

Victims of International Crimes: An Interdisciplinary Discourse

Thorsten Bonacker · Christoph Safferling
Editors

Victims of International Crimes: An Interdisciplinary Discourse



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Foreword

In the last 20 years we have seen new and successful global efforts to criminalise genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity, and to prosecute and punish those responsible. The establishment of the *ad hoc* international criminal tribunals for the crimes committed in the former Yugoslavia and in Rwanda, and of the permanent International Criminal Court, is the most publicised outcome of these initiatives.

National courts are also beginning to exercise their universal jurisdiction over certain international crimes. The trial against a Rwandan national accused of participation in the killing of thousands of Tutsis in Rwanda that has begun this year before the Frankfurt Superior Court is just one example of these efforts.

As important as the punishment of perpetrators is, the suffering incurred by the victims should not be forgotten. The proportion of civilian casualties of war as opposed to military casualties has increased dramatically, up to 90 % by the end of the twentieth century.¹ At the end of 2010, the number of people forcibly uprooted by conflict and persecution worldwide stood at almost 34 million.² Therefore, this conference couldn't be timelier.

The welfare of crime victims is of special importance to the Ministry of Justice. Of course, I don't want to confound the special situation of victims of war crimes with crime victims in general. But it nevertheless seems that this conference's focus on victims of international crimes mirrors a growing interest in victims in national law.

Two of the upcoming panels will discuss the protection and participation of victims in criminal trials. Victim protection and victims' participation have also been special concerns of German criminal procedure law in recent years. Various changes in statutory law have been enacted to protect victims from further harm in their role as witnesses and to strengthen their rights as active participants in criminal proceedings.

But these legal protections for victims are not enough. They must be accompanied by counseling and practical assistance. In the State of Hessen, the Ministry of Justice

¹ UNICEF, Impact of Armed Conflict on Children, 1996, MN 24.

² Exactly 33.924.475—UNHCR, Global Trends Report 2010.

supports a network of crime victims support associations. They support victims while reporting the crime, giving testimony in court, pursuing claims for compensation and dealing with the psychological repercussions of the crime.

While the situation of victims of gross violations of international human rights law and victims of other crimes obviously differs, they also confront legal systems with a host of similar questions. How can the courts investigate a case effectively, with the help of the victim's testimony, while protecting the victim against further harm during the trial? How can victims become active participants in the proceedings while also recognising the right of the defendant to a fair trial?

How can the worst crimes ever be remedied? These problems are magnified and multiplied when we are trying to deal with mass violations of human rights.

Wiesbaden/Marburg
December 2012

Dr. Rudolf E. C. Kriszeleit
State Secretary
Hessian Ministry for Justice,
Integration and European Affairs

Acknowledgments

Since 1945 societies, but also the international community have developed different instruments to deal with massive past human rights abuses. Victims became significant actors in those so-called transitional justice processes. On that background we decided to conceptualise a conference that brought together international scholars from different disciplines to discuss the situation of victims of serious human rights violations and to further enhance their role in transition processes. The primary motivation for organising such a conference was to establish an interdisciplinary approach, which has been lacking in academic discourse to date.

Both organising institutions, the Center for Conflict Studies (CCS) and International Research and Documentation Centre War Crimes Trials (ICWC), conducted research on transitional justice, international criminal justice and the role of victims over the last years. The conference on “Victims of International Crimes” took place from October 6th to 8th 2011 at the University of Marburg.

This would not have been possible at all without many helping hands. Particular thanks are due to Wolfgang Form, Iain Fraser, Albrecht Kirschner and Daniela Ziegler who have contributed substantially to the success of the conference through their considerable dedication, expertise and creativity. Our thank goes in particular to Franziska Kowalski and Sebastian Kluckow who not only did tremendous work in organising the conference, but also were, together with Jana Groth, highly committed in assisting us to edit this volume.

Likewise, we are immensely grateful to Philip van Tongeren and Marjolijn Bastiaans at T.M.C. Asser Press for publishing this book.

Finally, we wish to thank the German Science Foundation (DFG) and the Foundation Remembrance, Responsibility and Future (EVZ) for sponsoring the conference and giving us the opportunity to bring together such a great variety of internationally renowned researchers and practitioners.

