



Special Adviser on Slavery Crimes

Short Bio. | Ms Patricia V. Sellers



Ms Patricia V. Sellers, an international criminal lawyer, is a Visiting Fellow at the University of Oxford, where she teaches international criminal law and human rights law. She is a Practicing Professor at London School of Economics and a Senior Research Fellow at the *Human Rights Center* of the University of California, Berkeley. She was the Special Adviser on Gender to the former Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, Mrs Fatou Bensouda, from 2016-2021. She was the Legal Advisor for Gender, Acting Head of the Legal Advisory Section and a prosecutor at the UN International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) from 1994-2007 and the Legal Advisor for Gender at the UN International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) from 1995-1999. Ms Sellers was a prosecutor on the trial teams of Akayesu, Furundzija, Kunarac, Nikolic and Oric. She has developed legal strategies that led to landmark decisions regarding sexual violence as constitutive conduct of war crimes, crimes against humanity, genocide, torture and enslavement under international criminal law.

Ms Sellers has advised governments and civil society entities and lectured extensively on international criminal law. She has authored numerous articles, including, *Missing in Action: The International Crime of the Slave Trade*, *Wartime Female Slavery: Enslavement?*, and, forthcoming, *The International Crimes of Slavery and the Slave Trade: A Feminist Critique*. She has testified as an expert witness before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in the cases of *J. v. Peru*, *Favela*

Nova Brasilia v. Brazil, Albarracín v. Ecuador and Lima and Others v. Colombia. Ms Sellers is the recipient of the prestigious Prominent Women in International Law Award by the American Society of International Law.

She holds an Honorary Doctorate in Law from the City University of New York, as well as an Honorary Fellow for Lifetime Achievement from the Law School of the University of Pennsylvania, her *alma mater*.

