

Nuremberg Academy Lecture 2026

»Does the International Court of Justice have a Criminal Jurisdiction? «

by Judge Hilary Charlesworth

Tuesday, 28 April 2026, at 5.30 pm

Courtroom 600, Nuremberg Palace of Justice, Bärenschanzstraße 72,
90429 Nuremberg, Germany

The event is held in English and open to the public. No registration required

In this timely lecture, **Judge Hilary Charlesworth** will explore the tension between the formally limited jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice and its substantive engagement with issues commonly associated with international criminal law. While the Court does not possess criminal jurisdiction in the conventional sense – its mandate being confined to disputes between states – it has nonetheless encountered questions of international criminality in ways that reveal a complex and often overlooked dimension of its work. Judge Charlesworth will examine how such questions reach the Court's docket through non-traditional avenues, including advisory proceedings, and the challenges that arise from this indirect engagement.

5.30–6 pm Welcoming Remarks

Professor Dr Christoph Safferling, Director, International Nuremberg Principles Academy

Tania von Uslar-Gleichen, Legal Adviser, Head of Legal Department, Federal Foreign Office of Germany

Beate Ehrt, President, Higher Regional Court of Nuremberg
Representative of the City of Nuremberg (tbd)

6–7 pm Nuremberg Academy Lecture by Judge Hilary Charlesworth

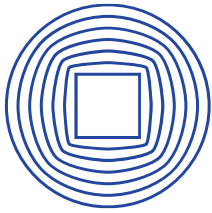
“Does the International Court of Justice have a Criminal Jurisdiction?”

7–7.30 pm Discussion

Chair: **Dr Viviane Dittrich**, Deputy Director, International Nuremberg Principles Academy

7.30–9 pm Reception





Judge Hilary Charlesworth has been a judge of the International Court of Justice since 2021. Prior to her election, she has served as Judge ad hoc in the International Court of Justice in the Whaling in the Antarctic case (Australia v Japan, 2011-2014) and in the Arbitral Award of 3 October 1899 case (Guyana v Venezuela, 2019-2021). Moreover, Judge Charlesworth was also Harrison Moore Professor of Law, a Melbourne Laureate Professor at Melbourne Law School and a Distinguished Professor at the Australian National University. She has been a visiting professor at various institutions including Harvard Law School, New York University Global Law School, University of California, Los Angeles, Paris I and the London School of Economics. She has been a member of the Executive Council of the Asian Society of International Law and

the American Society of International Law as well as President of the Australian and New Zealand Society of International Law. Judge Charlesworth is a member of the Institut de Droit International and the British Academy.

The Nuremberg Academy Lectures explore topical issues at the intersection of international criminal law, transitional justice and policy. The International Nuremberg Principles Academy (Nuremberg Academy) invites leading scholars and practitioners to deliver a lecture and engage in dialogue.

Through its public lecture series featuring speakers of national and international renown, the Nuremberg Academy provides a forum for discussion around contemporary issues in international criminal law and promotes public understanding of international law.



The International Nuremberg Principles Academy is a foundation dedicated to the advancement of international criminal law and related human rights. It is located in Nuremberg, the place of the first international trial before the International Military Tribunal. Conscious of this historic heritage, its main fields of activity include providing a forum for dialogue by convening international conferences and expert meetings, conducting interdisciplinary and applied research, engaging in specialised capacity building for practitioners of international criminal law and human rights education.

The Nuremberg Academy upholds the Nuremberg Principles and the rule of law with a vision of sustainable peace through justice, furthering knowledge and building capacities of those involved in the judicial process in relation to core international crimes. The Nuremberg Academy was established by the Federal Republic of Germany, the Free State of Bavaria and the City of Nuremberg.

