



CENTER FOR
TRUTH &
JUSTICE

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

THIRD ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
HUMAN RIGHTS
AND ACCOUNTABILITY

PATHWAYS TO POST-CONFLICT JUSTICE

Co-Sponsored by the Constitutional Court of Armenia

SEPTEMBER 11-13, 2024

MATENADARAN, INSTITUTE AND MUSEUM OF
ANCIENT MANUSCRIPTS
YEREVAN, ARMENIA

THIRD ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
**HUMAN RIGHTS
AND ACCOUNTABILITY**
PATHWAYS TO POST-CONFLICT JUSTICE

DAY 1

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2024

09:00 – 09:30

REGISTRATION - OPEN TO ALL

09:30 – 09:50

WELCOMING REMARKS



THE HONORABLE GASSIA APKARIAN

Judge, Superior Court of California
California, USA



JUSTICE ARMAN DILANYAN

President of the Constitutional Court of Armenia
Yerevan, Republic of Armenia

09:50 – 10:10



GURGEN PETROSSIAN

Senior Officer for ICL at the International Nuremberg
Principles Academy
Recipient of CFTJ's Legal Advocate of the Year Award, 2023
Nuremberg, Germany



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

THE HONORABLE RAUL CANO PANGALANGAN

ICC Judge (2015 - 2021)
Professor, University of the Philippines
Manila, The Philippines

10:10 – 11:45

PANEL I
LEGAL PURSUITS - THE ARMENIA PERSPECTIVE



TALIN HITIK **MODERATOR**

Managing Partner, Hitik Law, LLC
Lecturer, University of Chicago Law School
Chicago, Illinois, USA



GOHARINE HOVOYAN

A Victim's Story of War, Blockade, and Forcible Deportation
Refugee from Nagorno-Karabakh
Vank, Nagorno-Karabakh



YEGHISHE KIRAKOSYAN

Office of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia
Representative on International Legal Matters
Yerevan, Republic of Armenia



SIRANUSH SAHAKYAN

Attorney, Chamber of Advocates
Director, International and Comparative Law Centre
Lecturer, American University of Armenia
Yerevan, Republic of Armenia



ARMEN GHAZARYAN

Head of the Migration and Citizenship Service
Yerevan, Republic of Armenia

Q&A

11:45 – 12:45

LUNCH

12:45 – 14:20

PANEL II

ICC STATE PARTY'S ROLE & RESPONSIBILITIES



GURGEN PETROSSIAN **MODERATOR**

Senior Officer for ICL at the International Nuremberg Principles Academy
Recipient of CFTJ's Legal Advocate of the Year Award, 2023
Nuremberg, Germany



PETER MICHAEL KREMER KC

Former Deputy Prosecutor (2012-2014) of the OTP at the ICTY
Stuttgart, Germany



SARAH BABAIAN

International Negotiation Expert & Conflict Manager at
Negotiation & Conflict Consulting
Hamburg, Germany



VICTOR TSILONIS

Newlaw CEO, 2020 Greece's ICC judicial nominee, chairman of
the ICCBA Professional Standards Advisory Committee
Thessaloniki, Greece



LOUSINEH HAKOBYAN

Founding member and President of Europe In Law
Yerevan, Republic of Armenia

Q&A

14:20 – 14:40

COFFEE BREAK

14:40 – 15:55

PANEL III
**ENHANCING VICTIMS’
REPRESENTATIONS AND
SUPPORT IN INTERNATIONAL
CRIMINAL JUSTICE**



GEVORG VARDANYAN, ESQ.

CFTJ Team Lead
Attorney-at-Law
California, USA

MODERATOR



SHARMAGH MARDI

Staff Lawyer, CFTJ
Yerevan, Republic of Armenia



PAOLINA MASSIDDA

Principal Counsel at the OPCV at the ICC; appointed Counsel
to represent victims before the Court
The Hague, Netherlands



MEGAN HIRST

Barrister and Victims’ Counsel, Doughty Street Chambers
London, UK

Q&A

THIRD ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
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DAY 2 **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2024**

09:00 - 09:10



GEVORG VARDANYAN, ESQ.
CFTJ Team Lead
Attorney-at-Law
California, USA



FEATURED SPEAKER
GEGHAM STEPANYAN
Human Rights Defender of Artsakh/Nagorno-Karabakh
Stepanakert, Nagorno-Karabakh

9:10 - 9:30



HAROUT TOPCHYAN, ESQ.
CFTJ Board of Directors
Attorney-at-Law
California, USA



KEYNOTE SPEAKER
HONORABLE STEPHEN J. RAPP
U.S. Ambassador-at-Large for War Crimes Issues
(2009 - 2015)
Washington DC, USA

09:30 – 10:55

PANEL IV
**GLOBAL APPROACHES TO
PROSECUTING INTERNATIONAL
CRIMES AND UNIVERSAL
JURISDICTION**



GAYANE AGHAJANYAN, ESQ. **MODERATOR**
CFTJ Board of Directors
Attorney-at-Law
California, USA



HAWRE AHMAD
Founder and Director, Kurdistan Center for International Law
Sulaymaniyah, Iraqi Kurdistan



IRENE VICTORIA MASSIMINO
Lawyer; Professor, Indiana University
Recipient of CFTJ's Ambassador of Truth Award, 2023
Indiana, USA



TARON SIMONYAN
Attorney at Law
Founding Partner ELL
Yerevan, Republic of Armenia



KILIAN SCHAEFER
Lawyer, Criminal law
Partner at Galen Rechtsanwälte
Berlin, Germany

