

Justice Action Coalition

Leaders committed to taking action for justice for all

Providing Equal Access to Justice for All

Around the world, calls can be heard for social justice, gender justice, racial justice, and against inequality, corruption, and all forms of violence. People want their government and institutions to work for them, to overcome structural injustices and deliver solutions that improve their lives.



Current justice systems seem to only deliver justice for the few and need to be transformed so that they can deliver equal access to justice for all, as promised by SDG16.3. By putting people at the center of justice systems which resolve and prevent their justice problems, justice actors can make essential contribution to economic progress and development.

Justice systems have a role in balancing out power asymmetries, addressing rising inequalities and responding to demands for justice and fairness. When they embrace people-centered justice, they can strengthen trust by actively shaping a fair society.

Putting People at the Center of Justice

The past few years have seen a remarkable international mobilization to accelerate implementation of the SDGs and targets that call for justice for all by 2030. The Task Force on Justice, chaired by ministers from Argentina, the Netherlands, and Sierra Leone, and by the Elders, was a catalyst for this movement. To date, over 60 countries have endorsed the principles of people-centered justice:



Put people and their justice needs at the center of justice systems.



Use justice for prevention and to promote reconciliation.



Empower people to access services and opportunities.



Resolve justice problems.



Improve justice journeys.

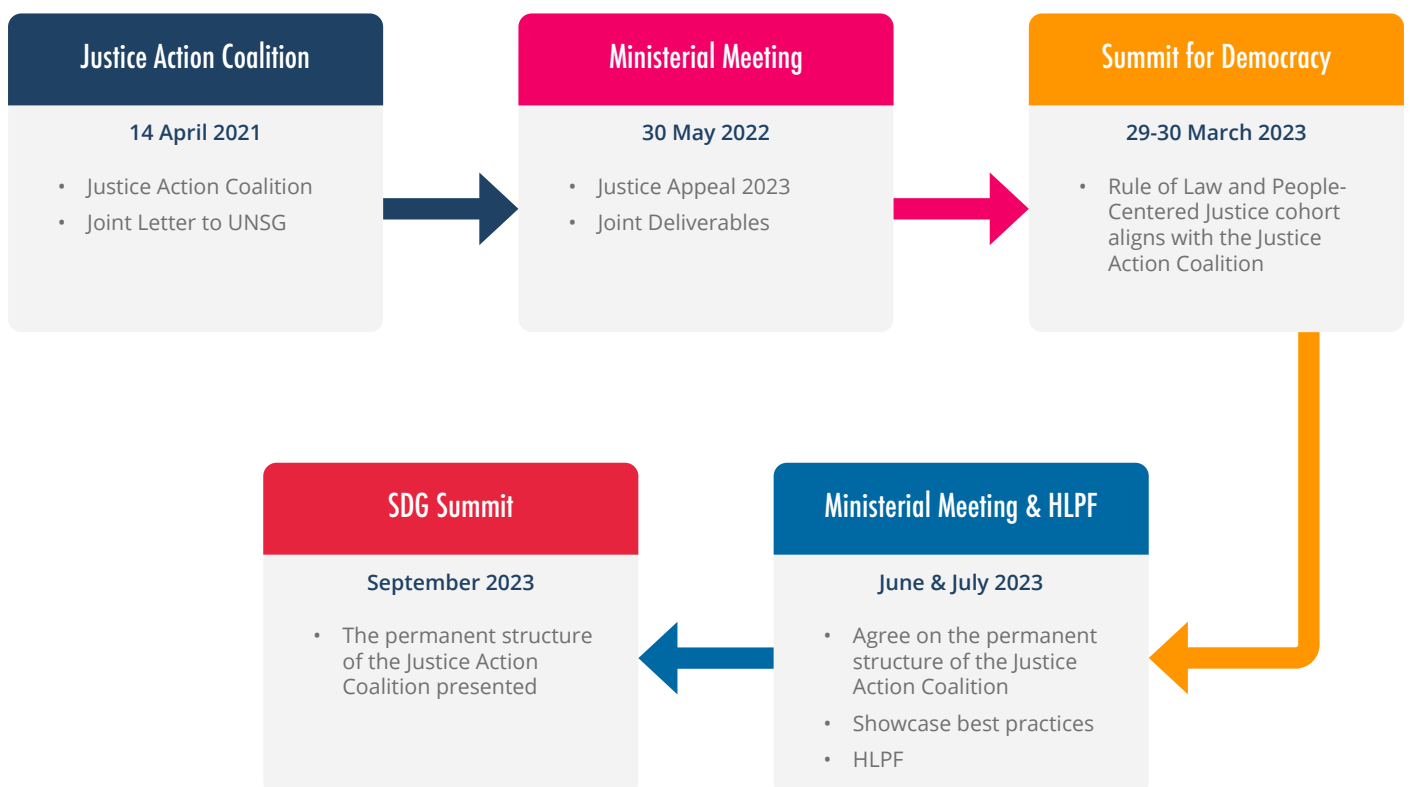
Justice Action Coalition

The Justice Action Coalition is a multi-stakeholder, high-ambition coalition of countries and organizations, championing equal access to justice for all. Its guiding ambition is to close the global justice gap and achieve measurable progress in justice outcomes for people and communities by 2030 and beyond.

The Coalition acts as a platform for inspiration, dialogue, and action, based on inclusion and diversity, to bring together different voices, perspectives, and technical expertise on the rule of law and access to justice.

The Coalition’s mandate is to:

- Increase political dialogue and alignment on transforming justice systems to put people at the center, by joining forces around shared goals, key messages and global policy asks at the national, regional, and global level to influence agendas, international priorities, and funding streams.
- Accelerate progress toward the goal of providing access to justice for all, by enabling national justice leaders and change-makers to access relevant resources, expertise, and international support, and otherwise supporting them to develop and implement credible, inclusive, and adequately funded strategies.
- Advance the understanding of what works to provide access to justice for all, by encouraging the collection of people-centered justice data and evidence, endorsing standards and methodologies and assessing the ever-growing body of knowledge and know-how.



Workstreams of the Justice Action Coalition

Workstream #1: Data and Evidence

Led by OECD



