

# Reflections on the ECCC

Presented by Australian Red Cross and the Centre for International and Public Law at the Australian National University with the support of Mallesons Stephen Jaques



**HLP**  
Humanitarian  
Law Perspectives  
2011

## Public Seminar

**Tuesday 23 August 2011**  
**5.30pm for 6.00pm start**

Between 1975 and 1979 approximately 1.7 million people lost their lives in the Cambodian genocide under Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge regime. The enormous number of deaths, amounting to 21 per cent of the country's population, was a tragedy that devastated the country.

In 2002, the United Nations and the Royal Government of Cambodia came to an agreement to establish a special court called the 'Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia for the Prosecution of Crimes Committed during the Khmer Rouge regime 1975-1979 (the ECCC). The ECCC is sometimes referred to as a 'hybrid court', i.e. one with both

domestic and international elements. A special chamber has been established in the existing court structure of the Cambodian Courts where Cambodian and International judges sit together and jointly preside over hearings. A major innovation of the ECCC is the enhanced role it gives victims - they can be recognised as parties to the proceedings.

This seminar will discuss the 'extraordinary' nature of the court, both in its structure and victim participation. It will comment on the progress of the cases to-date, how it has been received in Cambodia and its relationship to the broader project of international criminal justice.

## Panelists

### Professor Gerry Simpson

Gerry Simpson holds the Kenneth Bailey Chair of Law at Melbourne Law School. He also is a Visiting Professor of Public International Law at the London School of Economics, where he held a Chair until 2009, and is currently an AFP/Open Society Fellow (based in Tbilisi, Georgia). Gerry is the author of *Law, War and Crime: War Crimes Trials and the Reinvention of International Law* published by Polity Press in 2007. Gerry also worked with several NGOs giving legal advice (Interrights, UNPO) and training (Amnesty) and has been providing training in international criminal law the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (UK) as well as the Humanitarian law Centre in Belgrade.

### Ms Margaret Adamson

Ms Margaret Adamson is Assistant Secretary of the Consular, Public Diplomacy and Parliamentary Affairs Division, at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Margaret was the Australian Ambassador to Cambodia from 2007 to 2010. Prior to this her overseas postings have been as Ambassador to Poland and the Czech Republic between 1998 and 2002, Consul General in Berlin between 1993 and 1996, as well as postings in Hanoi, Vienna and Bonn. In Canberra she has led the Pacific Islands Branch and the EU and West Europe Branch.

### Venue

Finkel Theatre  
John Curtin School of Medical Research.  
Building 131 Garran Rd.  
The Australian National University  
Acton ACT 0200

### Booking and Enquires

The seminar is free but bookings are essential.  
Please **RSVP** to Rebecca Irwin  
Australian Red Cross by  
**Monday 22 August** at [actihl@redcross.org](mailto:actihl@redcross.org) or  
phone (02) 6234 7608

### Refreshments

Light refreshments will be provided



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MALLESONS STEPHEN JAQUES