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International Bar Association International Criminal Court and International Criminal Law (ICC & ICL) Programme

Priorities and Recommendations for the 24th Session of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court

November 2025

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Introduction

The 24th session of the Assembly of States Parties (ASP) to the Rome Statute, taking place from 1-6 December 2025 in The Hague, is an opportunity for the International Criminal Court (ICC)'s States Parties to reaffirm their commitment to the mandate and work of the ICC.

At a critical time for international criminal justice, States Parties must implement their legal obligations under the Rome Statute, including providing the necessary cooperation and resources for the ICC to discharge its mandate. States Parties should provide strong political support and defend the Court, its officials, and those cooperating with it from attacks and threats.

The ICC remains the centrepiece of the Rome Statute system, created by states to ensure that justice can be achieved for victims of genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and aggression, when states are unwilling or unable to provide justice. In 2025, the ICC Office of the Prosecutor continued its investigations in 12 situations: Afghanistan, Bangladesh/Myanmar, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Darfur/Sudan, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Libya, Mali, State of Palestine, Philippines, Ukraine, and Venezuela. The Office of the Prosecutor issued or unsealed arrest warrants in the situations in [Afghanistan](#), [Libya](#), and the [Philippines](#), and engaged in consultations to advance policies on environmental crimes and cyber-enabled crimes.

The Court delivered verdicts in two cases in 2025, [finding](#) Patrice-Edouard Ngaissona and Alfred Yekatom guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in Central African Republic between 2013 and 2014, and [finding](#) Ali Muhammad Ali Abd-Al-Rahman guilty of crimes against humanity and war crimes committed in Darfur, Sudan between August 2003 and April 2004. For the first time in its history, the Court held a confirmation of charges hearing *in absentia*, which led to the [confirmation of charges](#) of war crimes and crimes against humanity against Lord's Resistance Army leader Joseph Kony for alleged crimes committed in Uganda between 2002 – 2005.

In March 2025, the former President of the Philippines, Rodrigo Roa Duterte, was [arrested](#) and surrendered to the ICC, and charged with crimes against humanity of murder and attempted murder, allegedly committed on the territory of the Republic of the Philippines between 2011 and 2019 in the context of the 'war on drugs' campaign. However, despite this high-profile arrest, the execution of arrest warrants remains a key challenge for the Court, and there have only been 24 arrests in total since the Court was established in 2002.

Through the [Trust Fund for Victims](#), the Court continued to implement assistance programmes for victims of crimes within the ICC's jurisdiction in the Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Uganda, as well as court-ordered reparations in the Lubanga, Katanga, and Al Mahdi cases. In 2025, the ICC Appeals Chamber [confirmed](#) the reparations order in the Ongwen case.

On 1 January, Ukraine [became](#) the 125th State Party to the Rome Statute. Regrettably, in 2025, Hungary finalised the formal process for [withdrawal](#) from the Rome Statute, which will become effective in June 2026, and Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger have also [announced](#) their intention to withdraw. Universality of the Rome Statute remains critical to achieving the ICC's mission, and the Assembly should continue all efforts to prevent further withdrawals and to continue outreach to potential new States Parties.

The Court continues to operate in a challenging geopolitical environment. Attacks against the Court, its officials, and those cooperating with it have escalated in 2025. The United States imposed sanctions on ICC officials, a United Nations Special Rapporteur, and civil society organisations for their work in support of the mandate of the Court, while a number of Court officials remain under sanctions by Russia.

Furthermore, the ICC [detected and contained](#) a new, sophisticated and targeted cyber security incident, emphasising the need for continued improvements in its security systems and vigilance against threats.

Finally, 2025 saw the continued [investigation](#) into alleged misconduct by Prosecutor Karim Khan, with the President of the ASP exceptionally referring the matter to the external United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Services. In May 2025, the Prosecutor took a [leave of absence](#) pending the conclusion of this investigation, with Deputy Prosecutors Nazhat Shameem Khan and Mame Mandiaye Niang ensuring continuity within the Office of the Prosecutor. The external investigation, expected to conclude in 2025, will then be referred to an independent panel of judicial experts, who will report to the President of the ASP. The misconduct investigation highlights both [gaps](#) in the ICC's administrative procedures, and the need to continually address and improve workplace culture at the ICC.

