



Charlemont grant report

Recipient name:	Dr Amina Adanan
Discipline and subject area:	Humanities and Social Sciences; Law
Amount and year awarded:	€2,407 in 2021
Title of project:	What can the United Nations War Crimes Commission teach us about the principle universal jurisdiction today?

Summary of findings:

There are two key findings from this project.

First, this project has brought together academics from all over the world who work on the topic of the United National war Crimes Commission (1943-48) (UNWCC). This was achieved by organising a workshop and an international conference, the calls for which were advertised publicly. Moreover, this group of scholars is in from a range of disciplines including law, politics and history.

Second, the research aspect of this project has resulted in academic findings regarding the scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction during the operation of the UNWCC. With the help of a Research Assistant (funded under the Charlemont Grant), I was able to go through 100s of trial reports from the UNWCC cases in the online archive. Here, we identified cases where universal jurisdiction was relied on, how the principle was applied, what crimes it applied to and other interesting points of note. I am writing an article on the basis on this information for submission to a high ranking academic journal early next year.

Plans for continuing collaboration:

In addition to the article that I am drafting mentioned above, I am writing a paper with Prof Dan Plesch (Director of the Centre for International Studies and Diplomacy, the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in the University of London) and Lennart Poulsen (Barrister, Chambers of Steven Kay QC, 9 Bedford Row) on the application of universal jurisdiction to crimes against cultural heritage under the UNWCC.

Second, following on from the workshop and conference held as part of this project, along with Prof Dan Plesch, I am establishing a network of interested scholars to continue to momentum and interest in these events. Here, we are organising a meeting in the coming weeks to brainstorm on ideas to bring together the network of interested scholars from a range of disciplines.

Published work and publication plans:

I am writing an article on the scope and application of universal jurisdiction under the UNWCC and how it can be used as state practice in support of the principle in modern times. This article will be submitted to a high ranking academic journal early next year.



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I am writing a paper with Prof Dan Plesch and Lennart Poulsen on the application of universal jurisdiction to crimes against cultural heritage under the UNWCC. This research will also be presented at 9 Bedford Row Barristers Chambers in the UK, of which Prof Plesch and Mr Poulsen are members.

Myself and Dan Plesch organised an online conference as part of this project, which took place on 19 November. We have selected the best papers from this event, the writers of which will be asked to take part in a blog symposium stemming from the conference.

Dissemination and plans for future dissemination:

The research conducted on the exercise of universal jurisdiction under the UNWCC was presented at a workshop I organised as part of the project in May 2021, and also at an online conference I organised in November 2021.

This research I am completing with Prof Dan Plesch and Lennart Poulsen will also be presented at 9 Bedford Row Barristers Chambers in the UK, of which Prof Plesch and Mr Poulsen are members.



Maynooth University
National University
of Ireland Maynooth
Department of Law



**Centre for
International
Studies and
Diplomacy**

Online conference on the United Nations War Crimes Commission

19 November 2021

Programme (all times are in GMT)

- 9.30-9.40: Welcome address by Dr Amina Adanan (Lecturer/ Assistant Professor in Law in Maynooth University Law Department) and Prof Dan Plesch (Director of the Centre for International Studies and Diplomacy, SOAS, University of London).
- 9.40-9.55: Opening lecture by Dr Amina Adanan on 'The practice of Universal Jurisdiction under the UNWCC'.
- 9.55-11.00: Keynote panel discussion on the UNWCC with chaired by Dr Amina Adanan with:
- Dr Julia Eichenberg (Senior Lecturer and Research Fellow at the University of Bayreuth)
Dr Mark Ellis (Executive Director, International Bar Association)
Prof Dan Plesch
Dr Ann-Sophie Schoepfel (Historian in Ludwig Maximilians University, Munich and Professor, Science Po Paris/ Nancy).
- Q&A/ discussion.

Collaborations and planned collaborations:

I am writing a paper with Prof Dan Plesch and Lennart Poulsen on the application of universal jurisdiction to crimes against cultural heritage under the UNWCC. This research will also be presented at 9 Bedford Row Barristers Chambers in the UK, of which Prof Plesch and Mr Poulsen are members.

