



Vlastimir Đorđević sentenced to 27 years' imprisonment

On 23 February, ICTY Trial Chamber II found Vlastimir Đorđević guilty of the crimes of deportation, murder, forcible transfer and persecutions, and sentenced him to 27 years in prison.

Đorđević, former Assistant Minister of the Serbian Ministry of Internal Affairs (MUP) and Chief of its Public Security Department, was found guilty of participating in a joint criminal enterprise in 1999, the aim of which was to change the ethnic balance of Kosovo to ensure Serbian dominance in the territory. This objective was pursued through a widespread campaign of terror and violence against ethnic Albanians, which included deportations, murders, forcible transfers and persecutions.

The judges dismissed Đorđević's claim that he did not have effective control over the use of MUP forces in Kosovo. To the contrary, the Chamber found that *"the accused's participation in the joint criminal enterprise was crucial to its success"*. He had lawful powers and exercised effective control over the police in Kosovo including regular and reserve police.

The Chamber found that Đorđević had aided and abetted the murder of *"not less than 724 Kosovo Albanians"* who were variously killed by Serbian forces, in most cases police, in many of the municipalities listed in the indictment. *"In the large majority of cases the victims, including many women and children, were civilians, who were unarmed and not in any way participating in any form of armed conflict,"* the Chamber found. It added that the murder offences charged were merely examples and *"by no means exhaustive, of the crimes committed by Serbian forces, especially police, against the Kosovo Albanian population in the course of the widespread and systematic attack referred to"*.

The full text of the Đorđević judgement can be found at:

http://www.icty.org/x/cases/djordjevic/tjug/en/110223_djordjevic_judgt_en.pdf

15 February

Senior Croatian official visits the Tribunal

ICTY Prosecutor Serge Brammertz met with Gordan Jandrokovic, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Croatia, at the Tribunal on 15 February. They discussed issues related to the cooperation between Croatia and the Office of the Prosecutor (OTP). This was the Minister's first visit to the OTP.

16 February

Suspension of proceedings ordered in Karadžić case

Trial Chamber III has ordered a suspension of proceedings in the Karadžić trial from 21 March until 5 May, to enable the accused to review material recently disclosed to him by the Prosecution. The suspension will allow the accused and his team to review *"1725 items totalling an estimated 32,000 pages and 142 videos containing an estimated 200 hours of material"*, which was disclosed to Karadžić by the Prosecution on 31 January 2011.

In the decision, the Chamber reiterates *"its deep concern about the volume of potentially exculpatory material which the Prosecution continues to disclose to the accused, and the impact which this has had on the accused's preparations and the smooth conduct of this trial."*

17-18 February

Contempt indictment against Berko Zečević issued and then withdrawn

Berko Zečević was transferred to the UN Detention Unit on 17 February, following his arrest by the Bosnian authorities for failure to appear before the Trial Chamber as ordered to testify in the trial of Radovan Karadžić.

Zečević was informed of his obligation to appear before the Trial Chamber on 28 January 2011, following the issuing of a subpoena by the Trial Chamber on 20 January. After Zečević's failure to appear, or to show good cause why he could not comply with the subpoena, the Trial Chamber issued a confidential order in lieu of an indictment for contempt of the Tribunal on 4 February 2011. The order was made public on 15 February 2011.

At his initial appearance in the contempt proceedings, Zečević agreed to testify in the Karadžić case. The order in lieu of indictment and the order for detention on remand were vacated once Zečević has completed his testimony.

Zečević is an associate professor and head of the defence technology department at the mechanical engineering faculty of the University of Sarajevo. He has testified before the Tribunal as an expert witness on ballistics in the trials of Slobodan Milošević, Dragomir Milošević and Stanislav Galić, and as a fact witness in the trial of Momčilo Krajišnik. Zečević's evidence relates to the nature of munitions supplied to and used by the Bosnian Serb army and the location from which the projectile that hit the Markale Market in Sarajevo on 5 February 1994 was fired.

