Together for Justice

TIMELINE

“When history looks back at this time, it will point to the unprecedented partnership of so many civil society organizations, like-minded governments, leaders, and others working together to solve some of the world’s most pressing problems.”

William R. Pace
Convenor of the Coalition

1995
Coalition Founded

In the immediate shadow of Rwandan genocide and other mass atrocities, a core group of 25 nongovernmental organizations join together to maximize growing global support for justice in hopes of creating a permanent international criminal court.
WHO WE ARE

The Coalition for the International Criminal Court is the largest partnership in the world advancing the cause of international justice. Including more than 2,500 civil society organizations from 150 countries, the Coalition is leading the global fight to end genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity through a commitment to the core values of human rights and justice.

The Coalition is engaged in ensuring the effectiveness, independence, and accessibility of international justice and related national legal structures, while also responding to more urgent local and regional developments. The Coalition works with all aspects of the International Criminal Court, as well as with the broader network of governments, the United Nations, and other institutions involved in the international justice system.

Through this committed global partnership, the Coalition's guiding mission is to make justice universally accessible for victims of the gravest crimes in an effort to secure lasting peace.
Together for Justice

The best way to get away with murder is to kill thousands of people instead of just one.

Until very recent history, this statement was horrifyingly true. If you committed a single murder, you were very likely to be tried and prosecuted in most regions of the world. But if you killed thousands of people in a genocide, you would almost never face justice for your crimes. The Coalition led the global civil society effort to create the International Criminal Court as a way of addressing this terrible imbalance. The Court is the cornerstone of a groundbreaking system that maintains that there can be no impunity for the worst crimes and that the rule of law is fundamental to creating a world of peace and security for all people.

1995-1998
UN Preparatory Committee

UN General Assembly establishes preparatory committee; Coalition helps drive three-year UN process to hammer out concept and structure of future Court.

1998
Rome Conference

Coalition makes up largest delegation at historic Rome Conference on July 17, 1998 with 500 civil society representatives; Statute adopted with 120 nations voting in favor of creating Court.
Coalition launches global campaign to obtain required 60 country ratifications needed for entry into force of the Statute, which will then trigger the Court’s formation.
Senegal becomes first State to ratify the Rome Statute.

On 1st of July, Rome Statute enters into force with 66 ratifications; preparations then commence in formal establishment of the Court.
The entry into force of the Rome Statute in 2002 led to the establishment of the International Criminal Court. The Court is now a permanent, international judicial body, capable of trying individuals for genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity when national courts are unable or unwilling to do so. The Rome Statute system and the Court also actively impact a range of other human rights issues, enabling countries to address other serious problems directly at the national level.
HOW WE WORK

Unique Access & Position
The Coalition is uniquely positioned to have measurable impact on major justice issues through our relationships with governments, the UN, regional organizations, the Court, and other institutions. Our work bridges the traditionally separate tracks of government diplomacy and civil society advocacy, allowing us to utilize official and other strategic connections to produce a more effective outcome.

Leverage
The Coalition utilizes the power of global civil society to maximum effect, ensuring that the voices of both small and large organizations from every region have an impact in the larger landscape.

Results Not Credit
The Coalition is focused on results in the fight to end impunity and encourages others to share or take ownership of successes. We act in partnership with organizations and entities around the globe to integrate international justice goals into existing and evolving structures, often working behind the scenes to ensure best practices.

2003
First ICC Elections

Inauguration of first International Criminal Court judges and prosecutors.
Confronting Challenges
The Coalition acknowledges the imperfections and evolving nature of current international justice efforts and seeks solutions to make the system more effective, independent, and accessible.

Core Principles
The Coalition does not require consensus from all member organizations on every issue; we take action on core common principles in which there is widespread agreement among civil society membership.

Neutrality
The Coalition takes positions on key issues that impact the Rome Statute system and other strategic international justice actions. We do not take a position on specific investigations, cases before the Court, or in the elections of individual judges or other officials. We serve as a resource for member organizations to develop their own positions and provide a platform to allow all voices to be heard.

