



**Joint Briefing of the U.S. Helsinki Commission and
the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission**

**“The International Tribunal and Beyond:
Pursuing Justice for Atrocities in the Western Balkans”**

Tuesday, December 12, 2017

Biographies

Serge Brammertz

On 28 November 2007, Serge Brammertz was appointed by the United Nations Security Council to serve as Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, and assumed his duties on 1 January 2008. Dr. Brammertz was subsequently appointed by the Security Council to serve concurrently as Chief Prosecutor of the Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals on 29 February 2016, and assumed his duties on 1 March 2016.

Dr. Brammertz has served for more than a decade in senior positions charged with investigating and prosecuting grave international crimes. Prior to his current appointment, in January 2006 United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan appointed him as Commissioner of the United Nations International Independent Investigation Commission into the assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, a post he held until the end of 2007. Previously, in September 2003 he was elected by the Assembly of State Parties as the first Deputy Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court. In that capacity, he was in charge of establishing the Investigations Division of the Office of the Prosecutor, and initiated the first ICC investigations in Uganda, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Darfur.

Prior to his international appointments, Dr. Brammertz was first a national magistrate then the head of the Federal Prosecution of the Kingdom of Belgium. In these roles, he supervised numerous investigations and trials related to cases of organised crime, terrorism, international drug trafficking, human trafficking and violations of international humanitarian law. His work focused in particular on coordinating trans-national investigations and strengthening cross-border police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters. In addition, he also worked for the

European Commission, the Council of Europe and the International Organisation for Migration as an expert on these and related issues.

Dr. Brammertz is currently a member of the Executive Committee of the International Association of Prosecutors, visiting Professor in the Faculty of Law at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, visiting Professor at Strathmore Law School (Nairobi) and previously served as Chairman of the European Judicial Network. He has published and lectured widely on the investigation and prosecution of complex crimes, European and international police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters, international humanitarian law, organized crime, terrorism and judicial capacity building. He was a professor of law at the University of Liège until 2002.

Dr. Brammertz holds a law degree from the University of Louvain-la-Neuve, a degree in Criminology from the University of Liège and a PhD in international law from the Albert Ludwig University in Freiburg, Germany, where his thesis was on the topic “Cross-border Police Cooperation”.

Nemanja Stjepanović

Nemanja Stjepanović has been working at the Humanitarian Law Center as a researcher since the beginning of 2016, and has recently become a member of the HLC’s Executive Team. Having previously worked as a journalist with various media organizations from Belgrade, and then spending ten years with the Sense News Agency in The Hague, he has specialized in reporting on war crimes proceedings from the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. He still occasionally writes articles for regional written media alongside his other work.

Diane Orentlicher

Diane Orentlicher, Professor of International Law at American University, has been described by the Washington Diplomat as “one of the world’s leading authorities on human rights law and war crimes tribunals.” She has lectured and published widely on issues of transitional justice, international criminal law and other areas of public international law, and has testified before the United States Senate and House on a range of issues relating to both domestic human rights laws and U.S. foreign policy. Professor Orentlicher has served in various public positions, including as the Deputy for War Crimes Issues in the U.S. Department of State (2009-2011); United Nations Independent Expert on Combating Impunity (on appointment by the UN Secretary-General) and Special Advisor to the High Commissioner on National Minorities of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (on secondment from the U.S. Department of State).