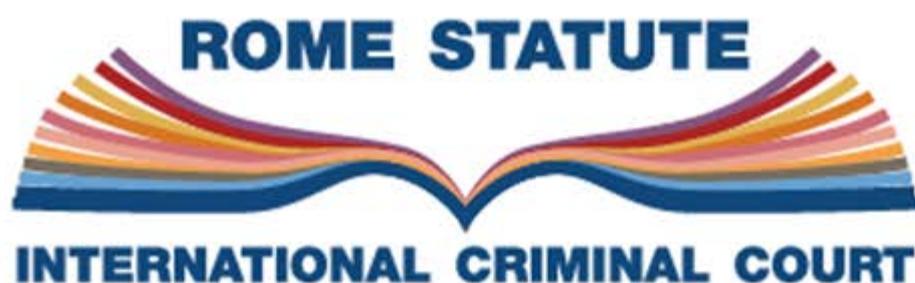


ROME STATUTE AT 20

*Commemoration of the 20th
Anniversary of the Rome Statute*

The Hague, 15-16 February 2018

COALITION
FOR THE **INTERNATIONAL
CRIMINAL COURT**



Launch Forums, 15-16 February 2018

Concept Note

In this anniversary year, the Coalition for the International Criminal Court (Coalition) is dedicated to honoring the groundbreaking achievement that was the adoption of the Rome Statute treaty and the subsequent establishment of the only permanent international court mandated to end impunity for genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and the crime of aggression.

The Coalition is committed to doing all we can to commemorate, celebrate, and honor the government and international organization leaders, and Coalition members who have helped achieve this historic victory for international peace and security since 1995.

The launch of the Coalition's commemoration will take place on 15-16 February 2018 in The Hague, The Netherlands. At the launch, and throughout the year, while celebrating this historic advance in peace, justice, and international law, the Coalition will also take stock of the treaty and the international justice system it created - from its progressive provisions to unexpected lacunae; from its idealistic vision to an increasingly challenging political reality. Crucial to this process of reflection is consideration of the ongoing challenges faced by the Rome Statute system, and how the future of effective, independent, and fair international justice can be assured.

At the launch event in February, we will consider key questions about the history, the evolution, and the future of the treaty, the International Criminal Court (ICC), and international justice: *Was the international community ready for the Statute and the Court? What assessments can be made about the treaty, the Court, and the actions of the states that created the system? What are the main challenges confronting the Court, its Assembly of States Parties, the international community, and civil society in ensuring strong international humanitarian law enforcement and an end to impunity? How do we envision the future of the Rome Statute, the ICC, and international justice during the next 20 years? Do extremism, xenophobia, nativism and rising attacks against multilateralism represent temporary or existential threats to the ICC?*

We are very pleased that many current and former leaders of the Court and of the Rome Statute treaty process have expressed their support and willingness to join in this assessment in The Hague and throughout the year. The launch event will feature contributions from many of the actors and leaders of the Rome Statute process and over the past 20 years: government delegates; leaders from the United Nations and other regional and international organizations, including the European Union; leaders, Judges, and staff of the ICC, the International Court of Justice, the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia/Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals, the Special Tribunal for Lebanon, and the Kosovo Specialist Chambers, among others; representatives of The Hague diplomatic community; and members of civil society and the Coalition from around the world.

COMMEMORATION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROME STATUTE

Our goal through these launch forums is to spur a genuine interactive dialogue on these important issues. Each session will be framed by 3-4 contributors, followed by a discussion enabling all who are willing to contribute, with a kind request to limit interventions to 1-3 minutes. Participants are welcome to prepare longer statements for distribution and uploading to the Coalition's website. We are also honored to be able to screen video statements from a number of eminent personalities in the international justice field and to enable contributions from different regions, backgrounds, and legal traditions.

We are confident that these contributions and the discussions at the Coalition's forums, weaved into a narrative tapestry, could augment other anniversary events and actions in support of the Rome Statute system.

We look forward to working with all stakeholders to ensure a future for international justice worthy of the ideals and principles that led to Rome.

