TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE STUDY TRIP REUNION at TILBURG UNIVERSITY (October 4, 2013)

Since 2011, three groups have participated in the annual Transitional Justice Study Trip to Rwanda, and preparations for the fourth trip are underway. Each group has had to learn about Rwanda and post-genocide mechanisms in a period of one week. Each year, the programme has been similar (focusing on the history of the genocide, memorials and commemoration, justice issues, restoration of peace, reconciliation, assisting victims and survivors, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants, socio-economic developments and many more) but it has also been different in some other aspects such as different speakers and sometimes different topics according to each group’s specific interests. In both roundtable discussions and field visits, we candidly shared our views and some debates often triggered different emotions but we were also humbled by what we saw; the devastation, the resilience of victims and survivors and the new approaches to complex issues. There is no doubt that every participant left Rwanda with a set of different unanswered questions, and some maybe were inspired.

We (organizers) thought that it would be very important that we get together and share those thoughts and experiences. The reunion will take place on October 4, 2014 at Tilburg University – The Netherlands in room CZ9.

Practical information

Lunch and Break coffee/Tea:
The International Victimology Institute Tilburg (INTERVICT) will provide lunch and break tea/coffee on the conference day.

Participants and deadlines:
All the study trip alumni (see below) are invited to participate. Additionally, we shall include 15 to 20 interested participants (mainly) master’s and or PhD students. August 15, 2013 is the deadline for the alumni to express their interest to participate and September 15, 2013 is the deadline for the non-alumni to register (registration is by sending an email to Alphonse, a.muleefu@tilburguniversity.edu). September 1, 2013 is the deadline for the alumni to send their best study trip pictures and video clips they want to share (send them to taiglr@yahoo.com).

Direction (to Room CZ9):
The study trip reunion will take place in Cobbenhagen building, room 9 (CZ9) http://www.tilburguniversity.edu/contact/campus-map/cobbenhagen/

Traveling from Schiphol to Tilburg University:
Traveling from Schiphol to Tilburg Central - 1 hr 30 mins; From Schiphol to Tilburg Universiteit - 1 hr 35 mins
Costs:
Single 2nd class - about €16,50
Stopovers
s-Hertogenbosch (also known as Den Bosch)
Departure
Trains depart Schiphol every 1/2 hour, at 15 minutes over the hours and 45 minutes over the hour.
1. At Schiphol go to platform 1, take the train going in the direction Utrecht Centraal
2. Change at Den Bosch for the Breda train. Get out at Tilburg Central or, one stop later, at Tilburg Universiteit. You have arrived!
The university is about 7 minutes walk from the station and is very easy to find. in case you carry heavy luggage, we advise you to get off at Tilburg Central and take a taxi.
Details see http://www.tilburguniversity.edu/contact/route/schiphol/
Tentative Agenda
(Each speaker will have 15 minutes, a moderator 5 minutes to introduce the topic, and discussants will have 5 minutes).

09:30 – 10:00 – Opening remarks
09:30 – 09:15: Dr. Roelof Haveman/Rule of Law Advisor, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs – The Netherlands.
09:45 – 10:00: Prof. Marc Groenhuijzen/Director of INTERVICT – Tilburg University

10:00 – 10:15: Coffee break

First Session (10:15 – 12:00): Prosecution of International Crimes
10:15 – 10:20: Moderator, Prof. Willem Van Genugten/Professor of International Law – Tilburg University.

Speakers:

Discussant:
10:50 – 10:55: Ingrid Roestenburg-Morgan, PhD Researcher on the International Criminal Court’s (ICC) legitimacy and efficacy within Africa, Utrecht University, School of Human Rights Research.
10:55 – 12:00: Q&A

12:00 – 13:30: Lunch

Second Session (13:30 – 15:30): Gacaca and Reconciliation
13:30 – 13:35: Moderator, Prof. Rianne Letschert/professor of victimology and international law and Deputy Director of INTERVICT.

