

[11 June](#)

ICTY Judges in Zagreb to share expertise with national Judges

President Fausto Pocar, Judge Alphons Orie, Judge Wolfgang Schomburg and Judge Iain Bonomy participate in a regional judges' meeting on Inter-State Cooperation in War Crimes Proceedings, in Zagreb. The meeting is organized by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and is part of an ongoing series of expert-level meetings first initiated by the OSCE in November 2004 in Palic, Serbia for the purpose of facilitating consultations for enhancing inter-State co-operation in addressing war crimes investigations, prosecutions and trials.

The Zagreb meeting brings together Judges from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia with Judges from the ICTY for round-table discussions on current legal frameworks for direct cooperation between State Courts, particularly in relation to cases referred from the ICTY, and on use and admissibility of evidence between courts on war crimes cases.

[11 June](#)

Milorad Trbić transferred to be tried in BiH

Milorad Trbić, a former security officer of the Zvornik Brigade of the Bosnian Serb Army, is transferred from the custody of the Tribunal to Sarajevo to be tried before the war crimes section of the Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Trbić is the tenth ICTY indictee to be transferred to Bosnia and Herzegovina for trial, pursuant to Rule 11bis. One additional accused was transferred to Serbia and two others to Croatia. Two further persons are under consideration for transfer.

[12 June](#)

Milan Martić found guilty and sentenced to 35 years in jail

Trial Chamber I, consisting of Judge Moloto (Presiding), Judge Nosworthy and Judge Höpfel sentences Milan Martić, a former senior political leader of Croatian Serbs, to 35 years' imprisonment for crimes committed during the early nineties against Croats and other non-Serbs in Croatia. Martić is convicted on 16 counts of the indictment including persecutions, murder, torture, deportation, attacks on civilians, wanton destruction of civilian areas and other crimes against humanity and violations of laws and customs of war. He was acquitted on one count of the indictment charging him with extermination.

The full text of the Judgement, as well as the summary read out by Presiding Judge Moloto, is available at the "Cases and Judgements" page of the ICTY website.

[13 June](#)

Representatives of more than 60 Embassies attend the ICTY Diplomatic Seminar

Delivering the opening address, ICTY President Pocar states that "the Tribunal has been continuing to work diligently and creatively to meet the goals of its Completion Strategy." Noting that the number of accused awaiting trial has been reduced "from 31 to ten in the past year," Judge Pocar outlines the "measures [taken] to increase the efficiency of proceedings," praises the "essential contribution made by the ad litem Judges," and stresses "the impact of Rule 11bis referrals on the overall workload of the Tribunal." However, he also expresses "the Tribunal's grave concern" with regards to "the high level fugitives at large in the region. The Tribunal's mission will not be complete without these accused, especially Radovan Karadžić and Ratko Mladić, to be brought to justice."

Appearing for the last time in front of an ICTY Diplomatic Seminar, the Prosecutor, Carla del Ponte provides the audience with "an overview" of her office's work over the past six months and says that "although we are nearing the completion of our work, this is the busiest period in the life of the Tribunal." She adds that her office will "transfer more [investigative] files to national prosecutors, and will continue working closely with domestic authorities." Concluding on the issue of fugitives, Carla Del Ponte reiterates that "to successfully complete our work and meet Completion Strategy goals, all fugitives must be arrested and delivered to The Hague."

Final speaker, Registrar Hans Holthuis reveals that Belgium has "just recently" become the 11th Member State to be willing to enforce sentences imposed by the ICTY, adding that "negotiations with Slovakia and Ukraine were concluded recently,

and that discussions with Turkey, Poland and Estonia were well underway.” In addition to nine more Enforcement Agreements, the ICTY needs “an additional eight agreements...to relocate all current and future witnesses” explains the Registrar (at present, 14 such agreements are in place). Turning then to the budget proposed by the Tribunal for the period 2008-2009, Hans Holthuis says that 307 posts could be gradually abolished in 2009 and that the ICTY budget proposal “reflects a real resource decrease of 13,5%” as compared to the period 2006-2007.”

A copy of the full text of the addresses by the President, the Prosecutor and the Registrar can be obtained from Gea van der Werf, at 512.85.99, or vanderwerf@un.org

[14 June](#)

Carla del Ponte awarded a prize in Budapest

The Prosecutor receives today the Central European University Open Society Prize in recognition of her contribution to the process of achieving justice for victims of serious violations of international humanitarian law. Previous recipients of the Prize include the eminent philosopher Sir Karl Popper and former President of the Czech Republic (and renowned writer) Vaclav Havel.

