

The Czech Republic joins the commemoration of the Day of International Criminal Justice

At the Review Conference of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court in Kampala, Uganda, in June 2010, the day of the 17th of July was declared as the Day of International Criminal Justice.

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The Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court was adopted on this day in 1998. The commemoration of this event is also for the Czech Republic an opportunity to express the support for international criminal justice and fight against impunity for the most serious crimes of international concern.

The International Criminal Court, operating from The Hague since 2002 as a permanent institution, investigates and tries individuals for the most serious crimes under international law, i.e. war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide, if states are unable or unwilling to conduct their own prosecutions.

At the present time, the International Criminal Court prosecutes accused from 6 states, either on the basis of the self-referral made by these states (in case of Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo and Central African Republic), or referral made by the Security Council of the United Nations (in case of Sudan, region of Darfur, and Libya), or on the basis of power of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court to initiate the investigation proprio motu (in case of Kenya).

The Czech Republic became the 110th State Party to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court on 1 October 2009. The Rome Statute has 116 State Parties now. The Czech Republic also acceded to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court, which

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entered into force for the Czech Republic on 3 June 2011. The support for international criminal justice belongs to one of the priorities of the foreign policy of the Czech Republic. More information about the International Criminal Court is available on www.icc-cpi.int.