

**PRESS RELEASE****PCA CASE NO. 2023-65**
ENERGY CHARTER TREATY ARBITRATION
(THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN V. THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA)

THE HAGUE, 23 MARCH 2026

Tribunal Schedules Hearing

A hearing on preliminary objections (“Hearing”) will be held from 7 to 8 April 2026 in the Administrative Council Chamber at the seat of the Permanent Court of Arbitration (“PCA”) at the Peace Palace, The Hague, the Netherlands. 9 April 2026 is held in reserve, with the Tribunal to decide at the end of the day on 8 April 2026 whether to continue the hearing on 9 April 2026.

After ascertaining the views of the Parties, the Tribunal, in its Procedural Order No. 2, confirmed the dates for the Hearing and determined the modalities for public access of the Hearing.

The Hearing Schedule will be as follows:

Tuesday, 7 April 2026		
MATTER	ALLOCATED TIME	TIME
Housekeeping	15 minutes	9:15am–09:30am
Armenia’s Opening Statement	1 hour, 30 minutes	9:30am–11:00am
Break	15 minutes	11:00am–11:15am
Armenia’s Opening Statement [continued]	1 hour, 30 minutes	11:15am–12:45pm
Lunch Break	1 hour, 30 minutes	12:45pm–2:15pm
Azerbaijan’s Opening Statement	1 hour, 30 minutes	2:15pm–3:45pm
Break	15 minutes	3:45pm–4:00pm
Azerbaijan’s Opening Statement [continued]	1 hour, 30 minutes	4:00pm–5:30pm
Housekeeping	15 minutes	5:30pm–5:45pm
Wednesday, 8 April 2026		
Housekeeping	15 minutes	11:00am–11:15am
Armenia’s Closing Statement	1 hour	11:15am–12:15pm
Break	15 minutes	12:15pm–12:30pm
Armenia’s Closing Statement [continued]	1 hour	12:30pm–1:30pm
Lunch Break	1 hour, 30 minutes	1:30pm–3:00pm
Azerbaijan’s Closing Statement	1 hour	3:00pm–4:00pm
Break	15 minutes	4:00pm–4:15pm
Azerbaijan’s Closing Statement [continued]	1 hour	4:15pm–5:15pm
Tribunal Time / Housekeeping	30 minutes	5:15pm–5:45pm

Thursday, 9 April 2026
Reserved as Tribunal Time

Publication of the Parties' Written Pleadings

In accordance with Article 23(2) of the Rules of Procedure, the Parties' written pleadings will be published on the PCA Case Repository (<https://pca-cpa.org/en/cases/312/>) on the opening of the Hearing.

Public Access and Live Webcast of the Hearing

In accordance with the agreement of the Parties and pursuant to Article 23(3) of the Rules of Procedure, the Hearing will be open to the public.

During the Hearing, members of the public will be able to follow the Hearing from a designated overflow room in the Peace Palace via live-stream.

Attendance by Members of the Diplomatic Corps

The PCA requests members of the diplomatic corps who plan to attend the Hearing to notify it accordingly by **30 March 2026**, by e-mail to 2023-65-registration@pca-cpa.org. Confirmation of attendance will be communicated by e-mail on 31 March 2026.

Attendance by Representatives of the Press

Interested representatives of the press are required to register by **30 March 2026**, by e-mail to 2023-65-registration@pca-cpa.org, enclosing the accreditation form attached to the present Press Release. Should the number of registrants exceed the number of available seats, the PCA will allocate seats on a first-come-first-served basis. Confirmation of attendance will be communicated by e-mail on 31 March 2026. Only those registrants who have received advance confirmation from the PCA will be granted access to the Peace Palace.

Representatives of the press are advised that there will be no possibility to connect to the video and audio stream in the viewing room.

Representatives of the press are kindly asked to arrive at the Peace Palace no later than 8:45 a.m. on the first day of the Hearing and 10:30 a.m. on the second day of the Hearing, to allow the requisite security procedures to be completed. They are further requested to leave the Peace Palace premises as soon as the Hearing has concluded for the day.

On the first day of the Hearing, press photographers and camera operators will be permitted in the Hearing room before the hearing begins. No photography will be permitted in the Hearing room once the Hearing has begun, and photographers and camera operators will be asked to leave the Hearing room prior to this. In addition, a selection of high-resolution pictures taken by a professional photographer on the PCA's behalf will be made available on the PCA Case Repository (<https://pca-cpa.org/en/cases/312/>). These photographs may be freely downloaded and reproduced, with appropriate credit.

Representatives of parties involved in PCA proceedings occasionally agree to provide interviews on the Peace Palace premises after sittings. Please note that the PCA does not facilitate or arrange such interview requests. Journalists are kindly asked to conduct such interviews on the entrance steps to the Palace or in the entry hall. It also remains open to the press to conduct any further interviews outside the Peace Palace gates.

Attendance by Members of the General Public

Members of the general public wishing to follow the hearing must notify the PCA accordingly by **30 March 2026**, by e-mail to 2023-65-registration@pca-cpa.org. Confirmation of attendance will be communicated by e-mail on 31 March 2026. Only those members of the general public who have received advance confirmation from the PCA will be granted access to the Peace Palace. Any seats available for the general public will be allocated in order of registration, on a first-come-first-served basis.

Those members of the general public who have received confirmation from the PCA are kindly asked to arrive at the Peace Palace no later than 8:45 a.m. on the first day of the Hearing and 10:30 a.m. on the second day of the Hearing, to allow the requisite security procedures to be completed. They are further requested to leave the Peace Palace premises as soon as the Hearing has concluded for the day.

Publication of recordings and hearing transcripts

Following the conclusion of the Hearing, a video recording will be made available on the PCA Case Repository (<https://pca-cpa.org/en/cases/312/>).

Hearing transcripts will likewise be published on the PCA Case Repository, in accordance with a procedure to be established by the Tribunal in due course.

Parking

No parking is allowed on the Peace Palace grounds, and all vehicles should be parked in the neighbouring streets.

Background to the Dispute

The arbitral proceedings were instituted on 27 February 2023 when the Republic of Azerbaijan served on the Republic of Armenia a Notice of Arbitration pursuant to Article 27 of the Energy Charter Treaty and the Arbitration Rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, 1976.

The three-member Arbitral Tribunal is chaired by Ms. Jean E. Kalicki as President (a national of the United States of America). The other members are Professor Donald M. McRae (a national of Canada and New Zealand), who was appointed by the Republic of Azerbaijan, and Professor Brigitte Stern (a national of France), who was appointed by the Republic of Armenia. The PCA acts as Registry for the proceedings.

Further information about the proceedings is available on the PCA website: <https://pca-cpa.org/en/cases/312/>.

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Background on the Permanent Court of Arbitration

The Permanent Court of Arbitration is an intergovernmental organization established by the 1899 Hague Convention on the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes. The PCA has 127 Contracting Parties. Headquartered at the Peace Palace in The Hague, the Netherlands, the PCA facilitates arbitration, conciliation, fact-finding, and other dispute resolution proceedings among various combinations of States, State entities, intergovernmental organizations, and private parties. The PCA's International Bureau is currently administering eight inter-state arbitrations, one other inter-state proceeding, 90 arbitrations arising under bilateral or multilateral investment treaties or national investment law, 93 arbitrations arising under contracts involving a State or other public entity, and six other proceedings. More information about the PCA can be found at www.pca-cpa.org.

Contact: Permanent Court of Arbitration
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