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THIRD INTERNATIONAL MILITARY JUSTICE FORUM PARIS 2025

3ème Congrès international sur la justice militaire

Wednesday 25 June 2025 Ecole Militaire – Amphithéâtre Louis

8.30 - Opening of the Forum

- Gwenaël Guyon (Saint-Cyr Coëtquidan Military Academy, Univ. Paris Cité)
- Evert Kleynhans (Stellenbosch University)
- Nicolas Cornu Thénard (Université Paris Panthéon-Assas, Société de Législation Comparée)

8.45 – History of military courts and military offences

- Guillaume Pinet (Université de Québec à Montréal), A comparative history of the emergence of councils of war in France and England (c. 1650-1715).
- Nishant Gokhale (University of the West of Scotland), The English East India Company and summary trials in 19th century.
- Astrid Donias (Université de Grenoble Alpes), Moderniser le crime d'intelligence avec l'ennemi en France.

Questions (10')

9.45 - Break (10')

9.55 – Military justice in wartime: an historical approach

- Emanuele Sica (Royal Military College of Canada), Giovanni Focardi (Università di Padova), Italian military justice from WWI to WWII.
- Evert Kleynhans (Stellenbosch University), Andries Fokkens (Stellenbosch University), The first test of South African military law: the 1914 Afrikaner Rebellion and the execution of Captain Jopie Fourie.
- Anna la Grange (University of Postdam),"I never witnessed such law carried out by Britishers before": Perceptions of the rules and norms of warfare during the 1922 Rand Revolt. Questions (10')

10.55 – Military justice in WWII

- Gwenaël Guyon (Saint-Cyr Coëtquidan Military Academy), From London to Paris via Algiers: De Gaulle, the Free French and military justice (1940-1945).
- Raffaella Bianchi Riva (Università degli studi di Milano), Women before military justice. The trials against mobilized female workers in the military court of Milan during World War II (1941-1945).
- Matthias Zachmann (Freie Universität Berlin), Fighting war with law: Japanese legal officers and their cases during the Asia-Pacific war, 1937-45.

Questions (10')

11.55 - Lunch



13.30 - Military justice in the post-Second World War

- Jonas Campion (Université de Québec à Trois-Rivières), Military justice for unusual soldiers? Trying Belgian 'gendarmes' for collaboration at the end of the Second World War.
- Yves Tremblay (Canadian Department of National Defense), Rape scenarios: the strategy of defence counsel in the trials of Canadian servicemen in Germany, 1945-1946.
- David Turns (Swedish Defence University), Military war crimes in historical and comparative perspectives.
- Louis Makau (Stellenbosch University), Liberation armies and "their" administration of justice: a critical examination of Umkhonto we Sizwe of the ANC.

Questions (10')

14.45 – Break (10')

14.55 – Military justice and judicial independence

- Eugene Fidell (Former President of the National Institute of Military Justice, Yale Law School), His Honour Jeff Blackett (Former Judge Advocate General, UK), Can uniformed personnel be independent?
- Cdr. Chris Griggs (Barrister, Royal New Zealand Naval Reserve), Judicial independence in Commonwealth military courts a work in progress.
- David Gilles (Saint-Cyr Coëtquidan Military Academy, University of Sherbrooke), Should the army be stripped of jurisdiction over criminal sexual offences within its ranks?

Questions (10')

15.55 – Break (10')

16.05 – Special focus: Military justice issues in Africa

- Christian Angue (Université de Dschang), Military justice and private military companies in Africa.
- Lt-Col. Michelle Nel (Stellenbosch University), Ernst Heydenrych (Boston City Campus & Business School), Maladministration, fraud and corruption in South African Defence procurement: where to in terms of justice, discipline and accountability?
- Col. Piet Bester and Lt-Col. Sonja Els (Stellenbosch University), The fight for justice: addressing moral injury compensation for service members in the SANDF.
- Lt Cdr Elsie Morake (Stellenbosch University), Involuntary referral of a military accused for observation: the dilemma in South African military justice.

Questions (10')

17.20 - End of discussions - Speakers Cocktail

Thursday 26 June 2025 Sénat, Palais du Luxembourg – Salle Médicis

9.00 - Military justice and international law

- Col. Winston Williams (US Military Academy Wespoint), Sophia Zademack (University of Zurich), Prosecution of war crimes- conceptualizing past, present and future.
- Nicolas Cuer (French Ministry of Defense, Université de Lille II), Violations of international humanitarian law and new technologies: the case of drones in the Russian-Ukrainian war.
- Brian Lee Cox (Cornell Law School), High profile: comparative military justice approaches to investigating and accounting for civilian casualties in armed conflict.

Questions (10')

10.00 – Break (10')

- Maria Elizabeth Teixeira Rocha (President of the Brazilian Superior Military Court), Discussion on international principles governing the administration of justice through military tribunals in South America.
- Clémence Pellissier (PhD st., Trinity College Dublin), Military law: between internationalization and nationalization.
- Mario Ferreira Monte (Universidade do Minho), Any chance for transitional (restorative) justice for armed conflicts?

Questions (10')

11.05 – Summary hearings and non-judicial punishments

- Pascal Levesque (Barrister, Ethics and Professional Conduct Commissioner, Canada), Military summary hearing system in Canada.
- Frank Rosenblatt (Mississippi College, President of the National Institute of Military Justice), Nonjudicial punishment.

Questions (10')

11.50 - Lunch

- 13.45 Military justice in its operational context
- Lt Cdr Nick Fryer (Legal advisor, British Royal Navy), British military justice in its recent operational context.
- Laurent Drouvot (Université de Toulon, Judicial Police Officer), Military justice in its operational context: the emergence of the notion of 'Lawfare' in modern conflictuality.

Questions (10')

14.30 - Break (10')

14.40 – The reform of military justice: global perspectives (Part I)

- HHJ Alan Large (Judge Advocate General of His Majesty's Armed Forces, UK), The Commonwealth military justice transformation project.
- Ernest Nilles (Diekirch State Prosecutor, Luxembourg), The reform of military justice in Luxembourg.
- Chief Judge Kevin Riordan (Judge Advocate General of the Armed Forces of New Zealand), Historical and future-looking aspects of New Zealand's military justice system.
- Lt-Col. Yvette Foliant (Netherlands Defence Academy), Addressing undesirable behavior in the Netherlands Armed Forces: a paradigm shift from institutionalized discipline to integrity as a virtue? Questions (10')

15.55 - Break (10')

16.05 – The reform of military justice: global perspectives (Part II)

- Alison Duxbury (University of Melbourne), The principle of open justice and military courts.
- Maurizio Block (Military Prosecutor General at the Italian Court of Cassation), The Italian military codes in the view of new reforms
- Jens Claerman (Belgian Ministry of Defense), Pieter-Jan Tuts (Associate Deloitte Legal), Military justice in Belgium.
- Nicolas Bernard (Referendary at the Belgian Constitutional Court, UCLouvain), The resurrection mechanism of military jurisdiction in Belgium: institutional aspects and practical difficulties. Questions (10')
- 17.20 Conclusion of the Forum

Eugene Fidell (Former President of the National Institute of Military Justice, Yale Law School)

17.35 - Closing of the event









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