UNITED NATIONS

International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals

Case No.: MICT-15-96-ES.2

Date: 10 March 2026

Original: English

THE PRESIDENT OF THE MECHANISM

Before: **Judge Graciela Gatti Santana, President**

Registrar: **Mr. Abubacarr M. Tambadou**

Decision of: **10 March 2026**

PROSECUTOR

v.

JOVICA STANIŠIĆ

PUBLIC

DECISION RELATED TO JOVICA STANIŠIĆ'S APPLICATION FOR EARLY RELEASE

Counsel for Mr. Jovica Stanišić:

Mr. Wayne Jordash
Mr. Geert-Jan Alexander Knoops
Ms. Mirjana Vukajlović

I, **GRACIELA GATTI SANTANA**, President of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals ("President" and "Mechanism", respectively);

RECALLING that Mr. Jovica Stanišić ("Stanišić") is serving a 15-year sentence of imprisonment in the Federal Republic of Germany ("Germany"), following his conviction by the Mechanism;[1]

NOTING that Germany has notified the Mechanism that Stanišić will have served two-thirds of his sentence in March 2026;[2]

BEING SEISED of the direct petition for early release filed confidentially by Stanišić on 4 March 2026;[3]

RECALLING that, according to paragraphs 15 and 17 of the Practice Direction on Lengths of Briefs and Motions, a motion shall not exceed 3,000 words and that, to exceed the word limit, a party must seek advance authorisation and provide an explanation of the exceptional circumstances that necessitate the oversized filing;[4]

CONSIDERING that the 22,270-word Application exceeds the prescribed word limit significantly,[5] that Stanišić has neither sought prior authorisation nor provided an explanation of the exceptional circumstances necessitating an oversized filing, and that, having preliminarily reviewed the Application, it is unlikely that a reasonable justification exists that would permit a filing greater than two times the limit prescribed by the Practice Direction;

FINDING, therefore, that as Stanišić has failed to comply with the requirements contained in the Practice Direction on Lengths of Briefs and Motions,[6] the Application is not validly filed;

HEREBY DECLARE the Application null and void.

---

[1] *See* Order Designating the State in Which Jovica Stanišić is to Serve the Remainder of his Sentence, 9 October 2024, p. 1; *Prosecutor v. Jovica Stanišić and Franko Simatović*, Case No. MICT-15-96-A, Judgement, 31 May 2023 (public redacted), para. 664.

[2] *Note verbale* from the Embassy of Germany in The Hague to the Mechanism, 26 January 2026, p. 1. *See also Note verbale* from the Embassy of Germany in The Hague to the Mechanism, 16 January 2026 (confidential), p. 1.

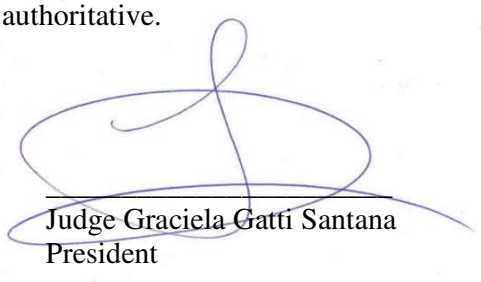
[3] Application for Early Release for Mr. Jovica Stanišić, 4 March 2026 (confidential) ("Application").

[4] Practice Direction on Lengths of Briefs and Motions, MICT/11/Rev.1, 20 February 2019 ("Practice Direction"), Articles 15, 17.

[5] Application, p. 43.

[6] *Cf. Prosecutor v. Fulgence Kayishema*, Case No. MICT-12-23-R14.1, Decision on Fulgence Kayishema's Motion for the Assignment of a Trial Chamber, 4 July 2025, fn. 6; *Prosecutor v. Alfred Musema*, Case No. MICT-12-15-ES.1, Decision on the Request for Leave to Exceed the Word Limit for Alfred Musema's Early Release Application, 16 December 2024, p. 2; *Prosecutor v. Radovan Karadžić*, Case No. MICT-13-55-A, Decision on Request to Exceed Word Limit for Request for Review of Registrar's Decision, 15 February 2018, pp. 1-2. I further note that the Application was not filed publicly or together with a public version as required by the Practice Direction on the Procedure for the Determination of Applications for Pardon, Commutation of Sentence, or Early Release. *See* Practice Direction on the Procedure for the Determination of Applications for Pardon, Commutation of Sentence, or Early Release of Persons Convicted by the ICTR, the ICTY, or the Mechanism, MICT/3/Rev.4, 1 July 2024, para. 6.

