



Cour  
Pénale  
Internationale  

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International  
Criminal  
Court

La Présidence  

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The Presidency

Judge Robert Fremr  
First Vice-President  
International Criminal Court

*Remarks following the signing ceremony on enforcement of sentences*

*17<sup>th</sup> session of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute*

*CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY*

7 December 2018

The Hague, The Netherlands

Mr President of the Assembly,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished Representatives,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It was an immense pleasure for me to sign, on behalf of the Court, an Agreement on the enforcement of sentences with Slovenia. This cooperation agreement reflects the commitment of Slovenia to international justice, to ending impunity and to upholding the rule of law.

The Rome Statute provides that sentences handed down by the Court 'shall be served in a State designated by the Court from a list of States which have indicated to the Court their willingness to accept sentenced persons'. Such willingness is expressed in bilateral agreements such as that of today.

The Court is particularly pleased to welcome Slovenia into the Enforcement Agreement family. To date, the Court currently has general Agreements in force with Austria, the United Kingdom, Belgium, Finland, Mali, Denmark, Serbia, Norway, Argentina and Sweden. These Agreements draw together the provisions of the Rome Statute and Rules of Procedure and Evidence concerning the enforcement of sentences and provide the legal framework for the possible enforcement of sentences in the future.

While voluntary, cooperation in the matter of enforcement of sentences is crucial. Like other forms of voluntary cooperation, the Court simply cannot perform its enforcement functions without the assistance of States. The signing of Enforcement Agreements, as well as other cooperation agreements, is crucial not only to enable the Court to carry out its mandate, but also as part of the broader context of the global fight against impunity.

I wish to thank the Government of Slovenia for its willingness to conclude an Agreement on enforcement of sentences with the International Criminal Court, and I look forward to developing our cooperation on the basis of this important agreement.

Thank you.