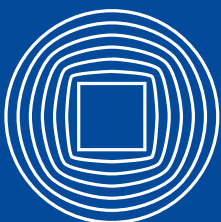


INTERNATIONAL NUREMBERG PRINCIPLES ACADEMY

ADVANCING PEACE
THROUGH JUSTICE
SINCE 2014



INTERNATIONAL
NUREMBERG
PRINCIPLES
ACADEMY

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Editorial

Since its foundation in 2014, the Nuremberg Academy has paid tribute to the Nuremberg heritage by advocating for “peace through justice”. In the following pages, we invite you to discover the wideranging activities undertaken by the Academy driven by our mandate to advance the Nuremberg Principles and support the worldwide enforcement of international criminal law.



We are living in turbulent times: wars and conflicts continue unfolding, crimes are being committed, legal principles and the rule of law are eroded, with accountability efforts ongoing and demands for justice omnipresent. Everyday images and news in the media are poignant reminders of the critical need and urgency to advance the acceptance and even enforcement of international criminal law and justice worldwide.

Our work supports the actors and institutions most crucial to the practical implementation of international criminal law. Supporting enforcement, furthering knowledge and empowering relevant actors involved in judicial processes are at the heart of the Nuremberg Academy’s *raison d’être*. We aspire to be part of an ever-evolving ecosystem in research and capacity building, channelling foresight to strengthen judicial institutions, and attuned to the need of practitioners.

To mark the tenth anniversary, we have produced this brochure, which shares a deeper insight into the Academy’s achievements and aspirations, its network and the people at the heart of it. It also features our activities and achievements, showcasing why the Nuremberg Academy has become a trusted and influential actor in the landscape of international criminal law.



The reach and resonance of the Academy’s activities today are a tribute to those who envisioned its establishment, provided valuable advice and tirelessly shored up its functioning during the past ten years. Of special significance has been the support of the founders, the Foundation Board and the Advisory Council of the Academy as well as the Academy team. We are grateful for the support we have received from friends of the Academy, partners and supporters of our work.

We hope for your continued engagement in the coming years as the Academy furthers this mandate. In fulfilling the promise of Nuremberg, let us not cease to request accountability for international crimes.

Professor Dr Christoph Safferling, Director
Dr Viviane Dittrich, Deputy Director



Principle I

Any person who commits an act which constitutes a crime under international law is responsible therefor and liable to punishment.

Federal Republic of Germany

For ten years now, the International Nuremberg Principles Academy has been a very special partner of the Federal Foreign Office. With the declared aim of promoting human rights as well as international criminal law, including its legitimacy, acceptance and validity, the Academy has had great ambitions from the very start.



It is astonishing that so many decades were needed before a suitable form could be found for the international legacy of the Nuremberg trials and the Nuremberg Principles. However, in light of the major challenges which international criminal law faces around the world today, the founding of the Academy ten years ago ultimately came at the right

time. This joint undertaking by the Federal Foreign Office, the Free State of Bavaria and the City of Nuremberg has been all the more successful!

The Academy's mission is a challenging one. It works to uphold the Nuremberg Principles, formulated more than 70 years ago, as cornerstones of international criminal law – while at the same time adapting them to the future by means of research, teaching and practice. Its existence is also a visible sign that Germany is conscious of its responsibility to stand up for international criminal law and justice, building on the legacy of the Nuremberg trials. This abstract aim has over the last ten years given rise to many concrete projects – and, more importantly still, to a dense network of international criminal lawyers and scholars around the world. The many alumnae and alumni of the Academy, its partners in the field of academia and not least the countless participants in its courses are outstanding evidence of this.

One impressive example of the link that it forges between the past and the future is the international Moot Court, which the Academy goes to great lengths to organise in Nuremberg each year. Young people from around the world come together in the Academy. Inspired by the Nuremberg Principles, they hold simulated proceedings in the historic Courtroom 600, enriching international criminal law with new ideas – and perhaps also laying the groundwork for entirely new approaches in the field as future judges, public prosecutors, professors and diplomats.

The Nuremberg Principles have never been more relevant than they are today. The first war of aggression on the European continent since the end of the Second World War is a painful reminder of one aspect of the Academy's mission: supporting the "fight against impunity" for the severest of crimes. It is for this reason that we see the need to further develop the rules on jurisdiction for the crime of aggression in the Rome Statute. And we greatly value the Academy as a forum for further discussions with researchers and civil society on this issue in particular. It is a place where the theory and the practice of international criminal law intersect, where we can together explore what is legally possible and politically feasible.

On behalf of the Federal Foreign Office, I sincerely congratulate the International Nuremberg Principles Academy on its tenth anniversary. And I look forward to continuing our productive collaboration with the Academy in order to bring together the past and the future of international criminal law!

Tania von Uslar-Gleichen
Director-General for Legal Affairs at the
Federal Foreign Office, Legal Adviser

Free State of Bavaria

A very happy tenth birthday to the International Nuremberg Principles Academy (Nuremberg Academy). My congratulations first to the many people who were, and are, significantly involved in the foundation, development and running of this non-profit foundation under civil law. Congratulations to the representatives of the joint founders: the Federal Republic of Germany, the Free State of Bavaria and the City of Nuremberg, to the members of the Advisory Council as well as to the directors and staff at the Nuremberg Academy. I would especially like to mention three people. Former Federal Minister Dr Oscar Schneider has been the Academy's guiding light. Back in 2008 he set out his vision and, since that time, he has fought with indefatigable commitment to see it put into practice. Professor Christoph Safferling headed up the work commissioned by the Foreign Office to create a feasibility study and develop its content. This study was so convincing that it led to the Federal Government, the Free State and the City coming to an agreement to put the project into effect. Christoph Safferling remained associated with the Academy as Vice-President of the Advisory Council, and today he is the Academy's Director. There is a third person who was greatly involved in the strengthening of the Nuremberg Academy but



who regrettably did not live to celebrate its tenth anniversary: Professor Thomas Buergenthal. He was the founding president of the Academy and later its honorary president. His contribution to the international reputation of this institution cannot be overstated. Today the Academy is well known worldwide and is an organisation of high professional repute. Its location in Nuremberg is ideal, since this city has a close symbolic connection both with the crimes of National Socialism and with the critical processes of coming to terms with these crimes.

The Academy can boast a most remarkable list of events and publications. I never fail to be impressed by the number of eminent actors in the field of international criminal law who take part in the Nuremberg Forums, and the willingness with which high-flyers allow themselves to be wooed to become members of the Advisory Council is truly amazing. In the meantime the Academy has also become a major institution in the city of Nuremberg and the surrounding region. Its activities have been duly and fully honoured in many media mentions at an international, national as well as a local level. When on 9 October 2020 the Academy moved into the east wing of the Nuremberg Palace of Justice, Oscar Schneider's vision was fully realised.

To this day there are millions of people who suffer under terrorism, war and criminal dictatorships. There are many countries where international law is blatantly disregarded. What could be a clearer demonstration of the importance of the International Nuremberg Principles Academy, performing its invaluable role in the protection of human rights, peace and freedom, through its knowledge transfer, training programmes and international dialogue. On behalf of the co-founder, the Free State of Bavaria, and from my own heart, I would like to wish the Academy continued success, positive outcomes and all good fortune. May you prosper for many years to come. AD MULTOS ANNOS!

Dr Thomas Dickert
President of the Higher Regional
Court of Nuremberg



City of Nuremberg

I would like to congratulate the International Nuremberg Principles Academy on its tenth anniversary. In particular I would like to congratulate the Academy on the ten years of activity in which it has made a major contribution to the development of interna-

tional criminal law both in practice and research. Over this time the Academy has established itself as a nationally and internationally respected institution. Especially in view of the serious crises facing us over the recent months and years, the voice of the International Nuremberg Principles Academy has become increasingly important, helping us to assess and judge what is happening.

The history of the City of Nuremberg has had some very dark periods. It was this city where the Nazi Party Rallies were held, this city had to lend its name to the National Socialist anti-Semitic legislation, this city saw slave labour, maltreatment, deportation and death. What we have inherited is difficult and challenging. Yet over the years Nuremberg has taken this history and has created out of it institutions, initiatives and stances that are progressive and forward-looking. The City of Nuremberg sees its past as a call of duty to bring positive thinking not only to its own future but to the future of others. This is evidenced in the city's orientation on human rights ("City of Peace and Human Rights"), the setting up of the Human Rights Office and of the Documentation Centre Nazi Party Rally Grounds.

The city has also been associated with a new departure, nothing less than a significant advance in civilisation: the revolutionary and pioneering Trial of the Main War Criminals was a turning point in the way mass crimes are dealt with. Law thus acquired a hitherto unknown significance in dealing with international conflicts. This event is also commemorated in Nuremberg with the Memorium Nuremberg Trials. When the decision was taken to set up "an institution to implement the Nuremberg principles of international criminal law" – principles resulting from the Nuremberg trial of the Main War Criminals – the City of Nuremberg was happy to take on the project coordination. And the City of Nuremberg is proud of being able, as a co-founder, to continue making its contribution to the International Nuremberg Principles Academy. This institution expands and completes Nuremberg's educational and memorial landscape. We are delighted to have you here and wish you all the best for future success in your work.

