

The Cambridge Companion to the International Court of Justice

As international law has become more present in global policy-making, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) has come to occupy an essential and increasingly visible role in international relations. This collection explores substantive developments within the ICJ and offers critical perspectives on its historical and contemporary role. It also examines the growing role of the ICJ in the settlement of international disputes and assesses the impact of the ICJ's jurisprudence on the major areas of international law, from territorial delimitation to human rights. With contributions from a diverse range of scholars and practitioners, the collection's contents combine a legal perspective with institutional and sociological insights on the functions of the ICJ. By considering the ICJ's character, jurisdiction, and effectiveness, this collection offers a varied and holistic account of the ICJ, an institution whose significance and influence only increase by the day.

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Preface

The first words of appreciation go to the outstanding group of contributors to the *Cambridge Companion to the International Court of Justice*. The authors have shown patience and understanding as this project adapted to the vicissitudes of the pandemic.

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The manuscript was finished before the Russian invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022. The Court adopted provisional measures in the case concerning the *Allegations of Genocide under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Ukraine v. Russian Federation)* on 16 March 2022, including that 'the Russian Federation shall immediately suspend the military operations that it commenced on 24 February 2022 in the territory of Ukraine'.

It is our hope that this book will help the readers to understand and assess the proper role of the Court in the settlement of disputes and the development of international law and its place in the maintenance of international peace.

The book is dedicated to the memory of the late Judge James Crawford, our beloved friend and precious mentor.