I am establishing a network of interested scholars to continue to momentum and interest in these events. Here, we are organising a meeting in the coming weeks to brainstorm on ideas to bring together the



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network of interested scholars from a range of disciplines. I envisage that this network will lead to more international collaboration with other scholars.

Outreach and engagement activities:

This project has been publicised on social media, online and in reputable international law blogs. See for example:

<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/law/events/united-nations-war-crimescommission-unwcc-conference>

<http://opiniojuris.org/2021/11/08/events-and-announcements-7-november-2021/>

<https://www.ejiltalk.org/announcements-cfa-fellowship-in-human-rightsinequality-and-the-future-of-work-paik-choong-hyun-prize-unpackingtransitional-justice-series-seminar-2-racial-capitalism-and-the-anthropocenelect/>

<https://ilg2.org/2021/08/22/go-on-unwcc-conference/>

Events and Announcements: 7 November 2021

08.11.21 | 0 Comments

Call for Papers

Call for Submission – *Trade, Law, and Development*: The Board of Editors of *Trade, Law and Development* is pleased to invite original, unpublished manuscripts for publication in the Special Issue of the Journal (Vol. XIV, No. 1) in the form of ‘Articles’, ‘Notes’, ‘Comments’ and ‘Book Reviews’, focusing on the theme “*Looking Ahead: Addressing the Challenges Faced by the International Trade Regime*”. Manuscripts received by **15 March 2022**, pertaining to any sub-theme within the purview of challenges faced by international trade will be reviewed for publication in the Summer ’22 issue. Manuscripts may be submitted via e-mail. For further information about the Journal, please click [here](#). For submission guidelines, please click [here](#). In case of any queries, please feel free to contact us at: editors[at]tradelawdevelopment[dot]com.

Call for Papers – *Polish Yearbook of International Law*: The Polish Yearbook of International Law (PYIL) is currently seeking articles for its next volume (XLI), which will be published in the fall 2022. Authors are invited to submit complete unpublished papers in areas connected with public and private international law, including European law. Although it is not a formal condition for acceptance, we are specifically interested in articles that address issues in international and European law relating to Central and Eastern Europe. Authors from the region are also strongly encouraged to submit their works. Submissions should be between 8,000 and 10,000 words (including footnotes) but in exceptional cases we may also accept longer works. We assess manuscripts on a rolling basis and will consider requests for expedited review in case of a pending acceptance for publication from another journal. All details about submission procedure and required formatting are available at the PYIL’s webpage [here](#). Please submit manuscripts via the PYIL’s submission system [here](#). **The deadline for submissions is 31 January 2022.**

Call for papers – Workshop on The Political and Legal Theory of International Courts and Tribunals: The research Centre PluriCourts is planning a multidisciplinary workshop on international courts and tribunals which will take place 20 – 21 June 2022 in Oslo. The workshop will bring together scholars of philosophy, legal theory, and political theory who study regional and international courts and tribunals, and in particular issues surrounding legitimacy and

COURTS AND TRIBUNALS, AND IN PARTICULAR ISSUES SURROUNDING LEGITIMACY AND adjudication. In relation to the workshop, we have an open call for papers with a **deadline 1 January 2022**. More information on the workshop and the call for papers is available on [our webpage](#). Abstracts can be submitted using [this link](#).

Events

Online conference on the United Nations War Crimes Commission: Maynooth University Law Department and the Centre for International Studies and Diplomacy in SOAS are holding a joint online joint conference on the United Nations War Crimes Commission (UNWCC), which will take place on Friday the 19 November 2021. The conference includes presentations from scholars in all disciplines, including law, history, international relations and political science. Many leading scholars have written on the UNWCC and we welcome further exploration of the UNWCC and its Archives. This event aims to bring together UNWCC scholars (both established researchers and early career researchers) to explore new avenues for exploration. In particular, the conference seeks to open up this area to scholars new to the UNWCC.

The UNWCC, which operated from 1943-48, was a UN agency that supported localised prosecutions of international crimes committed during the Second World War. The Commission was composed of representatives from 16 Allied States and through its work war crimes and crimes against humanity were prosecuted in tribunals located in Europe and the Far East. Over the course of its lifetime, more than 2000 trials took place. The work of the UNWCC gives an insight into substantive and procedural international criminal law in the post war period. Since 2017, the UNWCC Archives have been made available to the public [online](#).

