



A JOURNEY TOWARDS JUSTICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Prepared By: Samantha
Pearl, Legal Assistant

The Advocacy Foundation
for Human Rights

THE MISSION OF AFHR

The Advocacy Foundation for Human Rights (AFHR) promotes justice and accountability for victims of war crimes.

AFHR exposes those involved in corruption, violence, human rights violations, and crimes against civilian populations and seeks justice for victims through prosecution of those responsible.

AFHR's founders, Dr. Alan White and Jeff Birrell, have many years experience finding and prosecuting war crimes perpetrators.

<https://advocacyfoundationforhumanrights.org/>





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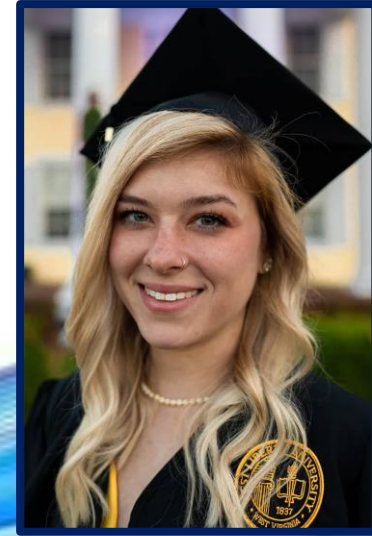
Abbe Jolles

International Human Rights Litigator,
AFHR Advisory Board



Alan W. White, Ph.D.

Co-Executive Director,
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Samantha Pearl

Legal Assistant,
Columbus School of Law

ABBE JOLLES



Abbe Jolles is a Washington DC based international human rights litigator. She has tried hundreds of cases in the US and around the world. She specializes in war crimes and country evacuations including out of Afghanistan. Based on her vast and varied experience, Ms. Jolles provides a unique, invaluable perspective. Among her many accomplishments, she was the first American woman admitted to the International Criminal Court and achieved a landmark decision at the UN International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. She serves on several non-profit boards including Advocacy Foundation for Human Rights, American Council on Women Peace and Security, and Global Liberty Alliance.

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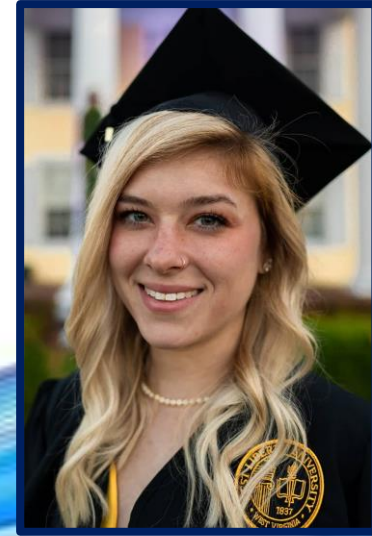
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ALAN W. WHITE, PH.D.



Dr. Alan White is a highly accomplished co-founder/Co-Executive Director of the AFHR. With a background in law enforcement and human rights advocacy, he has served as the Director of Investigations at the Defense Criminal Investigative Service (DCIS) and as the Chief of Investigations for the United Nations-backed Special Court for Sierra Leone. Dr. White has achieved multiple indictments and convictions, including that of former Liberian President Charles Taylor for war crimes. He also provides consulting services globally in areas such as human rights violations, anti-corruption, and governmental affairs. Dr. White's extensive experience and dedication contribute to his work in promoting justice, human rights, and accountability.

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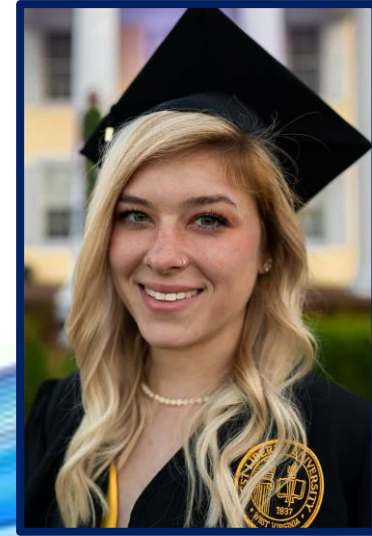
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SAMANTHA PEARL



Samantha Pearl, legal assistant for AFHR, is a third-year juris doctorate candidate at the Columbus School of Law in Washington D.C. Inspired by the historic Nuremberg trials, she has a profound interest in civil procedure and the pursuit of justice. Having studied abroad in Rome and Krakow to specialize in human rights, Ms. Pearl acquired a comprehensive understanding of international legal frameworks and their application in promoting accountability. Ms. Pearl has over six years of experience working for a civil rights law firm in her hometown of Wheeling, W.V., serving as an advocate for marginalized individuals. Her passion for learning, commitment to advocacy, and respect for procedural rules offered a unique perspective to the CCW project.

