

# WHAT IS THE WAR CRIMES JUSTICE PROJECT?

## *The ICTY Embarks on a Major Legacy Project in the Region*

The War Crimes Justice Project (WCJP) aims to facilitate the transfer of knowledge and materials from the ICTY to legal professionals in the former Yugoslavia, thereby enhancing the capacity of judiciaries in the region to handle complex war crimes cases.


Funded by the European Union, the four-million Euro project is being implemented by the ICTY in partnership with the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR), the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research In-

stitute (UNICRI), and OSCE field operations in the region.

Project activities include producing at least 60,000 pages of transcripts of ICTY proceedings in local (Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian) languages, translating 175,000 words of ICTY's Appeals Chamber Case Law Research Tool (ACCLRT) and developing curricula on international criminal and humanitarian law. In addition, the Project aims to augment local war crimes staff in the Region, develop a manual on best practices for defence lawyers and hold peer-to-peer meetings between national legal professionals and ICTY officials.



President Robinson delivers an opening speech at the launch of the War Crimes Justice Project at the Appellate Court in Belgrade, on 28 September 2010

All project components were designed on the basis of feedback on outstanding needs provided by legal professionals from the region. Assistance will be delivered in the manner identified by national authorities as most conducive to supporting national ownership and providing sustainable benefits. Gabrielle McIntyre, Office of the President, is the overall manager of the project at the ICTY. Diane Brown, Acting Legacy Officer for the Tribunal, is the Tribunal's focal point for the project. The three components of the project that are being implemented by the ICTY are managed by the Chief, Court Management and Support Section (CMSS), Linda Murnane, assisted by the Project Manager, Helena Eggleston. 

## ON TARGET

Delivery of transcripts to regional counterparts

→ 5 November 2010

Urgent request from Serbian authorities

→ 12 November 2010

Urgent requests from BiH and Croatian authorities

→ 6 December 2010

Further requests from Croatia, Serbia and BiH

Training of Legal Professionals events

→ 22-23 November 2010

Pilot training session of legal professionals at the Judicial Academy in Belgrade, Serbia

→ 2-3 December 2010

Pilot training session of legal professionals at the Judicial Training Academy in Sarajevo, BiH

→ 13-14 January 2011

Pilot training session of legal professionals at the Judicial Academy in Zagreb, Croatia

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Linda Murnane,  
CMSS Chief



The generous funding provided by the European Union to fund projects which address the specific needs identified by legal professionals in the Region has moved the process of transfer of knowledge forward immeasurably. The team effort demonstrated already by the ICTY project team in accomplishing those portions of the project entrusted to our care has been inspiring. The people working on this project care about it and are dedicated to its successful completion.

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## Project Launch and First Peer-to-Peer Meeting Held in Belgrade

The War Crimes Justice Project was officially launched on 28 and 29 September 2010 at the Appellate Court in Belgrade.

In his opening statement at the launch, ICTY President Patrick Robinson emphasized the importance of strengthening the partnership between the ICTY and its regional counterparts through exchanging experiences and transferring knowledge, as a

means of contributing to justice, peace and the rule of law in the former Yugoslavia.



In conjunction with the launch, a peer-to-peer meeting took place between Judges from the ICTY and from the region. President Robinson, Judge Carmel Agius, Judge Howard Morrison and Judge Fausto Pocar joined national judges to share experiences in adjudicating war crimes cases. 

The War Crimes Justice Project is a product of:

Project funded by the EU



unieri  
advancing security, serving justice,  
building peace



## Training of Legal Professionals

### First Training Session of Legal Professionals Scheduled for 22 and 23 November 2010

The ICTY legal training team will deliver its first training session for legal professionals in the region on 22 and 23 November 2010 at the Judicial Academy in Belgrade.

The target audience includes legal staff from Prosecution offices, support staff, and selected individuals from various State courts who are engaged in war crimes proceedings on the territory of the former Yugoslavia. ODIHR regional coordinators have been in regular contact with the relevant institutions and legal staff who

may be interested in taking part in the training.

