

# News Release

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# Communiqué

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## BEATTY ANNOUNCES CANADIAN CANDIDATE FOR INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR WAR CRIMES COMMITTED IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA

External Affairs Minister Perrin Beatty today announced the Canadian nomination of Jules Deschênes as judge on the International Tribunal for war crimes committed in the former Yugoslavia.

"With his extensive experience, including his time as chairman of Canada's own commission of inquiry into war criminals, Judge Deschênes is a highly qualified candidate for this position," said Mr. Beatty. "I believe he will make an important contribution to the tribunal, and its work in bringing war criminals to justice."

Judge Deschênes is a former Chief Justice of the Superior Court of Quebec and a former Judge of the Court of Appeal of Quebec. He served as Chairman of the Commission of Inquiry on War Criminals in Canada from 1985 to 1987.

Judge Deschênes is currently a member of the Extraordinary Challenge Tribunal under the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement. He has held a number of appointments in Canada and abroad, including President of the Royal Society of Canada (1990-92), Chairman of the Board of the Canadian Human Rights Foundation (1989), member of the United Nations Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities (1984-87) and advisor to the United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs in Vienna (1983-84).

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Canada has been a leading advocate for the creation of the international tribunal to try those accused of committing war crimes in the former Yugoslavia. The tribunal's 11 judges will be elected by the UN General Assembly this fall, from a list of nominations submitted by UN member states.

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