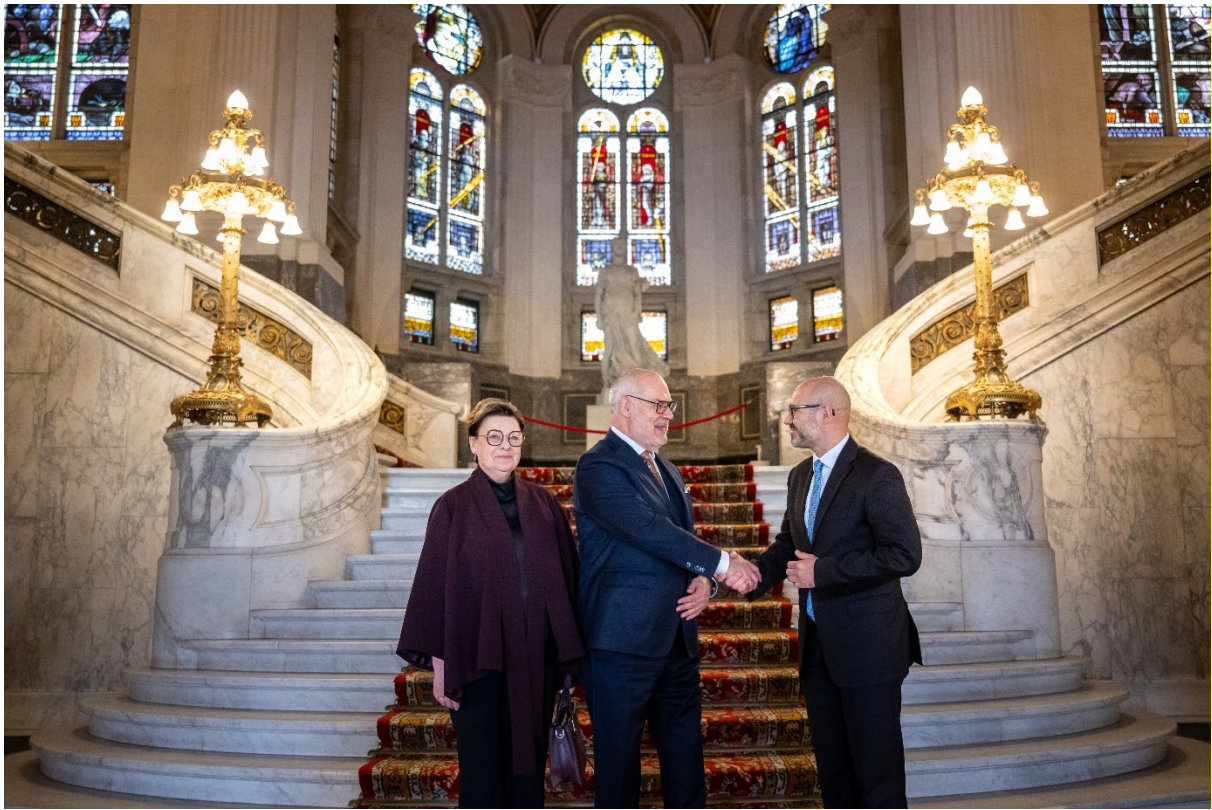


**PRESS RELEASE****VISIT OF H.E. THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA**

THE HAGUE, 9 APRIL 2026

On Thursday, 9 April 2026, the Secretary-General of the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA), H.E. Dr. Hab. Marcin Czepelak, had the honour of welcoming the President of the Republic of Estonia, H.E. Mr. Alar Karis, and the First Lady of Estonia, Ms. Sirje Karis, to the Court's headquarters at the Peace Palace.



Following an initial exchange of views with the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretaries-General, Mr. Martin Doe and Mr. Garth Schofield, H.E. President Karis, accompanied by H.E. Mr. Paul Teesalu, Ambassador of the Republic of Estonia to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, and members of the Estonian delegation, received a tour of the PCA's headquarters.

During the visit, the Secretary-General and the President discussed the PCA's activities and caseload, as well as the Republic of Estonia's important contribution to the work of the Court since its accession in 2003.



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Background on the Permanent Court of Arbitration

The Permanent Court of Arbitration is an intergovernmental organization established by the 1899 Hague Convention on the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes. The PCA has 128 Contracting Parties. Headquartered at the Peace Palace in The Hague, the Netherlands, the PCA facilitates arbitration, conciliation, fact-finding, and other dispute resolution proceedings among various combinations of States, State entities, intergovernmental organizations, and private parties. The PCA's International Bureau is currently administering eight inter-state arbitrations, one other inter-state proceeding, 90 arbitrations arising under bilateral or multilateral investment treaties or national investment law, 93 arbitrations arising under contracts involving a State or other public entity, and six other proceedings. More information about the PCA can be found at www.pca-cpa.org.

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