2004
First ICC Situation
First situation opened by Court in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Coalition at 2,000
Coalition expands networks in Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East to include over 2,000 NGOs worldwide.
THE COALITION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

2,500 organizations in 150 countries

Our global network consists of leading human rights and humanitarian nongovernmental organizations, international law and justice institutions, and local and grassroots organizations from every region of the world. Coalition members represent a wide range of focus areas, from women and children’s rights to peace and reconciliation issues.

“The Coalition has demonstrated in very concrete terms how much can be achieved when civil society, governments, and international organizations come together to tackle global problems. The Coalition has proved itself a true global partnership for justice.”

The Honorable Kofi Annan
Coalition Advisory Board Chair

2005
First ICC Arrest Warrants

Coalition ramps up global outreach and communications in response to first arrest warrants and landmark UN Security Council decision to refer Darfur situation to the Court.

100th Ratification

Mexico becomes 100th State Party to the Rome Statute.
2008
10th Anniversary of the Rome Statute

Announcement of architectural design competition for permanent premises of the Court.

Coalition Surpasses 2,500

Coalition membership reaches 2,500 NGOs in 150 countries.
STEEERING COMMITTEE

The Coalition’s Steering Committee is comprised of a core group of member organizations which provide policy and program coherence for the Coalition’s efforts and activities:

- Amnesty International
- Andean Commission of Jurists
- Asociación Pro Derechos Humanos-Perú (APRODEH-Perú)
- The Civil Resource Development & Documentation Centre-Nigeria (CIRDDOC)
- Fédération Internationale des Droits de l’Homme (FIDH)
- FORUM ASIA
- Human Rights Watch
- HURINET-Uganda
- No Peace Without Justice
- Parliamentarians for Global Action
- REDRESS
- Women’s Initiatives for Gender Justice
- World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy

A young Sudanese boy, displaced by an attack against his village, sleeps next to what remains of his family’s possessions after reaching the relative safety of Kalma camp in South Darfur. Armed men killed his father two days earlier, leaving the boy and his mother to face an uncertain future in a fractured land.

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2009 First ICC Trial

Trial of Congolese warlord Thomas Lubanga Dyilo begins, signaling the first ICC prosecution for war crimes pertaining to the use of child soldiers.

Court issues arrest warrant for sitting head of state, President Omar Al-Bashir of Sudan.
European Union & South America

With Chile and the Czech Republic’s ratifications, entire South American continent and all 27 European Union member states have joined the Court.
2010
Coalition Celebrates 15th Anniversary

Bangladesh's ratification marks the 111th State Party to the Rome Statute.

Second ICC Trial

Second ICC trial begins.
The Coalition’s Advisory Board serves as a global leadership group in support of the cause of international justice and provides strategic guidance on key issues:

**The Honorable Kofi Annan, Chair**  
Former Secretary-General of the United Nations and Nobel Laureate

**His Excellency Bruno Stagno Ugarte, Vice Chair**  
Minister of Foreign Relations of Costa Rica

**His Royal Highness Prince Zeid Ra’ad Zeid Al-Hussein**  
Ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the United States of America

**The Honorable Louise Arbour**  
Former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and current President & CEO, International Crisis Group

**The Honorable Lloyd Axworthy**  
Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada and current President, University of Winnipeg

**The Honorable Justice Richard Goldstone**  
Former Chief Prosecutor, International Criminal Tribunals for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia

**Ms. Hina Jilani**  
Former UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Human Rights Defenders and current Advocate, Supreme Court of Pakistan

**Mr. Juan Méndez**  
Special Adviser on Crime Prevention at the ICC, Office of the Prosecutor and President Emeritus, International Center for Transitional Justice

**Mr. William R. Pace**  
Convenor, Coalition for the International Criminal Court

**Dr. Sigrid Rausing**  
Publisher, Granta and Founder & Chair, The Sigrid Rausing Trust

**Ms. Darian Swig**  
President, Article 3 Advisors

**The Honorable Patricia Wald**  
Former Chief Judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia and Judge for the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia

Coalition launches global advisory board and leads civil society engagement at 2010 Review Conference of the Rome Statute.
JOIN OUR EFFORT

Support from individuals, governments, foundations, and other institutions is essential to the Coalition’s effort to secure a future in which justice is accessible to all. To join our effort or find out more information, please contact us at development@coalitionfortheicc.org or visit our website at www.coalitionfortheicc.org/donate.

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