At the 24th session of the ASP, the IBA ICC & ICL Programme calls on States Parties to make progress in five key areas: protecting the Court and those cooperating with it against threats and attacks; promoting effective state cooperation and responding to non-cooperation; amending the Rome Statute and Rules of Procedure and Evidence; ensuring the fairness of ICC proceedings; and strengthening processes for the nomination and election of ICC officials.

For additional recommendations on steps States Parties and the ASP can take to support the effective functioning of the Court, please see the IBA ICC & ICL Programme publication [Strengthening the International Criminal Court and the Rome Statute System: A Guide for States Parties](#) (2nd Edition, October 2024).

1. Protecting the Court and those cooperating with it against threats and attacks

- **States Parties and the Assembly should prevent and respond strongly to sanctions and attacks against the Court, its officials, and those cooperating with it, through individual and collective measures and in consultation with civil society.**

Throughout its history, the ICC, its officials, and those cooperating with it have faced political threats, intimidation and attacks in response to the Court's efforts to end impunity. Initiatives aimed at intimidating ICC officials and undermining the operations and legitimacy of the Court have intensified in recent years, including economic sanctions, travel bans, and the initiation of criminal proceedings against ICC officials. Often these attacks appear to be triggered by progress in ICC investigations and the issuance of arrest warrants for senior government officials.

On 6 February 2025, United States President Donald Trump issued [Executive Order 14203](#) authorising sanctions against the ICC and its officials, including property blocking and visa bans for the persons designated by the Executive Order and their immediate family members for engaging “with the International Criminal Court (ICC) in efforts to investigate, arrest, detain, or prosecute nationals of the United States or Israel”. Following on the Executive Order, sanctions have been imposed on a number of ICC officials, including Prosecutor Karim Khan, Deputy Prosecutors Nazhat Shameem Khan and Mame Mandiaye Niang, and Judges Reine Alapini-Gansou, Beti Hohler, Solomy Balungi Bossa, Luz Del Carmen Ibáñez Carranza, Nicolas Guillou, and Kimberly Prost. Sanctions have also been imposed on Francesca Albanese, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian Territory occupied since 1967, and three Palestinian human rights organisations, Al Haq, Al Mezan Center for Human Rights (Al Mezan), and the Palestinian Centre for Human Rights (PCHR).

Following the issuance of arrest warrants by ICC Pre-Trial Chamber II against Russian officials in the Ukraine situation in 2023, [criminal proceedings](#) were initiated by the Russian Federation against ICC officials, including six judges and the Prosecutor, issuing arrest warrants and placing them on a no-entry list.

These and other threats and attacks against the ICC, its officials, and those cooperating with it threaten to obstruct the Court's investigations and cases, and seek to undermine its authority to pursue international justice for victims of genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and aggression. At the end of 2024, ICC President Judge Tomoko Akane warned that such actions ‘rapidly undermine the Court's operations in all situations and cases and jeopardise its very existence’.

The International Bar Association [condemns](#) the imposition of sanctions on the ICC and those supporting its important work as an attack against the global rule of law, the independence of judges and lawyers and international efforts to end impunity. The organisation calls on all ICC States Parties to take actions to protect the Court.

While the Assembly, some individual States Parties, and the ICC have responded to condemn attacks against the Court¹, States Parties can do more. States Parties are urged to consistently and publicly condemn political attacks against the ICC through individual and/or joint statements expressing support

¹ See for example ‘Joint Statement by 93 States Parties to the Rome Statute in support of the International Criminal Court’ (<https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/06/joint-statement-in-support-of-the-international-criminal-court.html>), and ‘Presidency of the Assembly of States Parties expresses deep concern and objects to additional U.S. sanctions targeting ICC elected officials’ (<https://www.icc-cpi.int/news/presidency-assembly-states-parties-expresses-deep-concern-and-objects-additional-us-sanctions>).

for the ICC, firmly rejecting sanctions, and reaffirming their commitment to cooperating with all its investigations and cases.

Critically, States Parties should take individual actions and support the adoption of collective measures to protect the Court, its officials and staff, and those cooperating with it from targeted attacks. Actions that States Parties should explore include the adoption of national and regional policy instruments and the creation of legal safeguards to offset the impact of sanctions on private individuals and service providers.

