



Holding Russia Accountable for Violating International Law

Overview

When it faced aggressive actions by Russia, we stepped in on behalf of the Government of Ukraine to pursue justice in multiple international fora.

Problem

- In 2014, Ukraine experienced a democratic “Revolution of Dignity.” The Russian Federation responded with a series of violations of international law, including an illegal attempt to annex Crimea from Ukraine.
- Russia's actions including supplying the powerful anti-aircraft missile system that shot down Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 over eastern Ukraine, killing all 298 people on board.

Covington Team



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She represents both states and corporate clients in complex international disputes, drawing upon her expertise in public international law, investment, and international trade.



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Practice combines international and antitrust law, drawing on his experience of 15 years in government. His international practice focuses principally on investor-state arbitration and public international law disputes, on which he advises both states and corporate clients.



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Focuses on appellate litigation, as well as questions of international law and other transnational legal issues that arise in both U.S. and international tribunals.



Strategy

- We worked with the Government of Ukraine to create a comprehensive legal strategy to seek justice for Ukraine in all available fora.
- In the International Court of Justice, we launched a case challenging Russia's violations of two treaties concerning the financing of terrorism and racial discrimination.
- We are simultaneously suing Russia in an arbitration for violations of the law of the sea.

Results

- The cases are ongoing, but we have already achieved early victories.
- In April 2017, shortly after launching the case in the International Court of Justice, the Court granted our request for provisional relief by an overwhelming 13-3 margin, ordering Russia to respect the rights of the Crimean Tatars, a vulnerable minority population in occupied Crimea.