17 February

Former ICTY judge Albertus Swart passes away

Judge Albertus Swart passed away on Thursday, 17 February, after prolonged illness. Judge Swart was an ad litem judge at the ICTY between December 2003 and March 2006, during which period he sat on the Hadžihasanović and Kubura case.

After leaving the ICTY, he became a judge at the STL, and was for a time the presiding judge of the STL's Trial Chamber.

22 February

Second Šešelj contempt trial

On 22 February, following the pre-trial conference, the Prosecution commenced and concluded its case in the second contempt trial of Vojislav Šešelj. Once the Prosecution case was completed, the trial was adjourned *sine die*, pending a decision by the Appeals Chamber. A date for the commencement of the Defence case will be announced in due course.

On 4 February 2010, Šešelj was indicted for contempt "for having disclosed information which may identify...11 protected witnesses in violation of orders of a Chamber."

24 February

ICTY conducts training session for Bosnian legal professionals

On 24 February, the ICTY began a two-day training session for prosecutors and legal advisers from various cantonal offices of the prosecutor in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, as part of the War Crimes Justice Project (WCJP).

The training is designed to enhance the capacity in the region to handle complex war crimes cases, and is one component of the War Crimes Justice Project's comprehensive effort to assist with the transfer of the Tribunal's institutional knowledge and specialised skills to jurisdictions in the region. The training is taking place at the Centre for Judicial and Prosecutorial Training of the Federation of BiH in Sarajevo. Prosecutors and legal advisers from Sarajevo, Mostar, Orašje, Široki Brijeg, Tuzla, Zenica and Bihać, who are working on war crimes cases in their own jurisdictions, are taking part in the training.

"This training is an ideal opportunity for all Prosecutor offices from Bosnia and Herzegovina to enhance their capacities in handling complex war crimes cases," said Radoslav Marjanović, acting director of CEST. *"The War Crimes Justice Project is very useful to us and we are delighted to work with OSCE/ODIHR, ICTY and UNICRI on this project."*

Similar trainings have taken place in Belgrade, Sarajevo, Zagreb and Podgorica since the launch of the WCJP in July 2010. Further sessions are scheduled to be held in the region in the coming months.

The War Crimes Justice Project is a 4-million euro regional project funded by the European Union and carried out by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe/Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODHIR) in partnership with the ICTY, the UN Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute and OSCE field operations.

25 February

ICTY Outreach begins NGO coordination meetings

The ICTY's Outreach Programme recently held the first of its meetings with non-governmental organisations from the former Yugoslavia, with the aim of creating partner networks in the region and strengthening the Tribunal's engagement with civil society during the decisive final years of its mandate.

Initial meetings were held in Belgrade, Serbia and Zagreb, Croatia and were chaired by Nerma Jelačić, the Acting Head of Media, Outreach and Web Unit, via a video link from The Hague. Similar meetings will be held shortly in the other countries and territories covered by Outreach.

The purpose of these meetings is to coordinate and strengthen further the activities of Outreach and local NGOs by creating effective partnerships. The participants will seek new ways to respond to developments on the ground by working together in the fight against impunity and the promotion of the rule of law. Moreover, the meetings will assist the ICTY in keeping civil society partners informed of all Tribunal-related developments so that this knowledge can be used to the full in their projects and public pronouncements.

The Outreach Programme was created in 1999 with the purpose of improving the understanding of the work of the Tribunal and its relevance in the territory of the former Yugoslavia. As the first programme of its sort, the Tribunal set a precedent for other criminal tribunals which have since set up similar programmes.

The Outreach Programme is generously supported by the European Union.

25 February

Outreach welcomes intern from the former Yugoslavia

The ICTY's Outreach Programme recently welcomed a fourth generation of young professionals from the region of the former Yugoslavia as part of the Regional Internship Programme.

In this year's edition of the programme, seven young professionals will have a chance to acquire hands-on experience of legal and communications work in all three organs of the Tribunal.