Objective: Develop a robust measurement framework on people-centered justice and strengthen the business case for justice. The workstream will develop internationally comparable indicators, gather evidence, and produce a comprehensive report on the state of people-centered justice, including policy recommendations and good practices, to advance and monitor reforms.

Workstream #2: Strategy, Programming and Innovation

Led by UNDP



Objective: Support strategic and innovative people-centered justice initiatives at the national level including by co-creating strategies with member countries and national stakeholders, providing access to international expertise, partnerships, and financial support. The emphasis is on assisting justice actors in designing data-driven, evidence-based programs tailored to their context.

Workstream #3: Communication, Narrative and Connection to the SDGs

Led by the Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies



Objective: Unlock the impact of the Coalition by ensuring a shared vision and a coherent joint narrative, supported by strategic communication and advocacy, connecting justice to sustainable development and the SDGs.

Workstream #4: Justice Financing

Led by the Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies



Objective: Move the dial on effective financing for justice by supporting preliminary research and dialogue between key stakeholders to arrive at a shared understanding on the ways in which governments and donors can effectively finance people-centered justice to ensure equal access to justice for all under SDG 16.3.

Key Achievements

- On 14 April 2021, a Ministerial Meeting launched the Justice Action Coalition, and endorsed a Joint Letter to the UN Secretary-General, “Reimagining social contract: A call to put people at the center of justice”. The UNSG’s report on our Common Agenda promises to support efforts to put people at the center of justice systems by promoting a new vision for the rule of law.
- On 30 May 2022, the Justice Action Coalition launched the Justice Appeal 2023 which urges countries to arrive at the 2023 SDG Summit with data and evidence to demonstrate their contribution to closing the global justice gap.
- The permanent structure of the JAC was launched on the sidelines of the 2023 SDG Summit.
- The Justice Action Coalition has produced [ten joint deliverables of the JAC as part of its joint action plan 2021](#).

Justice Action Coalition (JAC) countries are promoting people-centered justice at [domestic](#) and international levels. Countries have made several joint statements to promote people-centered justice at the United Nations, including at High-Level Political Forums, 6th Committee Sessions of the General Assembly, High-level debate of the UN General Assembly on “Equal Access to Justice for All: Advancing Reforms for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies”, and on the sidelines of the adoption of the first-ever [resolution on access to justice for all](#) by the United Nations General Assembly, led by Canada and the United States of America.

Member States



*Observers



The secretariat for the JAC is jointly hosted by the Pathfinders for Peaceful, Justice, and Inclusive Societies and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in partnership with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

Partners

