

Ireland files declaration of intervention at ICJ in South Africa's genocide case against Israel



People look for their belongings amid the debris of a destroyed building following an Israeli airstrike on the Bureij refugee camp in the central Gaza Strip on January 6, 2025. (Photo: AFP)

The Hague, January 8 (RHC)-- The International Court of Justice (ICJ) says Ireland has officially filed a declaration of intervention in South Africa's genocide case against Israel.

"Ireland, invoking Article 63 of the Statute of the Court, filed in the Registry of the Court a declaration of intervention in the case concerning Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide in the Gaza Strip," or South Africa versus Israel, the ICJ said in a statement on its X account on Tuesday.

Ireland submitted its declaration of intervention in the case after invoking Article 63 of the ICJ Statute which states that any signatory to the Genocide Convention can intervene in a case because it is an international treaty whose interpretation impacts all parties.

Back in December, Ireland officially joined South Africa's genocide case against Israel at the ICJ.

Ireland's Foreign Minister Micheal Martin said at the time that the Irish government granted approval for the country to join with the lawsuit and file an intervention case at the ICJ "to broaden its interpretation of what constitutes the commission of genocide by a State."

Ireland has become the latest in the growing list of countries that joined South Africa in its case that accuses the regime of Israel of committing genocide in the Gaza Strip. Brazil, Turkey, Malaysia, Chile, Spain, Pakistan, and Syria have so far joined with the lawsuit.

South Africa filed the case at the top court of the United Nations in December 2023, arguing that Israel violated the 1948 Genocide Convention. The court, seated in The Hague, ruled in January last year that "there is a plausible risk of genocide in Gaza and the continuing serious harm to civilians since then."

The World Court ordered Tel Aviv to take all measures to prevent genocide in Gaza but stopped short of ordering a ceasefire.

Israel launched a genocidal war on Gaza on October 7, 2023, after the Palestinian Hamas resistance group carried out a historic operation against the usurping entity in retaliation for its intensified atrocities against the Palestinian people.

So far, the occupying regime has killed nearly 46,000 Palestinians, mostly women and children, and injured 105,000 others, in Gaza.

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