

Sexual Violence as International Crime

A newsletter presented by the center on law and globalization;
a program of the University of Illinois College of Law and the American Bar Foundation

Global Network Updates, Fall 2011



global sexual violence network updates

The Center is building a multidisciplinary network of scholars, activists, nonprofit leaders, court and government officials, journalists and legal professionals working in systematic sexual violence during civil and international conflicts. We hope that this network will foster interdisciplinary communication, bridge gaps and set the foundation for more effective future collaboration in efforts to advance fundamental human rights and respond to and prevent mass atrocities.

The Center encourages global engagement and connects individuals -- see our [Twitter](#) feed and the [LinkedIn Discussion Group](#). We use social media in combination with our website and electronic newsletter to create and widely disseminate a collection of case law, news stories, resources and experts.

We will continue to grow this network and develop new additions to our resources and systems. The newest addition is our [Interactive Satellite Map](#) (powered by a grant from Google



through the Nonprofit Program)
Over 800 professionals in our network have been categorized based on their field of expertise and geocoded to create an interactive map displaying the "who" and "where" of our global sexual violence network.

in the fall issue:

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forthcoming publications



the global sexual violence network:

follow us on twitter



join the linkedin discussion group



[CLG Sexual Violence Program Overview](#)

[Rape & Genocide](#)

To use: go to the Center's [website](#), zoom in and out of the map as desired, left click on the colored markers to view the breakdown at specific locations.



overheard from linkedin

share your expertise, post resources and converse with other professionals

Below you will find examples of the content posted in our private discussion and networking group. To see resulting dialogue or more resources and to start contributing please request a membership on the group's [page](#) or email alynch@abfn.org

Gender Jurisprudence Collections Launch:

<http://www.wcl.american.edu/gender/wilp/gicl/>

WCRO and WILP have just launched a new, free access research tool, the Gender Jurisprudence Collections (GJC). The GJC is an online research tool that allows judges, lawyers, and researchers to search the jurisprudence of eleven international/ized criminal courts and tribunals for documents containing information regarding the prosecution of crimes involving sexual and gender-based violence.

Mapping Violence Against Women, Rights for change

<http://rights4change.org/>

Rights for Change is a new initiative where several experts on human rights will be working together. R4C builds on the work of Aim for human rights, which was closed in the beginning of 2011. R4C offers trainings on human rights, in particular women's rights and the way to use human rights in advocacy or legal proceedings.

center in the news



Center Co-Director, John Hagan, featured in the CNN Article by Ashley Fantz, June 24, 2011

"Rape in Wartime, Listening to the Victims"

... Hagan worked on the pivotal case known as Foca, the territory in the Balkans where Serb soldiers used abandoned hospitals and other buildings to keep Muslim women and girls as sex slaves.

"Jan's [Pfundheller] work was invaluable," said Hagan. It showed that Serbs raped for three reasons: to inflict pain, to impregnate and "cleanse" the ethnic Muslim population, and to uproot them.

"You didn't have to rape someone directly to make them feel threatened," he said. "If you went into their villages and said, 'We're going to start raping all your women unless you move,' the villagers will leave their homes very fast and never come back."

The Foca case was a groundbreaking moment in international law.

Though systematic rape has been a part of conflicts from biblical times to modern-day wars, no defendant had ever been convicted specifically of rape as a war crime until then." ...

Smart Library

[Online Resources & Publications of Interest](#)

[Global Sexual Violence Network](#)

call for papers:

["women in war and at war"](#)

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11-12 may 2012

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Law

center in the news



[Libya's new constitution: Lessons from Iraq's missteps](#)

Chicago Tribune, October 21, 2011
by Center Co-Director, Tom Ginsburg

Now that Moammar Gadhafi has fallen, Libya's victorious revolutionaries should heed Iraq's missteps as they begin the critical task of political reconstruction, including Iraq's hurried 2005 constitution-making process.

There are as many ways to write a constitution as there are spellings of Gadhafi's name, and some processes can exacerbate conflict rather than resolve it...

...As the French revolutionary Mirabeau once said, "when you undertake to run a revolution, the difficulty is not to make it go; it is to hold it in check." Slowing down and engaging the public is the best way to channel the revolutionary optimism into a stable governance structure for the future.

forthcoming center publications:

Prosecuting Sexual Violence as an International Crime: Interdisciplinary Approaches

by Anne-Marie de Brouwer and Charlotte Ku

Prosecuting Sexual Violence as an International Crime: Interdisciplinary Approaches is a collection of essays compiled and edited by Anne-Marie de Brouwer (Department of Criminal Law & INTERVICT, Tilburg University), Charlotte Ku (University of Illinois College of Law and the Center on Law and Globalization), Renée Römkens (INTERVICT, Tilburg University) and Larissa van den Herik (Leiden University). The completed collection, including contributions from a number of the participants of the first and second Hague Colloquia on Sexual Violence, is presently under anonymous peer review for publication in the Series on Transitional Justice of Intersentia Publishers, Cambridge/Antwerp.

Prosecuting Sexual Violence provides a baseline from which to assess the progress made and the work that remains in recognizing, investigating and prosecuting sexual violence at the international level. The volume includes contributions by practitioners and academics like **Patricia Viseur Sellers, Maxine Marcus, Lynn Lawry, Michelle Jarvis, Chen Reis, Kelly Askin, Linda Bianchi, Brigid Inder, Luis Moreno-Ocampo, Valerie Oosterveld, John Hagan, Silke Studzinsky, Sara Sharratt, and Sandesh Sivakumaran**. Journalist **Rachel Irwin** contributed an interview with filmmakers Ilse and Femke van Velzen.


The work is an interdisciplinary one bringing together not only legal personnel, but also medical personnel, sociologists, psychologists, victimologists, criminologists, and members of the media and NGOs. The volume is assembled to open a dialogue among those working in this area to encourage understanding and dialogue. The volume points to the steps taken to bring sexual violence out of the sidelines and directly into international judicial proceedings. It notes the two decades of experience and development to criminalize sexual violence and to recognize it as a war crime, crime against humanity and genocide. It also underscores the urgency of understanding the individual and group dynamics that produce the savagery that generates sexual violence.

Prosecuting Sexual Violence bears witness to the fact that the basis for peace ultimately must be respect for the dignity for every person in society. It further cultivates the awareness needed to prevent sexual violence crimes from recurring and from taking place in the first place.

about the center on law and globalizaton:

The Center focuses on international human and legal rights issues, notably justice and security, the international economy and marketplace, health and global governance.

Located in Chicago, the Center combines research, technology and international events to influence global discourse, improve the understanding of the individuals and institutions addressing these issues and empower leaders with the tools needed to bring about sustainable peace.



Unstable states are breeding grounds for human rights violations, collective violence and genocide. Since its inception in 2007, the Center has had a major thematic focus on the protection of women, children, men and families from systematic sexual violence in wars, conflicts and trafficking. Through path-breaking programming, we aim to drive the development of progressive solutions that eliminate sexual violence in international settings, aid in apprehending perpetrators and protect the health and dignity of the victims.