



# Weekly Report

## Côte d'Ivoire

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**1** Côte d'Ivoire should respect its ICC obligations

**2** UN expert urges Ivorian Government to allow rights defenders to play their role for reconciliation and progress

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*“An independent civil society has a crucial role to play in the fight against impunity, the promotion of equitable justice as well as in the organization of peaceful and fair elections in 2015”*

- Doudou Diène,

UN Independent Expert on Human Rights in Côte d'Ivoire

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### ***Côte d'Ivoire should respect its ICC obligations***

- The International Criminal Court turned down a request by the Ivorian government to postpone its surrender to The Hague of Charles Blé Goudé, a close ally of former President Laurent Gbagbo and longtime head of a violent, pro-Gbagbo militia group.
- The Ivorian government has yet to formally respond to the ICC arrest warrant against Blé Goudé for four counts of crimes against humanity, even though he has been in their custody since being extradited from Ghana in January 2013.
- Source: Human Rights Watch

<http://www.hrw.org/news/2014/03/07/dispatches-cote-d-ivoire-should-respect-its-icc-obligations>

### ***UN expert urges Ivorian Government to allow rights defenders to play their role for reconciliation and progress***

- The UN appeal came after Ivorian security forces, without legal mandate, banned a seminar on the Remobilization of the Ivorian Civil Society Federation on February 27, 2014.
- The important role of human rights defending organizations in contributing to the consolidation of progress in Côte d'Ivoire and the promotion of peaceful elections in 2015 was emphasized.
- Source: OHCHR

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=14329&LangID=E>