

# INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL LAW COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER

Quarterly Publication | Issue 3

1 April 2024

#### Dear Friends of the Committee,

We have started 2024 off with a tremendous amount of energy and hope to keep it up! In January 2024, the ABA House of Delegates met and passed an updated resolution on the Rohingya genocide. The resolution was presented to the ILS Council by our committee. You can read more about Resolution 503, <a href="here">here</a>. In February, your Co-Chairs completed a policy paper calling for ABA and international action on international crimes being perpetrated against the Hazara in Afghanistan. You can read the policy paper, <a href="here">here</a>. Our hope is that our committee will continue to utilize this policy tool to raise awareness on significant issues and continue to educate members of the ABA about what types of issues international criminal law covers and its continued importance. In April we will be presenting to the ILS Council two resolutions, one on Tibet and the other on the Hazara.

Of course, we have continued our programming on a diverse range of topics! In April and May we have two dynamic programs, one focusing on transitional justice in Chile after Pinochet and in May, we will be partnering with the India/South Asia and Oceania committee to discuss international crimes in West Papua.

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter. I hope you will take time to share any recent publications or news with the committee in our next newsletter or in ABA communities.

Happy Spring! Regina Paulose Co-Chair, ICL Committee

#### **International and Hybrid Criminal Proceedings**

- -ICC orders reparations in *The Prosecutor v. Dominic Ongwen*.
- -ICC postpones delivery of judgment in *The Prosecutor v. Al Hassan*.
- -ICC sets confirmation of hearing in absentia *The Prosecutor v. Joseph Kony and Vincent Otti*.
- -ICC issues sealed arrest warrants against Russian President
  Vladimir Putin, Commissioner for Children's Rights Maria
  Lvova-Belova and Lieutenant General Sergei Kobylash, Admiral
  Viktor Sokolov for alleged war crimes.

#### **Interstate Disputes**

- -Nicaragua institutes ICJ proceedings against Germany for facilitation of and failure to prevent genocide in the Gaza Strip.
- -ICJ finds Russia violated obligations under ICSFT and CERD.
- -ICJ indicates provisional measures in South Africa v. Israel.
- -South Africa institutes proceedings against Israel at the ICJ for violations of Genocide Convention.

### SECTION AND COMMITTEE NEWS

#### **ICYMI**

- -Policy Report on the Hazara Genocide
- -Latest on the Rohingya Report and Resolution
- -Examining the Kurdish Genocides
- -North Korea Accountability
- -<u>The Maasai and Forced</u> Evictions

#### **Upcoming Programs**

-Apr 17: Justice and Accountability after Pinochet -May: International Crimes in West Papua

#### Registration Reminders

-<u>ILS Annual Conference in</u> <u>Washington, D.C.</u> (May 7-10, 2024)



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#### **National Prosecutions**

- -<u>Finnish court acquits former Sierra Leonean</u> rebel commander Gibril Massaquoi.
- -<u>Tunisia sentences former President Moncef</u> <u>Marzouki in absentia for attacking state</u> <u>security and incitement.</u>
- -Dutch court convicts Syrian militia fighter of war crimes and crimes against humanity for complicity in torture and illegal arrest.
- -<u>Trial against former Gambian Interior</u>
  <u>Minister Ousman Sonko for crimes against humanity begin in Switzerland</u>.
- -Prosecution seeks reclassification of charges against former Guinean President Moussa Dadis Camara and ministers to crimes against humanity.
- -Ukraine charges Russian Colonel General Alexander Zhuravlyov for ecocide.
- -U.S. Appeals Court affirms convictions of two Barrio Azteca members for conspiracy to commit murder in Mexico.
- -French Supreme Court upholds lower court ruling that Lafarge can be charged with complicity in crimes against humanity.

#### **Civil Suits**

-Winnebago Tribe sues for repatriation of children's remains buried at Carlisle Barracks Post Cemetery.

#### **Fact-Finding Missions**

-Group of Human Rights Experts on Nicaragua finds pervasive persecution, torture, and crimes against humanity attributable to the State, President Daniel Ortega, Vice-President Rosario Murillo, and high-level officials.

#### **Enhanced Cooperation**

- -EUROJUST Joint Investigation Team mandate on alleged crimes committed in Ukraine extended.
- -Armenia becomes 124th State Party to the Rome Statute.
- -Pakistan and the U.S. sign cultural property protection agreement.

#### **Policies and Initiatives**

- -EU criminalizes ecocide.
- -<u>UNESCO calls upon militants for protection</u> of Island of Meroe, Sudan.
- -OHCHR warns Alabama execution by nitrogen gas asphyxiation may amount to torture.



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#### **National Legislation**

- -India passes Assam Hearing (Prevention of Evil) Practices Bill.
- -Israel amends Police Ordinance, authorizing activation of special photography systems in the public space.
- -El Salvador adopts extradition reforms to its code on criminal procedure
- -United Arab Emirates approves draft law regulating right to issue fatwas.
- -Bulgaria prepares amendments to criminal code to exercise universal jurisdiction for crimes committed in Ukraine.
- -Belgium first in Europe to recognize ecocide as international crime.

#### Other National Decisions

- -French Supreme Court affirms lower court ruling that Jaysh al-Islam group does not meet State nexus requirement under UN Convention against Enforced Disappearances.
- -German Constitutional Court holds national criminal proceedings must be reopened after ECtHR finds a national judgment violates the ECHR.
- -Thailand Constitutional Court rules proposal to reform criminal code punishment for insulting or defaming the royal family violated Constitution.

#### **Rights and Restitution**

- -New York establishes Reparations Commission for enduring effects of slavery.
- -South Korea extends Truth and Reconciliation Commission for human rights violations.
- -U.S. returns Feng Xing Shu Gui to China.
- -Belgium, Canada, Germany, Spain, and U.S. return 200 cultural artifacts to Peru.
- -Harvard Peabody Museum releases report on repatriation efforts under the Native American **Graves Protection and Repatriation Act** (NAGPRA).
- -American Museum of Natural History closing Exhibits displaying Native American cultural materials after NAGPRA updates.

#### FEATURED RESOURCES

- -International Criminal Law Practice Project: **Judgment Drafting**
- -IRMCT: Archives Catalogue

#### **Calls for Public Consultation**

- -ICC Policy on Slavery Crimes.
- -ICC Environmental Crimes Initiative.
- -ICC CAH Gender Persecution Initiative.

#### Published?

Send us a link so we can share your work.

#### **Get Involved!**

Please reach out to our Co-Chair, Tim Franklin, at timf21@protonmail.com.

#### Have Ideas?

Let us know what you want to see in your newsletter.

Connect with us

americanbar-intcriminal@ConnectedCommunity.org



