

The Statute of the International Court of Justice

A Commentary

Third Edition

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Article 54

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| <p>1. When, subject to the control of the Court, the agents, counsel, and advocates have completed their presentation of the case, the President shall declare the hearing closed.</p> <p>2. The Court shall withdraw to consider the judgment.</p> <p>3. The deliberations of the Court shall take place in private and remain secret.</p> | <p>1. Quand les agents, conseils et avocats ont fait valoir, sous le contrôle de la Cour, tous les moyens qu'ils jugent utiles, le Président prononce la clôture des débats.</p> <p>2. La Cour se retire en Chambre du conseil pour délibérer.</p> <p>3. Les délibérations de la Cour sont et restent secrètes.</p> |
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A. Historical Development

Article 54 is identical to Article 54 of the PCIJ Statute.¹ The proposal of the United Kingdom to transfer the provision, together with other procedural provisions of the Statute, to the Rules of Court² was not adopted. Differently phrased proposals submitted by Cuba to the San Francisco Conference corresponded in substance with the Article.³

¹ For a word-by-word comparison of the two texts cf. UNCIO XIV, p. 816.

² Cf. United Kingdom Proposals Regarding the Statute of the PCIJ of 10 April 1945, UNCIO XIV, p. 318.

³ Cf. Draft Statute of the Court of International Justice Submitted by the Delegation of Cuba, 7 May 1945, Art. 40, UNCIO III, p. 521.