

Ratko Mladić arrested

On 26 May, Ratko Mladić was arrested in the village of Lazarevo, near Zrenjanin in northern Serbia. In a press release issued the same day, the ICTY welcomed the news of the arrest and looked forward “to his expeditious transfer from Serbia to The Hague, following the completion of relevant judicial proceedings required by Serbian law.” The statement continued: “After transfer of custody to the Tribunal, Mladić will be detained pending his initial appearance before a judge. At the initial appearance, Mladić will be given an opportunity to enter a plea to each of the charges brought against him in the indictment. Although charged with grave crimes, Mladić, like all other accused before the Tribunal, is presumed innocent until proven guilty. This is in accordance with the Tribunal’s Statute which guarantees the universally recognised right to a fair trial.”

ICTY Prosecutor Serge Brammertz released a statement welcoming the arrest and recognising “the work done by the Serbian authorities, specifically the National Security Council and Serbia’s Action Team, in apprehending Mladić. We thank them for meeting their obligations towards the Tribunal and towards justice. We also acknowledge the efforts of the international community in supporting measures to secure Mladić’s arrest.”

The Prosecutor went on to say: “With the news of the arrest, we think first and foremost of the victims of the crimes committed during the conflicts in the former Yugoslavia. These victims have endured unimaginable horrors – including the genocide in Srebrenica – and redress for their suffering is long overdue. Mladić’s arrest is also significant for all people in the former Yugoslavia. We believe that it can have a positive impact on reconciliation in the region. Today is also an important day for international justice. Mladić’s arrest clearly signals that the commitment to international criminal justice is entrenched. Today’s events show that people responsible for grave violations of international humanitarian law can no longer count on impunity.”

Mladić, Colonel General, former Commander of the Main Staff of the Bosnian Serb Army (VRS) is charged with genocide, crimes against humanity and violations of the laws or customs of war against Bosnian Muslim, Bosnian Croat and other non-Serb civilians in Bosnia and Herzegovina during the 1992-1995 war.

As set out in the indictment, Mladić, together with Radovan Karadžić, is alleged to have been a key member of a joint criminal enterprise to permanently remove Bosnian Muslims and Bosnian Croats from the territory in Bosnia and Herzegovina claimed by Bosnian Serbs. To achieve this aim, Mladić acted in concert with others to commit crimes in the locations and at the times alleged in the indictment.

As the most senior officer of the Bosnian Serb Army during the war, Mladić was the superior of Bosnian Serb Army members and other Serb forces integrated into or subordinated to the Bosnian Serb Army. As such, he had effective control over the forces who participated in the crimes alleged. Mladić is charged with planning, instigating and ordering each of the crimes.

10 May

Prosecutor in Serbia

On his recent visit to Belgrade, Prosecutor Brammertz discussed co-operation between Serbia and the Office of the Prosecutor, and in particular the arrest of the remaining fugitives. He met with the President, the Minister of Interior, the Minister in charge of co-operation with the Tribunal, the Prosecutor for War Crimes and the operational services in charge of tracking the fugitives.

After Sarajevo, and Zagreb, this was the last of the Prosecutor’s trips to the region in preparation for his next report to the UN Security Council.

13 May

ICTY donates books to BiH legal centres

The Tribunal has made a significant donation of legal material to the libraries of the Centres for Judicial and Prosecutorial Training in Sarajevo and Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina. The donation included a large number of copies of the ICTY’s Statute, Judicial Reports and judgements translated into local languages, as well as copies of such publications as the European Human Rights Law Review, the Journal of International Justice, and the Oxford Journal of Legal Studies.

The donation is intended to benefit both practicing law professionals and students in BiH, and to considerably strengthen the centres’ potential to provide educational resources in the field of human rights and war crimes.

Commenting on the donation, Ana Stojanovic from the Training Centre of Republika Srpska said: “We are very grateful to the Tribunal for providing us with judgements translated into the local languages, and the vast array of legal books and journals on war crimes cases. This material will be invaluable to legal practitioners visiting our legal library, and will be of great support to judges and prosecutors in the region when dealing with war crimes cases.”

