

Responses to Mass Atrocities and National Trauma

A Panel Discussion

6.30pm Monday 19 October 2009

La Trobe University City Campus 215 Franklin St (opposite the Queen Victoria Market)

Organised by La Trobe University Law School and the Global Justice Studio Melbourne University

This panel of expert practitioners and academics will discuss different legal and political responses to mass atrocities and national trauma. In particular the panel will debate the merits of military commissions, war crimes trials and truth commissions.

Panel Members: **Jeremy Baskin**, **Helen Durham**, **Magda Karagiannakis**, **Gerry Simpson**.

Jeremy Baskin is Australia Director of the University of Cambridge Programme for Sustainability Leadership. He has spent most of his life in South Africa where he was a trade union leader and civil society activist and, post-apartheid, as a public servant and Presidential advisor. During apartheid he experienced periods of restriction and detention. Like most anti-apartheid activists he did not make any submissions to the Truth & Reconciliation Commission, although he supported the TRC process.

Helen Durham is a Strategic Adviser, International Law for the Australian Red Cross. She has a Doctorate of Juridical Science from The University of Melbourne. Dr Durham has previously held the positions of Regional Legal Adviser for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and National Manager of International Humanitarian Law for the Australian Red Cross. She was also part of the ICRC delegation at the negotiations for the International Criminal Court in New York and Rome.

Magda Karagiannakis is a barrister and academic at La Trobe University Law School who is specialised in public international law and international criminal law. She has worked as a prosecutor with the UN International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and has appeared as counsel before the International Court of Justice (ICJ). She has also acted as a senior legal advisor and investigator to the UN inquiry into the assassination of the former Lebanese Prime Minister.

Gerry Simpson is a Professor of Public International Law at the London School of Economics, and holds a Chair in Law at the University of Melbourne. He is the Director of the Global Justice Studio. He is also a Senior Associate at the Centre for Human Rights in London. He is the author of *Great Powers and Outlaw States* (Cambridge, 2004) (awarded the American Society of International Law's annual prize for Pre-eminent Contribution to Creative Legal Scholarship) and is co-editor of *The Law of War Crimes: National and International Approaches* (1997). His latest book is *Law, War and Crime: War Crimes Trials and the Reinvention of International Law*, (Polity, 2007).

The panel discussion is a free event. No RSVP is required.