



Canada



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra



Australian Government

WOMEN'S INITIATIVES  
FOR GENDER JUSTICE



## Critical Analysis of Gender in International Criminal Law Pre - Book Launch

Side-Event to the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute

**Event:** Virtual panel discussion, side-event to the 20<sup>th</sup> session of the Assembly of States Parties (ASP) to the Rome Statute

**Date:** Wednesday, 1 December 2021

**Time:** 14:00-15:15 CET (The Hague)

**Connection details:** Zoom public event, access meeting at this [link](#)

**Organised by:** Indira Rosenthal, Susana SáCouto and Valerie Oosterveld - co-editors of the forthcoming book "Gender and International Criminal Law" (Oxford University Press)

**Co-hosted by:** The representatives of Uruguay, Canada, Australia, and Switzerland to the Netherlands, the International Gender Champions The Hague, Women's Initiatives for Gender Justice

**Objectives:** The side-event will bring together leading feminist international criminal and humanitarian law practitioners and academics to discuss misconceptions concerning gender in the prosecution of sexual violence and other gender-based crimes in ICL. Co-editors Indira Rosenthal, Susana SáCouto and Valerie Oosterveld will share views on the subject from their forthcoming book "Gender and International Criminal Law". These insights will inform ongoing developments within the ASP and the ICC ahead of the 20<sup>th</sup> annual ASP meeting.

### Agenda:

**14:00 – 14:05 Welcoming remarks**

H.E. Laura Dupuy, Ambassador of Uruguay to the Netherlands

**14:05 – 14:15 Keynote**

Patricia Viseur Sellers, Special Advisor on Slavery Crimes, Office of the Prosecutor, International Criminal Court (ICC); Fellow, University of Oxford; and Practicing Professor, London School of Economics

**14:15 – 15:00 Panel**

Indira Rosenthal, Susana SáCouto and Valerie Oosterveld, Co-editors of the forthcoming book "Gender and International Criminal Law" (Oxford University Press)

*in conversation with contributors*

Rosemary Grey, Lecturer at Sydney Law School, University of Sydney; and active member of the Sydney Southeast Asia Centre

Melanie O'Brien, Associate Professor in International Law at the University of Western Australia and President of the International Association of Genocide Scholars (IAGS)

Daniela Kravetz, International criminal justice and gender expert

**15:00 – 15:10 Q&A session**, led by Susana SáCouto

**15:10 – 15:15 Closing remarks**

H.E. Matthew Neuhaus, Ambassador of Australia to the Netherlands

*Moderation by* Alix Vuillemin, Advocacy Director, Women's Initiatives for Gender Justice

"Gender and International Criminal Law" brings together leading feminist international criminal and humanitarian law academics and practitioners to examine the place of gender in international criminal law (ICL). It identifies and analyses prevailing misconceptions and narrow understandings of gender, before turning to a consideration of the impact a limited conceptualization has on accountability efforts and the protection of rights. It includes specific examples from national and international jurisprudence from which it is clear that the term 'gender' has not been well understood and that gender 'blind spots' prevail. These manifest starkly, for example with respect to sexual violence against men and boys, gender-based crimes affecting children, and the gendered dimensions of slavery, forced marriage, and reproductive crimes. The authors consider how best to implement a deeper and more accurate understanding of gender in the practice of international criminal law by identifying possible responses, including embedding a sophisticated gender strategy into the practice of ICL, the gender-sensitive application of international human rights and international humanitarian law, and feminist reconstruction of judging in ICL. Other authors examine efforts to ensure that gender is expansively interpreted in ICL, for example in a new treaty on crimes against humanity, and that victims' reparation awards are gender-inclusive. The objective of this book is to promote a more nuanced and expanded understanding of the concept of 'gender' in the field ICL in order to strengthen efforts for accountability for war crimes, crimes against humanity, genocide and aggression.

### **Biographies**

Valerie Oosterveld is a full Professor at the University of Western Ontario Faculty of Law and Associate Director of Western's Centre for Transitional Justice and Post-Conflict Reconstruction. She has published widely on the subject of gender issues in international criminal law.

Indira Rosenthal consults widely on gender, international human rights and international criminal law. She served as Gender and Legal Adviser at Amnesty International, as Legal Counsel with Human Rights Watch and as a senior Australian government lawyer. She is a PhD candidate at the Faculty of Law, University of Tasmania.

Susana SáCouto directs the War Crimes Research Office at American University Washington College of Law, where she teaches doctrinal and experiential education courses on international criminal law (ICL), including a seminar on gender and ICL. She has advised and provided legal research and analysis in these areas of the law to international, regional and domestic courts and has published widely on gender issues in ICL.