16 - 20 May**Karadžić Trial Chamber on Sarajevo site visit**

The Trial Chamber in the case of Radovan Karadžić recently conducted a five-day site visit to several locations in Sarajevo and its surrounding areas. The visiting delegation consisted of Trial Chamber III judges Kwon (presiding), Morrison, Baird and Lattanzi as well as Tribunal support staff and representatives from both the Prosecution and the Defence.

Following a request made by the accused, the Chamber agreed that a site visit would assist them in their work regarding the locations in and around Sarajevo involved in Karadžić's indictment. The former Bosnian Serb leader is charged with responsibility for a protracted campaign of attacks in civilian areas during Sarajevo's 44-month siege, as a result of which thousands of people were killed and wounded.

Karadžić was indicted on 25 July 1995 and transferred into the Tribunal's custody on 30 July 2008 after more than 13 years of evading arrest. His trial, which began on 26 October 2009, is currently on a short suspension until 31 May 2011.

19 May**ICTY conducts training session for Kosovo legal professionals**

On 19 May, the ICTY began a two-day training session for legal professionals from district courts and prosecutors offices in Pristina/Priština, Peja/Pec, Prizren and Gjilan/Gnjilane in Kosovo. The training was held as part of the War Crimes Justice Project (WCJP), which aims to share the Tribunal's institutional knowledge and specialised skills with jurisdictions in the region as a means of enhancing their capacity to handle complex war crimes cases.

Kosovo Judicial Institute Director Lavdim Krasniqi said about the training, "the Kosovo Judicial Institute supports this training initiative and is proud to co-organise it together with the WCJP. It is essential that national staff gain this expertise."

This is the first training session of legal professionals to be held in Kosovo as part of the WCJP. Several similar trainings have taken place in the region since the launch of the WCJP in July 2010.

24 May**Third contempt indictment against Šešelj**

Vojislav Šešelj, the leader of the Serb Radical Party currently standing trial at the Tribunal for alleged war crimes, has been charged with contempt of court.

On 24 May, Trial Chamber II filed a public edited version of an order in lieu of an indictment which initiated contempt proceedings against Šešelj on 9 May 2011 for failing to remove confidential information from his personal website in violation of orders of a Chamber.

The confidential information published by Šešelj on his website include three books he has authored and five confidential filings submitted by him as part of his main trial and two previous trials for contempt of court. These books and filings reveal confidential information about a number of protected witnesses who testified in his main trial before the Tribunal for alleged war crimes.

This is the third time that Šešelj has been charged with contempt of the Tribunal. The previous charges relate to two of the three books listed in the latest indictment. On 19 May 2010 the Appeals Chamber confirmed the Trial Chambers finding that Šešelj was guilty of contempt for disclosing the personal details of protected witnesses in a book he authored. Šešelj was ordered to remove the book from his website.

On 4 February 2010 contempt proceedings were initiated against Šešelj for a second time for disclosing the personal details of protected witnesses in another book he authored. Proceedings are ongoing, and on 31 January 2011 the Trial Chamber gave an order for the book to be removed from the accused's website.

Separately, on 17 February 2011, the Trial Chamber ordered the accused to remove a third book from his website, which contains confidential information relating to protected witnesses. The accused has failed to comply with this and all previous orders to remove the three books and confidential filings from the public domain.

The Trial Chamber will prosecute this case itself. An initial appearance at which Šešelj will be called to enter a plea to the charge will be scheduled in due course.

27 May**Prosecutor meets with regional counterparts**

Prosecutor Brammertz recently participated in the fifth regional conference of prosecutors in Brijuni, Croatia, hosted by the State Prosecutor of Croatia. In addition to the ICTY Prosecutor and the Croatian State Prosecutor, the Prosecutors of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and the War Crimes Prosecutor of Serbia also attended the conference.

The principal aim of the conference was to discuss co-operation in war crimes cases between prosecution offices from the region, the co-operation between the OTP and national prosecutions and concrete co-operation projects to facilitate the exchange of information in relation to war crimes cases.