Marburg, December 2012

Thorsten Bonacker
Christoph Safferling

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Abbreviations

AC	Appeals Chamber
Afr J Int Comp Law	African Journal of International and Comparative Law
AHR	The American Historical Review
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
AIJI	Asian International Justice Initiative
AJIL	American Journal of International Law
Am J Sociol	American Journal of Sociology
ANC	African National Congress
Ann Rev Political Sci	Annual Review of Political Science
Anthropol Theory	Anthropological Theory
APDH	Asamblea Permanente los Derechos Humanos
APR	Armée Patriotique Rwandaise
APSR	American Political Science Review
AQ	Anthropological Quarterly
Arab Stud Q	Arab Studies Quarterly
ARTS	The Journal of the Sydney University Arts Association
ASR	American Sociological Review
ASRIC	Applied Social Research Institute of Cambodia
AT	Anthropology Today
AUC	Autodefensas Unidas de Colombia
Aust J Anthropol	Austrian Journal of Anthropology
AVEGA	Association des Veuves du Génocide d'Avril
BCTWLJ	Boston College Third World Law Journal
BGBI.	Bundesgesetzblatt
BGHSt	Entscheidungen des Bundesgerichtshofs in Strafsachen
BHRLR	Buffalo Human Rights Law Review
Case West Reserv J Int Law	Case Western Reserve Journal of International Law

CEH	Comisión para el Esclarecimiento Histórico
CELS	Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales
CICC	Coalition of the ICC
CICIG	Comisión Internacional contra la Impunidad en Guatemala
CJIL	Chicago Journal of International Law
CJR	Center for Justice and Reconciliation
CLF	Criminal Law Forum
CNPT	Comisión Nacional sobre Prisión Política y Tortura
CNRR	Comisión Nacional de Reparación y Reconciliación
Colum J Gener & L	Columbia Journal of Gender and Law
Comp Polit Stud	Comparative Political Studies
CONADEP	Comisión Nacional sobre la Desaparición de Personas
CPC	Cambodian Criminal Procedure Code
CSD	Journal of Conflict, Security and Development
DDR	Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration
DED	Deutscher Entwicklungsdienst (German Development Organisation), now GIZ
DJILP	Denver Journal of International Law and Policy
DLJ	The Denning Law Journal
DÖW	Dokumentationsarchiv des österreichischen Widerstandes
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo
DUP	Democratic Unionist Party
ECCC	Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia
ECHR	European Convention for Human Rights
ECtHR	European Court of Human Rights
EJCCLCJ	European Journal of Crime, Criminal Law and Criminal Justice
EJIL	European Journal of International Law
Ethics Int Aff	Ethics and International Affairs
Eur Rev Latin Am Caribb Stud	European Review of Latin American and Caribbean Studies
Europe-Asia Stud	Europe-Asia Studies
FAFG	Fundación de Antropología Forense de Guatemala
FAIR	Families Acting For Innocent Relatives
FARC	Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia
FARG	Fonds d'Appui aux Rescapés du Génocide
FEDEFAM	Federación Latinoamericana de Asociaciones de Familiares de Detenidos-Desaparecidos

Fem LS	Feminist Legal Studies
FF Plus	Freedom Front Plus
FIS	Front Islamique du Salut
Fla Coast L Rev	Florida Coastal Law Review
FPR	Front Patriotique Rwandais
FRG	Frente Republicano Guatemalteco
Gen Dev	Gender & Development
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
GJIA	Georgetown Journal of International Affairs
Global Gov	Global Governance
Glob Soc	Global Society
GoJIL	Goettingen Journal of International Law
Hastings Law J	Hastings Law Journal
HHRJ	Harvard Human Rights Journal
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
Holocaust Genocide Stud	Holocaust and Genocide Studies
HRLR	Human Rights Law Review
HRQ	Human Rights Quarterly
HuV-I	Humanitäres Völkerrecht – Informations-schriften
ICC	International Criminal Court
ICJ	International Court of Justice
ICLR	International Criminal Law Review
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
ICTR	International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda
ICTY	International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia
ICWC	International Research and Documentation Centre War Crimes Trials
IDDRS	Integrated Disarmament, Demobilisation, and Reintegration Standards
IFJP	International Feminist Journal of Politics
IFP	Inkatha Freedom Party
IJCV	International Journal of Conflict and Violence
IJNL	International Journal of Non-for-Profit Law
IJTJ	The International Journal of Transitional Justice
ILJ	Cornell International Law Journal
ILSAJICL	ILSA Journal of International Comparative Law
IMT	International Military Tribunal
Int J Law Context	International Journal of Law in Context
Int Soc	International Sociology
IRA	Irish Republican Army
IRRC	International Review of the Red Cross
IRV	International Review of Victimology