Marcus König
Lord Mayor of the City of Nuremberg

GUIDED BY PURPOSE

A Unique Internationally Renowned Institution

The Nuremberg Academy, located at the historical site of the Nuremberg trial, offers a world-renowned forum for dialogue dedicated to advancing international criminal law, transitional justice and human rights. Unique in its focus, our work builds on the legacy of the Nuremberg Principles, an enduring

» *The legacy of Nuremberg should never be forgotten: that we must place the individual, the lived experiences of victims and survivors, at the centre of international law. The Nuremberg Academy has been critical in deepening our understanding of this legacy and bringing together all actors to advance the cause of international criminal justice. As we embark on a renewed era in our own work in the fields and cooperation, complementarity and ever greater effectiveness, the Office of the Prosecutor is deepening its engagement with the Academy, in our common effort to uphold the basic right of all individuals to justice.*

Karim A. A. Khan, Prosecutor, International Criminal Court

inheritance from the Nuremberg trial and an evocative symbol of the rule of law and justice for international crimes. A non-profit foundation, the Nuremberg Academy was founded by the Federal Republic of Germany, the Free State of Bavaria and the City of Nuremberg in 2014. While established as a national institution based in Nuremberg, the mandate and focus of the Academy have a clear international outlook and reach.

We provide a forum for dialogue by convening international conferences and expert meetings, conduct interdisciplinary and applied research, engage in specialised capacity building for practitioners of international criminal law and human rights education. The Academy supports the fight against impunity for universally recognised core international crimes: genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and the crime of aggression. Our work responds to the needs of practitioners, scholars and civil society representatives. We enable timely and credible access to best practices from groundbreaking institutions and scholarship and to diverse and trusted insights from leading figures working in international criminal justice.

With a vision of fostering sustainable peace through justice, furthering knowledge and building societal awareness, our work empowers the capacities of



»Civilization does not expect that you can make war impossible. It does expect that your juridical action will put the forces of international law, its precepts, its prohibitions and, most of all, its sanctions, on the side of peace.«

Robert H. Jackson, 21 November 1945

those involved in the judicial process in relation to core international crimes. The Nuremberg Academy upholds the spirit of the Nuremberg Principles by reinforcing the efforts of holding perpetrators accountable for international crimes and of victims

international law. It has been more than 75 years since Robert H. Jackson, the United States Chief Prosecutor at Nuremberg described the trial as one of the “most significant tributes that Power has ever paid to Reason”. The trials at Nuremberg represented a triumph for peace and justice over vengeance and retribution.

» *The Nuremberg Trial catalysed the modern system of international justice. It was an emblematic moment, to which all roads lead. In this way, the work of the Academy in the round offers a singular point of reference, one that underscores the centrality and significance of the moment, and the need to defend the essential values that moment embodied.*

Philippe Sands, Professor of the Public Understanding of Law, University College London

fighting for justice and recognition. Today, the rule of law is under threat in various settings. There is an ever-growing need to empower international law and architectures that support justice, accountability and a rules-based international order. Our programmes are geared towards supporting actors who strengthen the rule of law and improving public understanding of international criminal law.

A Pioneering Process and Heritage

The Academy is located in the Nuremberg Palace of Justice, the historical venue of the Nuremberg trial. In a pioneering process before the International Military Tribunal (1945–1946) constituted by the four allied nations, the surviving leadership of the National Socialist regime was brought to trial. The subsequent trials before the United States Military Tribunals (1946–1949) were also located here. At Nuremberg, leading Nazi representatives were held personally accountable for crimes under

Foundational Principles for International Criminal Law

The most significant principles of international law represented in the Nuremberg Charter and the Judgment are now known as the Nuremberg Principles. In 1946, the United Nations General Assembly affirmed the principles of international law recognised by the Charter and Judgment of the Nuremberg Tribunal. Trygve Lie, the first Secretary-General of the United Nations had called for these principles to be made “a permanent part of international law” citing the need “to protect mankind against future wars”. Four years later, in 1950, the International Law Commission formulated seven “Nuremberg Principles” after being entrusted with this responsibility by the General Assembly. Fulfilling the aspirations ingrained in the Nuremberg Principles and securing their even and worldwide enforcement would be worthy manifestations of Justice Jackson’s message.

» *The Academy at the birthplace of international justice provides a constant reminder that “the law is one of the most significant tributes that power has ever paid to reason”. This legacy has to be kept alive and followed for many generations to come through information and education.*

Ekaterina Trendafilova, President, Kosovo Specialist Chambers

The formulation of the Nuremberg Principles marked a watershed moment for international criminal law. Their influence has significantly shaped the current substance and procedure of this law.

The Nuremberg Principles

- Criminalised aggressive war
- Established individual criminal responsibility under international law
- Removed Head of State immunity and other forms of immunity for core international crimes
- Laid the groundwork for foundational definitions, modes of liability and determining complicity for these crimes
- Emphasised fair trial rights for the accused in international criminal proceedings.

» *The founding of the Nuremberg Academy at the historic site of the Nuremberg war crimes trials can be seen as a milestone in remembrance, raising awareness and shaping the future of international criminal law.*

Stefanie Schmahl, Professor of German and Foreign Public Law, Public International Law and European Law, Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg

Over the last seventy years, the influence of the Nuremberg Principles is visible in the development of the statutes and jurisprudence of the *ad hoc* criminal tribunals, hybrid courts and the International Criminal Court (ICC). Some of the most influential international and domestic proceedings dealing with international crimes have also invoked the principles as a foundational authority of international criminal law.

The Nuremberg Academy aspires to build on this historical legacy and advance contemporary accountability efforts in the spirit of a modern application of the Nuremberg Principles.



Justice Robert H. Jackson, Chief United States Prosecutor, at the Nuremberg trials, 1945

Choosing to Care: An Interview with Navi Pillay about Justice, Law and Accountability

In an exclusive interview with Dr Viviane Dittrich, Judge Navi Pillay shares personal reflections on her involvement with the Academy and her views on the Nuremberg legacy, accountability and the future of international criminal justice. Read interview excerpts below.

Dr Viviane Dittrich: How did the Nuremberg trials influence you as a young law student?

Judge Navi Pillay: I remember that we were under the worst days of apartheid. I was fascinated by the Nuremberg cases that I poured over in the library [where I had to climb a ladder to reach the top shelves]. They gave me a framework for understanding how the law could tackle state sponsored violence and inequality. I was intrigued that for the

as a child witness in the apartheid court. And what I see when I sit in Courtroom 600, that it is possible. It is not just a dream to have international criminal justice. Nuremberg turned that into a reality.

Dittrich: What do you consider the value of the Academy being located at the site of the Nuremberg trials?

Pillay: We use the word Nuremberg and everybody in the world understands. It is very important that ongoing developments in international law are discussed by experts, by practitioners. Germany dedicated itself to providing a service for international criminal justice that would be of benefit to the whole world. The Academy has been set up in such a way that they can address all human rights situations: The preservation of the right to life, and protections

»We use the word Nuremberg and everybody in the world understands.«

against systematic and gross violations of human rights and human dignity, henceforth to remain cornerstones of the international normative system built after the defeat of Nazi ideology and fascism. And more significantly, all states were expected to integrate these norms into their domestic legal frameworks and take measures to hold accountable those individuals found to be in violation. So that's the legacy of Nuremberg.

Dittrich: How did your engagement with the Academy come about?

Pillay: I received this call from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. And what did I instantly think of? Me climbing that ladder and reading the books. All I know, is these dusty volumes of court reports, which we



Judge Navi Pillay
President of the Advisory Council

couldn't immediately translate or implement in our courts because we had Nazi ideology permeating in apartheid South Africa. All the individuals who were charged for crimes happened to be black. I immediately thought, wow, Nuremberg. It's like a magic word for me, translating into universal international justice. So, that's what I felt, no hesitation. I followed in the footsteps of Tom Buergenthal [as Advisory Council President] and we all were in awe of him. We've grown over ten years. We have a wonderful [Academy] team, including the Director and you, Viviane, have been so loyal and a brilliant strategist and innovator for the Academy. We need young people with ideas.

Dittrich: What role can international criminal law play in countering impunity?

Pillay: This is why the International Criminal Court was established. When you have no redress in your own country, to us, and for us, the ICC fills that vacuum. The ICC should be universally ratified and supported. Three of the veto holding powers in the Security Council are not parties to the Rome Statute, and that's a huge failure. Look how long it took for the Nuremberg trials jurisprudence to permeate all countries. It will take time but we do have the mechanism.

Dittrich: In light of contested multilateralism today and the erosion of the rule of law worldwide, what is necessary for the effective prevention of atrocities, accountability efforts and upholding a rules-based international order?

Pillay: We have to, as the Academy does, speak loudly and strongly for continued multilateralism. You can have multipolar formations, such as the BRICS and

»We have to continually recite the principles«

the EU. But we all seem to be at the mercy of closed institutions such as Bretton Woods, the IMF and so on, that have a huge impact and should pay more attention to building up a fair multilateral system. As Nelson Mandela said when he thanked the world for helping to end apartheid: "Thank you, you chose to care". So that's my call upon all states: they should care and act collectively to address all these new and emerging challenges that we will be facing.

Dittrich: What gives you a sense of optimism?

Pillay: I'm 82. Many people asked me: "When are you going to stop?" As long as there are human rights violations and someone is suffering, why wouldn't you care? We have to continually recite the principles, recite the rights language. That's what keeps me optimistic, that we have a duty to continually encourage, share and speak up. I'd like to add that most of my inspiration comes from other women. I've always been inspired by other women.

Dittrich: Thank you very much.

[A longer version of the interview is available on the website of the Nuremberg Academy.](#)

Navi Pillay was elected President of the Advisory Council of the Nuremberg Academy in 2017. She served as the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights from 2008 to 2014. In 1995, after the end of Apartheid, Judge Pillay was appointed to the Supreme Court of South Africa. She was then elected by the UN General Assembly to be a judge at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, where she also served for four years as president. She served as a judge on the International Criminal Court from 2003 to 2008.

