

**Commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the Rome Statute
Conference on Amendments: Towards one Comprehensive Jurisdictional Regime for all
Crimes Within the Jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court**

The Section of International Law and International Relations of the University of Vienna will commemorate the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) with an academic conference on possible future amendments to the Statute.

Acts of aggression committed against Ukraine and other crimes under international law committed in the context of the ongoing armed conflict in Ukraine, have spotlighted existing gaps in the international justice architecture.

This concerns, most prominently, the Rome Statute's restrictive jurisdictional regime over the crime of aggression, which i.a. precludes the ICC from exercising its jurisdiction over a crime of aggression arising from an act of aggression committed by a non-State party. It also concerns remaining gaps in the Rome Statute's war crimes provision and exceptions from the jurisdictional reach of the ICC over crimes covered by an amendment. Such jurisdictional exceptions are hardly justifiable from an international rule of law perspective. At the same time, attempts to bridge gaps with *ad hoc* jurisdictions in certain situations may be prone to allegations of selective enforcement of international criminal law. A principled and sustainable solution that aims at strengthening the Rome Statute system must therefore also address shortcomings of the Statute.

The Vienna conference on amendments will discuss the multiple legal, technical, and policy questions related to harmonizing the jurisdictional regime of the ICC over all crimes within its jurisdiction and provide impetus for future amendment processes, including the upcoming mandatory revision of the aggression amendments, seven years after their activation, in 2025.

During the proposed two-day conference, international scholars and practitioners in international criminal law, international humanitarian law and the law of treaties will discuss legal and policy issues of possible future amendments to the Rome Statute.

Conference on Amendments

Friday 6 to Saturday 7 October 2023

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