International Criminal Justice: The State of Play

Strategy Room 320, Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue
Simon Fraser University - Vancouver, Canada

19-20 March 2015

THURSDAY, 19 MARCH

9:00-9:30  Introductions and Opening Remarks
Jennifer Allen Simons, Alexander Dawson, The Hon. Louise Arbour

9:30-11:00  Panel I: Critical evaluation of the underlying assumptions of international justice
Chair: Nicole Barrett

Richard A. Falk, “The Long March to End Impunity for State Crimes of Aggression and Crimes Against Humanity”

Stephen Toope, “A Critical Analysis of the Concept of ‘Fragmentation’ and the Normative Legitimacy of International Criminal Justice”

James Stewart (ICC), “Prevention: Will it ever be realizable?”

11:00-11:15  Break

11:15-12:45  Panel II: Empirical evidence on the functioning of international justice
Chair: Georgette Gagnon

Diane Orentlicher, “The Impact of the ICTY on Domestic Prosecutions in Bosnia and Serbia”


2:00-3:30  Panel III: Politics of opposition to international justice
Chair: Onur Bakiner

The International Criminal Justice: The State of Play Conference is co-convened by The Simons Foundation and the School for International Studies, Simon Fraser University, and chaired by The Hon. Louise Arbour, C.C., G.O.Q., Simons Visiting Chair in Dialogue in International Law and Human Security at Simon Fraser University.
Rex Brynen, “The Politics of Palestinian Accession to the ICC”


3:30-3:45   Break

3:45-5:15   Panel IV: Challenges of enforcing international justice
Chair: James G. Stewart (UBC)

Castro Wesamba, “Africa and Challenges of International Criminal Justice”

Tim McCormack, “The Challenges of Applying Article 8 of the Rome Statute”

Beth A. Simmons, “Can the International Criminal Court Deter Atrocity?”
(due to illness, this presentation will be delivered by Alexander Dawson)


FRIDAY, 20 MARCH

9:30-11:00   Panel V: Possibilities for reforming the current system of international justice
Chair: Izabela Steflja


Jennifer Quaid, “The Next Frontier of International Criminal Law: Holding Organizations to Account as Distinct Responsible Actors”

James Stewart (UBC), “Avenues of accountability for the most egregious corporate offending in war zones”

11:00-11:15   Break

11:15-12:45   Panel VI: Novel uses of international justice
Chair: Jennifer Quaid

Rachel A. Cichowski, “Interest and Advocacy Group use of the European Court of Human Rights”

Georgette Gagnon, “Using International Justice in the Field: the Case of Afghanistan”

Ruben Reike, ”The Responsibility to Protect: Impetus or Obstacle for Enforcing International Criminal Justice?”

Nicole Barrett, “International Accountability in African Courts”

2:00-3:30   Panel VII: Tensions between international justice and other goals
Chair: Ruben Reike
Fannie Lafontaine, “To Prosecute or What? National Jurisdictions and the Gaps in Closing the Impunity Gap”

David Petrasek, “The ICC and peace processes – is a balance possible?”

Onur Bakiner, “Whither Universal Jurisdiction? The (Stunted) Growth of a Legal Norm”

4:00-5:30 Summary and Concluding Remarks

Alexander Dawson, Rapporteur: Shayna Plaut,
The Hon. Louise Arbour, Jennifer Allen Simons