

# International Criminal Court

## Chair:

Sarah Couillard,

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My name is Sarah Couillard. A senior at Ithaca High School, I will be chairing the International Criminal Court at Hilton 2016. This is my fourth year in Model UN, my third in ICC, and my second time chairing. In addition to being the Secretary of my Model UN club, I am a violinist, captain of my Mock Trial team, and a chapter board member for United Synagogue Youth. I am looking forward to a great conference! Don't hesitate to contact me with any questions.

## Committee Description:

Welcome to the International Criminal Court! This is a unique committee in Model United Nations that operates through trials and lawyers instead of topics and delegates. The committee will try a number of individuals over the course of the conference. Each lawyer will be assigned an individual to try as either the prosecution or the defense. When lawyers are not trying their assigned individual, they will serve as jury members responsible for asking thoughtful questions and determining a just verdict.

The International Criminal Court is a rigorous yet rewarding committee that depends on **MANDATORY** pre-conference preparation. Case assignments are made at least three weeks in advance of the conference to ensure that lawyers have enough time to construct a quality case. Thus, prospective lawyers should **NOT** sign up for the International Criminal Court unless they are sure that they can attend both days of the Hilton conference. Likewise, they should **NOT** sign up if they are unwilling to complete the work involved prior to the conference. Dropouts will not be tolerated.

In order to sign up for International Criminal Court, prospective lawyers **MUST** send an email to [rochester.icc@gmail.com](mailto:rochester.icc@gmail.com) stating their top three choices of individuals to try from the list, as well as their preference for the side they wish to argue (prosecution or defense) for each individual. Lawyers will be admitted on a first-come, first-serve basis. All case assignments, necessary materials, and other important information will be sent to lawyers via email. The chair will work diligently with all lawyers in need of help, especially those new to the International Criminal Court.

## Cases:

### 1) **Francisco Franco**

A Spanish general and Caudillo of Spain in the mid-20th century, Francisco Franco led a totalitarian dictatorship. During the time of the Spanish Civil War, he established nearly 190 concentration camps, in which a great variety of people--political dissidents, homosexuals, convicts, and ex-members of the Spanish forces--were subjected to forced labor and/or execution.

*Are the political beliefs of the victims relevant? Franco spent a good deal of time in Morocco before the war, and a short time during; could this mean he had less knowledge of the goings-on in the concentration camps? If so, does this mean he is less culpable?*

### 2) **Augusto Pinochet**

Augusto Pinochet served as the dictator of Chile from 1973-1990, in addition to holding other leadership positions in the Chilean government. During his time in office, the military government interned and tortured tens of thousands of people, and murdered up to 3,200.

*Is Pinochet responsible for the actions of the army squad that committed a number of murders? Do the characteristics of Salvador Allende have any bearing on the culpability of Pinochet - in other words, is any violence justified in his overthrow of Allende's government?*

3) **Nikita Khrushchev**

First Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Khrushchev played a key role in the persecution of the Ukrainian people begun by Stalin. He was heavily involved in purges of Party officials and of “criminals and kulak [wealthy peasants] elements.” In the Great Purge, Khrushchev was liberal with arrests and his use of the death penalty.

*Is it relevant that Khrushchev later publicly denounced Stalin’s methods? Is it possible that Khrushchev was so active in order to save himself from becoming a victim of the purges like his colleagues? Does this mean that he is less at fault?*

4) **Idi Amin**

The third president of Uganda and commander of the Ugandan Army, Amin fought back against invasion by Ugandan exiles in the 1970s by purging the army of Obote supporters. Later, he began to target other ethnic groups, religious leaders, intellectuals, and others. Amnesty International estimates the number of deaths under Amin’s rule to be nearly 500,000.

*Did Amin directly order these killings? Is he responsible anyway? Does it matter that Amin’s victims included members of a variety of groups (because it was so widespread, can it be classified as genocide or persecution of a specific identifiable group)?*

5) **Isabella I of Castile**

Queen Isabella is known for her role in the Reconquista during the Spanish Inquisition, working closely with Ferdinand II of Aragon. She ordered forced conversion to Catholicism or exile of the Jewish and Muslim subjects. For example, via the Alhambra Decree, 200,000 Jews were forced to convert and between 40,000 and 100,000 were expelled.

*Who had more power, Isabella or Ferdinand? Does this matter? Does exile qualify as forced deportation? Is mandated conversion a crime under the Rome Statute (if so, which category)?*

6) **Ratko Mladić**

Mladić, a Serbian military leader of the Bosnian Serb Army of Republika Srpska, is credited for being responsible for the Siege of Sarajevo and other actions during the Yugoslav wars. For example, the Srebrenica massacre, perpetrated during the Bosnian War, led to the deaths of over 8,000 Muslims and forcible transfer of many thousands more in the 1990’s.

*Were civilians the intended target of any of Mladić’s attacks? Mladić’s expressed purpose was to defend the Serbian people - does this mean that his actions were justified?*