

Japan joins International Criminal Court

Japan is to ratify the treaty establishing the International Criminal Court, bringing the number of member states to 105. The ICC is the first full-time global criminal court, set up to prosecute individuals for the world's worst atrocities – genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes

Member states: **105**

Signed but not yet ratified 1998 Rome treaty: **41**

Refused to join: **China, India, United States**



■ July 17, 1998:

Rome Statute creating ICC is adopted. Court – headquartered in The Hague, Netherlands – comes into being in July 2002 after 60 countries ratify treaty



■ **Jurisdiction:** Court of last resort that will act only when countries are **unwilling or unable** to dispense justice themselves

■ **Cases:** Prosecutor has issued seven arrest warrants: four in Uganda, one in Dem. Rep. of Congo, and two in Sudan. Rape investigation opened in Central African Republic



■ **Composition:** 18 judges elected for terms of three to nine years. Lead prosecutor is **Luis Moreno-Ocampo** from Argentina. President is Judge **Philippe Kirsch** from Canada (*above*)

■ **Budget:** Japan will become ICC's highest payer, contributing almost one fifth of \$124 million annual budget