

HAGUE YEARBOOK OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

VOLUME 38

SYMPOSIUM: PROVISIONAL MEASURES IN INTERNATIONAL LAW

Call for Paper Proposals

Provisional (or interim) measures have long served as indispensable tools aimed at preserving the rights and interests of parties involved in disputes before international judicial bodies. These measures are designed to address urgent situations where irreparable harm may occur. Provisional measures proceedings play a crucial role in ensuring the effectiveness of international legal mechanisms by offering timely interventions to maintain the status quo or prevent further deterioration pending the final resolution of the underlying dispute.

These are not, however, the only goals that the provisional measure requests may seek to further. Given the lower threshold or standard of proof required to establish *prima facie* jurisdiction or the plausibility of a claim at a provisional measures hearing as opposed to the jurisdictional or merits stage, such proceedings provide an opportunity for a successful verdict in a case which might otherwise appear likely to fail. As such, they arguably hold significant political and strategic potential. The flurry of requests for provisional measures in recent years, particularly before the International Court of Justice, would appear to support this contention.

As well as providing opportunities, provisional measures hearings present particular challenges. This is particularly true when considering the possible influence that an order of provisional measures might have on a later stage in a case, and the mismatch between the different standards of proof at the different stages.

Overall, provisional (or interim) measures proceedings, their potential, and the challenges they pose, remain under explored in international law, particularly given their increasing popularity among states. For these reasons, the Hague Yearbook of International Law invites contributions for a symposium on the topic of "Provisional and interim measures in international law", to be published in Volume 38 (2025).

We welcome contributions on the following (or other) topics related to provisional measures:

- the role of provisional measures proceedings from the perspective of strategic litigation;
- comparative studies of different international adjudicative bodies and their approach to or framework for provisional measures;
- the nature of the obligations which stem from an order of provisional or interim measures;
- the nature of the rights protected by provisional measures, particularly where these go beyond the direct rights of states parties (e.g, protection of individuals);
- the nature of the standards applied in provisional measures proceedings, e.g. '*prima facie* jurisdiction' and 'plausibility' of rights;
- the concepts of 'urgency' and 'irreparability' of harm, particularly in the context of individual rights and/or environmental harm;
- the link between the rights claimed by the parties and the provisional measures requested;
- the interaction between provisional measures proceedings and later stages of the case, and the impact of the former on the latter;
- critical studies of the role and effectiveness of provisional measures, including TWAIL and feminist and legal approaches;
- procedural issues relating to provisional measures proceedings;
- the role and approach of the judiciary in the context of provisional measures, particularly in contrast with later stages of a case.

Paper proposals should be 600 words in length, and we ask authors to provide a brief biography (max 150 words) indicating their expertise on the topic proposed. Proposals should be submitted to hagueyearbook@gmail.com by **30 June 2024**. We aim to contact authors with a decision by the end of July 2024. The predicted timetable of publication can be found below. Inclusion in the Yearbook is subject to the outcome of the peer review process. Final articles should be between 10,000 and 15,000 words in length.

March 2024	Call for papers released
30 June 2024	Deadline for paper proposals
July 2024	Authors contacted
February 2025	Full length article deadline
April 2025	First reviews deadline
June 2025	Revised articles due
July 2025	Second reviews deadline
September 2025	Final versions of articles due
October 2025	Volume due with publisher