

PUBLIC ANNEX

Armanshahr/OPEN-ASIA

Armanshahr/OPEN ASIA is an independent organisation founded in 1996, which has been active in Afghanistan since 2005. It is committed to a holistic approach and women's agency as key components in supporting transitional justice processes in the post-Taliban context. In 2006 Armanshahr/OPEN ASIA conducted a multi-regional study on the needs and recommendations of war victims. In 2007, it organised the first international conference on transitional justice: "Seeking Truth and Justice in Afghanistan."

The Centre for Justice and Accountability

The Center for Justice and Accountability (CJA) is an international human rights organisation dedicated to deterring torture, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and other serious human rights abuses globally through innovative litigation and transitional justice strategies. For over twenty years, CJA has investigated and engaged in litigation to provide redress to victims of atrocity crimes perpetrated around the world.

European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights

The European Center of Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR) is an independent, non-profit legal and educational organization dedicated to enforcing civil and human rights. Together with affected persons and partners worldwide, ECCHR uses legal means to end impunity of those responsible for torture, war crimes, sexualized violence, corporate exploitation and fortified borders. ECCHR is involved in litigating international crimes in relation to the situation of Afghanistan at both the national and international level. ECCHR has a long history of engagement with the Court, in particular through communications concerning several situations which are currently before the Court. ECCHR filed submissions, for example, on war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in Colombia, on the urgency to continue to investigate war crimes, including torture and other forms of ill-treatment, by UK forces in Iraq from 2002 to 2008 or highlighting the importance of investigating sexual and gender-based violence as a cohesive element of the crime of deportation of the Rohingya minority from Myanmar to Bangladesh.

FIDH/ International Federation for Human Rights

FIDH is an international human rights organisation created in 1922 and is made up of a federation of 184 organisations from 112 countries, including Afghanistan. FIDH has been working closely with its member and partner organisations based in Afghanistan, including Armanshahr/OPEN ASIA and the TJCG. FIDH's work relating to justice and accountability pre-dates the inception of the Court, being amongst one of the foremost civil society organisations that advocated for the Court's creation at the diplomatic conference in Rome in 1998. Since 2004, FIDH maintains a permanent Hague-based representation to the ICC that facilitates interaction between: organs of the Court; victims of Rome Statute crimes; and grassroots organisations working in partnership with FIDH on documentation and accountability for such crimes. FIDH also transmitted the first victim application forms in the situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo and represents victims of international crimes in Mali, Ivory Coast, the Central African Republic and Guinea before national proceedings. FIDH has also commented on numerous policies and strategies affecting victims at the ICC, including the OTP policy on the interests of justice.

Human Rights Watch

Human Rights Watch (HRW) is a non-profit, non-governmental human rights organization working in over 90 countries around the world to defend human rights. Established in 1978, HRW is known for its accurate fact-finding, impartial reporting, effective use of media, and targeted advocacy, often in partnership with local human rights groups. Human Rights Watch was extensively involved in the negotiations that led to the Rome Statute and continues to monitor the work and impact of the International Criminal Court on ending impunity and delivering justice for victims.

No Peace without Justice

No Peace Without Justice (NPWJ) is an international non-profit organisation working for the promotion and protection of human rights, democracy, the rule of law and international justice. NPWJ has more than 20 years of experience working on international criminal justice legal and policy issues, including on the International Criminal Court, before, during and after the Diplomatic Conference that adopted the Rome Statute. NPWJ has long-standing experience working with civil society on international justice and accountability issues, including in Afghanistan.

REDRESS

REDRESS is an international non-governmental organisation that has special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council. Its mandate is to seek justice and reparation for victims of torture and related international crimes. It has over 25 years' expertise in advocating for the rights of victims to gain both access to the courts and redress for their suffering, in over 50 countries worldwide. REDRESS has extensive experience in directly representing victims before national, regional, and international courts and tribunals, as well as UN treaty bodies and special procedures. REDRESS has regularly been granted leave to intervene in cases before the Court, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, the European Court of Human Rights, the Special Court for Sierra Leone, and the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia.

Transitional Justice Coordination Group-Afghanistan

TJCG is a coalition of 20 organizations and human rights activists formed in 2009 with the aim of strengthening advocacy and strategic coordination between organizations involved in transitional justice in Afghanistan. Since its inception, the group has been active and outspoken on transitional justice issues, and has dedicated itself to raising the voices of Afghanistan's victims of war and oppression. Both Armanshahr/OPEN ASIA and TJCG are members of the Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC) and have engaged with the Court since the commencement of a preliminary examination in Afghanistan. Both organisations have offered their knowledge of the local context to the Court in various capacities and assisted in the facilitation of victim representations to the VPRS. They have regularly provided updates, advocated for accountability and relayed demands for justice to the Government of Afghanistan, the EU and its Member States, donors, and the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA).

Women's Initiatives for Gender Justice

Women's Initiatives for Gender Justice (WIGJ) is an international women's human rights organisation that advocates for gender equality, women's human rights and international justice. Since 2004 Women's Initiatives has worked to ensure justice for women and communities affected by armed conflict through the promotion of an independent and effective International Criminal Court and promote use of the Rome Statute to advance women's rights. WIGJ has been granted leave to submit amicus curiae filings before the International Criminal Court focusing on issues related to sexual and gender based crimes.