

23-24 May 2012

Transitional Justice after War and Dictatorship

Learning from
European experiences
(1945-2000)

International Symposium
(Egmontpalace - Brussels)

Design: Tomas De Koster

Responsible publisher: Rudi Van Doorslaer,
Luchtvaartsquare 29 / Sq. de l'Aviation 29
1070 Brussel / Bruxelles

This symposium is the *final step of a project* that presents a set of new approaches and insights.

The importance of a unique project

The project has a dual character. There is a historical-academic part and a more practical policy-oriented part. The combination of both approaches offers challenges as well as unique advantages. The enlarged time span covered by the project (starting the analysis at the late forties) enables us to look at the long-term impact of transitional justice policies, at gradual shifts in strategy (during the sixties and seventies for instance) and at the development of remembrance policies and their societal dynamics. In doing so, this project becomes a reflection on the eventuality of generic mechanisms in the area of transitional justice and on their applicability in current and future cases. This reflection and the resulting identification of 'lessons learned' is the greatest challenge. It will be tackled through a confrontation, at the symposium, of our findings with the vision and experiences of international top practitioners. This last step gives the project and the symposium their truly innovative character.

What will happen at the symposium?

The symposium is a forum for *debate and reflection*. Mark Freeman will open the discussions with a provocative paper on the need for 'integrated transitions' and their consequences for transitional justice policies. The project findings, both on historical parallels and lessons learned, will be presented by *Luc Huyse*, the initiator of the project. The heart of the program is reserved for the critical comments of five renowned and experienced practitioners from the Global South. They bring together a varied and wide amount of insight and expertise: *Juan E. Méndez* (UN Special Rapporteur on Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment), *Habib Nassar* (director MENA Program, International Centre for Transitional Justice), *Eugène Nindorera* (Head of UNOCI Human Rights Division and Representative of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Cote d'Ivoire), *Yasmin Sooka* (Executive Director of the Foundation for Human Rights, South Africa) and *Patrick Walsh* (Senior Advisor to the Technical Secretariat of the Post-Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation, Dili, Timor-Leste).

What about the outcome?

The symposium will lead to a final synthetic and policy-oriented report. This document will be available in English, Spanish and French. It will integrate the academic research, the comments and interventions of the practitioners and the symposium discussions. The report has the ambition to become an important reference text and will be made public later this year.

International Symposium within the framework of the project
'Transitional Justice after War and Dictatorship.
Learning from European experiences (1945-2000)',
coordinated by the Belgian Centre for historical research and documentation
on War and Contemporary Society (CEGES/SOMA) with the support of
the Peace Building Division of the Belgian Federal Public Service Foreign Affairs,
Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Venue:

Egmontpaleis / Palais d'Egmont
Room Arenberg
Wolstraat / Rue aux Laines and Kleine Zavel / Place du Petit Sablon, 8
Brussel/Bruxelles

The symposium language is English.

For further information and questions, contact:

nico.wouters@cegesoma.be

Or visit our website: www.cegesoma.be

REGISTRATION

Registration is free of charge.

To register, send an e-mail with your name and institution to:

lut.vandaele@cegesoma.be

or

cegesoma@cegesoma.be

CEGESOMA

Luchtvaartsquare 29 / Square de l'Aviation 29
1070 Brussel / Bruxelles

SOMA [] CEGES



23 May 2012

Egmontpalace – Arenberg room

**'COMMENTS ON THE EUROPEAN EXPERIENCES
AND INTEGRATED TRANSITIONS'**

9h30

Doors

10h00-12h30

Session 1

Chair: Emmanuel Gerard – KU Leuven

10h00

Opening speeches and keynote address

Official opening by Rudi Van Doorslaer (director CEGES-SOMA)

Key note address by Mark Freeman

(Founding Director of the Institute for Integrated Transitions)

- Achieving More Integrated Transitions:

Putting the "Transitional" back into "Transitional Justice"

*Minister Paul Magnette (Belgian Federal Public Service of Public Enterprises,
Scientific Policy and Development Cooperation)*

11h00-11h30

Coffee break

11h30-12h15

The European experiences report

*Nico Wouters – Introduction: historians
and transitional justice*

Luc Huyse – European Report presentation

12h15-13h00

Discussion

13h00-14h00

Lunch

*(Wandtapijten Salon / Salon des Tapisseries
- Egmontpalace)*

14h00-17h00

Session 2

Chair: Stef Vandeginste - UA

14h00-15h30

**Comments by the invited Global South
experts on the European Experiences Report
and Mark Freeman's approach:**

*Juan E. Méndez (UN Special Rapporteur on Torture and Other Cruel,
Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment)*

*Habib Nassar (director MENA Program,
International Center for Transitional Justice)*

*Eugène Nindorera (Head of UNOCI Human Rights Division
and Representative of the High Commissioner
for Human Rights in Cote d'Ivoire)*

*Yasmin Sooka (Executive Director of the Foundation
for Human Rights, South Africa)*

*Patrick Walsh (Senior Advisor to the Technical Secretariat
of the Post-Commission for Reception,
Truth and Reconciliation, Dili, Timor-Leste)*

15h30-16h00

Coffee break

16h00-17h00

Discussion and closure of Day 1

24 May 2012

Egmontpalace – Arenberg room

**'DISCUSSION ON
LESSONS LEARNED'**

9h00

Doors

9h15-13h30

Session 3

Chair: Nico Wouters – CEGES-SOMA

9h15-11h15

**The 'lessons learned' report and comments
made by the Global South experts**

Luc Huyse - Report presentation

Juan E. Méndez

Habib Nassar

Eugène Nindorera

Yasmin Sooka

Patrick Walsh

11h15-11h45

Coffee break

11h45-13h15

Further discussion

13h15-13h30

Concluding comments by Mark Freeman

13h30

Lunch