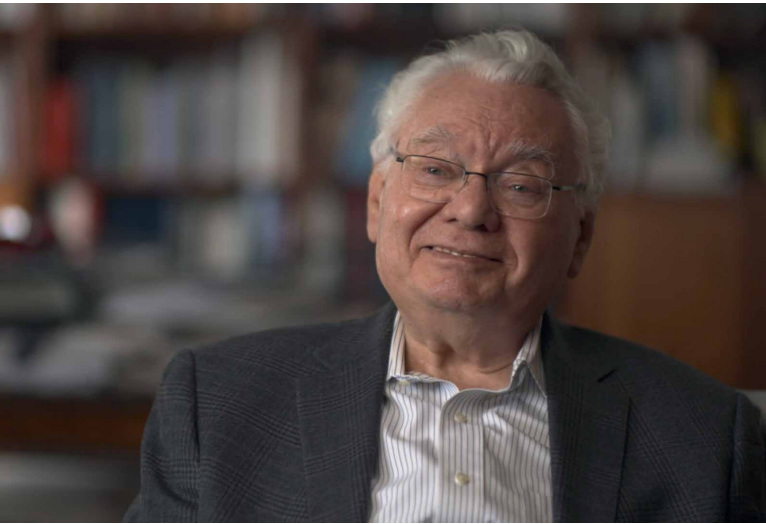


Judge Navi Pillay, President of the Advisory Council, with Vice-President Dr Serge Brammertz (left) and former Vice-President Professor Christoph Safferling (right)

first time in modern history, in 1945, at Nuremberg, judicial power backed by punishment was exercised by the international community to achieve justice and accountability of individuals for the commission of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Dittrich: What does being in Nuremberg frequently now mean to you?

Pillay: I was intrigued that [the founders] took this courageous step, to move away from the past, and not just make a speech and forget about it, and that they decided to set up the Academy. I don't think Germany realises how the whole world is so entranced by the fact that Courtroom 600 is there. I started off



Judge Thomas Buergenthal, in the documentary "Peace Through Justice", 2017

Thomas Buergenthal: An Icon of Justice and Reconciliation

Thomas Buergenthal (1934–2023) was a renowned and revered international lawyer, scholar and judge and the first President of the Advisory Council of the Nuremberg Academy. He played an instrumental role in the establishment of the Academy in Nuremberg. His guidance was highly cherished as the Academy embarked on its journey and solidified its activities and reputation.

Judge Buergenthal's life was a testament to the power of justice and reconciliation. After a childhood marked by his experience as one of the youngest survivors of the Auschwitz and Sachsenhausen concentration camps, he was liberated from Sachsenhausen one month prior to his eleventh birthday.

Thomas Buergenthal moved to the United States where he studied law at New York University and Harvard University. He then embarked on a stellar career dedicating his life to promoting international criminal law and human rights. He was a venerated international judge and served on the International Court of Justice (2000–2010) and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (1979–1991, including as President from 1989–1994). In the latter court, his decision to shift the burden of proof on to domestic governments in the case of disappearances was a radical shift towards accountability for such cases.

Apart from his service as a judge, Thomas Buergenthal was also a member of the UN Truth Commission for El Salvador and the UN Human Rights Committee.

He was moreover a pioneering scholar and among the founders of the field of international human rights law. Judge Buergenthal was *inter alia* the Lobingier Professor Emeritus of Comparative Law and Jurisprudence at the George Washington University Law School and Dean of the Washington College of Law of the American University.

His scholarly writings included foundational textbooks on international human rights. In addition to multiple leading scholarly books and publications, Judge Buergenthal published his memoir "A Lucky Child" in 2007. The book became a worldwide best-seller and was translated into many languages.

Until his passing in 2023, Thomas Buergenthal served as the Honorary President of the Academy's Advisory Council. In recognition of the life and work of Judge Buergenthal, the Nuremberg Academy produced the documentary film "Peace Through Justice – The Legacy of Thomas Buergenthal", which premiered in 2018. The documentary accompanies Judge Buergenthal and his family in Nuremberg, Sachsenhausen, his hometown Göttingen and Washington, D.C. Along with his wife Peggy and family members he would also pay a memorable visit to Göttingen where Stolpersteine ("stumbling stones") were laid for his mother Gerda and her family at the location of where his grandparents Rosa and Paul Silbergleit had a shoe shop.



Judge Thomas Buergenthal (right), with Dr Viviane Dittrich, Peggy Buergenthal and Klaus Rackwitz (from left to right) in Washington D.C., 2019

On Courtroom 600 and the Nuremberg Trials

» Today it is also a very important principle that people who violate human rights, commit genocide, commit crimes against humanity can be tried and convicted. That is extremely significant and this is where this principle was first established.

» To be walking in this room is something very very special, because this is the room where to us a certain amount of justice was done.

On his Involvement with the Nuremberg Academy

» For me, the establishment of the Academy in this city stands not only for the commitment of the new Germany never to return to its terrible past, but also to the recognition that all countries have an obligation to promote the worldwide protection of human rights and the enforcement of international criminal law when those rights are violated.

» First of all, it is important that it is here. In this city. And that to me was one of the main reasons why I got interested in it. And I thought it was symbolically so important that this work continues and not just ends with the Nuremberg judgments. And to have it here is symbolically important for that reason, and also symbolically important for Germany. That the Germany of today is promoting international criminal law which is something that none of us would have thought possible in 1945.

» I still ask myself from time to time, what my father, who died in the Buchenwald concentration camp on January 15th 1945, would say on learning of my connection to this city for the International Nuremberg Principles Academy. I'm convinced that he would feel vindicated for the view he frequently expressed during the war, in the camps, that the Nazi regime would not last. That Hitler would lose the war and that the German people would eventually come to their senses.

On the Importance of International Criminal Law

» In remembering the Holocaust, the world must forever be warned against its repetition in the guise of comparable crimes that continue to threaten mankind. I believe that genocide is a crime that must be treated as being of concern not only to the countries where it occurs or the people it victimises. It is a human tragedy because of what humanity loses when human beings anywhere become victims of this terrible crime.

» When you look around the world today, what you see in Burma and some other places and in the Middle East is still terrible. But on the whole it's a very different legal atmosphere and legal rules that can be enforced. If we had what we have today in [19]38/39, we might have been able to prevent some of the things that were committed here by the Nazis. But none of that existed.

Moments from Academy Events



From top left:
Benjamin Ferencz ◊ Professor Yuma Totani ◊ Dr Viviane Dittrich and Professor Philippe Sands ◊ Judge Silvia Fernández de Gurmendi ◊ Dr Oscar Schneider ◊ Christian Schmidt, Horst Seehofer and Dr Frank-Walter Steinmeier (from left to right) ◊ Fatou Bensouda ◊ Dr Markus Söder, King Willem-Alexander of the Netherlands, Queen Maxima (back row from left to right), Professor Carsten Stahn and Ambassador Bernd Borchardt (sitting from left to right) ◊ Heiko Maas ◊ Judge Piotr Hofmański ◊ Karim A. A. Khan KC ◊ Alice Wairimu Nderitu

Members of the Advisory Council

Navi Pillay (President)

President of the Advisory Council, former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, former President of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, former Judge of the International Criminal Court

Serge Brammertz (Vice-President)

Vice-President of the Advisory Council, Chief Prosecutor of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, former Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia

Stefanie Schmahl (Vice-President)

Vice-President of the Advisory Council, Chair for German and Foreign Public Law, International Law and European Law at Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg

Silvia Fernández de Gurmendi

President of the Latin American Society of International Law, former President of the Assembly of State Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, former President of the International Criminal Court

Peter Frank

Judge of the Federal Constitutional Court of Germany

Brenda J. Hollis

Principal Trial Lawyer in charge of the Ukraine investigation at the International Criminal Court, former Chief Prosecutor of the Special Court for Sierra Leone

Karl Huber

Former President of the Higher Regional Court of Munich, former President of the Bavarian Constitutional Court

Athaliah Lesiba Molokomme

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative at the Permanent Mission of Botswana to the United Nations Office and other International Organisations at Geneva

Betty Kaari Murungi

Professor of Practice at the Centre for Gender Studies at SOAS, University of London, former Vice Chairperson of Kenya Truth Justice and Reconciliation Commission (2009-2010)

Bertram Schmitt

Judge at the International Criminal Court

Sang-Hyun Song

Former President of the International Criminal Court

Former Members

Thomas Buergenthal (President and Honorary President) – (President 2015–2016, Honorary President 2016–2023)

Former Judge at the International Court of Justice and former President of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights

Christoph Safferling (Vice-President, 2015–2023)

Chair for Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, International Criminal Law and Public International Law, Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg

Cecilia Medina Quiroga (2015–2019)

Former President of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights

David Tolbert (2015–2021)

Drinan Chair in Human Rights, Georgetown University, former Acting Registrar at the Special Tribunal for Lebanon and former President of the International Center for Transitional Justice (2010-2018)

Principle II

The fact that internal law does not impose a penalty for an act which constitutes a crime under international law does not relieve the person who committed the act from responsibility under international law.

The Founding Phase: From Idea to Reality

Anne Rübesame, Founding Commissioner of the Nuremberg Academy from 2012 to 2015

In late 2011, when Susanne Wasum-Rainer from the Federal Foreign Office approached me in New York to serve as the Founding Commissioner for the Academy I was immediately struck by three insights: For years, we had been wondering why Germany is not building on the legacy of the Nuremberg trials in Nuremberg, here was the chance to make it happen. The Foreign



Anne Rübesame

Office believed the chances of success were slim due to the complex nature of building a new institution with three levels of government involved, federal, state and city – not an ideal situation and one that sounded like heavy lifting. But if I could persuade my former judge at the International Court of Justice, Auschwitz survivor Tom Buergenthal to come on board, it could work out and thus it would be a shame to not give it a try.

First, I went to Nuremberg where I was greeted warmly by Michaela Lissowsky, who headed up the project locally, and Oscar Schneider, the former Federal Minister under Chancellor Kohl, who came up with the idea of the Academy and procured the initial funding in the Bundestag.

