

Statement submitted in accordance with article 36, paragraph 4 (a), of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and paragraph 7 of the resolution of the Assembly of States Parties relating to the procedure for the nomination and election of judges of the International Criminal Court.

A. (i) Dr. George A. Serghides fulfils the requirements of article 36, paragraph 3(a), of the Rome Statute.

He is a person of high moral character, impartiality and integrity who possesses the qualifications required in Cyprus for appointment to the highest judicial office.

In 2007, Cyprus elected him as one of its three candidates for the post of the judge of the European Court of Human Rights.

(ii) Dr. Serghides fulfils the requirement, of both paragraphs (i) and (ii) of article 36, paragraph 3(b), of the Rome Statute, as it emerges from his curriculum vitae.

Dr. Serghides is a multi Doctor of Juris, a holder of 3 Ph.D. (in Law) Degrees. He has served as a practicing Lawyer for 5 years appearing before all Cyprus Courts, including the Supreme Court, in all kinds of jurisdiction, civil, criminal and administrative. He has been a judge for more than 21 years. He has served in Cyprus, as a judge of a Family Court for eight and a half years and he has been a President of a Family Court for the last 13 years. He has been an International Hague Network Judge for more than 11 years and a Judicial Liaison for Cyprus in the European Judicial Network on Civil and Commercial Matters. He is also an Academic, currently teaching Law as well as being the Examiner at the University of Cyprus, and formerly at the Cyprus Bar Council and at Cyprus College, to which he was the Head of its Law Department. He is an author of law books and articles and the editor of the series "Studia Juris Cyprii". He has been participating at the Working Committees of the Council of Europe on the enactment of European Regulations concerning Family Law and Succession Law.

Dr. Serghides has both extensive practical and academic experience in criminal law and procedure. He has a legal background and is aware of the continental and common law systems, including criminal law and procedure. He has studied Greek criminal law, criminal procedure and criminology at Athens University, receiving first class honours on these subjects, as well as obtaining his LL.B. and his two Greek doctorates with first class honours. He passed the Cyprus Bar Exams, scoring the highest mark in all subjects, including Cyprus Criminal Law and Procedure. He attended courses on Anglo-Cypriot Legal Studies, covering the Cyprus and the English criminal law and procedure, run by the Council of Legal Education, (to which Dr. Serghides was the Secretary) and the University of Leicester. Dr. Serghides taught English Criminal Law for four years at a Cyprus college, being also the Head of its Law Department. He also taught at the same College, the English Legal System and English Company Law. He taught Cyprus Family Law at the Cyprus Bar Council and at the Council of Legal Education and is currently teaching Cyprus Family Law and Law of Succession at the University of Cyprus.

As a practising lawyer for five years, Dr. Serghides dealt with all sorts of cases including criminal cases. He was also a prosecutor for the Municipality of Nicosia in private criminal cases. As a Family judge and a President of the Family Court, for more than 21 years, Dr. Serghides has been dealing with a great number of applications for contempt of Court orders, such as orders for exclusive use of matrimonial home, prohibition of sale or transfer or mortgage of property. These contempt cases are, by their nature, *quasi* criminal, since the penalty incurred may be a prison sentence or a fine, or both, and since the burden of proof required is the same as in criminal cases, thus, beyond reasonable doubt. In general, family law has this in common with criminal law- they are both anthropocentric, based on human passions and weaknesses.

Dr. Serghides was appointed by the Cyprus Law Commissioner to make *Recommendations for the Amendment of the Chapter of the Cyprus Criminal Code Dealing with General Defenses to a Criminal Responsibility*. His work on *Recommendations*, which also contained a comparative survey on the matter, was published by the Law Commissioner in an edition entitled: “The Revision of the Legislation of Cyprus 1987-1992”, Nicosia, 1992.

Dr. Serghides is the editor of the series “*Studia Juris Cyprii*”, consisting at the moment of nine volumes. He is the author of six books and a joint author of three books. He has made contributions in three other books and has many publications in legal periodicals in Cyprus and abroad, as well as in the Judges’ Newsletter. Two of his books are on the cross-examinations of witnesses.

He is a collector of a vast library of old and new books and other works on the examination of witnesses in criminal and civil cases, advocacy, trial tactics, skills and courtroom psychology.

Dr. Serghides is currently working on his fourth Ph.D. thesis entitled “The Right of Life under Article 2 of European Court of Human Rights and the Respective Constitutional Provisions in Cyprus and Greece, with Particular Reference to the National Legislations”. His research covers topics, such as the protection of embryos, suicide and euthanasia, abolition of death punishment, positive obligations of the States to protect life against the acts of third parties, conspiracy, obligation of the States to conduct an effective investigation, environmental protection of life, missing persons, forced disappearances, protection of prisoners ill persons, underage persons, etc.

Dr. Serghides has a general experience of law and a legal expertise on a wide range of legal topics and specific issues, including human rights, administrative law and constitutional law.

All his Ph.D. theses, as well as his judicial work involve, to some extent, human rights, including the rights of children, the right of equality and non discrimination, the right to marry and to establish a family, the right of property and the right to be heard and have a fair trial.

Dr. Serghides was also a member of the Committee for the Restoration of Human Rights throughout Cyprus. He is currently a member of the Committee of the United Nations Association of Cyprus.

(iii) Dr. Serghides fulfils the requirements of article 36, paragraph 3 (c), of the Rome Statute, as he has an excellent knowledge of Greek and English as well as being fluent in both languages.

B. Although Dr. Serghides holds the necessary requirements to be included in both List A and List B, he is being nominated for the inclusion in List A for the purposes of paragraph 5 of article 36 of the Rome Statute.

C. The information relating to subparagraphs (i) to (iii) of paragraph 8(a) of article 36 of the Rome Statute is as follows:

- a) Dr. Serghides is qualified to practise in Cyprus, which has a mixed legal system. On the one hand, the common law adversarial system of justice applies, with few exceptions, to criminal and civil proceedings. On the other hand, the continental inquisitorial system of justice applies in proceedings of judicial review of administrative action.
- b) Dr. Serghides is a national of the Republic of Cyprus, which is a member of the Asian Group of States.
- c) Dr. Serghides is male.

D. Dr. Serghides has expertise under article 6 paragraph 8(b), of the Rome Statute.

For 5 years as a practising lawyer and more than 21 years as a judge, Dr. Serghides has been dealing with issues of violence against children and women as well as child sexual abuse to the extent that these matters relate or affect custody cases and the use of the matrimonial home.

Dr. Serghides is an International Hague Network Judge for Cyprus, dealing with cases of Abduction of Children as well as working as a Liaison Judge for the international protection of children under Hague Convention of 1980. Most of the Hague Child Abduction cases involve violence.

Dr. Serghides is also a member of the International Association of Family Judges.

Dr. Serghides was a member of the Committee for the preparation of a Bill on the subject of mediation, pursuant to the Council of Europe Recommendation No. R (98) 1. He was also a member of the Committee working on the law to ratify, in Cyprus, the European Convention on the Exercise of Children's Rights. He attended courses on mediation in Cyprus and the United States of America and he wrote a legal article on the topic as well as a chapter in one of his books.

E. Dr. Serghides is a national of the Republic of Cyprus and does not possess the nationality of any other State (article 36, paragraph 7, of the Rome Statute).

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