



TRUE Database – Trust in User-Generated Evidence Database

ICC Case Law

About

The TRUE database stands for Trust in User-Generated Evidence Database. It is an online tool developed as part of the [TRUE project](#), funded by a UKRI Frontier Research grant [no. EP/X016021/1].

The database is a **one-stop-shop** for documents from international criminal proceedings from the International Criminal Court (ICC) that have introduced user-generated evidence (UGE). It bundles material that is already publicly available on the webpages of the ICC.

The TRUE database is a resource for States, civil society organisations, researchers, and any individual interested in the topic of UGE in international criminal proceedings and domestic prosecutions of international crimes. It provides for the possibility to access material from international criminal proceedings before international and domestic courts, in which UGE was introduced.

Methodology

What information does the database provide?

The TRUE database covers proceedings before the ICC in which UGE was introduced. In 2025, we published the part of the database that pertains to domestic cases, with this separate one focusing on cases before the ICC.

The information regarding the use of user-generated evidence disaggregated based on the following criteria:

- the origin of the UGE
- the type of UGE (audio/image/photo/video/message/text)
- the platform in which UGE is/was hosted
- the party introducing the UGE
- arguments by the tendering party
- arguments by the opposing party
- methods of authentication used
- and any additional notes or key findings pertaining to the UGE

What material can be found on the database?

The TRUE database on ICC Case Law published in April 2026 is our complete record of relevant domestic cases prosecuting atrocity crimes using user-generated evidence. The

research for the database is ongoing. Please reach out to us (trueprojectswansea@gmail.com) if you have a document that you believe should be included in the database.

Which courts does the database cover?

The TRUE Database on ICC Case Law covers criminal cases before the International Criminal Court (ICC). We looked at every case in which user-generated evidence played a role and explain that in further detail, with links to reference documents, in the database. While some other international criminal tribunals (e.g. the Special Court for Sierra Leone; the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia; the UN Mechanism for the International Criminal Tribunals) have, on occasion, referred to videos from YouTube, Facebook posts or other UGE, that has tended to be minimal. This is unsurprising, given that the crimes within their jurisdiction tended to pre-date the technological developments that have made UGE so ubiquitous.

How is the information collected?

The TRUE database relies on publicly available judgments. The information contained in the database on ICC Case Law was obtained from the ICC website.

How can I submit a case to the TRUE database?

The database builds on the support of users who submit or draw our attention to judgments which introduced UGE. Please email trueprojectswansea@gmail.com to submit a document, or information on a case that could be relevant.

ANNEX I – Abbreviations

AC	Appeal Chamber
AI	Artificial Intelligence
ICC	International Criminal Court
IP log	Internet Protocol log
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OTP	Office of the Prosecutor at the ICC
RPE	Rules of Procedure and Evidence
UGE	User-Generated Evidence

ANNEX II – Definitions

Closed source	Content ‘with restricted access or access that is protected by law’ which may be legally obtained following payment, access request or if offered voluntarily.
Deepfake	Images, videos, or audio recordings created or manipulated using Artificial Intelligence.
Digital open source information	Publicly available content in digital format, which is generally acquired from the Internet and which can be observed freely, without requiring a payment or access request.
User Generated Evidence (UGE)	Information generated by users through their personal digital devices, which is available on the Internet and which is used in legal proceedings. The information may be in the form of audio, images, photos, videos, text or messages.