States Parties should further support ASP initiatives aimed at expanding and strengthening the individual and collective response to threats and attacks against the Court, its officials, and those cooperating with it including civil society organisations and human rights defenders.

2.Promoting effective state cooperation & responding to non-cooperation

- **States Parties should enact implementing legislation and establish effective procedures in national law to fulfil their obligations to cooperate with the ICC, including to promptly execute arrest warrants on behalf of the Court when requested, without political interference and in full respect of the rights of the suspect.**
- **The ASP should continue to promote effective cooperation between States Parties and the Court, including through the ratification of the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the ICC and the signing of cooperation agreements on interim and final release, victim and witness relocation, and enforcement of sentences.**
- **States Parties should call on the ASP to revitalise its efforts to develop a comprehensive action plan for arrest and surrender to strengthen cooperation by States Parties, develop the capacity of the Court to pursue arrests, and increase political support for arrest and surrender.**
- **States Parties should support the strengthening of the ASP’s formal response procedure to ensure consistent and effective responses to all non-cooperation referrals received from the Court.**

All States Parties have an obligation to provide full and effective cooperation to the ICC, in accordance with Part IX of the Rome Statute. The Court’s ability to fulfil its mandate is largely dependent on state cooperation with its investigations, the arrest and surrender of suspects, ensuring that the rights of the accused, victims and witnesses are respected (including by cooperating with interim and final release and victim and witness relocation), and sentences and reparations orders are implemented. In 2024, the International Bar Association issued the second edition of [*Strengthening the International Criminal Court and the Rome Statute System: A Guide for States Parties*](#), which included detailed recommendations for State Parties to put in place effective national legislation and procedures to fulfil their cooperation obligations.

To ensure full cooperation with the Court, the IBA ICC & ICL Programme emphasises that it is also essential that States Parties enter into supplementary cooperation agreements with the ICC, including the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities (APIC) and agreements on interim and final release, victim and witness relocation, and enforcement of sentences. So far, only 80 of the 125 States Parties have

ratified APIC and the number of cooperation agreements concluded with the Court remains low. Only two States Parties have signed framework agreements on interim and final release, 15 have signed framework agreements on enforcement of sentences, and 24 have signed framework agreements on witness relocation. Urgent action is required by States Parties and the Assembly to ensure that all States Parties put in place effective frameworks to cooperate fully with the ICC.

Recognizing that the ICC faces significant challenges in obtaining effective cooperation with the arrest and surrender of suspects to the Court, in 2025, the IBA's ICC & ICL Programme has prioritised promoting efforts to strengthening State cooperation in this area. Arrest and surrender of suspects to the ICC are essential steps towards achieving international justice. Since the Rome Statute mandates the presence of accused persons at trial as a fair trial guarantee, cases cannot advance until the suspects have been surrendered to the custody of the Court. Put simply, without arrests, there can be no trials. And without trials, there can be no justice or reparations for victims.

Regrettably, despite recent efforts by the ICC to strengthen cooperation with arrest and surrender, cooperation is often not forthcoming. 32 suspects remain at large and other arrest warrants are likely to have been issued under seal. In some instances, States Parties have argued that they were unable to execute an arrest warrant because they have not enacted national laws providing for cooperation with the Court, or as a consequence of problems with procedures adopted in national law. Disturbingly, some arrest warrants have also led to politically driven criticisms of the Court, including by States Parties, and triggered a range of hostile actions against the Court aimed at undermining the legitimacy of the warrants and the authority of the Court.

In July 2025, the IBA ICC & ICL Programme issued [*No Arrests, No Trials, No Justice: A Strategic Framework for Strengthening Efforts to Execute International Criminal Court Arrest Warrants*](#). The Report called on States Parties to revitalise efforts initiated in 2013-2015 to develop an action plan for arrest and surrender, which regrettably stalled. The Report recommends that the Action Plan should focus on six strategic goals:

- Goal 1: strengthen conditions at the ICC to encourage arrest and surrender;
- Goal 2: strengthen the ICC's capacity to track suspects and pursue arrests;
- Goal 3: strengthen logistical and technical support for tracking, arrest and surrender;
- Goal 4: strengthen political support for state cooperation;
- Goal 5: strengthen responses to non-cooperation; and
- Goal 6: strengthen national laws to provide effective cooperation with arrest and surrender operations.

