



PUBLIC NOTICE OF THE ICC PROSECUTOR:

**VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE COMMITTED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE
AUGUST 2008 ARMED CONFLICT IN GEORGIA
HAVE 30 DAYS TO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS
TO THE ICC IN THE HAGUE
ON THE OPENING OF AN INVESTIGATION**

The Hague, 13 October 2015

By this notice, the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, Fatou Bensouda, informs victims of alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in Georgia from the period 7 August 2008 until 10 October 2008 that she has requested authorization from Pre-Trial Chamber I to open an investigation into such alleged crimes, in accordance with Article 15(3) of the Rome Statute and Rule 50 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence.

The Prosecutor considers that *“there is a reasonable basis to proceed with an investigation into the Situation of Georgia in relation to alleged crimes committed in the context of the August 2008 armed conflict.”*

According to Article 15(3) of the Rome Statute, *“victims may make representations to the Pre-Trial Chamber, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure and Evidence”*.

Accordingly, the Prosecutor notifies victims of alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in Georgia from the period 7 August 2008 until 10 October 2008 that they can send their comments to the Judges of Pre-Trial Chamber I on whether an investigation on such alleged crimes should be opened.

A summary of the Prosecutor’s request for authorisation to open an investigation in the Situation in Georgia is available on the Court’s website in English, French, Georgian and Russian at <http://www.icc->

cpi.int/en_menus/icc/structure%20of%20the%20court/office%20of%20the%20prosecutor/comm%20and%20ref/pe-ongoing/georgia/Pages/otp-sum-req-13-10-2015.aspx.

The victims or their legal representatives have 30 days from this notice to make representations to the Pre-Trial Chamber.

Victims can make their representations in writing to the Pre-Trial Chamber, which they should channel through the Victims Participation and Reparations Section (“VPRS”) to the postal address below:

International Criminal Court
Victims Participation and Reparations Section
Situation in Georgia
PO Box 19519
2500 CM, The Hague
The Netherlands

Victims may also send their representations to the following email address: VPRS.Applications@icc-cpi.int.

The Pre-Trial Chamber may request additional information from any of the victims who have made such representations, and may hold a hearing if it considers it appropriate.

The Chamber will give notice of its decision on the Prosecutor’s request to victims who have made representations.

Should the Judges authorize the opening of the investigation, victims will also have the opportunity to present their voices and concerns during the proceedings and, at a later stage, to request reparations.

The present notice has been posted as of today on the website of the Court, and sent to the media of Georgia, the Russian Federation, the authorities of Georgia and the Russian Federation, and to a wide range of NGOs. The Registry has been informed.

