The attempt to institutionalize the international justice began at the beginning of the 20th century with the establishment of permanent judicial organs capable of judging matters. The first such tribunal appears after IWW: Permanent Court of International Justice, within the League of Nations. The statute entered into force in 1921, and was formally dissolved in 1946.

The international tribunals proliferated after IIWW. The first one was the ICJ, seated in The Hague with general jurisdiction. Moreover, others were established: International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, International Human Rights Tribunal, Inter-American Court of Human Rights or Court of Justice of the European Union.

There exist also administrative tribunals that do not judge disputes between States, but between officers of international organizations, in their relations with them, like the ILO Administrative Tribunal or that one of the UN. There are other organs that judge the conduct of individuals, not that of the States, like International Criminal Court, founded by the Rome Statute.