

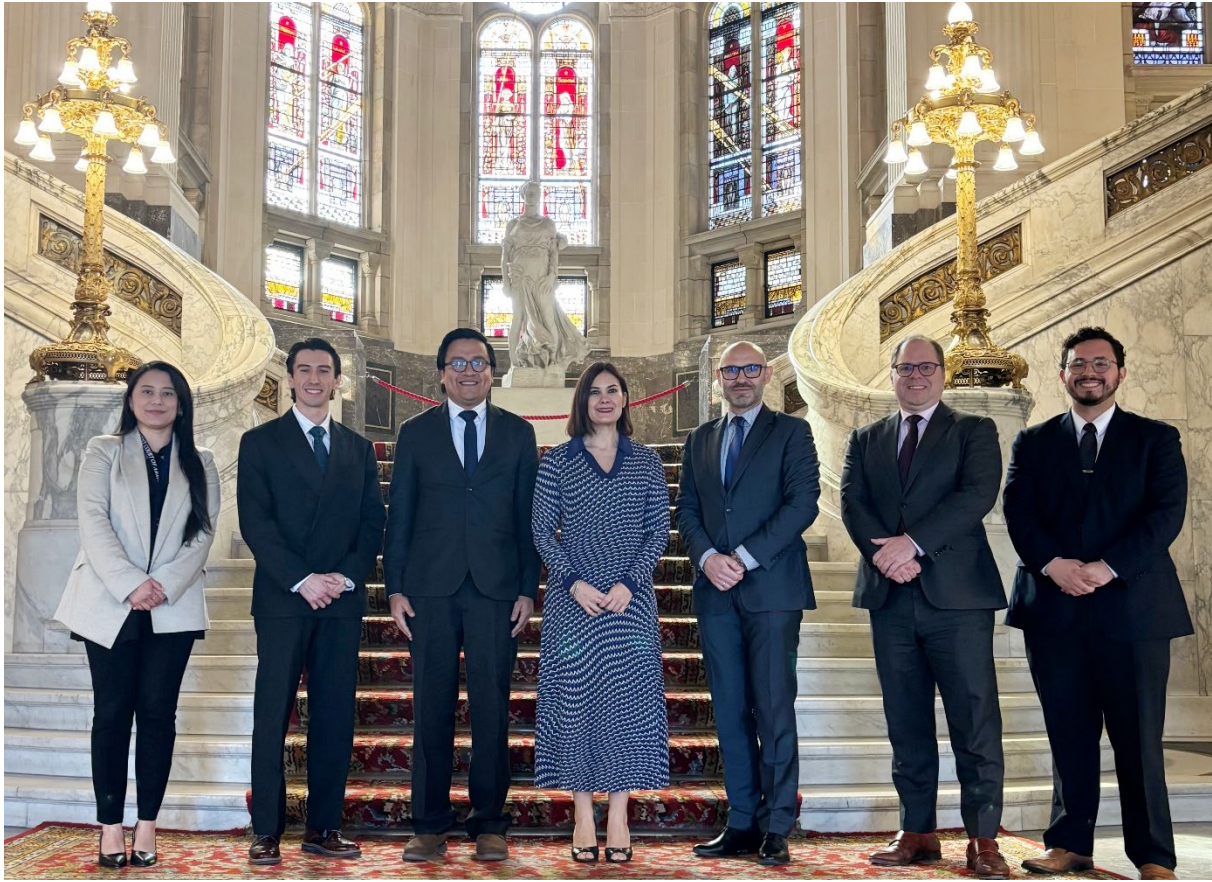
**PRESS RELEASE****SIGNATURE OF A COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
PERMANENT COURT OF ARBITRATION AND THE DISPUTE RESOLUTION
COMMISSION OF GUATEMALA'S CHAMBER OF INDUSTRY**

THE HAGUE, 13 APRIL 2026

The Permanent Court of Arbitration (“PCA”) has entered into a Cooperation Agreement with the Dispute Resolution Commission of Guatemala’s Chamber of Industry (“*Comisión de Resolución de Conflictos de la Cámara de Industria de Guatemala*”, or “CRECIG”), based in the Republic of Guatemala. The two institutions share a common commitment to promoting arbitration and other alternative methods of dispute resolution.



The signing ceremony was held at the PCA’s headquarters, the Peace Palace, on 7 April 2026. CRECIG was represented by its Director General, Mr. Victor José López Juárez, and the PCA was represented by its Secretary-General, Dr. Hab. Marcin Czepelak. H.E. Ms. Ana Cristina Rodríguez Pineda, Ambassador of Guatemala to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, also attended. Ahead of the signing, they met to discuss how the Agreement strengthens the PCA’s engagement in Guatemala and across the Central American region. They were accompanied by Mr. Martin Doe, PCA Deputy-Secretary General, Mr. Javier Comparini-Cuetto, PCA Legal Counsel, Ms. Ji Soo Kim, PCA Assistant Legal Counsel, and Mr. Juan Pablo Hernández Páez, First Secretary of the Embassy of Guatemala.



The Agreement establishes a framework for inter-institutional cooperation between the PCA and CRECIG, including the facilitation of arbitration proceedings, the hosting of meetings and hearings of PCA cases at CRECIG's premises, capacity building, and the promotion of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms.

The PCA looks forward to cooperating with the CRECIG and making its services more widely available in Guatemala and the broader region.

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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, 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, 86 arbitrations arising under bilateral or multilateral investment treaties or national investment laws, 96 arbitrations arising under contracts involving a State or other public entity, and eight other proceedings. More information about the PCA can be found at www.pca-cpa.org.

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