

Press Release

Council of Europe Press Division

Ref: 669a08

Tel: +33 (0)3 88 41 25 60 - Fax: +33 (0)3 88 41 39 11

pressunit@coe.int

internet: www.coe.int/press

47 members

Albania
Andorra
Armenia
Austria
Azerbaijan
Belgium
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
Georgia
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Ireland
Italy
Latvia
Liechtenstein
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Malta
Moldova
Monaco
Montenegro
Netherlands
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Russia
San Marino
Serbia
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
"the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"
Turkey
Ukraine
United Kingdom



International court representatives' conference to examine current legal challenges

Strasbourg, 30.09.2008 - Under the Swedish chairmanship of the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers, the Council of Europe is organising a wide-ranging conference at **Lancaster House in London on 6 and 7 October**, gathering some 120 participants, including Presidents, Prosecutors and Registrars from 15 international courts and tribunals (*see list below*), legal experts, academicians and practitioners.

International justice answers to the common desire to resolve peacefully conflicts between states, to try the most atrocious crimes, and to contribute to human rights protection. Ensuring the functioning of international courts and tribunals in view of the full achievement of their respective missions is the best support that states and international organisations can provide to international justice.

The conference will create a roundtable for open and constructive discussion between those who represent international justice on a daily basis and representatives of the governments which have initiated and established these bodies.

It is organised in conjunction with the 36th meeting of the Committee of Legal Advisers on Public International Law (CAHDI): the only pan-European forum where legal advisers of the Ministers for foreign affairs of Council of Europe member states and a significant number of observer states and organisations can exchange and co-ordinate views on public international law issues. In a political climate which encourages interdependence between states, international law is constantly developing and becoming a key factor in inter-state relations.

Media (subject to prior registration) are invited to the opening speeches at 10 am on 6 October, to be given by **Terry Davis**, the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, **Rosalyn Higgins**, President of the International Court of Justice and **Michael Wood**, CAHDI Chairman. Additionally, the press can schedule interviews with certain participants the same day, from 12.30 to 1 pm in the State Drawing Room.

Press contacts :

Panos Kakaviatos, Council of Europe press officer, Tel. +33 3 90 21 50 27 or +33 6 65 09 93 40
Martyn Bond, Council of Europe London Press Correspondent, Tel. +44 780 394 33 32 ; martyn.bond@info-europe.demon.co.uk

Courts and Tribunals invited:

- [International Court of Justice](#)
- [International Criminal Court](#)
- [International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia \(ICTY\)](#)
- [International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda \(ICTR\)](#)
- [International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea](#)
- [Court of Conciliation and Arbitration OSCE](#)
- [Permanent Court of Arbitration](#)
- [European Court of Human Rights](#)
- [Court of Justice of the European Communities](#)
- [European Court of First Instance](#)
- [WTO Appellate Body](#)
- [Court of Justice of the European Free Trade Agreement](#)
- [Inter-American Court of Human Rights](#)
- [African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights](#)
- [African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights](#)

A political organisation set up in 1949, the Council of Europe works to promote democracy and human rights continent-wide. It also develops common responses to social, cultural and legal challenges in its 47 member states.