

## **Tsilonis, Viktor Panagiotis (Greece)**

[original: English]

### **Statement of qualifications**

*Statement submitted in accordance with article 36, paragraph 4 (a), of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and paragraph 6 of the resolution of the Assembly of States Parties on the procedure for the nomination and election of judges of the Court (ICC-ASP/3/Res.6, as amended).*

#### **a) Procedure for appointment**

**Dr Viktor Tsilonis (aka Victor Tsilonis)** is nominated for election under the terms of article 36, paragraph 4(a)(i), of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, i.e. by the procedure for the nomination of candidates for appointment to the highest judicial offices in Greece.

#### **b) Criteria of high moral character, impartiality and integrity**

Dr Viktor Tsilonis is a person of high moral character, impartiality and integrity.

#### **c) Possession of qualifications required for appointment to the highest judicial offices at national level**

Dr Viktor Tsilonis satisfies cumulatively all these criteria. He is an Alternate Member of the Disciplinary Board for Counsel of the International Criminal Court (2018-2022) having already tried two cases and be assigned to try a third one shortly, principal legal counsel/ CEO at NEWLAW law firm in Greece [joint HYPERLINK "https://www.iccba-abcpi.org/executive-council"](https://www.iccba-abcpi.org/executive-council) [Vice-President for Victims](https://www.iccba-abcpi.org/professionalstandardsadvisory) and [Chairman of the HYPERLINK "https://www.iccba-abcpi.org/professionalstandardsadvisory"](https://www.iccba-abcpi.org/professionalstandardsadvisory) [rofessional Standards Advisory Committee](https://www.iccba-abcpi.org/professionalstandardsadvisory) of the International Criminal Court Bar Association (ICCBA) and [ICCBA Focal Point for Greece](https://www.iccba-abcpi.org/professionalstandardsadvisory). Moreover he holds a PhD in international criminal law, is included in the ICC List of Counsel since 2016, [has recently published in English a book by Springer on the Jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court](https://www.iccba-abcpi.org/professionalstandardsadvisory) and possesses sixteen years of uninterrupted legal practice. Finally, he has recently been visiting lecturer at the Law School of the Democritus University of Thrace for the postgraduate course of International Criminal Justice (2018-2019) and is an international law expert included in the OSCE Consultancy Roster and the Roster of Experts of the International Nuremberg Principles Academy with more than 18 publications and 19 conferences' and invited talks participations.

Hence, he satisfies excellently all the above criteria.

#### **d) Established competence in criminal law and procedure, and the necessary relevant experience, whether as judge, prosecutor, advocate or in other similar capacity, in criminal proceedings**

Dr Viktor Tsilonis has the necessary competence and is exceptionally well qualified to sit as a judge of the International Criminal Court, having extensive 16-year legal experience as an advocate and expertise in the field of international criminal justice since 2004, when he spent six-months as a junior legal advisor at the Office of the Prosecutor for the Former Yugoslavia (Milosevic case).

In addition, Dr Tsilonis is an internationally recognized expert on international criminal law, who has been placed on the OSCE Consultancy Roster of Legal Experts (Vienna, 2018), is a member of the International Law Association (Committee: International Protection of Consumers), the International Criminal Court Bar Association, the European Society of International Law and is included in the Roster of Experts of the International Nuremberg Principles Academy (May 2017).

Indicative of his expertise in international law is that a few months before the coronavirus pandemic, he gave a lecture to an Indonesian delegation which visited the International Criminal Court on [the Code of Professional Conduct for ICC Counsel and the interrelation between the ICC disciplinary competence and the counsel's national jurisdiction\(s\)](https://www.iccba-abcpi.org/professionalstandardsadvisory).