THE CCW PROJECT

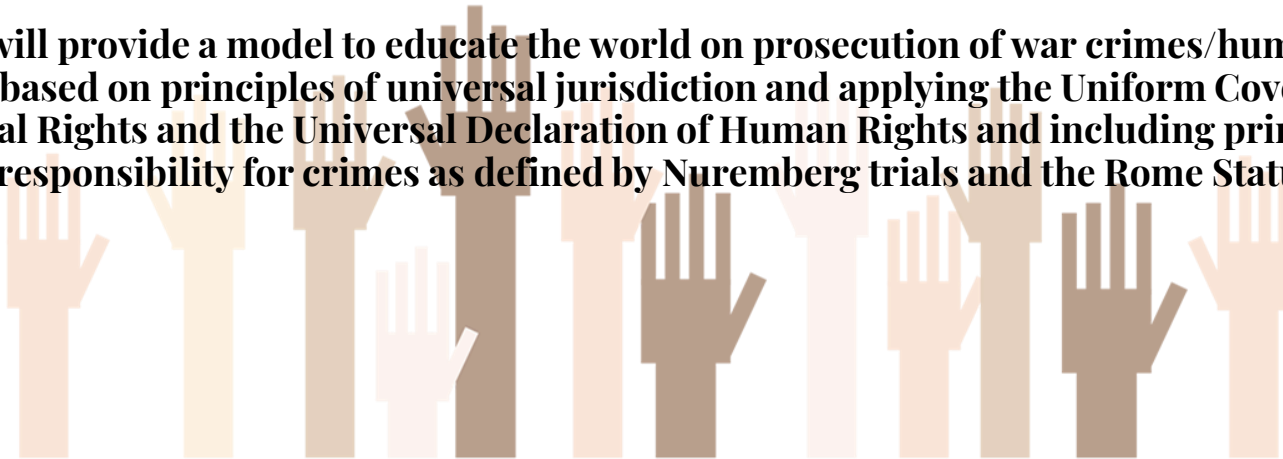


Focus: Court of the Citizens of the World (CCW)

CCW is a legal option to existing international courts and tribunals, where justice cannot be effectuated, due to political and/or legal obstacles.

← **For example: The International Criminal Court (ICC) cannot prosecute non-signatory countries under their treaty.**

The CCW will provide a model to educate the world on prosecution of war crimes/human rights violations, based on principles of universal jurisdiction and applying the Uniform Covenant of Civil and Political Rights and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and including principles individual responsibility for crimes as defined by Nuremberg trials and the Rome Statute.





Cour
Pénale
Internationale

International
Criminal
Court

INTERNATIONAL
CRIMINAL COURT (ICC)

THE HAGUE,
NETHERLANDS



“We need the force of law instead of the law of force.”

Benjamin Ferencz - *Honorary Patron and co-founder of The Court, the last living Nuremberg Prosecutor*

“No court in the world is holding Vladimir Putin responsible, the citizens of the world will,” – Benjamin Ferencz (102)

BENJAMIN FERENCZ (1920-2023)

The late Benjamin Ferencz was an investigator of Nazi war crimes after World War II and the Chief Prosecutor at The Einsatzgruppen Trial, the first of twelve trials held by the U.S. at Nuremberg, Germany.

Later, he became the world's main advocate of international rule of law and for the establishment of an international criminal court. For this, he is an Honorary Patron of the CCW.

Chief Prosecutor, Nuremberg 1947



His Mission:

Replace

“the rule of force

with the rule of law.”

LAW NOT WAR

THE ROLE OF THE ADVOCATE, MS. PEARL



I drafted Model rules based on established International Criminal Tribunals.

I included consideration of statutes and conventions governing the International Criminal Court (ICC), Special Court for Sierra Leone (SCSL), Special Tribunal for Lebanon (STL), International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR), and International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY).

Evaluation and Focus:

1. **Universal Jurisdiction**
2. **Applicable Law**
3. ***In absentia* Trials**
4. **I completed crucial steps towards the ultimate credentialing of the CCW, thereby gaining recognition from the international community.**

UNIVERSAL JURISDICTION, APPLICABLE LAW, & *INABSTENTIA* TRIALS

Universal Jurisdiction - International law recognizes that certain crimes are so serious that the duty to prosecute them transcends all borders, giving rise to “Universal Jurisdiction”. These crimes include crimes against humanity, war crimes, genocide, and torture. These crimes are so serious—any nation should have the authority to hold perpetrators accountable, regardless of where the crime was committed or implicated nationalities.