Next, I went to see Tom in D.C. where we talked in some length about the project and left him with the excellent feasibility study, put together by Christoph Safferling who headed up an all-star team that included Anja Seibert-Fohr from Max-Planck Institut and Hans-Peter Kaul, the first German judge at the ICC. A flurry of emails and phone calls later, Tom agreed to travel to Nuremberg for a gathering that included the future UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Prince Zeid, US Legal Adviser Harold

Koh, future US Ambassador for Global Justice, Beth van Schaack, human rights lawyer Amal Clooney, and future US Attorney General Loretta Lynch. We called it the “Nuremberg Forum”.

Oscar Schneider envisioned a moral Security Council, of sorts, and saw his vision reflected in the influential group assembled and their ideas. Judge Tom Buergenthal served as the moral centre of the conference which culminated in a public event during which my husband, novelist Daniel Kehlmann, interviewed Tom in Courtroom 600. To hear a victim of the Holocaust, who had devoted his entire professional life to furthering the international rule of law in order to prevent future atrocities, explain his hard-won insights and personal transformation from victim to judge and throw his weight behind the institution was profoundly resonant and contributed much to the conclusion that the Academy was not merely a good idea but a necessity. The rest is history.

Or not quite. From 2012 all the way up until its founding conference in 2015 there were moments when the project threatened to fall apart as the interests of the three major stakeholders changed and diverged. The Academy would not exist without having been saved, at different junctures, by Ingrid Bierer from the City of Nuremberg, Thomas Dickert from the Free State of Bavaria, and Guido Hildner from the Foreign Office.

Throughout, it was Tom Buergenthal’s example and continuing influence that kept us persevering.

From the Start-Up Phase to a Full-Fledged Academy

Klaus Rackwitz, Director of the Nuremberg Academy from 2016 to 2022

I first heard of the plans of founding an academy in Nuremberg in 2011, when the late Judge of the International Criminal Court Hans-Peter Kaul approached me in The Hague and reported, with sparkling eyes, of an event in Nuremberg in which he had participated and in which the establishment of a think tank for international criminal law was discussed. He was pointing at me and saying: “You absolutely have to go to this place and build it to success!”

Well, it took a couple of years before I indeed arrived at this institution in October 2016. The Academy was still in its infant stages, it had been active only one year. However, the City of Nuremberg had established a Founding Office already in 2012, and thus the Academy had already a basic infrastructure. Hence all was

Directors of the Nuremberg Academy

Amb. Bernd Borchardt
Founding Director 11/2014–9/2016

Klaus Rackwitz
Director 9/2016–12/2022

Amb. Christian Much
Interim Director 5/2017–8/2017

Dr Viviane Dittrich
Acting Director 10/2017–2/2018; 1–2/2023

Prof. Dr Christoph Safferling
Director 2/2023–present

Deputy Directors

Michaela Lissowsky
Deputy Director 1/2015–1/2016

Dr Viviane Dittrich
Deputy Director 9/2017–present

in place to set off immediately. For me, it was clear that the new institution needed close ties to the ICC and to the other international courts and tribunals, because the main objective of the Academy was to support the practitioners in their fight against impunity for the gravest crimes on the planet.



Klaus Rackwitz

It was the first UN General Assembly which unanimously affirmed the principles of international criminal law (ICL). This consensus was the ideal starting point for the Academy to work on matters of international criminal law, which nowadays are disputed. Nuremberg is neutral, not in favour or against a particular institution, and it has the legitimacy to bring together, on its historic ground, the

different views with the objective to advance the law and to fight impunity. The Academy was able to attract all key stakeholders, the presidents and chief prosecutors of all international criminal courts and tribunals, leading practitioners and representatives of civil society. Experts from the Academy’s Advisory Council, among them two former presidents of the ICC, former and active chief prosecutors, renowned professors, practitioners with decades of experience guide the Academy’s leadership on the programmatic activities and the strategy. Their support is invaluable for the Academy.

Three major tasks had been given to the Academy: Strengthening the discourse on contemporary issues in the field of ICL, building capacity of practitioners and conducting research on topics directly relevant for the application of the law. This is what the Academy does, increasingly visible to the ICL community around the world.

The Academy is today a mature and respected institution. It is located since 2020 in the historic east wing of the Nuremberg Palace of Justice in ideal offices. But most important remains the human factor – the dedicated staff of the Academy, the support from the Advisory Council and the guidance provided by the Foundation Board. They all are pivotal for the Academy’s endeavours to contribute to justice, accountability and the rule of law.

Institutional Milestones

- 11/2011 Feasibility Study by Scientific Founding Committee
- 11/2014 Formal establishment with signing of founding documents
- 7/2015 Opening event with a video message by Ban Ki-moon and in presence of Federal Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier
- 10/2018 Federal Foreign Minister Heiko Maas and ICC Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda address Nuremberg Forum 2018
- 10/2020 Move to permanent premises at the Nuremberg Palace of Justice
- 11/2024 10-year anniversary of the Academy

FURTHERING THE DISCOURSE



A World-Renowned Forum for Dialogue

The Nuremberg Academy offers a world-renowned forum for strengthening and reviving commitments to the global fight against impunity. As a custodian of the historic Courtroom 600, the Academy provides an ideal setting to foster critical discussion, build consensus and inspire reform. The open dialogue cultivated at our events in the spirit of a modern and even application of the Nuremberg Principles focuses on the development, practical application and acceptance of international criminal law and justice worldwide.

As a politically independent institution the Academy acts as a knowledge hub and furthers evidence-based decision making. Our events bring practitioners of international criminal law into dialogue with each other as well as with academics and civil society representatives. Our growing network of distinguished experts is at the forefront of practice and scholarship.

» *Through excellent programmes that bring together practitioners from different legal systems and traditions, the Academy is building the foundation for a world where the Nuremberg Principles provide protection for people everywhere.*

Stephen Rapp, former international prosecutor and diplomat

We frequently organise conferences, seminars and lectures that enrich public understanding of international criminal law. Our events address current developments, invite critical thinking and conduct retrospectives and stocktaking assessments. Apart from high-profile public events, such as the annual Nuremberg Forum, we convene retreats and closed-door workshops encouraging specialist exchange in a setting conducive to frank dialogue on sensitive issues. The Academy hosted the first-ever retreats for judges of both the International Criminal Court and the Kosovo Specialist Chambers. The Academy also hosted retreats for trial lawyers and a major international meeting of the defence.

A Venue for Nurturing the Law Nuremberg Forum

Our events are mostly held at Courtroom 600, the location of the Nuremberg trials. We also conduct programmes at Courtroom 619, which held parts of the subsequent Nuremberg trials and is now part of the Academy's office premises. These courtrooms are foundational symbols of international criminal law, representing the triumph of law over authoritarianism and impunity for mass atrocity crimes. These historic courtrooms are fitting venues for hosting discussions that nourish the law's ability to better navigate a complex and fragmented geopolitical landscape.

Through our strong network with renowned partner institutions including courts, universities, research centres and other foundations, the Academy also co-organises international events. We highly value partnering with institutions that promote accountability for international crimes in conflict affected regions. We also work together with museums and memorial sites and have particularly close ties with the Higher Regional Court of Nuremberg, Memorium Nuremberg Trials and Documentation Center Nazi Party Rally Grounds in Nuremberg.

Sharing our Expertise Worldwide

In addition to organising events in Nuremberg and worldwide, our experts routinely contribute to high-profile events and international conferences hosted by other institutions. Our expertise is regularly sought and Academy colleagues have been invited as expert speakers to attend events worldwide. The Academy is regularly present at the annual meetings of the Arbeitskreis Völkerstrafrecht, Journées internationales de la justice pénale internationale and Ibero-American Week of International Justice. Moreover, the Academy is a regular organiser of events at the Assembly of States Parties of the International Criminal Court (ASP), held annually in The Hague or New York.

The Nuremberg Academy is deeply committed to making expert discussions and outcomes from our events fully accessible. Almost all our events are open to the public free of charge, and recordings can be found on our YouTube channel and other social media pages.

The Nuremberg Forum is the main annual international conference organised by the Nuremberg Academy every year in October. It brings together leading experts, practitioners and scholars, policymakers and civil society by providing a forum for dialogue and a spotlight on contemporary topics in international criminal law.

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| 2023 | Legally Undeniable: Criminalising Genocide Denial |
| 2022 | The International Criminal Court 2002–2022: A Court in Practice |
| 2021 | The Fight against Impunity since 1950: Living up to the Nuremberg Principles? |
| 2019 | The Nuremberg Principles beyond the International Criminal Court: A Common Ground for Accountability |
| 2018 | 20 th Anniversary of the Rome Statute: Law, Justice and Politics |
| 2017 | 10 Years after the Nuremberg Declaration on Peace and Justice: The Fight Against Impunity at a Crossroad |
| 2016 | The Continuing Evolution of the Nuremberg Principles in Light of the Contemporary Jurisprudence of International Criminal Courts |
| 2015 | The Nuremberg Principles 70 Years Later: Contemporary Challenges |

» *The huge significance of the room inevitably resonates with all those who wish to contribute to the development of international justice and, for this reason, brings unparalleled added value to discussions on peace and justice among academics, lawyers, practitioners, and students. For this reason, in 2015, when I was President of the International Criminal Court, I requested the assistance of the then recently created Nuremberg Academy to convene the first retreat of ICC Judges in Room 600. This retreat, which contributed to foster judicial cohesion and strengthen personal bonds launched the welcome practice of holding annual gatherings of judges to discuss procedural and institutional matters of particular importance, which continues until now.*

Silvia Fernández de Gurmendi, former President, International Criminal Court and President, Latin American Society of International Law

