



The Case Matrix



*An innovative approach to
investigating, prosecuting and
defending international crimes*

A legal tool developed by the International Criminal Court being made available to institutions that work on core international crimes cases.

Since 2002, work has steadily progressed at the International Criminal Court (ICC) on a range of electronic legal services known as the Legal Tools Project. The Project provides a comprehensive collection of resources relevant to the theory and practice of international criminal law and brings modern technologies into the investigation, prosecution and defence of international crimes. The *Case Matrix* forms an important part of this Project.

What is the *Case Matrix*?

The *Case Matrix* is a law-driven case management application, made for the investigation, prosecution, defence and adjudication of factually complex cases such as core international crimes cases (war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide). It is an open-source application that can be adapted to any criminal justice system and to different user groups such as judges, investigators, prosecutors, defence counsel, victims' representatives and NGOs. The application can be used for legal reference, legal training and information or evidence database purposes. It supplements existing fact-sorting and evidence-management applications.

How has the *Case Matrix* been developed?

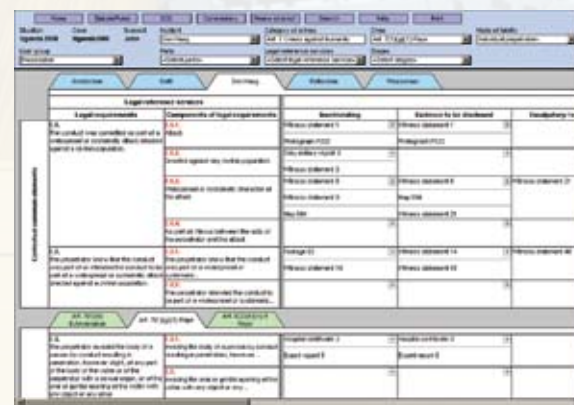
The Legal Tools – including the *Case Matrix* – were developed at the ICC from 2002 through 2005. Originally they were conceived and developed by the Legal Advisory Section of the ICC Office of the Prosecutor, drawing on more than ten years of experience from the practice of international(ised) criminal justice and a study of software solutions in serious fraud offices dealing with some of the largest corruption cases. Since 2006, the maintenance and development of the Legal Tools have been co-ordinated by the Legal Tools Advisory Committee on behalf of the entire Court, with representatives from Chambers, OTP and Registry.



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How is the *Case Matrix* being maintained?

The *Case Matrix* requires continuing content and technical development to keep improving its quality, scope and relevance. Given the limited human resources available in the operational environment of a court such as the ICC, this development work has been outsourced without cost to the Court to agencies with expertise in this field from around the world. The Legal Tools Advisory Committee oversees that user needs within the different Court Organs properly guide future development work. In addition, an external Legal Tools Expert Advisory Group comprising leading legal technology experts has been established to serve as a sounding board for the future development of the Legal Tools Project, including the *Case Matrix*.



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Operational page of the *Case Matrix*

What does the *Case Matrix* do?

The *Case Matrix* has three main functions:

- 1. Legal reference services:** The *Case Matrix* provides several legal information and analysis services. Legal Tools collections on key sources of international criminal law are incorporated into the *Matrix*. Additionally, the ICC Elements Commentary is built into the *Matrix*, providing an overview of elements of crimes and legal requirements of modes of liability for all crimes in the ICC Statute. Each element or requirement is hyperlinked to an online legal commentary.
- 2. User's guide to how to prove international crimes and modes of liability:** The *Case Matrix* provides a comprehensive list of "means of proof" for every element of crime and mode of liability in the ICC Statute, i.e. types or categories of facts which can constitute potential evidence for the existence or satisfaction of a specific legal requirement of a crime or mode of liability. Each means of proof is hyperlinked to a 6000 page plus document which quotes and analyses the relevant law and practice of international courts and tribunals.
- 3. Database:** The *Case Matrix* provides a database service to organise and present information and potential evidence in core international crime cases. This gives an "x-ray" overview of the evidentiary status of a case at any stage from investigation through appeals and judicial review. Evidence is easily included through hyperlinks and text. The database can be customised to meet the needs of each user or group of users, as indicated above.

To find out more about the *Case Matrix* and access the Legal Tools online, please visit the ICC website: www.icc-cpi.int/legal_tools.html

If you are interested in contributing to the development of the Legal Tools Project, please contact: legal.tools@icc-cpi.int

Using the *Case Matrix*

The *Case Matrix* has been introduced in several jurisdictions on the basis of a standard *Case Matrix* Understanding entered into, *inter alia*, with the War Crimes Chamber of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia, Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes Section of the Canadian Department of Justice, Dutch National Prosecutor's Office and War Crimes Unit, Danish Special International Crimes Office, Norwegian National Authority for Prosecution of Organised and Other Serious Crime, Attorney General's Office of Indonesia, Office of the Defence of the Iraqi High Tribunal, Human Rights Watch and several defence counsel. It has been translated from English into French, Arabic, Bahasa Indonesian and Khmer.

If you are interested in implementing the *Case Matrix* in a core international crimes case which you are working on, please contact case.matrix@icc-cpi.int, with a short statement on how you envisage that the *Matrix* can assist your work on the case. When a *Case Matrix* Understanding has been concluded, the *Matrix* is installed without cost to the user. As the *Matrix* is a multi-user application, users normally prefer to install it on a network server. The server system requirements are essentially limited to a compatible operating system and a browser. The *Matrix* application itself includes the open-source components which it needs to run. Users receive update files via e-mail when the content or functionality of the *Matrix* develops. The ICC has also established a system to train and coach users in working with the *Matrix*. In return, they are expected to provide feedback on their user experience in the interest of further development of the *Matrix*.

International Criminal Court

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