Applicable Law - International law including the Rome Statute, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights.

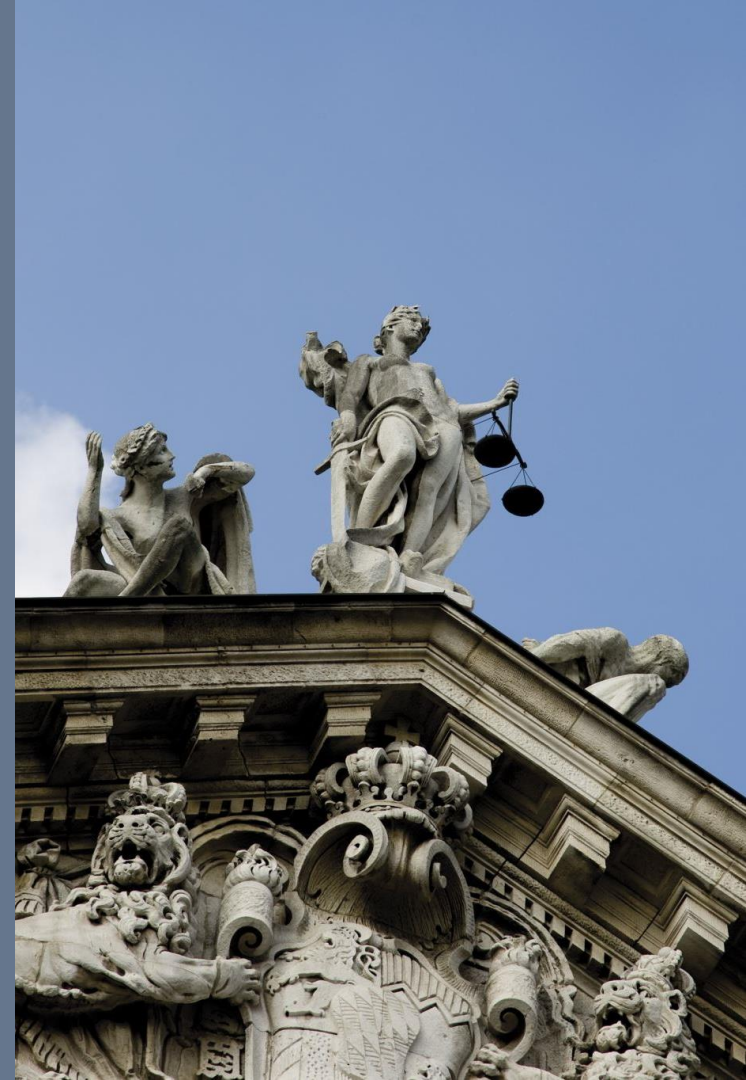
Inabsentia Trials - Latin for “in one’s absence,” a trial is inabsentia in cases where the trial is held without the presence of the accused where the accused refuses to attend.

OF THE WORLD

UNIVERSAL JURISDICTION

1. “The Court shall have jurisdiction over those responsible for War crimes, Crimes Against Humanity, and other serious human rights violations in accordance with the principles of criminal justice.
2. The Court shall possess global, universal jurisdiction. The Court shall analyze and evaluate the evidence and reach a mediated and impartial judgment on whether international crimes have been committed in the respective case(s). The jurisdiction of The Court shall cover the war crimes and human rights provisions contained in the Rome Statute; International Human Rights Conventions; the General Principles of International Law; and Customary International Law.”

The goal is to utilize the German courts’ acceptance of principles of universal jurisdiction embodied in Section 404 of the RESTATEMENT (3D) FOREIGN RELATIONS LAW OF THE UNITED STATES.



APPLICABLE LAW

1. The following shall be applicable to determining the crimes herein:
 - (a) Principles of international law relating to the prosecution and punishment of global human rights violations, acts of terrorism, crimes and offenses against life and personal integrity, illicit associations and failure to report crimes and offenses, including the rules regarding the material elements of a crime, criminal participation and conspiracy.

IN ABSENTIA TRIALS

“The Court shall have the right to charge and try individuals accused of war crimes, crimes against humanity and/or serious human rights violations in absentia.”