International Conferences

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| 2023 | International Conference on Business and Human Rights – organised with CHREN of Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg |
| 2023 | The Nuremberg Principles and Contemporary Challenges – organised with the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. |
| 2022 | Is the Future of International Criminal Law Domestic? |
| 2021 | Prohibition, Prosecution and Prevention of Enforced Disappearances |
| 2019 | Paving the Path of Human Rights: Synergies between International Criminal Law and UN Agenda 2030 |
| 2018 | Integrity in International Justice – organised with the Centre for International Law Research and Policy (CILRAP) in The Hague (Peace Palace) |
| 2018 | 70 Years Later: The International Military Tribunal for the Far East |
| 2017 | Legacy of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and the Nuremberg Principles – organised with the ICTY |
| 2017 | Power in International Criminal Justice – organised with CILRAP and other partners in Florence |
| 2017 | Philosophical Foundations of International Criminal Law – organised with CILRAP and other partners in New Delhi |
| 2015 | International Opening Event: Accountability and the Nuremberg Principles – 70 years after the Nuremberg Trials |

Retreats

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| 2019 | Retreat of the Steering Committee of the Coalition for the International Criminal Court |
| 2018 | Retreat of ICC Trial Lawyers |
| 2017 | Fifth International Meetings of the Defence organised with the Defence Office of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon |
| 2017 | Kosovo Specialist Chambers Judges' Retreat |
| 2015 | ICC Judges' Retreat |



International Conference on Integrity in International Justice at the Peace Palace in The Hague, 2018



Participants of the Fifth International Meetings of the Defence in Nuremberg, 2017

Expert Seminars and Panel Discussions

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|-----------|---|
| 2023 | Expert Seminar on the Crime of Aggression |
| 2023 | Expert Seminar on Judicial Ethics with presidents of international criminal courts and tribunals |
| 2021–2022 | The International Criminal Court Colloquium – organised with the Center for International Law and Policy in Africa and ASIL |
| 2021 | Roundtable discussions on the 75 th anniversary of the Judgment of the International Military Tribunal – organised with the Robert H. Jackson Center |
| 2019 | Panel Discussion and Workshop: Desk Perpetrators – Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow |
| 2019 | Workshop on Benchmarking in International Criminal Justice— organised with HiIL and Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Bogotá |
| 2018 | Atrocity Crimes Litigation Bi-Annual Review Symposium – organised with Northwestern University |

Nuremberg Academy Lectures

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| 2023 | Prof. Claus Kreß: The Ukraine War and the Crime of Aggression |
| 2021 | Prof. Philippe Sands: International Justice and Personal Stories |



Professor Claus Kreß

Other Public Lectures

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|------|--|
| 2019 | Prof. Gerry Simpson: One Hundred Years of Turpitude: A Century of War Crimes Trials |
| 2018 | Prof. Gregory Gordon: From Streicher to Šešelj: The Origins and Outlook of Atrocity Speech Law |

Special Events

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|------|--|
| 2021 | “Peace Through Justice” – Online Film Screening and Conversation with Judge Thomas Buergenthal |
| 2021 | “Law. Not War.” – Special Event honouring Ben Ferencz on his 101 st Birthday |
| 2015 | Performance of A Song of Good and Evil by Philippe Sands and Katja Riemann in Courtroom 600 |

Nuremberg Forum

2021: The Fight against Impunity since 1950: Living up to the Nuremberg Principles?

- Facilitated critical discussions on the current and future directions of the fight against impunity highlighting the importance of acquiring a deeper contextual and regional understanding of conflicts
- Advanced proposals for innovative changes in international criminal justice with a specific emphasis on fostering collaboration among diverse actors
- Keynote addresses by Judge Navi Pillay (former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights) and Professor Patrícia Galvão Teles (Autonomous University of Lisbon and Member, International Law Commission)

» *The Nuremberg Academy sits at the very centre of the world of international criminal law and the history of war crimes trials. Its programme of events, its leadership and its various intellectual agendas have made it a must-visit institution for academics, lawyers, politicians, and experts in the field.*

Gerry Simpson, Chair in Public International Law, London School of Economics and Political Science

2018: 20th Anniversary of the Rome Statute: Law, Justice and Politics

- Engaged in open and critical dialogue on the ICC, reflecting on developments in its past two decades and focusing on the interplay of law, notions of justice and politics
- Explored the operations of the ICC, examining case selection, length of proceedings and the role of victims alongside broader topics such as complementarity and state engagement and cooperation
- Keynote addresses by Federal Minister Heiko Maas (Federal Foreign Minister of Germany) and Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda (Prosecutor, International Criminal Court)

International Conferences

2022: Is the Future of International Criminal Law Domestic?

- Assessed current practices related to the investigation and prosecution of international crimes in national jurisdictions and highlighted the legal and moral obligation of states to investigate and prosecute international crimes
- Explored avenues for collaboration among national jurisdictions, especially regarding cross-border challenges and stressed the role of universal jurisdiction
- Keynote addresses by Karim A. A. Khan KC (Prosecutor, International Criminal Court), Duscha Gmel (Prosecutor, Office of the Federal Public Prosecutor of Germany), Dr Aminata Touré (former Prime Minister of Senegal) and Matevž Pezdirc (Head of the Genocide Network Secretariat, Eurojust)

2018: 70 Years Later: The International Military Tribunal for the Far East

- Featured reflections by 30 eminent Japanese and international scholars from law and the social sciences, judges and experts on the establishment and functioning of the Tribunal, as well as on its receptions and repercussions
- Assessed the historical importance and lasting relevance of the Tokyo judgment, particularly in terms of substantive law and advancements in trial-related procedural challenges

- Keynote address by Professor Yuma Totani (University of Hawai'i at Mānoa) and opening dialogue featuring Professors Yasuaki Onuma (University of Tokyo), Robert Cryer (University of Birmingham) and Urs Matthias Zachmann (Freie Universität Berlin)



Professor Philippe Sands and Katja Riemann



Klaus Rackwitz

» *The Nuremberg Academy has an immense impact globally. This has been achieved through a number of activities that have led to increased global awareness about the need to prevent and prosecute war crimes and end impunity.*

Dr Athaliah Molokomme, Permanent Representative of Botswana to the UN and other International Organisations in Geneva and Ambassador to Switzerland

Principle III

The fact that a person who committed an act which constitutes a crime under international law, acted as Head of State or responsible government official, does not relieve him from responsibility under international law.

FACILITATING RESEARCH

Ethical Principles for International Criminal Judges
 Understanding Hate Speech within the Context of International Criminal Law
 E-Procedure: Evidence in Time of increased Use of Technology and Digitalization
 Benchmarking in International Criminal Justice
 Private Investigations in International Criminal Justice
 Length of the Proceedings at the International Criminal Court
 Complementarity and International Criminal Justice
 Cooperation in the Prosecution of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence
 Refugees as Potential Witnesses of International Crimes
 Acceptance of International Criminal Justice

Bridging Gaps between Theory and Practice

The Nuremberg Academy's research deepens knowledge and advances practice-oriented solutions for key issues in international criminal law today. By bringing together actors who are at the vanguard of scholarship and practical application, our research bridges gaps between theory and practice. International criminal law is not static and is in a process of continual refinement. Hence, we continuously engage a diverse array of experts working in practice, academia and civil society.

» *Creation ten years ago of a world premier institute was in itself a big step forward for the systematic studies on war and peace based on the Nuremberg Principles in support of the International Criminal Court. Its research outputs have reached every corner of the world.*

Song Sang-Hyun, former President, International Criminal Court

Cognisant of the legacies of Nuremberg, our research draws on lessons from the foundational experiences that shaped international criminal law. While focusing on present-day challenges in prosecuting international crimes and accountability efforts in international, hybrid and domestic jurisdictions, the ambit of our research projects is not limited to specific legal or cultural perspectives.

» *The Nuremberg Academy serves as a bridge between academia and practitioners, linking legal theory and cutting-edge research with international criminal lawyers and judges across the globe. During the start-up phase of the Academy, I fondly remember being received in Berlin by German Chancellor Merkel, who had a keen interest in supporting this institution. Everyone pauses in reverence as they walk into the historic courtroom.*

Serge Brammertz, Chief Prosecutor, International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals

Empowering Practitioners and Advancing Interdisciplinary Research

We place a special emphasis in engaging with practitioners and their needs to ultimately contribute to capturing state-of-the-art practice and enhancing practice, as relevant. Research projects thus address challenges and structural concerns that affect the practice of international criminal law. The Academy's research addresses themes that are either under-researched or deserve particular or renewed attention. For our applied and interdisciplinary research, the Academy has nurtured strong relationships with renowned academics and universities in all continents. Engaging with experts across multiple disciplines, especially in law, the social sciences and humanities and organising expert seminars strengthens our research endeavours.

» *By training practitioners from countries affected by international crimes, the Academy will enable those countries themselves to investigate, prosecute and trial the perpetrators. This will strengthen the rule of law at both, the national and international levels. The United Nations looks forward to supporting the International Nuremberg Principles Academy in its important work.*

Ban Ki-Moon, then UN Secretary-General, 6/6/2015

The Academy has facilitated research on a broad spectrum of topics. Some projects concentrated on issues such as the use of digital evidence in the prosecution of international crimes and the ethical aspects of private investigations in international criminal justice. Another project addressed hate speech in the context of international criminal law. Other projects have identified the need for benchmarks for measuring international criminal justice and explored the deterrent effect of international criminal tribunals. Yet another project addressed the length of proceedings before the International Criminal Court.

Our research has produced various deliverables, including databases, publications, guidelines and declarations. For instance, we partnered and worked with experts, including five presidents of international criminal courts and tribunals, in developing ethical principles for international criminal judges. The Academy also published guidelines for social workers dealing with refugees as potential witnesses of international crimes and another project resulted in guiding principles for cooperation between civil society actors and judicial mechanisms mandated with the prosecution of conflict-related sexual violence.