[17 June / 19 June](#)

The arrest of Đorđević reduces to four the number of ICTY fugitives

Vlastimir Đorđević, a former senior Serbian police officer indicted for crimes against humanity and war crimes committed against Kosovo Albanians in 1999, is arrested in Montenegro after having been on the run for more than three years. His arrest is the result of the cooperation between ICTY's Office of the Prosecutor, Montenegrin and Serbian authorities.

The former Assistant Minister of the Serbian Ministry of Internal Affairs and its Public Security Department Chief, Vlastimir Đorđević is accused of having participated in a joint criminal enterprise whose aim was to expel the majority of the Kosovo Albanian population from Kosovo to ensure continued Serbian control over the province.

At his initial appearance, on 19 June, the accused postponed his plea. Meanwhile, a date has been set for a further initial appearance: it will take place on Monday 16 July, at 9am.

Following the arrest of V. Đorđević, four ICTY indictees remain at large: Radovan Karadžić (indicted since...1995!), Ratko Mladić (indicted since...1995!), Stojan Župljanin (indicted since 1999) and Goran Hadžić (indicted since 2004).

[18 June / 19 June](#)

President, Prosecutor and Registrar in New York to discuss ICTY Completion Strategy and ICTY Legacy

President Pocar and Prosecutor Del Ponte present their bi-yearly reports on the implementation of the Completion Strategy.

The text of the President's and Prosecutor's addresses is available on the “Press Releases” page of the ICTY website.

On Tuesday 19 June, a meeting is held to discuss the legacy of the ICTY and ICTR. The Presidents, the Prosecutors and the Registrars of both tribunals meet with the members of the Security Council's working group on international tribunals to discuss issues related to residual judicial mechanisms, archives and other legacy issues.

[20 June](#)

Yet one more distinction for Judge Meron...

...who is made Officier dans l'Ordre de la Légion d'Honneur, the highest French national distinction.

President of the Tribunal from 2003 until 2005, Judge Meron received the 2005 Rule of Law Award of the International Bar Association, the Hudson Medal of the American Society of International Law for extraordinary contributions to international law and has been selected for the 2008 Haskins prize awarded by the American Council of Learned Societies to a distinguished humanist.

[20 June](#)

Hadžihasanović provisionally released by the Appeals Chamber

The Appeals Chamber grants a Motion on Behalf of Enver Hadžihasanović for Provisional Release pending the hearing of his appeal. The decision was taken after the Appeals Chamber considered that a series of circumstances, including the fact that the time spent in detention by Hadžihasanović amounted to approximately two-thirds of his term, constituted a special circumstance warranting Hadžihasanović's provisional release until the appeals hearing.

On 15 march 2006, Trial Chamber II convicted Hadžihasanović for murder and

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON SATURDAY 23 JUNE, THE TRIBUNAL RECEIVED ONE VISITOR EVERY MINUTE!

One of 22 locations opened to the public on the occasion of the Day of Architecture, the Tribunal welcomed between 11am and 4pm no less than 330 visitors, who were attended to by a group of eight enthusiastic staff-members!

The visitors' curiosity went far beyond the history and the shape of the building.

The origins of the wars in the former Yugoslavia, the working of the Tribunal, the design of the courtrooms, or the impact of the death of high-profile accused such as Milan Babić and Slobodan Milošević were among the most frequently asked questions. And also this one: "why do you guys work so late at night?"

ICTY PROCEEDINGS COMPLETED WITH REGARD TO 106 ACCUSED

Since the very first hearing (referral 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 106 of them: five have been acquitted, 51 sentenced (seven are awaiting transfer, 26 have been transferred and are serving their sentence, 16 have served their term, and two died while serving their sentence), 14 have had their cases transferred to local courts. 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 55 accused: 11 are at the appeals stage, one has been recently convicted and sentenced by a Trial Chamber, three are awaiting judgement by a Trial Chamber, 25 are currently on trial, 11 are at pre-trial and four are still at large.

The figure of the accused at the appeals stage includes Sefer Halilović, Fatmir Limaj and Isak Musliu (who have been acquitted and released but against whom an appeal by the Office of the Prosecutor is running), as well as Amir Kubura and Naser Orić. These two accused have been sentenced and granted early release (Kubura) and release (Orić), but the OTP has appealed against the Trial Chamber's Judgements.

A further 20 individuals have also been the subject of contempt proceedings.

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