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Forging a Convention for Crimes against Humanity

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About the Book

Crimes against humanity were one of the three categories of crimes elaborated in the Nuremberg Charter. However, unlike genocide and war crimes, they were never set out in a comprehensive international convention. This book represents an effort to complete the Nuremberg legacy by filling this gap. It contains a complete text of a proposed convention on crimes against humanity in English and in French, a comprehensive history of the proposed convention, and fifteen original papers written by leading experts on international criminal law. The papers contain reflections on various aspects of crimes against humanity, including gender crimes, universal jurisdiction, the history of codification efforts, the responsibility to protect, ethnic cleansing, peace and justice dilemmas, amnesties and immunities, the jurisprudence of the ad hoc tribunals, the definition of the crime in customary international law, the ICC definition, the architecture of international criminal justice, modes of criminal participation, crimes against humanity and terrorism, and the inter-state enforcement regime.

Contributors

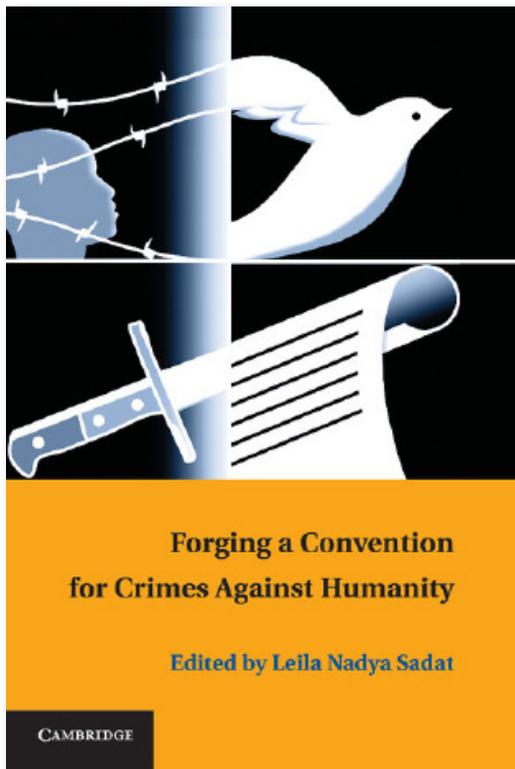
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Published November 2013

593 pages

Paperback | 978-1-107-67679-4

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Discounted Price: USD 36.00

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List Price: USD 114.99

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Praise for the Book

“The importance of this pioneering book, *Forging a Convention for Crimes Against Humanity*, cannot be overestimated. Crimes against Humanity has emerged as the premier legal vehicle for international courts to impose accountability on perpetrators responsible for the most heinous crimes against innocent civilian populations.” – *Patricia M. Wald– Former Judge on the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia*

“There exists an indisputable need for an international convention codifying and developing customary law on crimes against humanity. The editor of this book and all the distinguished contributors must be highly commended for offering a set of thoughtful papers that explore in depth the problems that the drafting of such convention may raise. All these scholars are animated by a keen desire to expand and consolidate international criminal law in an effort to bolster the principle of international accountability for mass atrocities.” – *Antonio Cassese– Professor of International Law at the University of Florence, and former President of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia*

“In *Forging a Convention for Crimes Against Humanity*, prominent experts in the field make a powerful case for the adoption of a convention that would articulate and consolidate this most heinous category of crimes...Covering the historical evolution of the initiative, a wide array of substantive dimensions to the categories of the crimes involved, and a draft of the proposed convention, this volume is a monumental contribution to an area of gravest concern to humanity.” – *Francis M. Deng– UnderSecretaryGeneral/ Special Adviser of the UN SecretaryGeneral on the Prevention of Genocide*

“The onward march of international criminal law has been dramatic in recent years. What is proposed by the distinguished specialist contributors to this body is a further step of great significance -a comprehensive international convention dealing with crimes against humanity.”- *Sir Geoffrey Palmer, Former Prime Minister of New Zealand*