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Discussion

Philippe Sands in Conversation with Viviane Dittrich

Tuesday, 6 May 2025, at 6-7.30 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

Professor Philippe Sands will talk with **Dr Viviane Dittrich**, Deputy Director of the international Nuremberg Principles Academy, about impunity, immunity and universal jurisdiction. The discussion will focus on the case against former Chilean President Augusto Pinochet, the role of former Nazi SS officer Walter Rauff, who evaded justice in Chile, and the lasting significance of the Nuremberg trial and the Nuremberg Principles. When Pinochet was arrested in London in 1998, Professor Sands was approached to advise the former Head of State on his claim to immunity. Instead, he chose to represent Human Rights Watch against Pinochet.

The event will feature readings from Professor Sands' latest book, *38 Londres Street. On Impunity, Pinochet in England, and a Nazi in Patagonia*. Blending personal memoir, historical detective work and gripping courtroom drama, the book uncovers a hidden history of mass murder that links the horrors of the 1940s to our present time.

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Philippe Sands KC is Professor of Public Understanding of Law at University College London, and Samuel and Judith Pizar Visiting Professor of Law at Harvard Law School. He is also barrister at 11 King's Bench Walk Chambers. He appears as Counsel before international courts and tribunals and sits as an international arbitrator. His latest books are *East West Street: On the Origins of Crimes Against Humanity and Genocide* (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 2016) (awarded the 2016 Baillie Gifford Prize, the 2017 British Book Awards Non-Fiction Book of the Year, and the 2018 Prix Montaigne) and *The Ratline: Love, Lies and Justice on the Trail of a Nazi Fugitive* (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 2020), also available as a BBC podcast. He was President of English PEN and a member of the Board of the Hay Festival of Arts and Literature. Professor Sands delivered the inaugural Nuremberg Academy Lecture in 2020.

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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.

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