Training will cover useful information and materials that are available on the ICTY website, including "how to" sessions on research on the ICTY Court Records and Appeals Chambers Case Law Research Tool databases and making requests for legal assistance and for variation of protective measures under Rule 75 (H) of the Tribunal's Rules of Procedure and Evidence. This process will ensure that institutional knowledge and specialized skills are transferred from the ICTY to regional jurisdictions.

## Translation of ACCLRT

The ACCLRT (Appeals Chamber Case Law Research Tool) includes summaries of the most significant decisions and judgements rendered by the ICTY and ICTR Appeals Chamber since 2005.

As part of the Project, 175,000 words of the ACCLRT will be translated and posted on the ICTY website by July 2011.

This will make the information contained in the ACCLRT accessible in B/C/S to legal professionals and wider audiences in the region.

The ACCLRT is available in the Legal Library of the Tribunal's website [www.icty.org](http://www.icty.org)

## FACTS & FIGURES

**8,500** Total number of pages of ICTY court hearing audio material transcribed by 31 October 2010

**20** Total number of staff currently employed under the B/C/S Transcript Project activity to date, both in The Hague office, as well as in Sarajevo and Zagreb Field Offices

**175,000** Number of words of the ACCLRT database to be translated under the War Crimes Justice project by external translation consultants

**18** Duration in months of the War Crimes Justice Project, ending on 31 October 2011

**14** Total number of activities to be undertaken under the scope of the War Crimes Justice Project during the 18-month period

## The B/C/S Transcript Team Makes it Happen

### First transcripts delivered

The ICTY is producing transcripts of its key proceedings in Bosnian, Croatian or Serbian as part of the Project. This is expected to improve the ability of legal practitioners in the region to access and utilize testimony given before the ICTY.

The ICTY delivered its first batch of trial transcripts in the languages of the region to the Croatian authorities on 8 October 2010. Following an urgent request from the Croatian authorities, the Project team was able to deliver six complete transcripts, from six public ICTY sessions, totaling 500 pages.

As a matter of priority, additional transcripts requested by regional counterparts will be delivered to BiH, Croatian and Serbian authorities in the near future. The next delivery of priority transcripts to Serbian authorities will take place on 5 November 2010.

The production of Bosnian, Croatian or Serbian transcripts of ICTY court hearings under the Project commenced in July of this year and will continue until November 2011.

### The Team 'Under the Headphones' and 'Behind the Transcripts'...

The B/C/S Transcript Team participated in a one-week transcription training at the Humanitarian Law Center (HLC) in Belgrade from 13-17

September, which was held by the HLC team of transcribers who have vast experience in producing B/C/S transcripts of ICTY public hearings.



Sarajevo



The Hague



Zagreb

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The WCJP Update is a publication produced by the UN-ICTY.

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Follow WCJP developments on [www.icty.org/sections/Outreach/CapacityBuilding](http://www.icty.org/sections/Outreach/CapacityBuilding)

Follow ICTY on:

[twitter](#) and [YouTube](#)

In **Sarajevo** the transcription team is a very effective group including (featured from left to right): Merri Teklić, Dejan Stanojević, Maja Milenković, Nataša Kršulj and Amir Zenunović.

In **The Hague** office there is a strong 'boys' team of five transcribers, including (featured from left to right) Nihad Trgo, Denis Kulenović, Rizah Kurti and Denis Turohan, headed by the Project Coordinators, Helena Eggleston and Lidia Becker. (Toshe Mitev is not featured in the photo).

**Zagreb** office boasts 'girl power' behind transcripts, including (featured from left to right): back row: Irma Suljagić, Monika Begović (Administrative Assistant); middle row: Slavica Košća-Vrlazić, Suzana Szabo, Aneta Kawauchi; front row: Zdenka Dodig, Nataša Čakić-Galešić and Josipa Gašparić. (Not featured in the photo is Jasminka Šturtlić).