

Resumé

“Crimes against humanity“ (the thesis title)

Crimes against humanity constitute one of the three integral parts of “crimes under international law.” At the same time they represent the most severe form of infringement of fundamental human rights that are as the principle value protected by the international community and its peremptory rules. Although these crimes have not emerged during the 20th century for the first time, it was the World War II., which established the term “crime against humanity” in Public International Law. It was also for the first time, when offenders of these serious crimes were brought to justice and tried by the *ad hoc* founded *International Military Tribunal* (IMT) in Nuremberg in 1946.

This post-war Tribunal was later followed by two most important Tribunals of the nineties, the *International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia* (ICTY) in 1993 and one year later by the *International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda* (ICTR). Even though both of them were based on the specifics of circumstances that occurred in each country, they do have many common features indeed. Their indisputable contribution can be seen not only in the punishment of criminals and subsequent redounding to pacification and reconciliation in the afflicted area, they also extensively enriched the material law.

The improvement reached by both Tribunals in the range of crimes against humanity (and several others) was subsequently followed by the latest authority of the international justice, the *International Criminal Court* (ICC) located in Hague.

The conception-making process of crimes against humanity was crowned by the Statute of International Criminal Court. This Statute extended their enumeration and particularly (for the first time in the history) precisely defined every single of these crimes that violate the principles of International Law. This way the Court accomplished the advancement of the International Criminal Tribunals, which they pursued during the second half of the 20th century. The ICC fully represents the latest progression made in the field of protection of human rights in the area of Public International Law.