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The EPublisher has several publication series: the Publication Series, Policy Brief Series, Occasional Paper Series, and Law of the Future Series. Most of its publications focus on international law and relations, with particular emphasis placed on international criminal and humanitarian law and issues of transitional justice in its early years.

The Torkel Opsahl Academic EPublisher is advised by four Principal Scientific Advisers: Professors Kai Ambos, Asbjørn Eide, Danesh Saroochi, and Andreas Zimmermann. Morten Bergsmo serves as Editor-in-Chief, working with a team of Editors and Editorial Assistants. The EPublisher draws on the FICHL Advisory and Editorial Boards and professional contractors in its work and peer review.

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The EPublisher is named after late Professor Torkel Opsahl (1931-1993), a leading international and constitutional law expert in Europe from the mid-1960s until his untimely passing in the Palais des Nations in Geneva in September 1993.

More information and contact
CILRAP acts independently of states, international organizations, state and private universities and research institutes, donors, non-governmental organisations and other actors. The orientation and scope of its activities are global and not limited to any country or region. Although the primary language of CILRAP activities is English, its perspective is by no means limited to the Anglosphere.

CILRAP is incorporated as an international non-profit organisation in Brussels, Belgium, by Royal Decree WL 22/15.887 dated 15 June 2010, with the incorporation number 0827.424.153. The Director of the Centre is Morten Bergsmo. Its members include distinguished professionals and students around the world as indicated on the web pages of its departments and EPublisher. Those interested in contributing to the work of CILRAP can send a curriculum vitae to info@cilrap.org.

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This leaflet was designed by Morten Bergsmo and LIAO WanTing. The picture on page 1 shows a section of the Denkmal für die ermordeten Juden Europas in Berlin (photograph by M. Bergsmo 2012). The picture on page 2 is used courtesy Stanford University. On page 3 are pictures of portraits of LI Haopei and M.C. Bassiouni painted by Roberto Caruso for CILRAP. The leaflet was printed by Oslo Forlagstrykkeri AS. Work on the content of this Second Edition of the leaflet was completed on 9 June 2013.
Purpose

The Centre for International Law Research and Policy (CILRAP) seeks to contribute to academic activities in international law and engage with practitioners and policy makers in international law. It is a knowledge platform that includes and tries to bridge scholarship, publication, capacity-development dialogues and other forms of knowledge transfer; as well as the development of knowledge tools. Its knowledge-generation is informed by and, where meaningful, aims to contribute to practical needs.

The Centre has two main departments – the Forum for International Criminal and Humanitarian Law (FICHL) and the Case Matrix Network (CMN) – as well as the Torkel Opsahl Academic EPublisher (TOAEP). Each department has a broad range of activities, and the publisher runs several publications series (the Publication Series, the Policy Brief Series, the Occasional Paper Series and the Law of the Future Series).

The FICHL conducts expert seminars and meetings on carefully selected topics in international criminal law, international humanitarian law, transitional justice, and international law more widely. The seminars take place in different locations around the world, also in materially less resourceful countries.

The CMN is a justice sector knowledge-transfer and capacity-development platform, which is particularly strong in international criminal and human rights law. It seeks to empower individuals working on complex criminal cases, such as those working on core international crimes or those documenting serious human rights violations that may amount to core international crimes. It does so by providing access to legal information, legal expertise, and a number of knowledge tools. The CMN is active in more than 25 countries, both civil law and common law, and taking into account confidentiality requirements as appropriate. They are organisations on the basis of an agreed analysis of local needs, fully rationalisation of their work processes. The CMN also seeks to strengthen the capacity of civil society actors to professionally document serious human rights violations that may amount to core international crimes.

Contributing to the opening up of access to legal information is one important objective of the Centre. It does so by facilitating the activities of the FICHL, the CMN and the EPublisher through the Internet and other information technology. Some of the leading legal informatics experts in the world are working with the Centre, which has its own Legal Informatics Section.

FICHL

The FICHL aims to identify, frame and host discussions on key issues in international criminal and humanitarian law, transitional justice, and law more widely. Through its activities the Forum aspires to academic excellence and creativity, drawing on contributions by legal academics and practitioners, government officials, NGO representatives, philosophers, social scientists and others.

The FICHL has developed clusters of research areas, but its independent research agenda is dynamic and not limited to international criminal and humanitarian law. Importantly, FICHL has pioneered several research questions by being the first actor to identify, frame, and place the issues concerned in academic discourse. Such incubation and articulation of ideas is essential to advance knowledge and impact institutional practice. To maximise its contribution to the public interest, FICHL pursues its research agenda in an open, inclusive manner that invites broad participation by interested actors. In addition to ensuring topicality and identifying scholarly potential, it is committed to challenging the established framing of issues and remaining informed of a practical sense of community needs.

The Forum uses the Torkel Opsahl Academic EPublisher, which publishes on an open access basis on its Internet site, to give full effect to its research contributions as well as the investments made by donors of FICHL activities. By using the Internet in this open and free way, the Forum seeks to include interested institutions and individuals from all continents in its activities.

The FICHL has established the LI Haopei Lecture Series to honour the international law service of the late Judge LI Haopei (1906-1997), a Chinese jurist, diplomat, and academic, who served as Judge of the Appeals Chamber of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and Rwanda from 1993 to 1997.

The FICHL grants the M.C. Bassiouni Justice Award – named after one of founders of international criminal law – to recognise outstanding service to the adjudication, prosecution, investigation, documentation, defence, analysis, or study of core international crimes.

CMN

The CMN’s primary purpose is to contribute to the development of capacity within national justice sectors. It is possible to improve the quality and cost-efficiency of justice by empowering the responsible national professionals through enhanced access to legal information and rationalisation of their work processes. The CMN also seeks to strengthen the capacity of civil society actors to professionally document serious human rights violations that may amount to core international crimes.

The CMN provides an open platform for a broad range of services, drawing on leading expertise in legal informatics and a group of criminal justice and legal experts from around the world. It has done extensive work in the areas of international criminal and human rights law. It provides technical advice on war crimes prosecution strategy, enhancing of work processes, developing and implementing investigation and work plans, and drafting of requisite legislation. CMN experts advise public criminal justice agencies, legal services, and non-governmental organisations on the basis of an agreed analysis of local needs, fully taking into account confidentiality requirements as appropriate. They are active in more than 25 countries, both civil law and common law, and on five continents. CMN experts can operate in a number of languages.

The CMN is developing several free online tools for those working in international criminal and human rights law, with substantial support from the European Union. These tools are referred to as the CMN Knowledge Hub. They will gradually become available in their basic form through the CMN web site. More detailed versions customised to local needs can be prepared.

The CMN takes its name from the Case Matrix application which, together with the Legal Tools Database, are tools developed by the International Criminal Court through the ICC Legal Tools Project. These transfer legal information and knowledge from international criminal jurisdictions to the national level. The CMN is used as a management platform for some of the activities of the Co-ordinator of the ICC Legal Tools Project.

Ilia Utmelidze is the Director of the CMN.