At the conference, the Prosecutor once more expressed the importance of and need for improved co-operation in the investigation and prosecution of war crimes cases between the different countries and prosecutors concerned.

COURTROOM SCHEDULE: 30 MAY – 10 JUNE

Public proceedings are broadcast with a 30-minute delay on the ICTY website.

MONDAY 30 MAY	Courtroom I Courtroom III	09:00 – 13:45 12:00 – 13:00 14:15 – 19:00	Stanišić & Župljanin Đorđević Tolimir	Trial Status Conference Trial
TUESDAY 31 MAY	Courtroom I Courtroom II Courtroom III	09:00 – 14:30 09:00 – 13:45 09:00 – 13:45	Karadžić, Stanišić & Župljanin Tolimir	Trial Trial Trial
WEDNESDAY 1 JUNE	Courtroom I Courtroom II Courtroom III	09:00 – 14:30 09:00 – 13:45 09:00 – 13:45	Karadžić, Stanišić & Župljanin Tolimir	Trial Trial Trial
THURSDAY 2 JUNE	Courtroom I Courtroom II Courtroom III	09:00 – 14:30 09:00 – 13:45 09:00 – 13:45	Karadžić Stanišić & Župljanin Tolimir	Trial Trial Trial
FRIDAY 3 JUNE	Courtroom I Courtroom III	09:00 – 14:30 09:00 – 13:45	Karadžić Stanišić & Župljanin	Trial Trial
MONDAY 6 JUNE	Courtroom I Courtroom III	09:00 – 14:15 14:30 – 19:00 09:00 – 13:45 14:15 – 19:00	Karadžić Šešelj Stanišić & Župljanin Tolimir	Trial Trial Trial Trial
TUESDAY 7 JUNE	Courtroom I Courtroom III	09:00 – 14:15 14:30 – 19:00 09:00 – 13:45 14:15 – 19:00	Karadžić Šešelj Stanišić & Župljanin Tolimir	Trial Trial Trial Trial
WEDNESDAY 8 JUNE	Courtroom I Courtroom III	09:00 – 14:15 14:30 – 19:00 09:00 – 13:45 14:15 – 19:00	Karadžić Šešelj Stanišić & Župljanin Tolimir	Trial Trial Trial Trial
THURSDAY 9 JUNE	Courtroom I Courtroom II Courtroom III	09:00 – 14:15 09:00 – 13:45 10:30 – 12:30 14:15 – 19:00	Karadžić Tolimir Popović et al Stanišić & Župljanin	Trial Trial Status Conference Trial
FRIDAY 10 JUNE	Courtroom III	09:00 – 13:45	Stanišić & Župljanin	Trial

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 126 of them: 13 have been acquitted, 64 sentenced (four are awaiting transfer, 25 have been transferred, 31 have served their term, and three died while serving their sentence), 13 have had their cases transferred to local courts.

126 Total number of accused whose proceedings have been completed.

Another 36 cases have been terminated (either because indictments were withdrawn or because the accused died, before or after transfer to the Tribunal).

Proceedings are on-going with regard to 35 accused: 16 are at the appeals stage, 14 are currently on trial, and three are at the pre-trial stage. One fugitive is still at large and one is in Serbian custody.

33 A further 33 individuals have been or are the subject of contempt proceedings.

27,000 Total number of pages of ICTY court hearing audio material transcribed into B/C/S to date.

9,000 Total number of transcript pages delivered to the regional judiciaries between October 2010 and April 2011.

7,000 Total number of pages publicly available on the ICTY Court Records Database to date: <http://icr.icty.org/>

75 Total number of legal professionals from regional judiciaries who have so far received training on searching and accessing publicly available ICTY material.

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.

The project is funded by the European Union and 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.

www.icty.org/sections/Outreach/CapacityBuilding

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Extracts of, and/or quotes from, legal documents are not authoritative; only the Order, Decision or Judgement in its entirety reflects the opinion of the Trial Chamber and/or the Appeals Chamber.

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