Done in English and French, the English version being authoritative.



Done this 10th day of March 2026,
At The Hague,
The Netherlands.

Judge Graciela Gatti Santana
President

[Seal of the Mechanism]

UNITED NATIONS
International Residual Mechanism
for Criminal Tribunals

NATIONS UNIES
Mécanisme international appelé à exercer
les fonctions résiduelles des Tribunaux pénaux

IRMCT · MIFRTP

TRANSMISSION SHEET FOR FILING OF DOCUMENTS / *FICHE DE TRANSMISSION POUR LE DÉPÔT DE DOCUMENTS*

I - FILING INFORMATION / *INFORMATIONS GÉNÉRALES*

To/ *À* : IRMCT Registry/ *Greffe du MIFRTP* ☐ Arusha/ *Arusha* ☒ The Hague/ *La Haye*

From/ *De* : ☒ President/ *Président* ☐ Chambers/ *Chambre* ☐ Prosecution/ *Bureau du Procureur* ☐ Defence/ *Défense* ☐ Registrar/ *Greffier* ☐ Other/ *Autre*

Case Name/ *Affaire* : **Prosecutor v. Jovica Stanišić** **Case Number/ *Affaire n°* :** **MICT-15-96-ES.2**

Date Created/ *Daté du* : 10 March 2026 **Date transmitted/ *Transmis le* :** 10 March 2026 **Number of Pages/ *Nombre de pages* :** 3

Original Language/ *Langue de l'original* : ☒ English/ *Anglais* ☐ French/ *Français* ☐ Kinyarwanda ☐ B/C/S ☐ Other/*Autre* (specify/ *préciser*):

Title of Document/ *Titre du document* : **Decision Related to Jovica Stanišić's Application for Early Release**

Classification Level/ *Catégories de classification* :

☒ Public/ *Document public*

☐ Confidential/ *Confidentiel*

☐ *Ex Parte* Defence excluded/ *Défense exclue*
☐ *Ex Parte* Prosecution excluded/ *Bureau du Procureur exclu*
☐ *Ex Parte* Rule 86 applicant excluded/ *Article 86 requérant exclu*
☐ *Ex Parte* Amicus Curiae excluded/ *Amicus curiae exclu*
☐ *Ex Parte* other exclusion/ *autre(s) partie(s) exclue(s)* (specify/ *préciser*) :

Document type/ *Type de document* :

☐ Motion/ *Requête*
☒ Decision/ *Décision*
☐ Order/ *Ordonnance*
☐ Judgement/ *Jugement/Arrêt*
☐ Submission from parties/ *Écritures déposées par des parties*
☐ Submission from non-parties/ *Écritures déposées par des tiers*
☐ Book of Authorities/ *Recueil de sources*
☐ Affidavit/ *Déclaration sous serment*
☐ Indictment/ *Acte d'accusation*
☐ Warrant/ *Mandat*
☐ Notice of Appeal/ *Acte d'appel*

II - TRANSLATION STATUS ON THE FILING DATE/ *ÉTAT DE LA TRADUCTION AU JOUR DU DÉPÔT*

☒ Translation not required/ *La traduction n'est pas requise*

☐ Filing Party hereby submits only the original, and requests the Registry to translate/
La partie déposante ne soumet que l'original et sollicite que le Greffe prenne en charge la traduction :
(Word version of the document is attached/ *La version Word du document est jointe)*

☐ English/ *Anglais* ☐ French/ *Français* ☐ Kinyarwanda ☐ B/C/S ☐ Other/*Autre* (specify/*préciser*):

☐ Filing Party hereby submits both the original and the translated version for filing, as follows/
La partie déposante soumet l'original et la version traduite aux fins de dépôt, comme suit :

Original/ *Original en* : ☐ English/ *Anglais* ☐ French/ *Français* ☐ Kinyarwanda ☐ B/C/S ☐ Other/*Autre* (specify/ *préciser*):

Traduction/ *Traduction en* : ☐ English/ *Anglais* ☐ French/ *Français* ☐ Kinyarwanda ☐ B/C/S ☐ Other/*Autre* (specify/ *préciser*):

☐ Filing Party will be submitting the translated version(s) in due course in the following language(s)/
La partie déposante soumettra la (les) version(s) traduite(s) sous peu, dans la (les) langue(s) suivante(s):

☐ English/ *Anglais* ☐ French/ *Français* ☐ Kinyarwanda ☐ B/C/S ☐ Other/*Autre* (specify/*préciser*):