



Between a Rock and a Hard Place: Are We Asking Too Much of the International Criminal Court?

Tuesday 2nd October 2018, Lecture Theatre 1 at the UTAS Law School

Refreshments at 5.30 pm, Lecture 6.15 – 7.30pm.

The Rome Statute establishing the International Criminal Court (ICC) was opened for signature in July 1998. Every decision the ICC Prosecutor takes is contested - too soft on States/too hard on States; politically motivated/naïve about the political implications of her decisions; favouring the powerful States/not taking the interests of powerful States seriously enough. All criticisms, even diametrically opposed criticisms, have some substantive basis even if we disagree with them. Expectations of the institution of the Court have never been higher and yet the limitations - particularly to the Court's jurisdiction - have never been more exposed. The 20th anniversary of the opening for signature of the Rome Statute is an opportune time to reflect on the institution of the Court, its major achievements to date and some of the critical challenges it faces in the next phase of its history.

Professor Tim McCormack is Dean of the University of Tasmania Law School, Special Adviser on International Humanitarian Law to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court in The Hague and Fellow of the Australian Academy of Law. He specialises in International Humanitarian Law and International Criminal Law. Tim was the Foundation Australian Red Cross Professor of International Humanitarian Law (1996-2010) at the Melbourne Law School and also the Foundation Director of the Asia Pacific Centre for Military Law (2001-2010) - a collaborative initiative (established 2001) between the Melbourne Law School and The Australian Defence Force Legal Service.



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by 28th September 2018