represent a step towards halting such acts and conflicts in the region.

The Center also appeals to Arab civil society organizations that are members of the Arab Coalition for the International Criminal Court to intensify efforts and activities supporting the role of the Court. They are urged to call upon Arab governments to swiftly ratify and join the International Criminal Court to uphold the principle of accountability and prevent impunity.



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