



Advanced Summer Programme on Countering Terrorism: Legal Challenges and Dilemmas

24 - 28 August 2015
The Hague

UPDATE: *Judge Sir David Baragwanath will give a lecture on “Defining Terrorism under International and Domestic Laws”*

Terrorism is an evil which has sufficient identity to be the subject of major attention from the Security Council, for example Resolution 1566 (2004), calling upon all States to adopt the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism. On 16 February 2011, the Appeals Chamber of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon has sought to provide a definition of terrorism as a crime under customary international law. Yet leading scholars have denied that such a definition exists or is indeed possible; “terrorism” is a protean term with some 250 different senses: how can it provide the certainty required to define a crime?

As a member of the Appeals Chamber Judge Baragwanath neither defends nor resiles from the 16 February 2011 decision. Instead he examines the competing arguments and argues the pressing need for the common definition which he contends is attainable.

A short biography:

Judge Baragwanath practised as a silk at the New Zealand bar before appointment first to the High Court and then as a permanent member of the Court of Appeal of New Zealand. From 1996 to 2001 he was president of the New Zealand Law Commission and from 2004 to 2007 he was chairman of the Rules Committee of the Courts of New Zealand. Judge Baragwanath was elected President of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon on 10 October 2011 when he succeeded Judge Antonio Cassese, and he served as President until 28 February 2015. He is currently a judge of the Appeals Chamber.



Register for the Summer Programme on Countering Terrorism and join the discussion on terrorism under international and domestic laws: www.asser.nl/CounteringTerrorism