


FIRST PEER-TO-PEER MEETING IN SARAJEVO

ICTY judges meet with 30 colleagues from various courts in BiH

On 10 December in Sarajevo, Judges from the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) participated in the first peer-to-peer meet-

ing held in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) under the War Crimes Justice Project (WCJP). The peer-to-peer meeting allowed ICTY Judges and their colleagues in BiH to share their experiences in adjudicating war crimes cases. Around 30 judges from all court


tiers in BiH took part, together with Judge Pocar and Judge Moloto from the ICTY. They discussed practices in the areas of disclosure of exculpatory and other relevant material, command responsibility, application of substantive law and working with vulnerable witnesses. 



ICTY Judges Fausto Pocar and Justice Bakone Moloto discuss relevant topics with their BiH colleagues at the WCJP first peer-to-peer meeting in Sarajevo on 10 December 2010. (Photo: Samir Pinjagić)


Training of Trainers

The Tribunal commenced the "Training of Trainers" component of the WCJP with a two-day session dedicated to developing the training skills of the staff of the Witness and Victim Support Section ("WVSS") of the State Court of BiH. During the event, which took place in Sarajevo on 18 and 19 November, the Tribunal's Victims and Witness Section ("VWS") worked with their counterparts from the State Court of BiH to assist them in developing the skills and insight necessary to train other witness support personnel from cantonal and district courts throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina. The aim of the "Training of Trainers" sessions is to strength-

en the professional and organisational capacities of identified training providers on both international humanitarian and criminal law and on witness and victim support. The training sessions focused on giving participants insight into witness support in BiH and included presentations from representatives of local NGOs and Social Welfare Centres on the work, capacity and needs of the current witness support scheme. Furthermore, a peer-to-peer meeting was held between the OSCE, VWS, and the WVSS with the goal of identifying best practices and developing a witness support staff training module. 

Judge Moloto Meets BiH Defence Counsel

The Tribunal's Judge Justice Bakone Moloto led a three-day defence advocacy training in Bijeljina, Bosnia and Herzegovina in October 2010.

This was the first defence training event to take place as part of the WCJP and in cooperation with the Criminal Defence Section of the Ministry of Justice of Bosnia and Herzegovina (OKO) in Bijeljina. An additional training on defence tactics in complex war crimes cases was held on 29 October in Banja Luka. 

ON TARGET

Upcoming delivery of transcripts to regional counterparts

→ **21 January 2011**
delivery of urgent requests to BiH, Croatian and Serbian authorities

→ **February 2011**
public B/C/S transcripts become available on the ICTY website and in the ICTY Court Records database

Training of Legal Professionals upcoming events

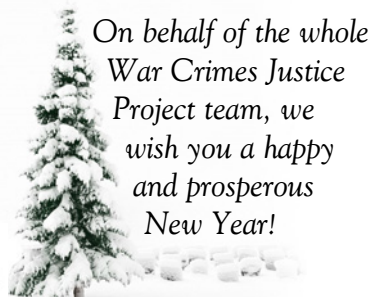
→ **13-14 January 2011**
pilot training session of legal professionals at the Judicial Academy in Zagreb, Croatia

→ **24 -25 February 2011**
training session of legal professionals at the CEST Training Centre in Sarajevo, BiH

→ **17-18 March 2011**
training session of legal professionals at the Judicial Academy in Zagreb, Croatia

Other upcoming project events

→ **17 January 2011**
a peer-to-peer meeting will be held in Zagreb, Croatia between the ICTY Judges and their colleagues from appellate courts throughout the region



On behalf of the whole War Crimes Justice Project team, we wish you a happy and prosperous New Year!

War Crimes Justice Project



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Pilot Training a Success

Pilot training sessions for legal professionals were held in Belgrade on 22 and 23 November and in Sarajevo on 2 and 3 December

Held at the Judicial Academy in Belgrade and the CEST Training Centre in Sarajevo, the sessions targeted legal staff from Prosecution offices and the state courts and legal support staff hired under the War Crimes Justice Project. Training covered useful information and materials available on the ICTY website, including “how to” sessions on conducting research using 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



ICTY trainers, Srdjan Mujanović and Romana Cvetković deliver the first pilot training at the CEST Training Centre in Sarajevo on 2 and 3 December 2010.

Rule 75 (H). Sessions such as these are aimed at ensuring that institutional knowledge and specialised skills are transferred from the ICTY to regional jurisdictions, thereby enhancing their capacity to handle complex war crimes cases. The next pilot training session will take place at the Judicial Academy in Zagreb, Croatia on 13 and 14 January 2011. 

‘One of the key priorities identified by the local judiciaries was the need for legal support staff. We responded by making available a team of young, legal support staff; analysts, researchers and experts to assist the judges and prosecutors in handling the war crimes load.’

Robert Adams,
Project Co-Ordinator,
War Crimes Justice
Project, OSCE/ODIHR



FACTS & FIGURES

14,000 Total number of pages of ICTY court hearing audio material transcribed up to 31 December 2010

2,500 Total number of transcript pages delivered to the regional judiciaries between October and December 2010


60,000 Total number of pages that will be transcribed under the scope of the project

25 Total number of legal support staff employed under the Project at the judicial institutions in BiH and Serbia, with seven more expected to be hired in BiH and Croatia in the near future

Project Partner Meeting

ICTY, OSCE, ODIHR and UNICRI programme representatives will discuss progress of the project in The Hague

On Monday, 24 January 2011 the ICTY will host the third Quarterly Partner Review meeting, held in The Hague, where representatives from all WCJP partner organisations will review the progress on the project activities and plan key future events and actions.

Project partners include the ICTY project team, as well as project officers from the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe’s Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR), the OSCE field missions in BiH and Serbia, and the UN Inter-regional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI). 

ICTY Delivers 2,500 Pages of Urgent Transcripts in B/C/S



Following urgent requests from the authorities of BiH, Croatia and Serbia for transcripts in Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian

(B/C/S), the ICTY has delivered 2,500 pages of public trial transcripts since October of this year.

Additional transcripts will be delivered to BiH, Croatian and Serbian authorities on 21 January 2011 with further transcripts to follow in the course of the project.

The production of B/C/S transcripts of ICTY court hearings under the War Crimes Justice Project began in July 2010 and will continue until November 2011. This is expected to improve the

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ability of legal practitioners in the region to access and utilise testimony given before the ICTY. 

“The numerous activities that ICTY is engaged in as part of the War Crimes Justice Project will greatly assist the local judiciaries in following on from our work, that is, in continuing prosecutions of war crimes at the domestic level. Furthermore, it will also help cement the legacy of the Tribunal, which is why we are so supportive of this project.”



John Hocking,
Registrar, ICTY

About War Crimes Justice Project

The War Crimes Justice Project 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 Institute (UNICRI), and OSCE field operations in the region. All project components were designed on the basis of feedback on outstanding needs provided by judicial professionals from the region. Assistance will be delivered in a manner identified by the national authorities as most conducive to them in order to support national ownership and provide sustainable benefits. 