Ensuring Open Access to our Research

The Academy strives to disseminate and share its research as widely as possible. All our findings are available free of charge through online resources, databases and publications. Relevant research findings inform our capacity building efforts and are actively discussed in our training programmes.

The Academy's databases are freely accessible repositories that reach a worldwide audience, including the open access multilingual e-learning platform Lexsitus and the Digital Evidence Database. In the initial years of the Academy, two databases offered educational and research tools on the acceptance of international criminal justice on a national, regional and international level (the Acceptance Online Platform) and on sexual and gender-based violence (the Sexual Crimes in Conflict Database).

Principle IV

The fact that a person acted pursuant to order of his Government or of a superior does not relieve him from responsibility under international law, provided a moral choice was in fact possible to him.



Professor Christoph Safferling, Katja Keul and Judge Bertram Schmitt (from left to right)

Databases and Platforms

E-Learning Platform Lexsitus E-Learning Platform
Sexual Crimes in Conflict Database **Acceptance Online Platform**
Digital Evidence Database

Select Projects

Length of the Proceedings at the International Criminal Court

- Spurred by a resolution of the German parliament (Bundestag), this research project identified factors causing lengthy proceedings at the ICC by analysing public records, conducting interviews with experts and key personnel from all organs of the ICC
- The resulting report available in English and German concluded that while trials at the ICC are long, they are not disproportionately long and formulated recommendations for the acceleration of proceedings
- Expert presentations discussed the findings both at the ASP in The Hague and in the Bundestag emphasising complexities in ICC procedures, victim participation and the oral nature of proceedings
- Conducted in collaboration with the International Criminal Law Research Unit of Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg (ICLU)

ETHICA: Ethical Principles for International Criminal Judges

- The ETHICA project examined issues of ethics and deontology in international criminal justice and brought together a high-level group of experts, including five presidents of international criminal courts
- The resulting 25 principles serve as a comprehensive guide for international criminal judges in their conduct within and outside of judicial functions
- Available in English, French, Spanish, German and Ukrainian
- Led by the Nuremberg Academy, the École nationale de la magistrature and the Siracusa International Institute for Criminal Justice and Human Rights, this project was financed by the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and Expertise France

Refugees as Potential Witnesses of International Crimes

- The project focused on deepening understanding of structures advancing the prosecution of international crimes in Germany with a specific focus on the role of social welfare institutions
- The resulting guidelines informed social workers and other care providers about concepts such as universal jurisdiction, relevant institutional and investigative structures, and ongoing practical work by German authorities
- Initiated in cooperation with the City of Nuremberg and in the context of a mass arrival of asylum seekers to Germany, among them potential witnesses, victims, or perpetrators of international crimes
- Available in English and German

» I was invited to many of the early brainstorming sessions when the Academy was just being conceptualized. It's been remarkable to see so many of those early ideas come to fruition over the years. The Academy is now an essential part of the international justice ecosystem, educating the next generation of leaders and fostering frank conversations around the challenges of delivering justice for the worst crimes known to humankind.

Beth Van Schaack, Ambassador-at-Large for Global Criminal Justice, United States of America

» This is our motto: Peace through Law. With this motto we carry forward that thinking which, down the centuries, has been the central concern of European philosophers and theorists of national and international law.

Oscar Schneider, former German Federal Minister and spiritus rector of the Nuremberg Academy, 06/06/2015

Select Databases

Digital Evidence Database

- Investigates the impact of digital evidence on international criminal proceedings, compiling guidelines, analysing jurisprudence and addressing challenges in the digital evidence-human rights interface
- Offers a central and comprehensive repository of manuals and guidelines concerning digital evidence, both at the investigation stage and judicial proceedings
- Available in English with additional materials in Spanish, Russian and Arabic

Lexsitus

- As an open access online learning platform, Lexsitus provides free access to more than 230 lectures by 50 lecturers and commentaries on all provisions in the Rome Statute and Rules of Procedure
- Features commentary, case law and digests on more than 860 separate pages for individual elements of crime and means of proof
- Created by CILRAP along with the Nuremberg Academy and other partners and is available in English, Arabic, French and Persian

Select Research Topics

- Length of the Proceedings at the International Criminal Court
- Ethical Principles for International Criminal Judges
- Digital Evidence in International Criminal Proceedings
- Hate Speech and International Criminal Law
- Benchmarking in International Criminal Justice
- Private Investigations in International Criminal Justice
- Refugees as Potential Witnesses of International Crimes
- Acceptance of International Criminal Justice
- Complementarity and International Criminal Justice



Participants of the Expert Seminar on Judicial Ethics held in Nuremberg, 2023

STRENGTHENING CAPACITY

Customised and Multilingual Capacity Building Worldwide

Capacity building is at the core of the Nuremberg Academy's mandate. The Academy's capacity building programmes empower individuals and institutions confronting core international crimes. Through its capacity building activities, the Academy aims to equip practitioners with the specific skills and tools necessary to effectively deal with international crimes.

» *The Nuremberg Academy might be uniquely placed to help avoiding that the underlying geopolitical divisions also permeate the debate among international criminal justice practitioners.*

Catherine Marchi-Uhel, Head of the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism for Syria

We develop specifically tailored programmes that are demand-driven and needs-based. As a result, the Academy offers a wide gamut of customised trainings and courses focused on the theory and practice of international criminal law. Conducted in English, French and German, our programmes take place in Nuremberg and around the world, including in conflict and post-conflict regions.

» *In the ten years since its foundation, the International Nuremberg Principles Academy has developed into a significant and universally recognised factor in the field of international criminal law.*

Karl Huber, former President of the Higher Regional Court of Munich and former President of the Bavarian Constitutional Court

Two of the Academy's flagship programmes address the next generation of legal practitioners: the Nuremberg Moot Court and the Nuremberg Summer Academy for Young Professionals, held annually at our premises in the Nuremberg Palace of Justice.

Academy staff are regularly invited to lecture on international criminal law at various academic institutions. Throughout the year, we also routinely host international student groups, academics, visiting professionals and German legal trainees for study visits and seminars in Nuremberg.

Deepening Knowledge and Strengthening Institutions

The Academy takes a leading role in capacity building for legal practitioners such as lawyers, prosecutors, defence counsel and judges. Trainings are also provided to other target groups such as military and investigative agencies. We also offer customised courses for non-legal professionals, including journalists and representatives of civil society, with a focus on international criminal law, journalism and trial reporting.



Participants of the Intensive Training Programme for Iraqi Judges in Nuremberg, 2022

We bring together the expertise of both leading scholars and practitioners with extensive experience in international and domestic jurisdictions. Our activities focus on sharing experiences and developed practices. The investigation and prosecution of international crimes presupposes political will and capacity. International courts alone cannot address all cases. Pioneering domestic prosecutions and universal jurisdiction proceedings are challenging legacies of repression in several countries. In line with the Academy's mandate, it is thus essential to build capacity at the domestic level and strengthen international, hybrid and domestic institutions as they fulfil their important mandates and work towards accountability and justice.

Effective Local and International Partnerships

The Academy has established a strong network of experts and partner organisations. When creating customised programmes, we build on the expertise and credibility of our local, national and international partners. Our programmes are adapted to the unique requirements of individual contexts and deliberately created to be inclusive and dialogue-based taking into account local and cultural sensitivities. We work closely with United Nations mandated courts and agencies as well as national judiciaries and non-governmental organisations on the ground.

In particular, we have regularly conducted joint trainings with the European Judicial Training Network and Genocide Network Secretariat (EJTN-GNS), Asser Institute and Cassese Initiative, United Nations Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals, Kosovo Specialist Chambers, United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/Isil, Wayamo Foundation, Club des amis du droit du Congo and Observatoire Ivoirien des Droits de l'Homme, to name a few.

» *Whether it be through its rich archives, capacity building efforts, innovative research and training, or the convening of thematic, technical, or high-level conferences, the Academy makes significant contributions to the field of international criminal law. I commend the Academy's stellar track record to date and wish it continued success in its important mission. In a field where the shadow of myopic politics often dims hopes for greater humanity and adherence to the peaceful settlement of disputes, the Academy through its impactful work is a shining light – may it be so for years to come.*

Fatou Bensouda, High Commissioner of The Gambia to the UK and the Commonwealth, and former Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (2012-2021)

Select Capacity Building Activities

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|------------------------|---|
| 2021-2023 | Residence Programme for Research Scholars (Résidences Adamas) organised with Château de Goutelas |
| 2022-2023 2017-2019 | EJTN-GNS Joint Trainings for European Judges and Prosecutors on the Investigation and Prosecution of Core International Crimes |
| 2021-2023 | Training on Core International Crimes for Ivorian Magistrates and Judicial Police organised with the Observatoire Ivoirien des Droits de l'Homme |
| 2021-2023 2019 | Intensive Course on Human Rights, ICL and Transitional Justice organised with Le Club des amis du droit du Congo |
| 2022 2018-2019 | Advanced Seminars on Investigation and Prosecution of International Crimes for East, West and Central African Prosecutors organised with the UN International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals |
| 2021-2022 2018-2019 | Strengthening Domestic Capacity to Prosecute International and Transnational Criminal Law in Africa organised with the Asser Institute and the Antonio Cassese Initiative |
| 2022 | Training on international humanitarian law and ICL for the Iraqi Judiciary organised with UNITAD |
| 2017-2020 | Training Workshops for Nigerian Civilian and Military Prosecutors |
| 2018 | Seminar on Journalism and Trial Reporting organised with the Kosovo Specialist Chambers |
| 2016 | Training on Sexual Crimes Prosecutions organised with the ICTY |
| 2016 | Nuremberg Summer Academy on Dealing with the Past through Education |

» *The Nuremberg Academy, pivotal in raising global awareness of international criminal justice, plays a key role in navigating conflicts and advocating for victim justice, while also inspiring and involving young people in the creative pursuit of a just world.*

Ivana Hrdličková, former President, Special Tribunal for Lebanon

Principle V

Any person charged with a crime under international law has the right to a fair trial on the facts and law.

