



OSSERVATORIO SULLA CORTE INTERNAZIONALE DI GIUSTIZIA N. 3/2014

1. INTRODUCTORY NOTE

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. For a concise description of its composition, jurisdiction and the way in which the Court works, reference can be made to the Court's website (www.icj-cij.org).

The pervasive authority exerted by the Court's decisions and opinions, as well as the vital contribution of its case law to the development of public international law have been regularly underlined by international scholars, and more recently by the President of the Court himself (www.icj-cij.org/presscom/files/8/17848.pdf).

The Osservatorio does not intend to provide an exhaustive account of the Court's case law, but it aims to collect contributions that analyse, and where appropriate criticise, decisions that raise particularly interesting issues and are likely to influence the development of international law. Attention will be drawn to specific legal issues concerning substantive, institutional and procedural matters, with a special focus on human rights.

This Osservatorio may include contributions having a more general character because they intend to address the impact of the Court's case law on entire areas of international law or to provide a fresh look at the debate on the role of the Court as a permanent international judicial organ. The Osservatorio may also host comments on selected publications concerning the International Court of Justice.

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