Q&A

10:55 – 11:10

COFFEE BREAK

11:10 – 12:45

PANEL V

NAVIGATING THE CHALLENGES AND INNOVATIONS IN ICL



GASSIA APKARIAN **MODERATOR**

Judge, Superior Court of California
California, USA



NICHOLAS KOUMJIAN

International Prosecutor/Investigator
Geneva, Switzerland



JOANNA FRIVET

International Criminal Consultant
Montevideo, Uruguay



DOV JACOBS

International Law and International Criminal Law Expert
The Hague, Netherlands



PHILIPPE LA ROCHELLE

Partner, Larochelle Avocats
Montreal, Canada

Q&A

12:45 – 13:45

LUNCH

13:45 – 15:20

PANEL VI

TOWARDS TRUTH, JUSTICE, AND REPARATIONS: PERSPECTIVES FROM INTERNATIONAL CLAIMS COMMISSIONS

**TALIN HITIK** MODERATOR

Managing Partner, Hitik Law, LLC
Lecturer, University of Chicago Law School
Illinois, USA

**HANNAH GARRY**

Executive Director, University of California Los Angeles (UCLA)
Promise Institute for Human Rights
California, USA

**DARLEEN SEDA**

Senior Officer for Training and Capacity Strengthening at
International Nuremberg Principles Academy
Nuremberg, Germany

**ANNA PACURAR**

Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg;
International Criminal Law Research Unit (FAU-ICLU)
Erlangen, Germany

**SIMON MEISENBERG**

Chef de Cabinet and Senior Legal Officer in the President's
Office of the Kosovo Specialist Chambers (KSC)
The Hague, Netherlands

Q&A

15:20 – 16:10



HAROUT TOPCHYAN. ESQ.

CFTJ Board of Directors
Attorney-at-Law
California, USA



FEATURED SPEAKER

THE HONORABLE SEDA SAFARYAN

Justice of the Constitutional Court
Republic of Armenia



FEATURED SPEAKER

VLADIMIR VARDANYAN

Member of the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia
Committee Chair, Standing Committee on State and
Legal Affairs
Yerevan, Republic of Armenia

Q&A

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DAY 3 **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2024**

09:00 – 09:20



GOR MNATSAKANYAN
President, CFTJ Board of Directors
Attorney-at-Law
California, USA



KEYNOTE SPEAKER
DR. DAVID DONAT CATTIN (ITALY)
Adjunct Professor of International Law, NYU Center for
Global Affairs
New York, USA

09:20 – 10:35

PANEL VII

CONFRONTING EXTREME POLICIES AND HATE SPEECH: ADVOCACY AND JUSTICE FOR ARMENIANS IN NAGORNO-KARABAKH



NAIRA SULTANYAN **MODERATOR**

Director, Democracy Development Foundation (DDF)
Yerevan, Republic of Armenia



ARPI HARUTYUNYAN

Manager of Justice and Human Rights Portfolios
Democracy Development Foundation (DDF)
Yerevan, Republic of Armenia



JOEL VELDKAMP

Director for Public Advocacy
Christian Solidarity International (CSI)
Washington DC, USA



STEVE SWERDLOW

Associate Professor of Practice of Human Rights
University of Southern California
California, USA

Q&A

10:35 – 10:50

COFFEE BREAK

10:50 – 12:25

PANEL VIII
NAGORNO-KARABAKH
IN THE NEWS - OR THE
LACK THEREOF**KAREN HARUTYUNYAN** **MODERATOR**

Editor in Chief, CivilNet
Yerevan, Republic of Armenia

**EDIK BAGHDASARYAN**

Journalist & Editor in Chief of Hetq Online
Yerevan, Republic of Armenia

**FRANCK PETIT**

Deputy Editor-in-chief of JusticeInfo.net, Fondation Hirondelle
Lausanne, Switzerland

**ADRIEN MURATYAN**

Press Relations Senior Consultant, Jin Agency
Paris, France

**VIC GERAMI**

Journalist; Editor and Publisher of The Blunt Post
Founder, Truth And Accountability League (TAAL)
California, USA

Q&A

12:25 – 13:25

LUNCH

13:25 – 15:10

PANEL IX

AMPLIFYING HUMAN RIGHTS



HAROUT TOPCHYAN. ESQ. MODERATOR

CFTJ Board of Directors
Attorney-at-Law
California, USA



TAMAR BERIA

South Caucasus and Russia Program Manager,
International Partnership for Human Rights (IPHR)
Brussels, Belgium



LETO CARIOLOU

Human Rights and Criminal Law Representing applicants
before the European Court of Human Rights
Nicosia, Cyprus



ARA GHAZARYAN

Representing victims at ECHR; International Law Expert
Yerevan, Republic of Armenia



ELKE HECKNER

Lecturer, University of Iowa
Iowa, USA



ADAM KEITH

Senior Director
Human Rights First
New York, USA

Q&A

15:10-16:45

PANEL X

AZERBAIJAN & COP29

**ERIC HACOPIAN** **MODERATOR**

Political Analyst & Consultant
Owner of EDH & Associates
CivilNet Commentator
Yerevan, Republic of Armenia

**MICHAEL RUBIN**

Director of Policy Analysis at the Middle East Forum and a Senior Fellow at the American Enterprise Institute
Recipient of CFTJ Ambassador of Truth Award, 2022
Washington DC, USA

**ANTHONY PORTANTINO**

California State Senator
California, USA

**HRAIR BALIAN**

Practitioner of Conflict Resolution
Currently Focusing on the South Caucasus, Ukraine, & Levant
Georgia, USA

**ANOUCH TORANIAN**

Deputy Mayor
Paris, France

Q&A