Opening Forum

Thursday 15 February 2018

International Criminal Court, The Hague, The Netherlands

Program

15:00-15:30 **Arrival of participants**

15:30-16:00 **Coffee/Tea**

16:00-17:45 **Opening Forum: "From Rome to the 20th Anniversary"**

Welcoming Remarks

- Mr. William R. Pace, Convenor of the Coalition for the International Criminal Court

Reflections and Messages by Key Actors

- H.E. Ms. Silvia Fernández de Gurmendi, President of the International Criminal Court
- H.E. Ms. Fatou Bensouda, Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court
- H.E. Mr. António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations (*written*)
- H.E. Mr. Kofi Annan, former Secretary-General of the United Nations (*video*)
- H.E. Mr. O-Gon Kwon, President of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court
- Dr. Carla Ferstman, former Executive Director of the REDRESS Trust
- H.E. Mr. Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (*video*)
- Mr. Herman von Hebel, Registrar of the International Criminal Court
- Mr. Motoo Noguchi, Chair of the Board of Directors of the Trust Fund for Victims (*video*)
- H.E. Mr. Hans Corell, Ambassador (ret.) and former Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and the Legal Counsel of the United Nations
- H.E. Ms. Navi Pillay, former Judge of the International Criminal Court and of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia; former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (*video*)
- Mr. Richard Dicker, Director of the International Justice Program of Human Rights Watch
- H.E. Ms. Federica Mogherini, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Vice-President of the European Commission (*video*)
- H.E. Mr. Christian Wenaweser, Permanent Representative of the Principality of Liechtenstein to the United Nations

Participants' Interventions (time permitting)

18:00-19:30 **Reception**

Interactive Forums

Friday 16 February 2018

Academy Hall, Peace Palace, The Hague, The Netherlands

Program

9:00-9:30 **Arrival of participants**

9:30-10:00 **Coffee/Tea**

10:00-10:15 **Welcoming Remarks**

– Mr. William R. Pace, Convenor of the Coalition for the International Criminal Court

10:15-12:30 **Session I: Historical Significance of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court**

- What is the historic significance of the adoption of the treaty relative to: international criminal law? Civil society? National justice efforts? The work of the Court itself?
- What were the factors in 1998 or 2002 that supported the creation and establishment of the ICC? Are those factors still there? What new factors and developments have emerged since then?
- How does the Rome Statute exist within the framework of ad hoc and special tribunals, and the wider post-Cold War international criminal justice architecture?
- Has the Rome Statute successfully addressed the Peace vs. Justice debate?
- What lessons have been learned from other jurisdictions that must be taken into account to ensure the Rome Statute system's longevity?

Panelists' Presentations and Interactive Dialogue

- H.E. Mr. Juan Antonio Yanez-Barnuevo, Ambassador (retired); Head of the Delegation of Spain at the Rome Conference
- Ms. Kimberly Prost, Chef de Cabinet to the President of the International Criminal Court; ICC Judge-elect
- Mr. Fabricio Guariglia, Director of the Prosecutions Division, International Criminal Court
- Ms. Evelyn A. Ankumah, Executive Director, Africa Legal Aid (AFLA)

12:30-14:00 **Break**

14:00-15:30 **Session II: Assessing the Rome Statute System 20 Years Out: Challenges to progress in the fight against impunity in today's geopolitical landscape**

- What are the successes and shortfalls of foundational elements of the Rome Statute and the ICC on: Cooperation? Non-Cooperation? Complementarity? Victims? Universality? Legal Representation? Amendments?
- Assessing the main organs of the Rome Statute system: the Office of the Prosecutor, the Judiciary, the Registry, the Office of the Presidency, the Trust Fund for Victims, the Assembly of States Parties and its Secretariat.
- How is the Court weathering political opposition? From the African Union? From the United Nations?

