

New York Working Group of the Bureau of the Assembly of States Parties

Modalities for 2026 Public Roundtables for Judicial Candidates¹

Timing

The roundtables will be convened on 4 November 2026 with morning and afternoon sessions and will continue with an afternoon session on 5 November 2026.

Location

The roundtables will be held in-person at the UN Headquarters in New York (ECOSOC Chamber), and will be publicly web-streamed, recorded and uploaded to the ASP website.

Moderation

Each session of the roundtables will be moderated by two moderators, one representative from the States Parties and one from the civil society, each moderating their respective segments of questions. The segment with individualized questions will be co-moderated. The moderators will be announced by the New York Working Group as soon as possible. The moderator representing States Parties will be identified from among Bureau members whose States Parties did not nominate a candidate for this year's election. The moderator representing civil society may vary from one session to another.

Format

The roundtables will be held in three sessions over one and a half days, with each session lasting no more than three hours. Candidates will be assigned to sessions randomly, without distinguishing between List A and List B candidates. Candidates will be given the opportunity to make opening and concluding remarks, with speaking time allocated equally among all speakers at the discretion of the moderators. During the questions segments, candidates will be allocated equal time to respond, and with an exception for the segment on individualized questions, all candidates will be given the opportunity to respond to each question posed.

Tentative programme for a session:

- Opening remarks by the moderators;
- Presentation of each candidate;
- Segment for individualized questions, supplementing the ACN report on the assessment of Candidates;
- Segment for questions submitted by States Parties;
- Segment for questions submitted by civil society;
- Concluding remarks by each candidate;
- Concluding remarks by moderators.

¹ Pursuant to paragraph 12^{ter} of the resolution ICC-ASP/3/Res.6 regarding the Procedure for the nomination and election of judges, the Prosecutor and Deputy Prosecutors of the International Criminal Court, as amended by resolutions ICC-ASP/18/Res.4 and ICC-ASP/21/Res.2.

Questions

- States Parties and civil society representatives will be invited to submit questions for the individualized segment and their respective segments in advance, and, time permitting, also during the sessions.
- When submitting questions, due regard should be given to the qualifications set out in Article 36 of the Rome Statute.
- No discriminatory questions will be permitted.
- No questions involving matters pending before the Court² will be permitted.
- Questions submitted in advance will be anonymized and moderators will have discretion to streamline them and/or prioritise questions that have not already been posed to the candidates by the ACN or for which responses are not already on record. Moderators may also pose follow-up questions and request clarifications during the roundtable sessions. Questions will not be shared with candidates ahead of the roundtables.
- Together with the invitation to submit questions, an equal number of topics for individualized questions will be indicated for each candidate to supplement the ACN assessments. If possible, moderators will select questions in equal measure from those submitted by the States Parties and those submitted by the civil society. Should no questions be submitted on any of the indicated topics for a given candidate, the moderators shall have discretion to formulate supplementary questions based on the ACN report.

Language

Simultaneous interpretation in English and French will be provided. The web-stream and recordings will be available in the floor language, as well as in English and French.

² This refers to any matter before the Court, regardless of procedural stage, and includes, for instance, ongoing investigations, cases with issued arrest warrants, and active trial proceedings; questions on any such matter shall not be permitted during the roundtable.