



## IN THE COURTROOMS

### Mladić request for acquittal rejected, Defence case begins

On 15 April, ICTY Trial Chamber I rejected in their entirety Ratko Mladić's submissions for acquittal made under Tribunal Rule 98 bis.

Rule 98 bis allows that, after the conclusion of the presentation of Prosecution evidence, the Trial Chamber can rule on whether there is a case to answer. If the Chamber believes that the Prosecution has not presented sufficient evidence to prove certain charges, it can dismiss those charges and enter a judgement of acquittal before the beginning of the presentation of Defence evidence.

The Chamber dismissed all of the arguments put forth by Mladić for acquittal on two counts of genocide and charges relating to a number of individual crimes in various other counts of the indictment. The Chamber also dismissed the Defence's arguments relating to the accused's command responsibility.

The Chamber further dismissed the Defence's submission on the scope of Rule 98 bis, confirming that it was appropriate to consider motions for acquittal only with regard to entire counts, rather than charges within a count.

In relation to Counts 1 and 2 on the indictment against Mladić, the Chamber stated that "there is evidence that acts of genocide took place" in the 15 municipalities of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) referred to in the indictment, as well as in Srebrenica, and that the "evidence cited also provides information on the perpetrators' genocidal intent."

The Chamber further presented its findings about the Prosecution's case alleging Mladić's participation in a joint criminal enterprise (JCE). The Chamber found that there is evidence "upon which, if accepted, could be established beyond reasonable doubt that there existed a JCE, composed of, inter alia, members of the Bosnian Serb leadership and the VRS [Bosnian Serb Army], including Radovan Karadžić and the accused, the purpose of which was to permanently remove the Bosnian Muslims and/or Bosnian Croats from Bosnia-Serb claimed territories in Bosnia-Herzegovina through the commission of the crimes charged in the indictment."

Mladić's Defence case began on Monday, 19 May.



Mladić, former commander of the Bosnian Serb Army Main Staff, stands accused of genocide and a multitude of crimes committed against Bosnian Muslim, Bosnian Croat and other non-Serb civilians in BiH from May 1992 to late 1995.

## IN THE COURTROOMS



### Karadžić closing arguments scheduled

On 7 April, ICTY Trial Chamber III issued an [order](#) on closing arguments in the case of Radovan Karadžić.

The hearings for closing arguments will be held between Monday, 29 September, and Thursday, 2 October, and will then conclude on Tuesday, 7 October.

The order states that the Prosecution and the accused will each have up to ten hours to present their arguments, after which the parties will have 1.5 hours to present rebuttal and rejoinder arguments.

The Karadžić trial commenced on 26 October 2009. The Prosecution started presenting evidence on 13 April 2010, and its case was rested on 25 May 2012. The Defence case commenced on 16 October 2012 and was declared closed on 1 May 2014. There are 11 counts in the indictment against Karadžić, including genocide, persecutions, extermination, murder, and deportation.

## OUTREACH



### Annual Report published

On 12 May, the Tribunal's Outreach Programme published its latest Annual Report.

The report presents an overview of Outreach's activities in 2013 - from youth and media outreach and work with grass roots communities to the production of documentaries. An analysis of the growing impact of Outreach's enhanced presence on the web, especially through its social media platforms, is also presented. The report also includes outreach activities undertaken by the President's Office and the Office of the Prosecutor.

The [report](#) is available on the ICTY website.

OUTREACH



## New round of university lectures launched

The Tribunal's Outreach Programme launched the third round of its university lecture series on 3 April, with a presentation for students at the American University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. The lectures are part of Outreach's region-wide youth education project, which aims to provide students throughout the former Yugoslavia with information on the work of the Tribunal.

Two further lectures were held at the Law Faculty of the University of Tuzla and at the American University of Tuzla. More lectures are planned throughout the academic year in other countries of the former Yugoslavia, including Serbia, Montenegro, and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Commenting on the value of the lectures, the Tribunal's Registrar John Hocking said: "It is important to ensure that future legal professionals and other decision-makers have an accurate and full understanding of the Tribunal's mandate and achievements. Many of these accomplishments, for example in the field of jurisprudence, procedure, witness protection or outreach, can inspire the younger generation to take on similar challenges at the national level."

The first phase of the Tribunal's Youth Outreach Project was held from December 2011 to October 2012, engaging over 2,000 high school and 1,500 university students from across the region. The second phase of the project took place in 2013 and reached over 1,275 high school and 1,157 university students.

The Outreach Programme benefits from the support of the European Union and its work with young people in the former Yugoslavia is generously supported by the Finnish government.

CONVICTED PERSONS



## MICT: Ranko Češić granted early release

President Meron's decision granting early release to Ranko Cestic was issued in a public redacted version on 28 May. This decision was issued by Judge Meron in his capacity as President of the Mechanism for International Tribunals (MICT).

On 8 October 2003, Češić pleaded guilty to the 12 counts of the indictment with which he was charged, including charges of murder and rape as crimes against humanity, and murder and humiliating and degrading treatment as violations of the laws or customs of war. The crimes for which Češić was convicted took place in May 1992 in the Brčko municipality, located in the north-east of Bosnia and Herzegovina. At that time, Češić was a member of the Bosnian-Serb Territorial Defence in Brčko. On 15 May 1992, he became a member of the Intervention Platoon of the Bosnian Serb Police Reserve Corps at the Brčko police station.

On 11 March 2004, Trial Chamber I sentenced Češić to 18 years in prison, and on 11 April 2005 he was transferred to Denmark to serve the remainder of that sentence.

In his decision, the President writes: "Although the crimes for which Češić was convicted are very grave, Češić's completion of more than two-thirds of his sentence, his demonstrated signs of rehabilitation, and his cooperation with the ICTY Prosecution counsel in favour of his early release."

The [public version of the President's decision](#) can be found on the MICT website.

ICTY PRINCIPALS



## President Meron meets with UK Foreign Secretary in London

On 19 May, the Tribunal's President, Judge Theodor Meron, met with the UK Foreign Secretary William Hague in London.

During the meeting, President Meron conveyed to the Foreign Secretary his thanks for the UK's continued strong support for international criminal justice. He also provided the Foreign Secretary with an overview of the achievements and remaining challenges of international criminal law.

The President and the Foreign Secretary also discussed the forthcoming 'Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict' to be held in London from 10 - 13 June, at which the President will chair the session 'Closing the Impunity Gap - Legislative Frameworks' on 11 June.

FACTS & FIGURES

**161 INDIVIDUALS INDICTED**

Since the very first hearing (a deferral request in the Tadić case) on 8 November 1994, the Tribunal has indicted a total of **161** individuals, and has already completed proceedings with regard to **141** of them. **18** have been acquitted, **74** sentenced (**17** have been transferred to serve their sentence, **5** are awaiting transfer, **49** have served their term, and 3 died while serving their sentence), and **13** have had their cases transferred to local courts.

<b>141</b>	Total number of accused whose proceedings have been completed.
<b>36</b>	Cases terminated (either because indictments were withdrawn or because the accused died, before or after transfer to the Tribunal).
<b>20</b>	Proceedings are on-going with regard to 20 accused: 4 are currently on trial, and 16 are at the appeals stage.
<b>35</b>	A further 35 individuals have been or are the subject of contempt proceedings.