



TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. CONTEXT

The project "Global Initiative Against Impunity for International Crimes and Serious Human Rights Violations: Making Justice Work" co-financed by the European Union seeks to address an increasing climate of impunity for core international crimes and serious human rights violations through fostering comprehensive justice and accountability.

The services to be provided under this contract will support TRIAL International's efforts in fighting impunity for international crimes through extraterritorial and universal jurisdiction. In order to contribute to a better understanding of extraterritorial and universal jurisdiction and their implementation, TRIAL International publishes each year, since 2015, the [Universal Jurisdiction Annual Review \(UJAR\)](#), which is a unique compilation of extraterritorial and universal jurisdiction cases around the world. The UJAR is published in collaboration with the Center for Justice and Accountability (CJA), Civitas Maxima, the European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR), the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) and REDRESS, referred below as "the partners". TRIAL International seeks a consultant to research, coordinate and draft the 2026 edition of the UJAR.

The UJAR is mainly composed of an introductory article, which is researched and drafted by the consultant based on inputs by TRIAL International and its partners, and a compilation of case sheets detailing information on the suspect, the charges, the facts and the procedure for each extraterritorial or universal jurisdiction case that was introduced or has seen developments in 2025. The list of cases is drafted by the consultant, with TRIAL International's support, at the beginning of the service contract. Based on the final list of cases, some case sheets are drafted by the consultant, on the basis of publicly available information and inputs from external contributors contacted by the consultant, and reviewed by TRIAL International. The remaining ones are drafted by TRIAL International and its partners and reviewed by the consultant. It is foreseen that around 30 case sheets will be drafted by the consultant, while around 90 will be drafted by TRIAL International and its partners and reviewed by the consultant. These figures will need to be adjusted on the basis of the final list of cases.

2. OBJECTIVES & EXPECTED RESULTS

The purposes of this contract are to:

- 1) Research 2025 developments in universal and extraterritorial jurisdiction cases around the world;
- 2) Draft the 2026 edition of the Universal Jurisdiction Annual Review (UJAR);
- 3) Coordinate throughout the project the work of TRIAL International and its partners.

Results to be achieved by the consultant are:

- 1) An online consultation and coordination meeting with the partners at the beginning of the project is co-organized by TRIAL International and the consultant;
- 2) A work schedule is developed in consultation with TRIAL International and its partners;
- 3) A list of extraterritorial and universal jurisdiction cases that were introduced, or have seen developments, in 2025 is established based on publicly available information, and finalized with inputs from TRIAL International and its partners;
- 4) Cases that are not assigned to TRIAL International or the partners are researched based on publicly available information and written exchanges or interviews with relevant actors, and case sheets are drafted and finalized following TRIAL International review;

- 5) Case sheets received from TRIAL International and the partners are reviewed and harmonized;
- 6) A table with the key figures is established and most significant data is extracted;
- 7) The content table and the table of cases are drafted and other sections of the report (methodology and acknowledgements, and who we are) are updated;
- 8) The introductory article of the UJAR is drafted (min 2'000, max 2'500 words) in consultation with TRIAL International and its partners and finalized by integrating their inputs;
- 9) Coordination among TRIAL International and its partners is provided throughout the project;

3. TIMELINE

The consultant will provide the following documents:

Name of document	Time of submission
Work schedule	No later than 1 week after the start date.
Finalized list of cases	No later than 1 month after the start date.
Case sheets written by the consultant	No later than 2 months after the start date.
Case sheets written by TRIAL International and its partners reviewed by the consultant	No later than 3 months after the start date.
Draft introductory article	No later than 3 months after the start date.
Final introductory article	No later than 4 months after the start date.
Content table, methodology, acknowledgments and who we are sections	No later than the end of January 2026
Finalized key figures table and table of cases	No later than the end of January 2026
Finalized full report	No later than the end of January 2026

A digital version of the documents referred to above must be submitted to the project manager as identified in the contract. The documents must be written in English. The project manager is responsible for approving the documents.