ISQ	International Studies Quarterly
ITU	Interpretation and Translation Unit
J Appl Philos	Journal of Applied Philosophy
J Int Afr Inst	Journal of the International African Institute
J Intercult Stud	Journal of Intercultural Studies
J Per Soc Psychol	Journal of Personality and Social Psychology
JAMA	The Journal of the American Medical Association
JCLC	Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology
JCLP	Journal of Clinical Psychology
JHR	Journal of Human Rights
JHRP	Journal of Human Rights Practice
JICJ	Journal of International Criminal Justice
JIL	Case Western Reserve Journal of International Law
JILP	Journal of International Law and Politics
JLAS	Journal of Latin American Studies
JTS	Journal of Traumatic Stress
KLA	Kosovo Liberation Army
LJIL	Leiden Journal for International Law
LRA	Lord's Resistance Army
Mem Stud	Memory Studies
MJIL	Michigan Journal of International Law
MSLR	Michigan State Law Review
N Engl Law Rev	New England Law Review
NDJLEPP	Notre Dame Journal of Law, Ethics & Public Policies
NGO	Non-governmental Organisation
NJHR	Nordic Journal of Human Rights
NJIL	Nordic Journal of International Law
NJIHR	Northwestern Journal of International Human Rights
NJW	Neue Juristische Wochenschrift
NY Univ Law Rev	New York University Law Review
OCIJ	Office of the Co-Investigating Judges
ODHAG	Oficina de Derechos Humanos del Arzobispado de Guatemala
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
OPCD	Office for Public Counsel for the Defence
OPCV	Office of Public Counsel for Victims
ORIL	Oregon Review of International Law
OUP	Oxford University Press
PAS	Public Affairs Section
Peace Rev	Peace Review

Peripherie	Peripherie – Zeitschrift für Politik und Ökonomie der Dritten Welt
POW	Prisoner of War
PTC	Pre-trial Chamber
R2P	Responsibility to Protect
REStat	Review of Economics and Statistics
RoC	Regulations of the Court
RPE	Rules of Procedure and Evidence
RPF	Rwandan Patriotic Front
RSC	Revue de Science Criminelle et de Droit Pénal Comparé
RUC	Royal Ulster Constabulary
RUF	Revolutionary United Front
Rutgers Law Rec	The Rutgers Law Record
S Afr J Mil Stud	South African Journal of Military Studies
SADF	South African Defence Force
Saint Louis Univ Public Law Rev	Saint Louis University Public Law Review
SCSL	Special Court for Sierra Leone
SJST	Scandinavian Journal of Social Theory
SLS	Social and Legal Studies
Smith Coll Stud Soc Work	Smith College Studies in Social Work
Soc Anal	Social Analysis
Soc Forces	Journal of Social Forces
Soc Legal Studies	Social & Legal Studies
Stat Abstr Lat Am	Statistical Abstract Latin America
STL	Special Tribunal for Lebanon
TC	Trial Chamber
TFV	Trust Fund for Victims
Third World Q	Third World Quarterly
TIG	Travaux d'Intérêt Général
TJ	Transitional Justice
TJLR	Thomas Jefferson Law Review
TLCP	Transnational Law & Contemporary Problems
TRC	Truth and Reconciliation Commission
Univ La Verne L Rev	University of La Verne Law Review
UC Davis JILP	U.C. Davis Journal of International Law and Policy
UN	United Nations
UNDF	United Nations Detention Facility
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNTAC	United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia
UVF	Ulster Volunteer Force

VJTL	Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law
VPRS	Victims Participation and Reparations Section
VSS	Victims Support Section
VTF	Victims Trust Fund
VWS	Victims and Witnesses Section
VWU	Victims and Witnesses Unit
WILJ	Wisconsin International Law Journal
WJILDR	Willamette Journal of International Law and Dispute Resolution
WSIF	Women's Studies International Forum
YHRDLJ	Yale Human Rights and Development Law Journal
YIHL	Yearbook of International Humanitarian Law
ZIB	Zeitschrift für Internationale Beziehungen
ZIS	Zeitschrift für Internationale Strafrechts-dogmatik
ZStW	Zeitschrift für die gesamte Strafrechtswissenschaft

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