



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 the Republic of Armenia*

SEPTEMBER 11-13, 2024

MATENADARAN, MESROP MASHTOTS RESEARCH
INSTITUTE OF ANCIENT MANUSCRIPTS
YEREVAN, REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

THIRD ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
**HUMAN RIGHTS
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DAY 1 **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2024**

09:00 – 09:30 **REGISTRATION**

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 the Republic 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, USA



GOHARINE HOVOYAN

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



YEGHISHE KIRAKOSYAN

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



SIRANUSH SAHAKYAN

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



ARMEN GHAZARYAN

Head of the Migration and Citizenship Service of the Ministry
of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Armenia
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, Europe In Law Association
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. **MODERATOR**
CFTJ Team Lead
Attorney-at-Law
Los Angeles, USA



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

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DAY 2 **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2024**

09:00 - 09:10



GEVORG VARDANYAN, ESQ.
CFTJ Team Lead
Attorney-at-Law
Los Angeles, 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
Los Angeles, 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
Los Angeles, 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 Partnership
Yerevan, Republic of Armenia



KILIAN SCHAEFER
Lawyer, Criminal Law Expert
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****HON. 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
Chicago, 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

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



SIMON MEISENBERG

Chef de Cabinet, Senior Legal Officer,
Kosovo Specialist Chambers
The Hague, Netherlands

Q&A

15:20 – 16:10



HAROUT TOPCHYAN, ESQ.

CFTJ Board of Directors
Attorney-at-Law
Los Angeles, USA



FEATURED SPEAKER

THE HONORABLE SEDA SAFARYAN

Justice of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Armenia
Yerevan, 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, ESQ.
President, CFTJ Board of Directors
Attorney-at-Law
Irvine, USA



KEYNOTE SPEAKER
DR. DAVID DONAT CATTIN
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**

Justice and Human Rights Portfolio Manager
Democracy Development Foundation
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
Los Angeles, 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

Head of Investigative Journalists of Armenia
Editor-in-Chief newspaper "Hetq"
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)
Los Angeles, 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
Los Angeles, USA

**TAMAR BERIA**

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

**LETO CARIOLOU**

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

**ARA GHAZARYAN**

International Law Expert
Representing victims at ECHR
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
 Focusing on the South Caucasus, Ukraine, and Levant
Georgia, USA



ANOUCH TORANIAN

Deputy Mayor of Paris
Paris, France

Q&A