During the 24th session of the ASP, the IBA ICC & ICL Programme will launch '[*Pursuing the Arrest and Surrender of Suspects at Large to the International Criminal Court - A Guide for States Parties to the Rome Statute*](#)' which builds on these strategic goals with 30 recommendations. The recommendations comprise concrete measures that States Parties can take, individually and collectively through the ASP (including through the action plan), to strengthen cooperation with and support for the enforcement of ICC arrest warrants.

States Parties are urged to consider the recommendations of both reports and support the establishment of a new ASP process to revisit the development of an action plan, drawing from and building upon previous discussions.

3. Amending the Rome Statute and Rules of Procedure and Evidence

- **Based on the mandate given by the 2025 Special ASP session, States Parties should support the advancement of discussions towards amending the Rome Statute to ensure that the ICC is able to exercise jurisdiction over the crime of aggression effectively and in line with other core crimes.**
- **States Parties should ratify all amendments to the Rome Statute adopted by the Assembly to date, with a view towards ensuring that the Court can exercise jurisdiction over core crimes consistently and effectively.**
- **States Parties should fully consider proposals to amend and add core crimes.**
- **At the upcoming 24th ASP session, States Parties should support the adoption of amendments to the Rule of Procedure and Evidence to regulate motions for acquittal and to amend the procedure for the receipt of complaints of misconduct by elected officials.**

The Assembly is responsible for deciding whether to amend the ICC's primary sources of applicable law: the Rome Statute, the Rules of Procedure and Evidence (RPE) and the Elements of Crimes.

Closing the gap in the ICC's jurisdiction over the crime of aggression

States Parties should support amendment processes seeking to close existing gaps in the definition of core crimes in the Rome Statute and of the exercise of the Court's jurisdiction over them.

Critically, States Parties should support the advancement of discussions towards amending the Rome Statute to ensure that the ICC is able to exercise jurisdiction over the crime of aggression effectively and in line with other core crimes.

A Special ASP Session to review the amendments on the crime of aggression was convened from 7 to 9 July 2025 in New York. Ahead of the special session, the IBA ICC & ICL Programme [called on](#) States Parties to amend the Rome Statute to ensure that the ICC is able to exercise jurisdiction over the crime of aggression effectively and in line with other core crimes. Regrettably, the special session did not succeed in amending the ICC's jurisdiction over the crime of aggression, but States Parties decided to convene another special session in 2029 to consider proposals 'to enhance the Court's jurisdiction over the crime of aggression'.

The IBA ICC & ICL Programme encourages all States Parties to actively participate in Assembly discussions on the review of the amendments on the crime of aggression as determined by the ASP Special session in July 2025, with the goal to harmonise the Court's jurisdiction over all core crimes.²

Considering other Rome Statute amendments

The IBA ICC & ICL Programme calls on States Parties that have not yet done so to ratify without delay all outstanding Rome Statute amendments [adopted](#) by the Assembly so far. To date, the Assembly has adopted the following amendments to the Statute:

- Amendment on the crime of aggression (ratified by 49 States Parties)

² IBA ICC & ICL Programme, Position Paper, Special Assembly of States Parties Session on the Review of the Amendments on the Crime of Aggression <https://www.ibanet.org/document?id=CoA-Review-IBA-ICC-ICL>

- The war crime in non-international armed conflict of employing poison or poisoned weapons, employing asphyxiating, poisonous or other gases, and employing all analogous liquids, materials or devices, and bullets which expand or flatten easily in the human body (ratified by 49 States Parties)
- The war crime in both international and non-international armed conflict of employing weapons which use microbial or other biological agents or toxins (ratified by 27 States Parties), employing laser weapons specifically designed, as their sole combat function or as one of their combat functions, to cause permanent blindness to unenhanced vision (ratified by 25 States Parties), and employing weapons the primary effect of which is to injure by fragments which in the human body escape detection (ratified by 25 States Parties)
- The war crime in non-international armed conflict of intentionally using starvation of civilians as a method of warfare (ratified by 23 States Parties)
- Deletion of Article 124 of the Rome Statute, which allows a state on becoming a party to the Rome Statute to declare that it does not accept the jurisdiction of the Court with respect to war crimes for a period of seven years (ratified by 27 States Parties)

States Parties should further fully consider proposals to amend and add core crimes.

