

Profiles of Panellists

Mr. Hiram Abtahi (LL.M, Ph.D candidate) has over twenty years of experience in international criminal justice. Currently Acting Chef de Cabinet, Presidency, he has headed the Legal and Enforcement Unit of the Presidency of the International Criminal Court (ICC) since 2004. Previously, he acted as the Chief of the Registry Legal Advisory Section. Prior to joining the ICC, Hiram Abtahi served the Milošević trial chamber at the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, and worked for the International Commission of Jurists. Hiram Abtahi has widely lectured, including at The Hague Academy of International Law and at Sciences Po's Paris School of International Affairs. His publications include two volumes gathering the Genocide Convention's travaux préparatoires. He serves on the Boards of the International Criminal Law Review and the Forum for International Criminal and Humanitarian Law. He is a member of the Société Française pour le droit international and the European Society of International Law.

Dr. Philipp Ambach is the Chief of the Victims Participation and Reparations Section in the Registry of the International Criminal Court (ICC). Prior to that, he worked for more than six years in the Presidency of the ICC as the President's Special Assistant. Before that, Mr. Ambach worked for four years as an associate legal officer in the Appeals Chamber of the ICTY, ICTR, as well as in the Registry of the ICTY. After finishing his Master's degree in law at the Humboldt-University of Berlin (Germany) and subsequent employment at the Regional Court of Düsseldorf, Mr. Ambach was accepted at the Cologne Public Prosecutor's Office as prosecutor. He holds a Ph.D. in international criminal law of Free University of Berlin.

Mr. Ambach has published a number of contributions on various topics in the area of international criminal as well as humanitarian law. He regularly lectures on ICL/IHL topics, including aspects of victim-centred international justice, at various research/academic institutions.

Dr. Fabricio Guariglia has a law degree from the University of Buenos Aires (Argentina) and a PhD (Summa Cum Laude) in criminal law from the University of Münster (Germany).

Dr. Guariglia practiced law as a defence counsel and victims representative in criminal cases in Buenos Aires from 1989 to 1995. He was also involved in various human rights and rule of law projects in post-civil war El Salvador during 1992 and 1993. As a Legal Advisor to the Argentine Ministry of Justice from 1995 to 1998, responsible for domestic criminal legislation and international criminal law matters, he was closely involved in the process of negotiation of the Rome Statute including during the Rome Conference. In October 1998 he joined the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, first as a Legal Officer in the Legal Advisory Section and subsequently as Appeals Counsel in the then shared ICTY/ICTR Appeals Section. Between 2003 and early 2004 Dr. Guariglia was a visiting fellow in London School of Economics, where he taught International Criminal Law and Public International Law. From April 2004 to July 2013 he was the Senior Appeals Counsel and Head of the Appeals Section in the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court. He subsequently became Prosecutions Coordinator in the Prosecution Division. He was appointed Director of the Prosecution Division in October 2014.

Dr. Guariglia has published extensively in the areas of international criminal law, comparative criminal law and human rights law, including chapters in leading commentaries to the Rome Statute. He has given lectures and seminars in many universities around the world, including, among others, Münster (Germany), Leiden (Netherlands), LSE (UK), Glasgow (UK), Galway (Ireland) and American University (USA), and participated as an expert in various international projects and meetings concerning international criminal law-related matters. He was an adjunct professor of criminal law and criminal procedure at the University of Buenos Aires, and is an external professor at the Di Tella University in Buenos Aires.

Dr. Guariglia has been consultant or advisor on an ad hoc basis of the following organizations: Amnesty International, International Center for Transitional Justice and OpenSociety Justice Initiative. He has also provided training for prosecution officers in the ad hoc Tribunals and the Extraordinary Chambers of the Courts of Cambodia.

Ms. Paolina Massidda of Italy is the International Criminal Court's Principal Counsel of the Office of Public Counsel for Victims (OPCV). She has been the Head of this independent Office since its creation in 2005 and she has been appointed Counsel to represent victims in virtually all situations and cases before the International Criminal Court (ICC).

One of Ms Massidda's priorities as Principal Counsel has been to shape the OPCV in order to ensure a meaningful representation of the interests of thousands of victims of crimes against humanity and war crimes in

the ICC proceedings. She sought to bring the OPCV, and with it the ICC, closer to the victims who reside in the affected communities of the situation Countries. At her initiative, the capacity of the ICC to reach out to victims without discrimination of any kind was significantly strengthened. It has been a priority for her that victims of gender crimes do not go unheard. She has developed the expertise of the OPCV to present the views and concerns of victims in the form of legal submissions in Court proceedings. The cases in which she has been appointed include two on-going trials (Laurent Gbagbo and Blé Goudé and Ongwen), two completed trials (Lubanga and Katanga) where she remains active for purposes of reparation proceedings, as well as the Comoros situation, the Gaddafi, Kony and Simone Gbagbo cases. In addition, she has provided advice to external lawyers and participated in training and academic programmes.

Before joining the ICC, Ms Massidda practised before national and international tribunals, representing accused and victims. She worked as Legal Adviser for the International Federation of the Red Cross and the International Committee of the Red Cross and participated as expert in several European Union training programmes. She is specialised in human rights and international humanitarian law, she holds a master in international criminal law and is a member of the Genoa Bar (Italy) since 1992.

Mr. Francisco Cox

Legal Representative of Victims in the ICC case against Dominic Ongwen

- Lawyer, University of Diego Portales, Chile
- LLM Columbia University
- Human Rights Fellow, Columbia University
- Founding Partner at Balmaceda, Cox & Piña
- Member of the Interdisciplinary Group of Independent Experts (GIEI) in the Ayotzinapa case.