The event includes a keynote panel by leading experts on the UNWCC: Dr Julia Eichenberg (Senior lecturer and Research Fellow at the University of Bayreuth), Dr Mark Ellis (Executive Director, International Bar Association), Prof. Dan Plesch, Dr Ann-Sophie Schoepfel (Historian in Ludwig Maximilians University, Munich and Professor, Science Po Paris/ Nancy).

In addition, there will be a panel discussion on 'Universal Jurisdiction: Lessons from the past and current application' chaired by Lennart Poulsen (Barrister, Chambers of Steven Kay QC, 9 Bedford Row) with experts: Sarah Bafadhel (Barrister, 9 Bedford Row), Prof. Olympia Bekou (Professor of Public International Law and Head of School, School of Law, University of Nottingham), Tatyana Eatwell (Barrister, Doughty Street Chambers) and Marie O'Leary (Counsel for the Office of Public Counsel for the Defence at the International Criminal Court).

To register for this event and to view the programme please click [here](#). This virtual conference is organised by Dr Amina Adnan of Maynooth University Law

CONFERENCE IS ORGANISED BY [DR ANITA AGARWAL](#) OF [MAYNOOTH UNIVERSITY](#) LAW Department and Prof. Dan Plesch of the Centre for International Studies and Diplomacy in SOAS in University College London. This project is funded by the [Royal Irish Academy](#).

If you would like to post an announcement on Opinio Juris, please contact John Heieck at [eventsandannouncements\[at\]gmail\[dot\]com](mailto:eventsandannouncements@gmail.com) with a one-paragraph description of your announcement along with hyperlinks to more information. Thank you!



John Heieck

EJIL:Talk!

Blog of the European Journal of International Law

9. Call for Papers: Online Workshop for UNWCC Researchers 28 May 2021. The United Nations War Crimes Commission (UNWCC), which operated from 1943-48, was a UN agency that supported localised prosecutions of international crimes committed during the Second World War. The work of the UNWCC gives an insight into substantive and procedural international criminal law in the post war period. Dr. Amina Adanan of Maynooth University Law Department is organising two online events this year, as part of her project on the UNWCC funded by the [Royal Irish Academy](#). The aim of the project is to bring together UNWCC scholars from all over the world in an international collaborative network. The first of these virtual events is a workshop, which will take place on 28 May 2021. The online workshop is an opportunity for UNWCC scholars to present on any aspect of their UNWCC research and receive feedback on their work from the other experts and attendees in a constructive environment. Presentations will be 10-15 mins and the event will include keynote lectures by leading scholars on the UNWCC. Submissions for active participation in the workshop are sought by scholars working in the field. The closing date for submissions is 20 April 2021. For more information please click [here](#).

Related

[Announcements: CfP for ESIL Conference in Oslo; Pluricourts Fellowship in Oslo; International Criminal Law Fellowships; ICC Summer School in Galway; Frankfurt Investment Law Workshop](#)
December 20, 2014
In "Announcements and Events"

[Announcements: The Law and Policy of Brexit; Human Rights Research Students' Conference; PluriCourts Centre of Excellence Workshop Series; CfA Postdoctoral Researcher – The Paths of International Law; CfP The Use of Law by Social Movements and Civil Society](#)
June 11, 2017
In "Announcements and Events"

[Announcements: Oxford Research Fellowship in Law and Armed Conflict; International Organizations Scholarship Workshop](#)
September 20, 2014
In "Announcements and Events"

CATEGORIES

Go On! UNWCC Conference

AUGUST 22, 2021 / INTLAWGRRLS



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Go On!

(<https://ilg2.org/category/go-on/>). makes note of interesting conferences, lectures, and similar events.

► *Maynooth University Law*

Department and the Centre for International Studies and Diplomacy in SOAS announced open registration for a *conference on the United Nations War Crimes Commission (UNWCC)*, which will be held on *November 19, 2021, virtually*.

Individuals interested in presenting at this conference should submit the following requirements to amina.adanan@mu.ie (<mailto:amina.adanan@mu.ie>) before 10 September 2021. Successful applicants will not be required to submit a full paper to participate in the conference in November. **Submissions should be composed of a Word doc. file, and should include:**

- The applicant's name, academic position and institutional affiliation.
- An abstract (max. 300 words).
- Key words (max. 5).
- "UNWCC conference" in the email subject line.



