

# **SELECTION COMMISSION FOR THE SELECTION OF A CANDIDATE TO BE NOMINATED BY UKRAINE FOR ELECTION AS A JUDGE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT**

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## **On the national procedure for selecting a candidate to be nominated by Ukraine for election as a judge of the International Criminal Court**

By the Decree of the President of Ukraine No. 206/2026 dated 26 February 2026 “On the competition for the selection of a candidate to be nominated by Ukraine for election as a judge of the International Criminal Court” (hereinafter – the Decree), a Selection Commission was established and the Regulation on the procedure for conducting the competition for the selection of a candidate to be nominated by Ukraine for election as a judge of the International Criminal Court (hereinafter – the Regulation) was approved.

The Selection Commission included distinguished experts in the fields of criminal law, criminal procedure, and international law, possessing high moral qualities, professional qualifications, and significant work experience in the relevant field.

The activities of the Selection Commission were based on the principles of independence, openness, and transparency.

In accordance with article 3 of the Decree, the Selection Commission ensured the conduct of the competition for selecting a candidate to be nominated by Ukraine for election as a judge of the International Criminal Court.

On 2 March 2026, at its first meeting, the Selection Commission promptly announced the launch of the competition.

Pursuant to paragraph 10 of the Regulation approved by the Decree, the announcement of the competition was published on 2 March 2026 on the Official website of the President of Ukraine and in the nationwide printed mass media – the newspapers “Golos Ukrainy” and “Uryadovi Kuryer”.

Furthermore, to ensure the widest possible accessibility of information regarding the competition and to attract the largest number of candidates, information regarding the launch of the competition was posted on the official web portal of the Ukrainian Judiciary and other professional online media resources.

The submission of documents took place over a period of 14 days, from 3 to 16 March 2026 inclusive.

Fourteen individuals expressed their intention to participate in the competition and submitted documents to the Selection Commission, of whom 13 were admitted to participate in the competition. One individual was denied admission as the submitted documents did not meet the requirements of the Regulations (the absence of letters of recommendation regarding the candidate’s professional competence).

The Regulation provides for two alternative methods for determining the candidates’ proficiency in the working languages (or one of the working languages) of the International Criminal Court, as set out in article 36, paragraph 3 of the Rome Statute:

- (i) based on the results of a language proficiency test conducted in accordance with paragraph 13 of the Regulation; and/or
- (ii) on the basis of a valid internationally recognized certificate confirming language proficiency at a level not lower than C1 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

Three participants confirmed their proficiency in English at levels C1–C2 by submitting valid internationally recognized certificates to the Selection Commission.

In accordance with paragraphs 11–13 of the Regulation, the Selection Commission posted the following on the Official website of the President of Ukraine:

- (i) the list of persons who applied for the competition, along with their CVs and letters of motivation;
- (ii) the list of persons admitted to the competition;
- (iii) information regarding the dates and venue of the language proficiency testing for the working languages (or one of the working languages) of the International Criminal Court;
- (iv) information regarding the dates, schedule, and format of the interviews.

The test for determining the candidates’ proficiency in the working languages (or one of the working languages) of the International Criminal Court was conducted on 20 March 2026.

From 24 to 26 March 2026, the Selection Commission conducted interviews with thirteen candidates in accordance with the interview schedule and with the participation of all members of the Commission.

The interviews were conducted by the Selection Commission to verify the candidates' compliance with the requirements set forth in article 36, paragraph 3 of the Rome Statute.

The interview with each candidate was conducted orally via video conference using electronic means of communication.

Each interview lasted up to 60 minutes and followed this structure:

1. opening remarks – up to 5 minutes;
2. candidate's self-presentation – up to 5 minutes;
3. questions to the candidate – up to 45 minutes;
4. closing remarks by the candidate – up to 5 minutes.

Based on the results of the interviews and taking into account the candidates' proficiency in one of the working languages of the International Criminal Court, the Selection Commission, by open vote, adopted a decision designating Lev Yuriiovych KYSHAKEVYCH as the primary candidate to be nominated by Ukraine for election as a judge of the International Criminal Court, and Oksana Vasylivna SENATOROVA as the reserve candidate.