



**Cour
Pénale
Internationale**

**International
Criminal
Court**



Office of the Prosecutor

The Office of the Prosecutor (OTP) is one of the four organs of the International Criminal Court (ICC). It is headed by the Prosecutor, Karim A. A. Khan KC, who was elected by the Assembly of States Parties (ASP). The Prosecutor has full authority over the management and administration of the Office, including its staff, facilities and other resources. The Prosecutor took office on 16 June 2021.

In the discharge of his mandate, the Prosecutor is assisted by two Deputy Prosecutors - Mame Mandiaye Niang and Nazhat Shameem Khan who were both elected by the ASP on 10 December 2021 and took office on 7 March 2022.

The mission of the Office embraces the effective and efficient conduct of preliminary examinations, investigations, and prosecution of perpetrators of genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and the crime of aggression. The OTP acts independently, impartially, and objectively, consistent with its statutory duties and core values.

The Prosecutor may independently open an investigation upon referral of a Situation by a State Party, or the Security Council acting to address a threat to international peace and security. In addition, the Prosecutor, under his *proprio motu* powers, may start an investigation on the territory or against nationals of a State Party, subject to confirmation by a Pre-Trial Chamber of the Court.

It is the policy of the Office of the Prosecutor that investigations focus on those individuals who bear the greatest criminal responsibility for crimes committed in a Situation under

investigation. The Preamble of the Rome Statute recognises that the Court itself is but a last resort for bringing justice to the victims of genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity. Thus, the Rome Statute assigns the Court and the Office of the Prosecutor a role that is complementary to national systems.

The Rome Statute also provides that the Office of the Prosecutor shall act independently. Consequently, a member of the Office of the Prosecutor must not seek or act on instructions from any external source, such as States, international organisations, NGOs, or individuals.

The Office is divided into two prosecution pillars and an integrated services division.

Under the delegated authority of the Prosecutor, two Deputy Prosecutors manage the two prosecution pillars, which govern an equal division of Situations and cases based on a unified team concept. This structure enhances contact between the leadership and the teams and narrows the distance between the Prosecutor, Deputy Prosecutors, and staff.

The Deputy Prosecutors oversee preliminary examinations, investigations, prosecutions, and, where applicable, appeals proceedings; and provide strategic advice and guidance to the Prosecutor on each Situation and case under their responsibility, including recommendations on prioritisation and effective use of resources.

The integrated services division centralises the support functions that provide cross-cutting support to the Office.

KARIM A. A. KHAN KC, PROSECUTOR



Mr Karim A. A. Khan KC was elected as Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC) on 12 February 2021 by the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute. Mr Khan was sworn in on 16 June 2021.

Mr Khan was an Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations and served as the first Special Adviser and Head of the United Nations Investigative Team to promote accountability for crimes committed by Da'esh/ ISIL in Iraq (UNITAD) between 2018 and 2021. He is a barrister and King's Counsel with more than 30 years of experience as an international criminal law and human rights lawyer. Mr Khan has extensive experience as a prosecutor, victim's counsel, and defence lawyer in domestic and international criminal tribunals, including, but not limited to, the ICC, the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia, the Special Tribunal for Lebanon, and the Special Court for Sierra Leone. He has also represented victims of human rights violations in Africa and Asia. Mr Khan holds a Bachelor of Laws degree (Honours) from King's College, University of London, in addition to other degrees and qualifications.

MAME MANDIAYE NIANG, DEPUTY PROSECUTOR



Mr Mame Mandiaye Niang was elected Deputy Prosecutor of the ICC on 10 December 2021. He was sworn in on 7 March 2022.

Mr Niang is a graduate of the *École nationale d'Administration et de Magistrature* in Dakar, Senegal. He has held senior positions in the Senegalese judicial system. He has been Prosecutor General of the Appeals Court of Saint Louis, in Senegal, Director of Criminal Affairs and Pardons at the Senegalese Ministry of Justice, *Auditeur* at the Senegalese Supreme Court, attached to the Prosecutor General, Trial Attorney at the Regional Tribunal of Dakar, and Magistrate at the Regional Tribunal of Dakar.

Mr Niang has extensive international experience within the United Nations system, having served in various positions at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR), as Regional Representative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Southern Africa, and as judge at the Appeals Chamber of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and the ICTR.

NAZHAT SHAMEEM KHAN, DEPUTY PROSECUTOR



Ms Nazhat Shameem Khan was elected Deputy Prosecutor of the ICC on 10 December 2021. She was sworn in on 7 March 2022.

Ms Shameem Khan was born and brought up in Fiji. She studied law in the United Kingdom, at the universities of Sussex and Cambridge. Ms Shameem Khan was called to the Bar of England and Wales at the Inner Temple and at the High Court of Fiji. She practised law as a prosecutor from 1984 to 1999. She was appointed Fiji's Director of Public Prosecutions in 1994. In 1999, she was appointed Fiji's first woman High Court judge. She was responsible for the criminal jurisdiction of the High Court and also sat in the Court of Appeal of Fiji on an *ad hoc* basis.

Ms Shameem Khan left the judiciary in 2009 and opened her own law practice. In 2014, she was appointed Fiji's ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva and Vienna, and to Switzerland. In 2021, she was elected President of the Human Rights Council in Geneva.

PROSECUTOR

Financial Planning and Control Unit

OTP Human Resources Liaison Office

Legal Advisory Section

**DEPUTY PROSECUTOR
PILLAR A**

Unified Teams

Preliminary Examinations Section

Gender and Children Unit

Immediate Office of the Prosecutor

Office of External Affairs

Public Information Unit

Unified Team Ukraine

**DEPUTY PROSECUTOR
PILLAR B**

Unified Teams

Appeals and Prosecution Legal Coordination Section

Financial Investigation Unit

**DIRECTOR
INTEGRATED SERVICES DIVISION**

Management and Administration Support Unit

Forensic Science Section

Information, Knowledge and Evidence Management Section

Planning and Operations Section

Language Services Unit