



**Cour  
Pénale  
Internationale**

**International  
Criminal  
Court**

## **Recommendations Adopted at the High-Level Seminar for Central and Eastern European States on Cooperation with the International Criminal Court**

*On 21-22 March 2016, senior representatives from 20 States from the Central and Eastern European region, as well as representatives from intergovernmental organizations, experts, and representatives from the Court, have gathered for a High-Level Seminar for Fostering Cooperation with the International Criminal Court (ICC) in Bucharest, Romania.*

*In furtherance to the rich discussions, and in order to enhance cooperation between Central and Eastern European States and the ICC, as well as to address specific challenges in areas identified as priority areas for cooperation by both the ICC and States, participants to this Seminar from States that have accepted the Court's jurisdiction recognized:*

- 1. the importance of the ratification of the Rome Statute, the adoption of a comprehensive implementing regime of the cooperation obligations contained in the Rome Statute with sufficient flexibility to ensure effective and efficient cooperation with the Court, the incorporation of the ICC core crimes and general principles of law within national law, and the ratification of the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the Court; and agreed to work towards ensuring the achievement of these objectives within their national systems as well encouraging other States to do so;*
- 2. the importance of adopting, at the national level, the necessary procedures and structures, including focal points for cooperation, to ensure cooperation and judicial assistance with the Court and its organs in support of preliminary examinations, investigations, prosecutions and judicial proceedings; and agreed to continue to work towards the establishment of such procedures, including coordination between relevant national authorities, thus ensuring the State's operational capacity to address the requests of assistance of the Court in an effective and timely manner in order to give full effect to the cooperation regime enshrined in Part IX of the Rome Statute;*
- 3. the importance of engaging in discussions with the Court regarding the negotiation of voluntary framework agreements in key areas of cooperation (including the relocation of victims and witnesses under threat, the enforcement of sentences, and receiving acquitted persons or suspects or accused on interim release), while acknowledging the benefits of strengthening the national implementing legislation to cover these areas, and*

exchanging of national experiences and best practices; *and agreed to engage closely with the Court to resolve any possible challenges, including through bilateral exchanges or expert side-events on these matters in the margins of the Assembly of States Parties, and further agreed to explore any ad hoc or operational arrangements to facilitate the cooperation in these areas;*

4. the importance of diplomatic and political support of States Parties for the Court, mainstreaming the Court within the national, regional and international fora, as well as promoting greater awareness and understanding of the activities of the Court and universality of the Rome Statute; *and agreed to explore ways and methods to enhance efforts toward these objectives;*

5. the importance of exchanges of existing information, experience, expertise and mutual assistance (including through questionnaires, databases, or in the context of networks and workshops) within and between States, the Court and other relevant partners, such as the Council of Europe, with a view to strengthening the Rome Statute system of international criminal justice and the global efforts to end impunity for core international crimes; *and agreed to continue to develop efforts, including in the context of the ICC Assembly of States Parties, to enhance such exchanges and cooperation between States, as well as between the States, the Court and intergovernmental or non-governmental organizations.*