The Regional Internship Programme was established in 2007 as a joint project between the Youth Initiative for Human Rights (YIHR) and the Outreach Programme. The programme is open to graduate students and those who are in their final year of study, with backgrounds in Law, History, Political Science or other Humanities subjects. Interns from Serbia, Montenegro and Kosovo take part in a five-month internship in The Hague, and a further three-month internship at their respective national war crimes courts/prosecutors' offices or local institutions and organisations dealing with war crimes.

The aim of the programme is to provide participants with an opportunity to learn about international humanitarian law through the work of the ICTY and to transfer that knowledge back to the legal systems in the region. Once the participants have completed the programme, they design a strategy for promoting the ICTY and national war crimes trials in their home countries. Thereafter, they take part in the YIHR's educational and training programmes to pass on the knowledge gained as a result of their participation in the Regional Internship Programme.

Since 2007, three groups of interns, comprising of a total of 33 young professionals, have completed their training at the ICTY. Their subsequent engagement in their respective countries proved that this project significantly contributes to the development of civil society and strengthening of the rule of law in the former Yugoslavia.

The Regional Internship Programme is mainly supported by the Swiss Confederation, represented by the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, as well as the US Embassy in Serbia.

COURTROOM SCHEDULE: 28 FEBRUARY – 11 MARCH

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

MONDAY 28 FEBRUARY

Courtroom I 09:00 – 14:30, **Karadžić**, Trial
Courtroom III 14:15 – 19:00, **Tolimir**, Trial

TUESDAY 1 MARCH

Courtroom I 09:00 – 14:30, **Karadžić**, Trial
Courtroom III 09:00 – 13:45, **Prlić**, Trial
14:15 – 19:00, **Tolimir**, Trial

WEDNESDAY 2 MARCH

Courtroom I 09:00 – 14:30, **Karadžić**, Trial
Courtroom III 09:00 – 13:45, **Prlić**, Trial
14:15 – 19:00, **Tolimir**, Trial

THURSDAY 3 MARCH

Courtroom I 09:00 – 14:30, **Karadžić**, Trial
Courtroom III 14:15 – 19:00, **Tolimir**, Trial

MONDAY 7 MARCH

Courtroom I 14:30 – 19:00, **Šešelj**, trial
Courtroom III 14:15 – 19:00, **Tolimir**, Trial

TUESDAY 8 MARCH

Courtroom I 09:00 – 14:30, **Karadžić**, Trial
14:30 – 19:00, **Šešelj**, trial
Courtroom III 09:00 – 13:45, **Tolimir**, Trial

WEDNESDAY 9 MARCH

Courtroom I 09:00 – 14:30, **Karadžić**, Trial
14:30 – 19:00, **Šešelj**, trial
Courtroom III 09:00 – 13:45, **Tolimir**, Trial

THURSDAY 10 MARCH

Courtroom I 09:00 – 14:30, **Karadžić**, Trial
Courtroom III 09:00 – 13:45, **Tolimir**, Trial

FRIDAY 11 MARCH

Courtroom I 09:00 – 14:30, **Karadžić**, Trial
14:15 – 19:00, **Karadžić**, 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 125 of them: 12 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.

125 Total number of accused whose proceedings have been completed.

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

36 Proceedings are on-going with regard to 36 accused: 13 are at the appeals stage, 18 are currently on trial, and three are at the pre-retrial stage. Two fugitives are still at large.

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

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

16,000 Total number of pages of ICTY court hearing audio material transcribed to date.

4,500 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.

The ICTY Digest is a publication of the Registry, prepared and produced by the LPTV Section.
Registrar: John Hocking.

International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia
Churchillplein 1, 2517 JW The Hague, the Netherlands
www.icty.org

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.

Queries and comments:

Nick Beston
Associate Public Information Officer
+31.70.512.89.43 | beston@un.org

Emma Coffey
Assistant
+31.70.512.53.99 | coffey@un.org