Panelists' Presentations and Interactive Dialogue

- Dr. David Donat Cattin, Secretary-General, Parliamentarians for Global Action
- Ms. Lorraine Smith van Lin, Post-Conflict Justice Adviser, the REDRESS Trust
- Mr. Darryl Robinson, Professor, Queen's University, Canada

15:30-16:00 **Coffee/Tea**

16:00-17:30 **Session III: The Future of the Rome Statute system, the International Criminal Court, and International Justice**

- What are the key challenges to be overcome, and most importantly, how do we overcome them?
- Who will be the supporters of the ICC in 20 years? How do the creators of the system "pass the baton" to a new generation of activists and government leaders?
- What opportunities exist to position the ICC more positively within global politics, increasing its deterrent effect and ensuring support of the international community?
- How does the Rome Statute system and the ICC fit into a world increasingly confronted by extreme nationalism and the deepening crisis of multilateralism?
- How can the 20th anniversary be used to advance these goals? What can stakeholders do in practical terms?

Panelists' Presentations and Interactive Dialogue

- Mr. Richard Dicker, Director of the International Justice Program of Human Rights Watch
- Ms. Jennifer Trahan, Associate Clinical Professor, Center for Global Affairs, New York University
- Mr. Andras Vamos-Goldman, Executive Director of Justice Rapid Response (JRR)
- Mr. Klaus Rackwitz, Director, International Nuremberg Principles Academy (INPA)

17:30-17:45 **Concluding Remarks**

Launch Forums, 15-16 February 2018

Practical Information

IMPORTANT: You will be required to identify yourself to security prior to entering the ICC or the Peace Palace grounds. It is therefore essential that you have your government-issued ID and event admission card with you at all times.

Thursday 15 February 2018

International Criminal Court

Oude Waalsdorperweg 10

2597 AK The Hague

Tel: +31(0)70 – 515 8515

Website: <https://www.icc-cpi.int>

Friday 16 February 2018

Academy Hall, Peace Palace

Carnegieplein 2

2517 KJ The Hague

Tel: +31(0)70 – 302 4242

Website: <http://www.icj-cij.org>

From The Hague Central Station (Den Haag Centraal) to the ICC

Take Bus 22 in the direction of Duinzigt via Bronovo Zkh, and get off at the *Den Haag, Waalsdorperweg* stop.

From The Hague Central Station (Den Haag Centraal) to the Peace Palace

Take Tram 16 in the direction of Statenkwartier and get off at the *Vredespaleis* stop. Alternatively, take Bus 24 in the direction of Kijkduin via Gemeentemuseum, and get off at the *Vredespaleis* stop.

Taxi

HTMC:
+31 70- 390 77 22

Taxi Service Den Haag:
+31 70- 752 16 88

Haagse Taxi:
+31 70- 388 86 66

Eateries within walking distance of the Peace Palace

Refectorium, Peace Palace, Carnegieplein 2

Café Blossom Lunch and High Tea (International), Anna Paulownastraat 70C

3Stones Kenyan Restaurant (Kenyan), Laan van Meerdervoort 46A

Ristorante Pizzeria La Lanterna (Italian), Dagelijkse Groenmarkt 36

SeleraKu (Indonesian), Laan van Meerdervoort 7E

Albert Heijn (Supermarket), Laan van Meerdervoort 52

Room Grand Café (International), Anna Paulownaplein 16

De Kamer Hiernaast (International), Anna Paulownaplein 13

Acknowledgements

There is no doubt that the International Criminal Court and the Rome Statute system of international justice would not be where they are today without the dedicated efforts and support of a variety of committed individuals, states, institutions, and organizations from around the world.

The same is true of the Coalition for the International Criminal Court – a network of civil society organizations established in 1995 in the aim of ending impunity for perpetrators of genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and the crime of aggression.

The Coalition is therefore pleased to honor all of those who have contributed to and supported these efforts throughout its 23-year history at these and other commemorative events.

The Launch of the Coalition's Commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of the Rome Statute would not have been possible without the support of the **International Criminal Court** and the **City of The Hague**, and we would like to thank them in particular in this regard.

We also express our gratitude to other donors which have supported the Coalition's work throughout the last 23 years, and those which continue to support our efforts: the **European Union**, the **Planethood Foundation**, **Workable World Trust**, **Anonymous US Foundation**, **Irish Aid**, the governments of **Australia**, **Austria**, **Finland**, **Liechtenstein**, **Norway**, **The Netherlands**, **Switzerland**; the **City of The Hague**, and a number of committed individuals.



The Hague