Call for presenters: Online conference on the UNWCC 19 November 2021

Maynooth University Law Department and the Centre for International Studies and Diplomacy in SOAS are holding a joint online joint conference on the United Nations War Crimes Commission (UNWCC), which will take place on 19 November 2021. The conference organisers invite presentations from scholars in all disciplines, including law, history, international relations and political science. This call for presenters is open to researchers at all career levels; established scholars and researcher new to this subject are welcome to apply. Many leading scholars have written on the UNWCC and we welcome further exploration of the UNWCC and its Archives. This event aims to bring together UNWCC scholars (both established researchers and early career researchers) to explore new avenues for exploration. In particular, the conference seeks to open up this area to scholars new to the UNWCC.

The UNWCC, which operated from 1943-48, was a UN agency that supported localised prosecutions of international crimes committed during the Second World War. The Commission was composed of representatives from 16 Allied States and through its work war crimes and crimes against humanity were prosecuted in tribunals located in Europe and the Far East. Over the course of its lifetime, more than 2000 trials took place. The work of the UNWCC gives an insight into substantive and procedural international criminal law in the post war period. Since 2017, the UNWCC Archives have been made available to the public [online](#).

This virtual conference is organised by Dr Amina Adanan of Maynooth University Law Department and Prof. Dan Plesch of the Centre for International Studies and Diplomacy in SOAS in University College London. This project is funded by the [Royal Irish Academy](#).

Submissions should be composed of a Word doc. file, and should include:

- The applicant's name, academic position and institutional affiliation.
- An abstract (max. 300 words).
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- 'UNWCC conference' in the email subject line.

(<https://ilg2.files.wordpress.com/2021/08/screen-shot-2021-08-18-at-9.16.53-am.png>)

Submissions should be emailed to amina.adanan@mu.ie before 10 September 2021. Successful applicants will not be required to submit a full paper to participate in the conference in November.

Conference presentations will be 10-15 mins and the event will include keynote lectures by leading scholars on the UNWCC. The best presentations from the conference will be invited to participate in a blog symposium on the subject of the UNWCC. To encourage participation from scholars new to the subject, there will be honorarium of £100 each for the best abstract and presentation from an undergraduate, post graduate and doctoral student. The conference will be open to presenters and non-presenters alike and details of how to attend will be publicised in due course.

(<https://ilg2.files.wordpress.com/2021/08/screen-shot-2021-08-18-at-9.17.01-am.png>)

Advertisements



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9.55-11.00: Keynote panel discussion on the UNWCC with chaired by Dr Amina Adanan with:

Dr Julia Eichenberg (Senior Lecturer and Research Fellow at the University of Bayreuth)

Dr Mark Ellis (Executive Director, International Bar Association)

Prof Dan Plesch

Dr Ann-Sophie Schoepfel (Historian in Ludwig Maximilians University, Munich and Professor, Science Po Paris/ Nancy).

Q&A/ discussion.

11.00-11.15: Coffee break.

11.15-12.30: Concurrent panels:

Panel A: The Histories of the UNWCC 1, chaired by Dr Ann-Sophie Schoepfel

11.15-11.25: 'Digging the Foundations for the UNWCC: Britain, Paris 1919 and Atrocity Propaganda'.

Ewan Lawson, PhD Candidate, Centre for International Studies and Diplomacy, School of Oriental and African Studies.

11.25-11.35: 'Collaboration between the Polish government-in-exile and the UNWCC. Polish War Crimes Office and the first charges'.

Dr Dominika Uczkiewicz, Wrocław, Poland.

11.35-11.45: 'War crimes against humanity continue'.

Nafisa Kiani, postgraduate student in MSc in Global Public Policy at SOAS.

11.45-11.55: 'Crimes against and affecting cultural heritage in the aftermath of the Second World War'.

Alice Lopes Fabris, PhD candidate at École Normale Supérieure Paris-Saclay/Institut des Sciences sociales du Politique.

11.55-12.30: Q&A/ discussion.

Panel B: The Histories of the UNWCC 2, chaired by Prof Dan Plesch

11.15-11.25: 'The Role of United Nations War Crimes Commission in Preventing War Crimes'.