“The Court shall conduct trial proceedings in the absence of the Accused (in absentia), if he or she:

- (i) Has expressly and in writing waived his or her right to be present;
- (ii) Has absconded or cannot be found and all reasonable steps have been taken to secure his or her appearance before the Court and to inform him or her of the charges.

b. When hearings are conducted in the absence of the accused, The Court shall ensure that:

- (i) The accused has been notified, or served with the indictment, or notice has otherwise been given of the indictment through publication in the media or communication to the State of residence or nationality;
- (ii) The accused has designated a defense counsel of his or her own choosing, to be remunerated either by the accused or, if the accused is proved to be indigent, by The Court;
- (iii) Whenever the accused refuses or fails to appoint a defense counsel, such counsel will be appointed by the Defense Office from a list of counsel to accept appointment.”

IMPACT ON JUSTICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

AFHR's efforts to credential the CCW have far-reaching implications for justice and accountability. By providing a platform for victims of war crimes and crimes against humanity, AFHR will bring perpetrators to justice, even in their absence, unlike other current international tribunals.

Ultimate CCW Vision/Goals:

1. Provide a blueprint on crime of aggression prosecution.
2. Inspire the international community to support creation of the CCW.
3. End impunity for War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity.
4. Create active support in the international community for ending wars.





THE CCW'S FIRST TRIAL

Vladimir Putin on Trial in The Hague - "The Ukraine Tribunal" - February 20, 2023

Despite continued invasion, bombings, rape, and murder in Ukraine there has been no accountability for victims and perpetrators. On the first anniversary of the invasion of Ukraine, Vladimir Putin and the leadership of the Russian Federation faced trial before a people's tribunal for the alleged crime of aggression since the 24th of February 2022.

"A People's Tribunal Of The Citizens Of The World" was set up in 2021. It is based on The Principles Of Individual Responsibility For Crimes as defined by The Nuremberg Trials and by the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

Issued a Guilty verdict of the Crime of Aggression. Calls upon and urges the UN, the EU, and all the governments and peoples of this world to take every step necessary to ensure that a court with legal powers issues an indictment against Putin and takes appropriate measures to arrest and put him on trial as soon as possible.

THE CRIME OF AGGRESSION

“... planning, preparation, initiation or execution, by a person in a position effectively to exercise control over or to direct the political or military action of a State, of an act of aggression which, by its character, gravity and scale, constitutes a manifest violation of the Charter of the United Nations.”

(Article 8bis, The Rome Statute.)

THE UKRAINE TRIBUNAL

- **Expert Witnesses**

- ← **Oleksandra Matviichuk**, Ukrainian human rights lawyer

- **Victims & Witnesses**

- ← of Murder, Torture, Rape And Displacement

- **Judges**

- ← **Zak Yacoob** - A Retired Judge Of The Constitutional Court Of South Africa, Appointed by President Mandela On February 1, 1990.

- ← **Stephen J. Rapp** - An American Lawyer And The Former United States Ambassador-At-Large For War Crimes Issues In The Office Of Global Criminal Justice.

- ← **Priya Pillai** - A Lawyer And International Law Specialist, With Two Decades Of Expertise In International Justice, International Human Rights, Transitional Justice, Peace And Conflict, And Humanitarian Issues.

- **Prosecutors**

- ← **David Akerson** - Worked On International Crimes As A Senior Attorney At The United Nations Yugoslavia, Rwanda, Lebanon Tribunals, As Well As Numerous Other Atrocity Crimes In Syria, Iraq, South Africa, Cambodia, And Sierra Leone For Various Non-Governmental Organizations.

- ← **Tapas K. Baul** - Qualified In Litigation, Criminal And Civil Matters And A Panel Lawyer At Ministry Of Commerce, Government Of Bangladesh, Adjunct Faculty At Open University And Jahangirnagar University.

- ← **Drew White KC** - An International Lawyer From Canada With 35 Years Of Trial Experience, Both As A Prosecutor And A Defence Counsel. His Work On International Investigations Includes Rwanda, Libya, Syria, Iraq And Afghanistan.

NEXT TRIAL

The CCW will hold a trial against Chinese officials and leaders for their crimes against humanity, including those committed in Taiwan.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

The Advocacy Foundation for Human Rights is dedicated to the pursuit of justice and accountability.

You too can be an advocate and contribute to AFHR's mission by joining the global fight against impunity!

- 1. Tell the Press! Independent journalists are crucial to legitimizing the CCW**
- 2. Contact your Representatives! Congress has the power to recognize the Court**
- 3. Donate! Without funding, the AFHR cannot continue this important work.**



THE CATHOLIC
UNIVERSITY
OF AMERICA



Columbus School of Law