

Detailed instructions
Sexual Crimes in Conflict Database

General information

The Sexual Crimes in Conflict database is a web-based database that works with live filters. The database may be displayed differently according to the web-browser used. If it does not display correctly, try expanding the browser window or using a different browser.

On the filters

Once a filter is selected on the left-hand side, the results automatically reduce on the right-hand side. At the same time, the other filters automatically reduce and include only those categories that apply to the selection.

Clicking on the question mark  provides a basic description of the filter.

Filters can be deselected individually or by clicking “reset all filters”.

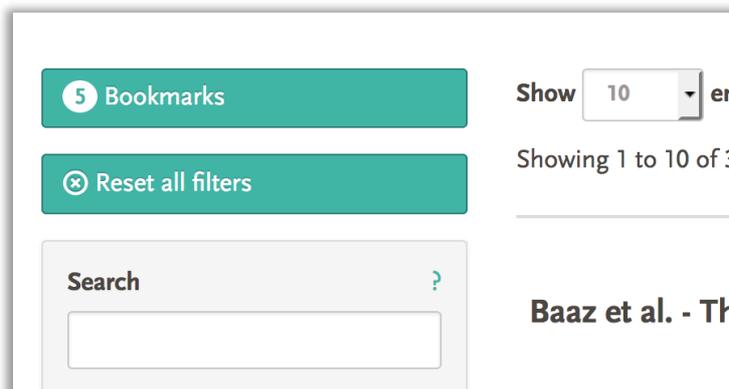
In the near future, an additional feature will be introduced that will allow users to select multiple categories within each filter.

List view and expanded view of database entries

Once the desired filters and/or search terms are selected, the relevant entries are displayed in list form. Each entry can be expanded by clicking “Read more”.

Bookmarking entries

A “Bookmark” function allows users to bookmark entries through a number of searches. The bookmarked entries can then be displayed by clicking “Bookmarks” at the top left corner of the page.

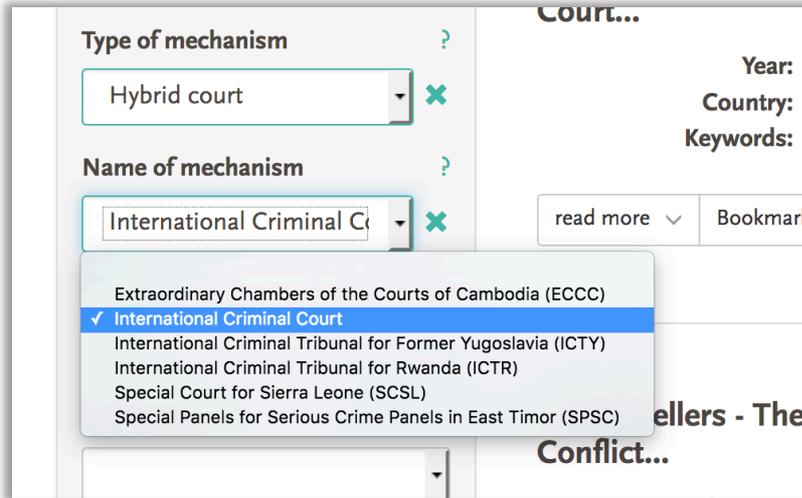


Importance of the filter “type of data”

A crucial feature of this database is that it includes both jurisprudence and literature that deals with conflict-related sexual violence. The broader scope of literature sources vis-à-vis case law may sometimes lead to confusion.

Example: When selecting within the filter “Type of mechanism” the category “Hybrid courts”, the remaining categories under the filter “Name of mechanism” still include options like “International Criminal Court”, which appears a contradiction. However,

as some literature sources discuss both hybrid courts and the International Criminal Court, this is correct.



It is therefore important that users are aware of which “type of data” they currently select, or that they narrow down this filter to the appropriate category.

Sexual violence as a specific focus of jurisprudence entries

Given the specific focus of this database, the criminal charges identified for each case *only* relate to those of conflict-related sexual violence. For example, where instances of rape have been charged as a crime against humanity, this does not necessarily mean that rape was the only crime charged as a crime against humanity. Any other charges that do not entail a sexual violence element have been omitted to preserve the relevance of this database. Accordingly, where convictions and/or acquittals are displayed, these correlate only to the aforementioned indicted charges. Thus, while a case may state an ‘acquittal’ for crimes against humanity, this would only relate to the acquittal of a specific charge of sexual violence and does not necessarily mean that the defendant was acquitted of all charges of crimes against humanity.

Example: When selecting “Acquittal / crimes against humanity”, one of the entries is “ICC-Germain Katanga”. Katanga was acquitted for sexual violence charges but not for others under the category crimes against humanity. Hence, in this database, the “acquittal” and other outcome categories only refer to charges related to sexual violence.