



Universality of the Rome Statute within the Broader Human Rights Agenda - The Role of Parliamentarians

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Since the Nuremberg Tribunals, the notion of crimes against humanity and genocide has been historically acknowledged as a source of the gravest human rights violations, while war crimes are the gravest breaches of Int'l Humanitarian Law (IHL). The ICC promised to put an end to impunity for perpetrators of these most serious human rights & IHL abuses, known as international crimes, and to create a more just and equitable world. Yet, impunity for the Rome Statute crimes continues to persist because these crimes frequently fall outside of the ICC's territorial and personal jurisdiction. While 123 states are parties to the Rome Statute system, truly universal ratification of the Statute is a necessity for the Court to address grave abuses regardless of the nationality of the perpetrator and location of the crimes. Likewise, because the ICC is complementary to national jurisdiction, the Rome Statute needs to be fully implemented into national legislation to ensure that core international crimes can be prosecuted by domestic courts. Thus, for the purposes of advancing the human rights framework, it is imperative that legislators are actively involved in efforts to bring about universality of the Rome Statute.

OPENING REMARKS:

H.E. Amb. Jens-Otto Horslund

Ambassador of Denmark to the Netherlands



LEGISLATORS:

Ms. Olena Sotnyk, MP (Ukraine)

Chairperson of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe's (PACE) Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, and member of PGA



KEY NOTE REMARKS:

Hon. Abubacarr M. Tambadou

Attorney General and Minister of Justice of the Republic of Gambia



Mr. Keong Siong Su, MP (Malaysia)

Member of the Parliament of Malaysia and Treasurer of the PGA National Chapter Malaysia



MODERATOR:

Dr. David Donat Cattin

Secretary General, Parliamentarians for Global Action

For more information on PGA's work on the ICC and this event, please contact Ms. Leyla Nikjou at leyla.nikjou@pgaction.org