The Nuremberg Academy offers an annual two-week intensive summer course for young professionals. Both the anglophone and francophone editions of this course are held in Nuremberg. Guided by leading international experts and practitioners, the participants acquire practical knowledge on the investigation, prosecution and adjudication of core international crimes. An educational and cultural programme accompanying the course enriches the immersive

learning experience. The participants are typically young lawyers, prosecutors, judges and academics from different conflict and post-conflict countries. A unique feature of the Nuremberg Summer Academy is that we provide full scholarships for all selected participants. Along with the established anglophone edition, we have been offering a francophone edition since 2019: l'Académie d'été de Nuremberg pour jeunes professionnels.



Nuremberg Summer Academy for Young Professionals, 2019



Courtroom 600 during the Nuremberg trials in 1945



Courtroom 600 during the Nuremberg Moot Court in 2023



Press Conference by Justice Robert H. Jackson in Courtroom 619 in 1945



EJTN-GNS Joint Training for European Judges and Prosecutors in Room 619 in 2023

» The Nuremberg Academy gave me the best experience of my life in relation to international criminal law. The composition of the topics, diversity of participants and careful selection of presenters were all perfect.

Anteneh G. Gameda, Ethiopia

» These two weeks provided me the chance to deepen my knowledge of international criminal law, learning from top academics and practitioners in the field.

Alero Fenemigho, Nigeria

» I have learned so much and will be able to implement in my jurisdiction, particularly at a level of imparting knowledge.

Ella Siang'andu, Zambia

» The Summer Academy helped me to find the best way of using international criminal law in the fight against impunity of grave crimes in my country.

Patient Iraguha, Democratic Republic of the Congo

» I hope the Academy continues to organise such inspiring and wonderful summer school. I will be back to my country with lot of things I got from this experience of life.

Emna Sammari, Tunisia

» The Summer Academy was a life-changing experience. I am grateful for your support.

Frank Rosenblatt, United States of America

» Thanks to the Academy, I have learned a lot that is directly relevant to my day-to-day work at High Court!!

Philippa Bogere, Uganda

Winners and Runners-Up

| | | |
|-------|-----------|---|
| NMC15 | Winner | Maastricht University (The Netherlands) |
| | Runner-up | National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (Ukraine) |
| NMC16 | Winner | National University of Singapore (Singapore) |
| | Runner-up | University of São Paulo (Brazil) |
| NMC17 | Winner | Strathmore University (Kenya) |
| | Runner-up | National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (Ukraine) |
| NMC18 | Winner | Maastricht University (The Netherlands) |
| | Runner-up | National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (Ukraine) |
| NMC19 | Winner | National University of Singapore (Singapore) |
| | Runner-up | Birzeit University (Palestine) |
| NMC20 | Winner | Maastricht University (The Netherlands) |
| | Runner-up | The London School of Economics and Political Science (United Kingdom) |
| NMC21 | Winner | Queen Mary University of London (United Kingdom) |
| | Runner-up | Maastricht University (The Netherlands) |
| NMC22 | Winner | Maastricht University (The Netherlands) |
| | Runner-up | Koç University (Turkey) |
| NMC23 | Winner | Strathmore University (Kenya) |
| | Runner-up | Macquarie University (Australia) |

The Nuremberg Moot Court is an annual international competition, held in English in Nuremberg. University teams from all over the world argue a fictitious case before the "International Criminal Court", dissecting both complex procedural and substantive issues of international criminal law. During the three-day competition, students have the unique opportunity to develop their skills and plead at the historic Courtroom 600 in front of esteemed professionals in the field including incumbent judges of the International Criminal Court. The competition is co-organised with the International Criminal Law Research Unit at Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg.

» *A once in a lifetime opportunity. It gave me a clear picture of what I wanted to do with my career in international criminal law.*

Prashamsa Ghimire (NMC participant, Tribhuvan University, Nepal)

» *Still the best Moot Competition going.*

Judge Joanna Korner (NMC Judge)

» *Once again it was a very impressive event. The thing that strikes me the most is the atmosphere which is professional and efficient but extremely welcoming and collegiate.*

Megan Hirst (NMC Judge)

» *The event was very well organised and is the best Moot Court competition that I have judged.*

Kamran Choudhry (NMC Judge)

» *It is incredible to see the level of professionalism in this Moot Court.*

Sarah Bafadhel (NMC Judge)

» *This diversity brings exchange, that brings evolution for each country and I think that is what is key with these kinds of events like the Moot Court.*

Judge Nicolas Guillou (NMC Judge)

» *It is very welcoming and it is symbolic for all of us to come back here, to have hearings in Courtroom 600.*

Amélie Becquart (NMC Judge)



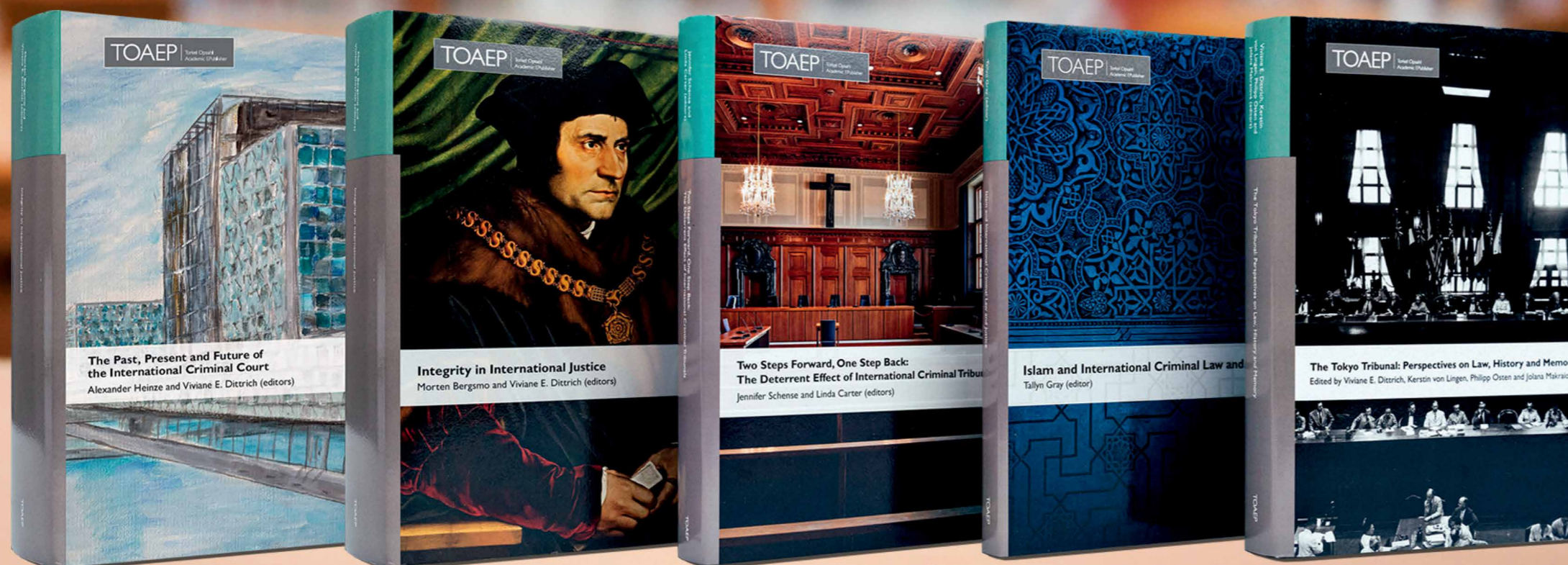
SHARING KNOWLEDGE

State of the Art and Open Access Publishing

Promoting scholarship and research is an essential pillar of the Academy's work. Hence, publishing holds a central role in advancing the recognition, reputation and reach of our work. Our publications bring together interdisciplinary expertise and combine the perspectives of practitioners and scholars to explore the history, current developments and key topics of international criminal law. We publish edited volumes, books, conference reports and a series of

» *The 10th anniversary of the Nuremberg Academy is truly a reason to commemorate. During the rather short time of its existence, the Academy has managed to become an important and universally respected institution for the promotion of the Nuremberg Principles. I am confident that the Academy will continue to make an essential contribution to the advancement of international criminal law and human rights.*

Bertram Schmitt, Judge, International Criminal Court



occasional papers. We count leading scholars as well as practitioners, including current and past principals of international courts and tribunals, amongst the contributors to Academy publications.

We are firmly committed to open access publishing. It is important to ensure that all interested persons can access and use our publications and resources as freely available electronic versions. The cost-free availability of publications and of learning and working tools facilitates the dissemination of international law, proper access to law and thereby access to justice.

Wide-Ranging Focus and Themes

Through curated anthologies, the Academy's edited volumes engage with a range of topics and approaches. Since its launch in 2017, the Nuremberg Academy Series published five volumes in its first five years. From the current developments of the International Criminal Court to the influence of integrity on international criminal justice and the legacies of the Tokyo Trial, the remit of the Academy's volumes span multiple perspectives and geographies. Occasional Papers have focused on, for example, transitional justice in Germany after 1945 and 1990, the framework of the Special Criminal Court in the Central African

Republic as well as the influence of the Nuremberg Principles in non-Western societies.

Publications also capture findings emanating from our applied and interdisciplinary research. Often, these publications build on and disseminate the key insights sourced from the high-level dialogues and conferences convened by the Academy. Professionals working on the frontlines of international criminal law benefit from the Academy's publications, which include practical guidelines on several topics. The guidelines have focused on topics such as refugees as potential witnesses of international crimes, co-operation between civil society and judicial mechanisms in the prosecution of conflict-related sexual violence, the deterrent effect of prosecuting international crimes and judicial ethics.