Speakers:
13:35 – 13:50: The victims’ perception about Gacaca by Dr. Anne-Marie de Brouwer, Associate Professor at the Department of Criminal Law/Tilburg University.
13:50 – 14:05: Experience about reconciliation through the eyes of a philosopher, Prof. Bert Van Roermund, Professor (em) of Philosophy (AoS: politics, law) at Tilburg University.

Discussants:
14:05 – 14:10: Thijs Bouwknecht, PhD Researcher, Transitional Justice Program at the Netherlands Institute for War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies (NIOD), and freelance investigative journalist.
14:10 – 14:15: Dr. Barbora Hola, Assistant Professor at the Department of Criminal Law and Criminology, Faculty of Law, Amsterdam University.
14:15 – 15:25 Q&A

15:25 – 15:45: Coffee break

Third Session (15:45 – 17:00): Sharing experiences and memories from the study trip
15:45 – 16:05: Video screening & Pictology/Edwin Mermans and Alphonse Muleefu
16:05 – 17:05: Q&A

17:05 – 17:20: CLOSING

Fourth Session - Tilburg by Night (optional): Dionne Janssens, Chloë Baartmans & Alphonse Muleefu (Tilburg University)
List of the study trip Alumni (according to the alphabetical order of first names)

1. Adam Hayward (Canada)
2. Agnes Dinkelman (Netherlands)
3. Alphonse Muleefu (Rwanda)
4. Anne van de Pol (Netherlands)
5. Arja Oomkens (Netherlands)
6. Barbora Hola (The Czech Republic)
7. Benoit Kaboyi (Rwanda)
8. Bert Van Roermund (Netherlands)
9. Charles C. Jalloh (Sierra Leone/Canada)
10. Charlotte Schuringa (Germany)
11. Cheryl Overeem (Netherlands)
12. Chloë Baartmans (Netherlands)
13. Christa Grootveld (Netherlands)
14. Cora Westerink (Netherlands)
15. David de Boer (Netherlands/South Africa)
16. David Kamanzi (Rwanda)
17. Denis Bikesha (Rwanda)
18. Dionne Jansens (Netherlands)
19. Edouard Madirisha (Burundi)
20. Edwin Mermans (Netherlands)
21. Eldad Ben Aharon (Isreal)
22. Frans van Peperstraten (Netherlands)
23. Franziska Karpinski (Germany)
24. Gabrijela Gosovic (Croatia)
25. Hassane Madigouh (Chad)
26. Ingrid Roestenburg-Morgan (South Africa/Netherlands)
27. Iona Mulder (Netherlands)
28. Isaac Hakizimana (Rwanda)
29. James Nyawo (Zimbabwe)
30. Joel Murenzi (Rwanda)
31. Joop Moerkens (Netherlands)
32. Joseph Mukasa Niyigeng (Rwanda)
33. Kaila Johnston (Canada)
34. Kjersti Lohne (Norway)
35. Lia Gieling (Netherlands)
36. Maarten Van Munster (Netherlands)
37. Marjolein Verhaag (Netherlands)
38. Marloes van Noorloos (Netherlands)
39. Martin Jada (South Sudan)
40. Miguel Presencio Fernández (Spain)
41. Mirjam Vossen (Netherlands)
42. Niek Vollebergh (Netherlands)
43. Ralf Bodelier (Netherlands)
44. Roberta Arnold (Switzerland)
45. Roelof Haveman (Netherlands)
46. Sjors Stockmann (Netherlands)
47. Sophie Poldermans (Netherlands)
48. Stefanie Heinrich (Germany)
49. Suzanne Hoeksema (Netherlands)
50. Sylvana Sedney (Netherlands)
51. Thijs Bouwknegt (Netherlands)
52. Yvonne de Rooij (Netherlands)
53. Usta Kaitesi (Rwanda)
54. Wendy Rutten (Netherlands)