

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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USICD YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE SENDS LETTER TO ICJ AND ICC NOMINEES TO UNDERSTAND THEIR POSITIONS ON SUPPORTING THE NEXT GENERATION OF INTERNATIONAL DISABLED LAWYERS

Stafford, VA – The U.S. International Council on Disability (USICD) is a U.S. and international NGO working to advance international disability rights and inclusive development and to build bridges among the U.S. and foreign governments, disability and human rights communities, and the private sector through strategic advocacy, convening, training, and education.

One of USICD's important initiatives is the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC). The YAC is a dynamic platform for emerging leaders with disabilities aged 18-30 who are passionate about global disability rights inclusion and implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). As part of their year-long mandate, the YAC is launching a variety of initiatives aimed at furthering the mission of USICD.

This month, the YAC sent letters to all nominees of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and the International Criminal Court (ICC) requesting nominees respond to a series of questions related to international law, disability, and accessibility. This YAC initiative aims to ensure judicial nominees are considering how they can make these international courts more accessible to Organizations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) and lawyers with disabilities, while also upholding international protections established under the CRPD.

Nominees have been requested to respond by April 31, 2026. A copy of all letters are available on USICD's website, and all official responses received will be posted.

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