Contributing to Current Debates and Advancing Public Understanding

Our publications contribute to current debates and scholarship and act as a conduit for leading practitioners to reflect on topical developments, challenges and lessons learned. These reflections further a deeper and nuanced understanding of the past and of contemporary institutions and proceedings, by presenting complexities and contentions. Academy staff also regularly publish in peer-reviewed journals, edited volumes and specialised international law fora.

The Academy's publications also advance public understanding of international criminal law's possibilities and limitations. The highly charged public discourse appears increasingly prone to clichés, or even disinformation and ill-informed accounts. There is thus an ever-increasing need for informed accounts, reliable insights and sound research. It is this acute necessity that the Nuremberg Academy is responding to in the spirit of open access publishing.

Principle VI

The crimes hereinafter set out are punishable as crimes under international law:

(a) Crimes against peace:

(i) Planning, preparation, initiation or waging of a war of aggression or a war in violation of international treaties, agreements or assurances;

(ii) Participation in a common plan or conspiracy for the accomplishment of any of the acts mentioned under (i).

(b) War crimes:

Violations of the laws or customs of war which include, but are not limited to, murder, ill-treatment or deportation to slave labor or for any other purpose of civilian population of or in occupied territory; murder or ill-treatment of prisoners of war or persons on the Seas, killing of hostages, plunder of public or private property, wanton destruction of cities, towns, or villages, or devastation not justified by military necessity.

(c) Crimes against humanity:

Murder, extermination, enslavement, deportation and other inhumane acts done against any civilian population, or persecutions on political, racial, or religious grounds, when such acts are done or such persecutions are carried on in execution of or in connection with any crime against peace or any war crime.

Nuremberg Academy Series

The Nuremberg Academy Series, edited by Dr Viviane Dittrich, has an interdisciplinary focus and brings together academics and practitioners. The themes covered address persistent and pressing legal issues and explore the twenty-first century challenges encountered in fighting impunity for core international crimes. All books are available open access through our website and have been published in partnership with the Torkel Opsahl Academic EPublisher and the Centre for International Law Research and Policy.

No. 5: The Past, Present and Future of the International Criminal Court (2021)

Edited by Alexander Heinze and Viviane E. Dittrich

- Provides a broad perspective on the Court's development and combines reflections from inside and outside the Court
- Features a focus on five key topics: prosecutorial policy and strategy, jurisdiction and admissibility, victims and witnesses, defence issues and legitimacy and independence

No. 4: Integrity in International Justice (2020)

Edited by Morten Bergsmo and Viviane E. Dittrich

- First book to comprehensively focus on integrity in international justice
- Features thirty-three chapters addressing in-depth the meaning of integrity, awareness and culture of integrity and the roles of international organisations, states and courts

No. 3: The Tokyo Tribunal: Perspectives on Law, History and Memory (2020)

Edited by Viviane E. Dittrich, Kerstin von Lingen, Philipp Osten and Jolana Makraiová

- Combines perspectives from law, history and the social sciences to examine the legacies of the Tokyo Tribunal
- Features reflections by eminent Japanese and international scholars, judges and experts on the establishment and functioning of the Tribunal as well as on its receptions and repercussions

No. 2: Islam and International Criminal Law and Justice (2018)

Edited by Tallyn Gray

- Assesses how Islamic legal traditions impact state practice and emphasises parallels between civilisations and legal traditions
- Shows that scholarship across "legal families" is a two-way street that can enrich both traditions

No. 1: Two Steps Forward, One Step Back: The Deterrent Effect of International Criminal Tribunals (2017)

Edited by Jennifer Schense and Linda Carter

- Offers case studies on the deterrent effect of international criminal tribunals in ten situations
- Contributes to the discourse on deterrence and on how tribunals can assist in a global co-operative effort to prevent core international crimes

» *With the Academy we shall carry the Spirit of Nuremberg into the 21st century. Because one thing is clear to us: In this world full of crises and conflicts in which we live today nothing is more important than to strengthen the rule of law.*

Frank-Walter Steinmeier, then German Federal Foreign Minister, 06/06/2015

» *The International Nuremberg Principles Academy, ... , the right idea, in the right place, at the right time.*

Hans-Peter Kaul, then Vice-President of the International Criminal Court, 21/11/2011

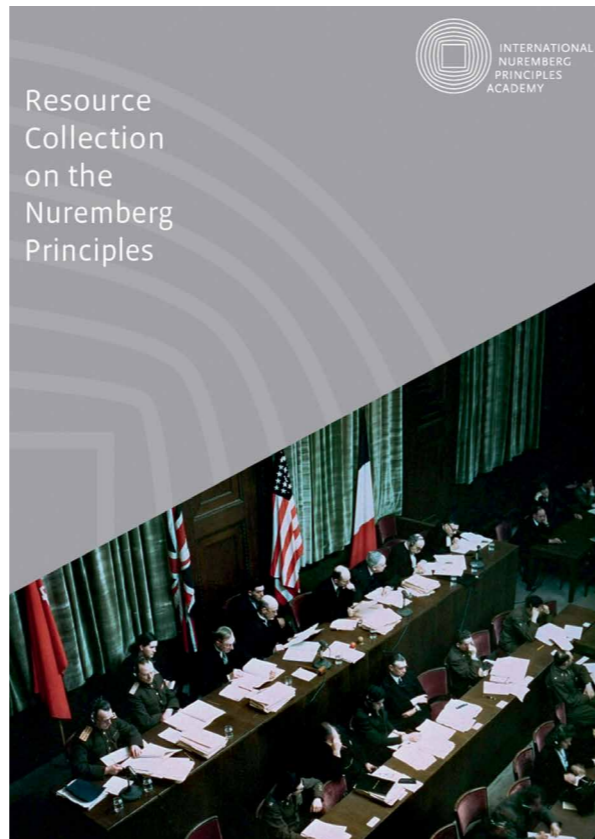
Special Commemorative Volume on the Nuremberg Principles

A special volume bringing together 70 distinguished voices, this book offers reflections on the seven decades since the formulation of the Nuremberg Principles. These compelling accounts from practitioners and scholars provide insightful readings on how international criminal law can overcome the most enduring challenges and criticisms that affect its acceptance and enforcement. The book, edited by Dr Viviane Dittrich, explores the interplay of the Nuremberg Principles with developments in law, politics, policy and diplomacy and addresses the prospects of their future implementation.



Resource Collection on the Nuremberg Principles

The Resource Collection serves as a testament to the continued role and relevance of the Nuremberg Principles as a benchmark of international criminal justice, and their implementation in various domestic, hybrid and international jurisdictions. This unique resource provides an overview of official documents, case law and scholarly literature. The collection includes references in English but also in French, German and Spanish.



» If there was any doubt as to this appraisal of the Nuremberg Principles as principles that have formed part of customary international law 'since time immemorial,' such doubt has been removed by two international documents. We refer to the United Nations Assembly resolution of 11.12.46 which 'affirms the principles of international law recognized by the Charter of the Nuremberg Tribunal, and the judgment of the Tribunal' and also to the United Nations Assembly resolution of the same date, No. 96 (1) in which the Assembly 'affirms that genocide is a crime under international law'.

Supreme Court of Israel, Attorney General v. Adolf Eichmann, Judgment, 29 May 1962.

» The Nürnberg principles affirmed by General Assembly resolution 95 (I) have considerably influenced the development of international criminal law. Indeed, since 1946, the Nürnberg principles have been reaffirmed and developed in the statutes of the international criminal tribunals and in international and national case law. They are today widely considered to represent customary international law.

Antonio Cassese, Affirmation of the Principles of International Law recognized by the Charter of the Nürnberg Tribunal, United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law, 2009.

» In the interest of peace, and in order to protect mankind against future wars, it will be of decisive significance to have the principles which were implied in the Nürnberg trials, and according to which the German war criminals were sentenced, made a permanent part of the body of international law as quickly as possible. From now on the instigators of new wars must know that there exist both law and punishment for their crimes. Here we have a high inspiration to go forward and begin the task of working toward a revitalized system of international law.

Trygve Lie, first Secretary General of the United Nations, The Charter and Judgment of the Nürnberg Tribunal - History and Analysis: Memorandum submitted by the Secretary-General, UN Doc. A/CN.4/5, 1949.

» The basic principles of Nuremberg were valid then, and they remain so today.

Henry King Jr., "Commentary: The Modern Relevance of the Nuremberg Principles", in Boston College Third World Law Journal, 1997, Vol. 17, No. 2, pp. 279-284.

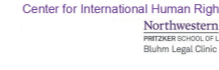
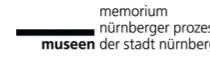
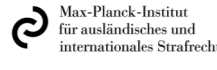
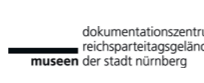
» It is not enough merely to pay lip service to the principles and precedents of Nuremberg. The ideals therein enshrined must become a living reality in a peaceful world.

Benjamin B. Ferencz, "The Nuremberg Principles and the Gulf War", in St. John's Law Review, 1992, Vol. 66, No. 3, pp. 711-732.

Principle VII

Complicity in the commission of a crime against peace, a war crime, or a crime against humanity as set forth in Principle VI is a crime under international law.

Partners



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International Nuremberg Principles Academy
Bärenschanzstraße 72
90429 Nuremberg, Germany
T + 49 (0) 911 14 89 77-0
info@nurembergacademy.org

Executive Board:

Professor Dr Christoph Safferling (Director),
Dr Viviane Dittrich (Deputy Director)

Edited by: Dr Viviane Dittrich

Final editing: Evelyn Müller, Kiran Mohandas Menon

The following people worked on this publication:

Dr Viviane Dittrich, Kiran Mohandas Menon, Evelyn Müller

Design, layout and editorial consulting:

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