The IBA ICC & ICL Programme welcomes the proposal by Sierra Leone to amend the Rome Statute to include provisions prohibiting slave trade as a crime against humanity, under Article 7(1)(c), and slavery and the slave trade as war crimes in international as well as non-international armed conflicts, under Articles 8(2)(b) and 8(2)(e) of the Rome Statute, and encourages States Parties to give it full consideration.

The IBA ICC & ICL Programme further calls on States Parties to give priority to considering proposals currently on the agenda of the Working Group on Amendments to amend the Rome Statute including for adding ecocide as a fifth core crime of the Rome Statute and expanding the definition of apartheid as a crime against humanity to include gender in addition to race in its definition.

Supporting amendments to the ICC Rules of Procedure and Evidence

The IBA ICC & ICL Programme calls on States Parties to support the full consideration and prompt determination of all proposals to amend the Rules of Procedure and Evidence, ensuring that any amendments are consistent with the Rome Statute and internationally recognised human rights.

Amendments to the RPE may be proposed by any State Party, the judges acting by an absolute majority, or the prosecutor, and are adopted by a two-thirds majority of members of the Assembly. In their analysis of the procedure to amend the RPE, the Independent Experts highlighted however the Assembly's persistent failure to take action on such amendments, leading to concerns on the 'efficient, effective and fair conduct of Court proceedings.'³

The IBA ICC & ICL Programme notes the 'Proposal of the judges of the International Criminal Court to amend the Rules of Procedure and Evidence to regulate motions for acquittal'. The proposal seeks to strengthen the fairness of proceedings and ensure consistency in the application of motions of acquittal, which are currently not regulated by any of the Court's core texts, leading to inconsistent jurisprudential approaches.

The IBA ICC & ICL Programme welcomes the amendment proposal and calls on States Parties to adopt it. The Programme further stresses the importance for ICC judges to clarify the standard of proof to be

applied and whether and the extent to which the credibility and reliability of evidence should be considered for determining no case to answer motions.⁴

The IBA ICC & ICL Programme further notes the proposed draft amendments to the RPE 26 to 30, developed in the framework of the Study Group on Governance of the Assembly to improve the procedures for the receipt of complaints of misconducts, in particular by elected officials.

The IBA ICC & ICL Programme commends initiatives to devise effective mechanisms to investigate allegations of misconduct by elected officials and proposal and encourages States Parties to adopt them. The Programme stresses that procedures to receive and assess misconduct complaints must be fully independent and impartial, respect the confidentiality of the process, and ensure full protection of the rights of the complainant and the accused.⁵

4. Ensuring the fairness of ICC Proceedings

- **The Assembly of States Parties should support the adoption of measures to continuously improve the ICC's legal aid system, taking into consideration the views of the legal profession and the need to ensure the fairness of judicial proceedings.**
- **States Parties should support the development of institutional initiatives and measures to ensure fair trials and respect for the rights of accused persons, victims and witnesses at the ICC, including giving full consideration to the proposals to create an ICC Defence Office.**

The IBA ICC & ICL Programme places great importance on the adequate representation of defendants and victims, and on the fairness of ICC proceedings. The Programme welcomes efforts to undertake a regular review of the legal aid system of the Court, in line with the recommendations of the Joint Committee on Legal Aid and the Registry. In particular, The IBA ICC & ICL Programme welcomes the endorsement by States Parties of a proposal by the Registry to amend the legal aid policy to introduce a new 'step 5' of seniority for defence counsel, legal representatives of victims, and members of their teams, and recommends States Parties to adopt the proposal at the upcoming ASP session.⁶

The Programme further welcomes the continued discussions on the issue of exemption of income taxation for defence and victims' teams, stressing the need to urgently find suitable solutions. The issue of taxation has a direct impact on the disparity of remuneration between external counsel and team members and their counterparts in the Office of the Prosecutor and is central to upholding the principle of equality of arms.

The IBA ICC & ICL Programme commends the proposals for amendment of Article 18 of the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the ICC submitted by Colombia and the United Kingdom which would introduce an exemption for counsel from taxation on the fees, allowances, and other expenses paid to them by the Court under the legal aid system. The Programme strongly encourages the Assembly to advance towards adopting the amendment in 2026, while considering interim measures to be applied until the amendment is adopted.

⁴ IBA ICC & ICL Programme, Evidence Matters in ICC Trials, 2016.

