

International Conference

Prohibition, Prosecution and Prevention of Enforced Disappearances

7 and 8 May 2021

Online

Program

as of 27 April 2021

7 May 2021

11:15 - 11:30 CET - Opening remarks

Klaus Rackwitz, Director, International Nuremberg Principles Academy

Prof. Joachim Hornegger, President, Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg

11:30 – 12:15 CET - Keynote Address

Prof. Olivier de Frouville, Professor of Public Law, Université Panthéon-Assas (Paris II); Director, Paris Research Centre for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law; Vice President, United Nations Committee on Enforced Disappearances

Break

13:00 - 14:15 CET - Panel I: Historical Origins of the Crime of Enforced Disappearances and Its Legal Concept

The crime of enforced disappearances can be traced back to the judgement of the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg. The Tribunal ruled in its judgement, with reference to the *Nacht und Nebel* decree that the secret detention of persons with the intent of creating terror among the population and the affected groups constituted both a crime against humanity and a war crime. This panel will analyse the historical origins of acts of enforced disappearances and evaluate how the historical origins have shaped the current nature of the concept of enforced disappearances as an international crime and a human rights violation.

Chair: **Verónica Hinestroza**, Independent Expert on Enforced Disappearances

Prof. Emilio Crenzel, Professor of Sociology, Universidad de Buenos Aires; Researcher, Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas (CONICET)

Prof. Barbara Frey, Director of the Human Rights Program in the College of Liberal Arts, University of Minnesota

Break

14:30 - 15:45 CET - Panel II: Disappearances of Migrants as a Challenge for International Human Rights Law and Humanitarian Action

The context in which enforced disappearances occur has changed substantially since the Cold War era in which South American dictatorships practised it regularly as part of an orchestrated plan for the region. Today, enforced disappearances occur often in the context of migration. This issue intersects with human trafficking and slavery, among other crimes and human rights violations. This panel will identify the current challenges in the fight against enforced disappearances and connected human rights violations with the objective of proposing solutions, new forms of accountability, and prevention.

Chair: **Barbara Lochbihler**, Member, United Nations Committee on Enforced Disappearances; Associate Professor at Master of Human Rights, Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg

Dr. Grażyna Baranowska, Assistant Professor, Polish Academy of Sciences

Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez, Executive Director, Fundación para la Justicia y el Estado Democrático de Derecho

8 May 2021

14:30 - 15:45 CET - Panel III: Determining the Fate of the Disappeared and Investigating Perpetrators

Under the *International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance*, States parties are required to search for disappeared individuals and to investigate the disappearance. The accomplishment of these two basic duties encounters many specific difficulties. This panel will present the two guidelines that aim to define the specific duties for each of the two obligations and propose ways to coordinate the work of the organs in charge of them: the *United Nations Guiding*

Principles for the Search of Disappeared Persons adopted by the Committee on Enforced Disappearances in 2019, and the *Standards and Public Policies for an effective investigation of enforced disappearances*, adopted by the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances in 2020.

Chair: **Prof. Gabriella Citroni**, Professor of International Human Rights Law, University of Milano-Bicocca

Luciano Hazan, Chairperson, United Nations Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances

Dr. Rainer Huhle, former Member, United Nations Committee on Enforced Disappearances; Co-Founder, Nuremberg Human Rights Center

Break

16:00 - 17:15 CET - Panel IV: Prosecuting Enforced Disappearances at the National and International Level

Enforced disappearance in judicial proceedings poses different challenges, institutional approaches have thus been employed by the international community to safeguard the rights violated through acts of enforced disappearances, both collectively and individually. This panel will critically analyse legal instruments under international criminal law and international human rights law, at the national and international level, meant to address enforced disappearances and will also identify and examine the complementary nature of the different enforcement systems and the avenues for harmonising the efforts related to each.

Chair: **Julieta Solano**, Trial Lawyer, Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court

Andreas Schüller, Coordinator of the International Crimes and Accountability Program, European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights

Dr. Dilek Kurban, Fellow, Hertie School

17:15 - 17:30 - Closing Remarks