Umang Champaklal Modi, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda.

11.25-11.35: 'UNWCC and Transnational Organized Crime: Tracing Potential Contributions From The Commission's Precedents'.

Tejas Sateesha Hinder, Undergraduate Student of Law, National Law Institute University, Bhopal, India and Teaching Fellow, The Human Projects.

11.35-11.45: 'UNWCC and Sexual & Gender Based Violence as International Crimes - Significance and Application in the Contemporary Times'.

Bhumika Nanda, Assistant Professor from the School of Law, Bennett University.

11.45-11.55: 'The War Crime of Denying a Fair Trial in the United Nations War Crimes Commission's Law Reports of the Trials of War Criminals'

Diletta Marchesi, PhD Fellow Research Foundation, Flanders (FWO),
KU Leuven.

11.55-12.30: Q&A/ discussion.

Panel C: Critical approaches to the UNWCC chaired by Dr John Reynolds (Associate Professor, Maynooth University Law Department)

11.15-11.30: 'The ambiguous legal landscape of air bombardment and the United Nations War Crimes Commission'.

Mateusz Piątkowski, University of Łódź, Poland.

11.30-11.45: 'The UNWCC and the definition of war crimes: a failure of will'.

Prof. Robert Cribb, Professor of Asian History, Australian National University.

11.45-12.00: 'Ethiopia, Italy and the archives of selective justice'.

Dr Megan Donaldson, Lecturer in Public International Law, UCL.

12.00-12.30: Q&A/ discussion.

12.30-1.15pm: Lunch

1.15-2.30pm: Concurrent panels:

Panel D: The Trials of the UNWCC chaired by Prof. Andrew Williams (Professor of Law, University of Warwick)

1.15-1.30pm: 'The Theoretical Basis of Combatant Immunity – Lessons from the United Nations War Crimes Commission Archives'.

Dr Ka Lok Yip, Assistant Professor Hamad bin Khalifa University.

1.30-1.45pm: 'Defences and the UNWCC'.

Dr Dawn Sedman, Senior Lecturer, Nottingham Law School,
Nottingham Trent University.

1.45-2.00pm: 'Documenting the Historical Path of Crimes against Peace: Completing the UNWCC'.

Regina M. Paulose, International Criminal Law Attorney.

2.00-2.30pm: Q&A/ discussion.

Panel E: Lessons from the UNWCC in contemporary times chaired by Prof Dan Plesch

1.15-1.30pm: 'From Archives to a Modern Legal Paradigm: UNWCC Insights for Today's International Justice'.

Marla Zgheib, Postgraduate Student for the MA in International Studies and Diplomacy, SOAS, University of London.

1.30-1.45pm: 'War Crimes Against Culture: Poland's Charge File Submissions to the UNWCC'.

Michael Fleming, Polish University Abroad, London.

1.45-2.00pm: "'Big fish" and "small fry" in localised applications of international criminal justice: The UNWCC, classes of perpetrators, and accountability in Timor-Leste'.

1.45-2.00pm: Camilla Johnson Wee, PhD Fellow, University of Copenhagen, Faculty of Law, Danish National Research Foundation's Centre of Excellence for International Courts (iCourts).

2.00-2.30pm: Q&A/ discussion.

2.30-2.45pm: Coffee break.

Panel F: 'Universal Jurisdiction: Lessons from the past and current application' chaired by Lennart Poulsen (Barrister, Chambers of Steven Kay QC, 9 Bedford Row)

2.45-4.15pm: Panel discussion with:
Prof. Olympia Bekou (Professor of Public International Law and Head of School, School of Law, University of Nottingham)
Tatyana Eatwell (Barrister, Doughty Street Chambers)
Marie O'Leary (Counsel for the Office of Public Counsel for the Defence at the International Criminal Court)

4.15-4.45pm: Close of conference

Closing comments by Dr Amina Adanan and Prof. Dan Plesch.

Closing remarks by Dr. Alanna O'Malley (Chair of United Nations Studies in Peace and Justice, University of Leiden)

***This conference is funded by the Maynooth University Law Department, the Centre for International Studies and Diplomacy, SOAS, University of London and the Royal Irish Academy Charlemont Grant.**