

Description for the general public

International Criminal Court in Hague (ICC) is the first in the history permanent criminal court acting with the purpose to bring to justice persons accused of the most important and outrageous crimes such as genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and the crime of aggression. All these crimes share transnational character – they have profound impact not only on the victims – affected personally and directly, but they have influence on the whole international society. In other words, international core crimes are of such gravity that no one can remain indifferent towards the fact they have been committed.

At the same time, although it is generally recognized that there should be no impunity for the perpetrators of such crimes, the fair and effective process of bringing them to justice evokes innumerable difficulties – legal, practical and factual. Such difficulties are nothing new in international law – they have been known at least since the proceedings before the International Military Tribunal in Nuremberg after the WW II. Later, similar problems were faced by *ad hoc* tribunals and hybrid courts, just to mention International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia that aimed to deal with the crimes committed on the territory of the former Yugoslavia, International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda prosecuting the genocide that took place in 1994 in Rwanda and the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia created with the purpose to bring justice for the crimes committed by the Khmer Rouge regime.

The most recent events connected with the activity of the Yugoslavian Tribunal such as political and social reactions on the judgements in the cases against Radovan Karadžić in 2016 and Radko Mladić in 2017, as well as the suicide of Slobodan Praljak during the public pronouncement of the appeal judgement of the ICTY Appeals Chamber in the case *Prlić et al*, indicate that although it is generally true that the majority of society supports the idea of international criminal tribunals, the rulings and findings of these tribunals are not clear for the victims, are not clear for the accused and finally, are not clear for the members of international society. The reasons for this state may be found *inter alia* in the fact that legal basis for criminal liability before such tribunals, including the extended forms of participation in crime, are too complicated.

The aim of this project is to present the whole description of the forms of participation in crime based on the provisions of the Rome Statute which is applied by the ICC. The analysis of this framework, literature and the case-law of the ICC and other international criminal tribunals will contribute to clarification of the existing state of knowledge and presenting the model of responsibility before the ICC. This model should be correct (accord with the rules and directives of interpretation), useful (possible to be applied by the ICC) and finally, understandable for those who do not deal with criminal law and international law every day – first of all, for the victims and accused who are in the center of proceedings, but also for the ordinary viewer or reader who derives his or her knowledge about the ICC only from the media reports.