Finally yet importantly, since 2019 he has sat as [a judge for disciplinary issues in t](https://www.icc-cpi.int/get-involved/Pages/Disciplinary-board.aspx) [HYPERLINK "https://www.icc-cpi.int/get-involved/Pages/Disciplinary-board.aspx"](https://www.icc-cpi.int/get-involved/Pages/Disciplinary-board.aspx)wo [HYPERLINK "https://www.icc-cpi.int/get-involved/Pages/Disciplinary-board.aspx"](https://www.icc-cpi.int/get-involved/Pages/Disciplinary-board.aspx) cases before the International Criminal Court, following his election as an Alternate Member of the Disciplinary Board of the International Criminal Court and will hear a third one in June 2020. In this capacity [he has co-drafted the landmark decision in the](https://www.icc-cpi.int/iccdocs/disc-board/Decisions/SDO-2019-89-DB-Decision-19-12-2019-ENG.pdf) [HYPERLINK "https://www.icc-cpi.int/iccdocs/disc-board/Decisions/SDO-2019-89-DB-Decision-19-12-2019-ENG.pdf"](https://www.icc-cpi.int/iccdocs/disc-board/Decisions/SDO-2019-89-DB-Decision-19-12-2019-ENG.pdf)Sluiter [HYPERLINK "https://www.icc-cpi.int/iccdocs/disc-board/Decisions/SDO-2019-89-DB-Decision-19-12-2019-ENG.pdf"](https://www.icc-cpi.int/iccdocs/disc-board/Decisions/SDO-2019-89-DB-Decision-19-12-2019-ENG.pdf) disciplinary case.

***e) Knowledge of and fluency in either English or French***

Dr Viktor Tsilonis speaks English excellently. He has studied law as an undergraduate as well as postgraduate student in the United Kingdom and has recently published a [book in English on the Jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court](https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783030215255) [HYPERLINK "https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783030215255"](https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783030215255) (Springer) [HYPERLINK "https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783030215255"](https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783030215255).

***f) Indication of nomination for List A or List B***

In light of his aforementioned protracted legal experience and excellent qualifications, Dr Viktor Tsilonis (aka Victor Tsilonis) is being nominated for inclusion **in List A**, covering candidates with established competence in criminal law and procedure, and the necessary relevant experience, whether as judge, prosecutor, advocate or in other similar capacity, in criminal proceedings.

***g) Information in accordance with article 36 paragraph 8(a)(i) to (iii), of the Rome Statute***

For the purposes of article 36, paragraph 8(a)(i) to (iii) of the Rome Statute, Dr Viktor Tsilonis will represent the **civil law** system and the Western Europe and other State regional group. However it should be noted that he is also well cognizant of the common law system because of his three-year studies in undergraduate and postgraduate level in the United Kingdom. He is a male candidate.

***h) Legal expertise on specific issues, including, but not limited to, violence against women or children***

Dr Viktor Tsilonis is qualified to try cases involving serious sexual offences and abuse of minors and has expertise in the handling of vulnerable witnesses, particularly those who are children or juveniles. Moreover, in 2019 he successfully attended and participated in the five-day workshop for Counsels included in the ICC List of Counsel “Combating Sexual Harassment at Workplace and Legal Ethics” (The Hague, 3-7 June 2019), which took place at the premises of the International Criminal Court. Finally his expertise and competence is also verified by the fact that he was elected this year (2019-2020) as a [joint Vice](https://www.iccba-abcp.org/executive-council) [HYPERLINK "https://www.iccba-abcp.org/executive-council"](https://www.iccba-abcp.org/executive-council)President for Victims [HYPERLINK "https://www.iccba-abcp.org/executive-council"](https://www.iccba-abcp.org/executive-council) [HYPERLINK "https://www.iccba-abcp.org/executive-council"](https://www.iccba-abcp.org/executive-council) of the International Criminal Court Bar Association.

***i) Nationality under which the candidate is nominated***

Dr Viktor Tsilonis is Greek and is being nominated as a judge of Greece.

***j) Commitment to take-up full-time service***

Dr Viktor Tsilonis (aka Victor Tsilonis) is committed to being available to take up full-time service when the Court’s workload so requires.

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