



## IN THE COURTROOM

29 September 2014

# Closing arguments in the trial of Radovan Karadžić commenced on 29 September

The closing arguments in the trial of Radovan Karadžić, former President of Republika Srpska, commenced on Monday, 29 September. The Prosecution and Defence closing arguments are scheduled for Monday, 29 September through Thursday, 2 October. The rebuttal and rejoinder arguments will follow on Tuesday, 7 October.

Initially indicted on 25 July 1995, Radovan Karadžić is charged with genocide, crimes against humanity, and violations of the laws or customs of war committed in Bosnia and Herzegovina between 1992 and 1995. He was transferred into the Tribunal's custody on 30 July 2008 and his trial commenced on 26 October 2009. The Prosecution case was closed on 25 May 2012 after calling 195 witnesses to testify in person. The Trial Chamber called one witness. The Defence case commenced on 16 October 2012 and was declared closed on 1 May 2014 after calling 238 witnesses.

The judgement in this case is expected for October 2015. Should the judgement be appealed, the appeal will be handled by the Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals.



## OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR

2 September 2014



### Prosecutor's visit to Sarajevo

Prosecutor Serge Brammertz undertook an interim working visit to Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), on 2 September 2014. The Prosecutor met with BiH Prosecutor Goran Salihović to discuss operational issues related to the prosecution of 'Category II' cases transferred from the ICTY to the Prosecutor's Office of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Prosecutor's visit followed his 5 June 2014 report to the United Nations Security Council, during which the Prosecutor reported that *"very little progress has been made towards finalizing the remaining Category II cases"* and that *"[w]hen it comes to implementing the National War Crimes Strategy in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the picture is bleak."*

Following his meeting with Prosecutor Salihović, Prosecutor Brammertz noted in remarks to the press: *"I cannot say that our problems have been resolved. There are a number of important open issues where we want to see more progress, but I got some indications that at least in some of the cases additional progress has been achieved.... So, the results are mixed as always."*

The Prosecutor also visited the reopened National Library and City Hall in Sarajevo with the city's Mayor Mr Ivo Komšić. This iconic building was destroyed in August 1992 by shelling during the siege of the city, resulting in the burning of almost two million books and records.

Prosecutor Brammertz underscored that the burning of the National Library was symbolic of the widespread destruction of cultural property and heritage that was committed during the conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina. He congratulated Mayor Komšić for the successful renovation and reopening of the library, which will now be a symbol of post-conflict rebuilding and memorialization. Prosecutor Brammertz also thanked the European Union for contributing more than half of the project's costs.

## EVENTS

21 September 2014



### Tribunal welcomed hundreds of visitors on The Hague International Open Doors Day

On 21 September, the ICTY welcomed over 700 visitors as part of the seventh annual 'International Open Doors Day' organised by the Municipality of The Hague. On this day international organisations across The Hague, including the ICTY, opened their doors to the public and offered a behind-the-scenes look into their work.

Judge Christoph Flügge in his opening speech for the event stated that the Open Day *"is a unique opportunity for us to meet face to face with you, the public interested in our work, to tell you more about what we do and why we do it, often facing serious challenges."*

During the day, visitors participated in guided tours inside a courtroom, watched documentaries about ICTY cases, and attended presentations by Tribunal's staff. An exhibition commemorating the 20 years of ICTY's existence was displayed, as well as a collection of drawings by children from Bosnia and Herzegovina. In the Tribunal's lobby, an exhibition by photographer Inge van Mill featured images of Tribunal staff at work. Guests especially enjoyed meeting Judge Flügge and Deputy Registrar Kate Mackintosh who talked about their daily work and answered questions.

## OUTREACH

16 September 2014



### Youth Outreach: lecture in Igalo

A new round of university lectures organised by the ICTY's Outreach Programme kicked off in the region on 16 September with a lecture at the Straniak Academy for Democracy and Human Rights in Igalo, Montenegro. The lecture was given by Office of the Prosecutor's Appeals Counsel Aditya Menon to a group of 30 students specializing in humanity studies from Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Slovenia, Croatia Austria, Germany, and Hungary. The lecture concentrated on the Tribunal's work, its jurisprudence, and key achievements.

The goal of the presentation was to give students the opportunity to learn more about the Tribunal's work and to get an insight into the challenges and obstacles inherent to it. At the end of the session, the students asked questions, showing particular interest in the ICTY's role in prosecuting genocide, guilty pleas, and wider issues pertaining to the international system of criminal justice.

This is the third round of of the Youth Education Project which is targeting high schools and universities in the region of the former Yugoslavia. So far, in 2014, 16 high schools with 603 students, and 16 Universities with 770 students, benefitted from this programme. The Youth Education project is generously supported by the Finnish government.

## STATUS OF CASES

CASES AT TRIAL	
Hadžić	The trial started on 16 October 2012 and the Prosecution case rested on 9 April 2014. Calling the accused as its first witness, the Defence case began on 3 July 2014. So far, 9 defence witnesses have been heard. The trial judgement is expected in December 2015.
Karadžić	The trial started on 26 October 2009. The Prosecution case officially closed on 25 May 2012. The Defence case started on 16 October 2012 and was closed on 1 May 2014. Closing arguments commenced on Monday, 29 September, and will conclude on Thursday 2 October. On 7 October, the parties will present their rebuttal and rejoinder arguments. The judgement in this case is expected in October 2015.
Mladić	The trial started on 16 May 2012. The Prosecution rested its case on 26 February 2014. The Defence case commenced on 19 May this year and so far 53 witnesses have been heard. The trial judgement in this case is expected in July 2016.
Šešelj	The trial started on 7 November 2007. The Prosecution case was completed on 13 January 2010. There was no Defence case. The newly-appointed Judge Niang is currently familiarising himself with the case. The trial judgement will be pronounced in due course.
CASES ON APPEAL	
Prljić <i>et al.</i>	All accused filed their notices of appeal against the judgement which was rendered on 29 May 2013. The appeal briefs are to be filed by 4 November 2014. The appeal judgement is expected in mid-2017.
Popović <i>et al.</i>	The appeal hearing for this case took place in December 2013. Status Conferences were held on 3 April and on 22 July 2014. The appeal judgement is expected to be rendered later this year.
Stanišić & Simatović	The Prosecution filed its appeal brief in September last year, requesting the overturn of the acquittal for both accused. The appeal judgement is expected by the end of this year.
Stanišić & Župljanin	The last Status Conference in this case took place on 24 July this year. The appeal hearing is expected to take place next year. The appeal judgement is expected in November 2015.
Tolimir	The last Status Conference in this case was held in June this year. The appeal judgement is expected in March 2015. The next Status Conference is scheduled for 22 October 2014.