

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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[khan@coalitionfortheicc.org](mailto:khan@coalitionfortheicc.org)**CICC Urges President Trump to Stop Threatening ICC**

**The Hague** — The Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC) wrote to U.S. President Donald J. Trump to urge him to “lift all sanctions against the ICC Prosecutor and disavow the increasing threats against other ICC staff and their families made by Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo” in a [letter](#) dated March 27, 2020.

“The current U.S. policy of undermining judicial institutions and punishing those who dedicate their lives to fighting impunity patently goes against U.S. values,” said Ricardo Izquierdo, Legal Officer at the CICC.

The Coalition’s letter recalled the role of the U.S. and its allies in laying the building blocks of the modern international criminal justice system by establishing the International Military Tribunals after World War II.

“[W]e are appalled that your administration has decided to undermine the ICC, an international criminal tribunal that expanded upon the principles and legacy of Nuremberg, with sanctions,” wrote the CICC in the letter.

The letter, which was also sent to U.S. Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo, further calls on the U.S., particularly as a Permanent Member of the U.N. Security Council, to “adopt a responsible foreign policy that promotes peace, security, and justice in the world.”

**About the CICC**

[The CICC](#) is a global network of over 2500 civil society organizations campaigning for an effective, independent, resilient and standard-setting ICC and fighting for justice for victims of genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and the crime of aggression through national courts and the ICC. The CICC is a program of the [World Federalist Movement - Institute for Global Policy](#) and is headquartered in The Hague, The Netherlands and New York, U.S., with additional regional presences in Europe and Latin America.

**About the ICC**

The ICC is the world’s first permanent international court with jurisdiction over war crimes, crimes against humanity, genocide and the crime of aggression. Central to the Court’s mandate is the principle of complementarity, which holds that the Court can only hear a case if national authorities are unable or unwilling to investigate and prosecute.

There are currently twelve active investigations before the ICC: Bangladesh/Myanmar; Burundi; the Central African Republic (I & II); Côte d’Ivoire; Democratic Republic of Congo; Darfur, Sudan; Georgia; Kenya; Libya; Mali; and Uganda. The ICC has publicly issued 34 arrest warrants and 9 summonses to appear. Three trials are ongoing. There have been four convictions and three acquittals. Nine preliminary examinations currently ongoing, including into situations in Afghanistan, Colombia, Guinea, Iraq/UK, Nigeria, Palestine, The Philippines, Ukraine and Venezuela. The OTP has concluded preliminary examinations relating to Gabon, Honduras, the Republic of Korea and the Comoros referral, declining in each case to open an investigation.