The International Criminal Court (ICC), governed by the Rome Statute, is the first permanent, treaty based, international criminal court established to help end impunity for the perpetrators of the most serious crimes of concern to the international community. By virtue of the principle of complementarity, the ICC’s jurisdiction is intended to come into play only when a State is genuinely unable or unwilling to prosecute alleged war criminals over which it has jurisdiction. The ICC is thus intended to be a last resort in the event that a State fails or is unable to properly discharge its duty to prosecute with regard to these international crimes.

See Genocide [1]; War Crimes [2]; Crimes Against Humanity [3]; International Criminal Law [4]; Individual Criminal Responsibility [5]; Grave breaches [6];

**OUTLINE**

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**CASES**

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Sudan, Arrest Warrant for Al-Bashir [9]
ICC, The Prosecutor v. Thomas Lubanga Dyilo [10]

Mali, Destruction of World Cultural Heritage [11]

Mali, Conduct of Hostilities [12]

Mali, Accountability for the Destruction of Cultural Heritage [13]

ICC, Confirmation of Charges against LRA Leader [14]

International Criminal Court, Trial Judgment in the Case of the Prosecutor V. Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo [15]

Syria, Syrian rebels treat captured Filipino soldiers as 'guests' [16]

Georgia: Attacks against peacekeepers [17]

South Sudan, Activities of Oil Companies [18]

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Suggested readings


CONDORELLI Luigi, “La Cour pénale internationale : un pas de géant (pourvu qu’il soit accompli...)”, in RGDIP,


“Special Issue: Impunity – The International Criminal Court”, in *IRRC*, No. 845, March 2002, pp. 9 ss.

**Articles & particular issues**


FLORES ACUNA Tathiana, “The Rome Statute’s Sexual Related Crimes: an


“Atelier sur l’article 31, par. 1 c) du Statut de la Cour pénale internationale, coordonné par Éric DAVID”, in *RBDI*, 2000-2, pp. 355-488.

**Further readings**


LA ROSA Anne-Marie & CHAVEZ-TAFUR Gabriel, “Implementing International
Humanitarian Law through the Rome Statute”, in BELLELLI Roberto (ed.),


Source URL: https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/international-criminal-court

Links
[1] https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/genocide
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