⁵ IBA ICC & ICL Programme, Strengthening the International Criminal Court and the Rome Statute System: A Guide for States Parties (Second Edition, October 2024), Recommendation 7.

⁶ Report of the Bureau on Legal aid, ICC-ASP/24/29.

The Assembly should additionally support the development of institutional initiatives and measures to ensure fair trials and respect for the rights of accused persons, victims and witnesses at the ICC. In that regard, the IBA ICC & ICL Programme recommends full consideration of the Independent Experts' recommendations to entrust the Office of Public Counsel for the Defence with additional responsibilities and reshape it into a Defence Office in order to redress the perceptions of institutional imbalance regarding the defence. Regrettably, the IBA ICC & ICL Programme is unaware of any formal discussions about the Defence Office recommendations to date.

The IBA ICC & ICL Programme recognises the [ICC Bar Association](#) (ICCBA) as a critical actor in representing the interests of the legal profession in discussions aimed at strengthening the fairness of judicial proceedings, and encourages the Assembly and States Parties to engage with the ICCBA and support it in the discharging of its functions.

5. Strengthening processes for nomination and election of ICC officials

- **States Parties should support further strengthening the procedures for nominating and electing ICC officials.**
- **States Parties should support the Advisory Committee on Nominations of Judges (ACN) in its ongoing efforts to develop guidelines for national level nomination procedures by submitting information and commentary on their own national nomination procedures.**
- **To ensure that ICC elected officials possess high moral character, States Parties should support the development of a concrete plan for implementing the 'Due diligence procedure for elected officials of the International Criminal Court' adopted at its 22nd session.**

Ensuring the election of the highest qualified candidates to serve as the most senior officials of the Court is critical to the effective performance of the ICC. The IBA ICC & ICL Programme stresses that merit should be the guiding factor in the election of ICC officials and supports measures to strengthen ICC elections processes.

The continuous improvement and strengthening of the Assembly's procedures to nominate and elect ICC officials should be a guiding principle for the ASP and States Parties. At its 25th session in 2026, the Assembly of States Parties will elect 6 judges, filling one-third of the International Criminal Court's 18 judicial seats. The election follows the regular three-year election cycle of ICC Judges. The six newly elected judges will serve for a nine-year term from 2027-2036.

With a new election cycle imminent, States Parties should urgently establish independent, transparent and merit-based national nomination processes to put forward the highest qualified candidates for ICC judges. States should further support the Advisory Committee on Nominations of Judges (ACN) in its ongoing efforts to develop guidelines for national level nomination procedures by submitting information and commentary on their own national nomination procedures. So far, only 36 States Parties have [submitted](#) information to the ACN.

The Assembly of States Parties should support measures to strengthen the process to elect judges, including by promoting the development and harmonisation of national nomination processes, by

continuously reviewing the election procedure with a view to strengthening it, and by taking measures to address the issue of vote trading.

To ensure that ICC judges and other elected officials possess high moral character, States Parties should support the development of a concrete plan for implementing the '[Due diligence procedure for elected officials of the International Criminal Court](#)' adopted at its 22nd session, including its adaptation to different election processes.

Vetting of all candidates should be a core component of all election proceedings. To ensure the effective application of the due diligence procedure, States Parties should support the development of a concrete implementation plan including, inter alia, its adaptation to different election processes, the development of communication strategies to widely disseminate the confidential channel for the submission of information on alleged misconduct, and promoting the process in languages other than the languages of the Court.

Although the election of the next ICC prosecutor is not expected to take place until 2030, States Parties should support a review of the procedures to nominate and elect the prosecutor well in advance of the next election, taking into account the issues identified in the '[Report by the facilitators on the third election of the Prosecutor of the ICC – Lessons learnt](#)' and in independent analysis.⁷

Civil society is a critical stakeholder in ICC election processes, providing expert views and best practices on elections and actively contributing to the scrutiny of candidates. The Assembly of States Parties should continue to ensure the meaningful participation of civil society to ICC election processes.

⁷ Open Society Justice Initiative, 2020–2021 International Criminal Court Prosecutor Election Process: Insights and Recommendations for Future Elections, <https://www.justiceinitiative.org/publications/2020-2021-international-criminal-court-prosecutor-election-process-insights-and-recommendations-for-future-elections>