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DEFENDING THE DEFENDERS:

Countering Sanctions and Coercive Measures against the International Criminal Court and those Supporting its Mandate

On the margins of the 61st session of the UN Human Rights Council, this side event will examine the growing use of sanctions and coercive measures against the International Criminal Court (ICC) and those working to support international justice. Bringing together UN experts and human rights defenders, the discussion will explore the real-world impact of these measures on judges, civil society organisations and the documentation of international crimes, highlighting how the Court and its partners continue their work despite unprecedented pressure. The event will call for the urgent adoption of concrete countermeasures to safeguard the independence and functioning of the international justice system.

MONDAY 23 MARCH 2026
12:00 – 13:00 CET

ROOM XII,
PALAIS DES NATIONS,
GENEVA

THIS EVENT WILL BE
LIVESTREAMED

SPEAKERS



H. E. Mr. Gustavo Gallon

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Colombia to UNOG



H. E. Mr. Ibrahim Khraishi

Ambassador and Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to UNOG



Mr. Niccolò Figà-Talamanca

Secretary General, No Peace Without Justice



Ms. Francesca Albanese

UN Special Rapporteur on the Occupied Palestinian Territories



Mr. Shawan Jabarin

Director General, Al-Haq



Mr. Issam Younis

Director General, Al Mezan Center for Human Rights



Mr. Raji Sourani

Founder and Director, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights (PCHR)



Ms. Zoé Paris

Advocacy Coordinator, Coalition for the International Criminal Court