



A Partnership of the **University of Illinois College of Law**  
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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **ELISABETH REHN TO GIVE KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT CONFERENCE ON SYSTEMATIC SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND VICTIMS' RIGHTS**

**Chair of International Criminal Court Victims' Trust Fund Speak to World Experts  
in The Hague on April 7 & 8**

CHICAGO, IL – April 4, 2011 – [Systematic Sexual Violence and Victims' Rights](#), organized by the [Center on Law and Globalization](#) of the [American Bar Foundation](#) and the [University of Illinois College of Law](#) in cooperation with the [Grotius Centre for International Legal Studies, Leiden University Campus/The Hague](#), [The International Victimology Institute Tilburg \(INTERVICT\)](#), and the [Department of Criminal Law at Tilburg University](#), will convene on April 7 and 8, 2011 in The Hague, The Netherlands. This colloquium will assess the causes and responses to systematic sexual violence, and the rights and perspectives of victims.

The Keynote and Welcoming Address will be given on the morning of April 7th by [Elisabeth Rehn](#), Minister of State of Finland and the Chair of the Board of Directors at the Trust Fund for Victims of International Criminal Court. The Trust Fund for Victims was established in 2002 to assist victims and their families in cases being processed by the International Criminal Court. Rehn is an independent expert on crisis management and the role of women in the development of peace for the United Nations, governments and nonprofit organizations. Her distinguished career includes former Presidential candidate in Finland, member of the Finnish and European Parliaments, former Minister of Defense in Finland and former Minister of Equality Affairs in Finland.

Rehn has specific expertise in the area of human rights and international criminal law as a former UN Special Reporter on the situation in the Republic of Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and as the UN Under-Secretary-General, Special Representative of Secretary-General in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Rehn has played a significant role in advancing the status of women in conflict resolution and the peace building process. She currently is a member of the Global Leadership Council of Women in International Security, advisor to the Regional Women's Lobby for Peace, Security and Justice in Southeast Europe, and the Chair of the Finnish Association for Education and Training of Women in Crisis Prevention. Previously, Rehn has served as the Vice-chair of the UN International Conference on Population and Development and the Chair of the Standing Group of the National Committees of UNICEF. She has received numerous national and international honors and awards.

*Systematic Sexual Violence and Victims' Rights* will build on the inaugural conference convened in 2009, at which UN High Commissioner Navanethem Pillay, International Criminal Court Prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo, Judge Richard Goldstone, and others, called for new and intensified approaches in international criminal law to address violence against women. At this second colloquium, the conferees will further develop these evidentiary discussions in addition to

examining, more thoroughly, the concerns of victims. [Click here to see more event information](#) or [download a copy of the Colloquium's program](#).

*The Keynote will be given on April 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 at the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs.*

### **About the Center on Law and Globalization**

*The Center on Law and Globalization is a Partnership of the American Bar Foundation and the University of Illinois College of Law. The Center brings together the top legal officials of international organizations, key journalists, and academic experts to understand behavioral and legal dimensions of critical global issues, to stimulate well-informed global policy choices, to advance empirical research on globalization and law and to advance the effective use of the law. To access the Center's Smart Libraries – clustering the leading scholarship on globalization- visit [www.lexglobal.org](http://www.lexglobal.org)*

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Editors Note: Reporters are invited to attend all sessions. Please contact Allison Lynch ([alynch@abfn.org](mailto:alynch@abfn.org)), provide your email address and indicate the dates you plan to attend. Entry is by advanced registration only. Please have credentials present at all times.

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