



Centre for African Justice, Peace and Human Rights
Laan van Meerdervoort 70, 2517 AN The Hague, The Netherlands

**SYMPOSIUM ON “SEXUAL VIOLENCE: THE MALE
PERSPECTIVE”**

**TURNZAAL, GROTE GRACHT 90-92,
MAASTRICHT UNIVERSITY,
MAASTRICHT, THE NETHERLANDS
15TH FEBRUARY, 2019
13:00 – 18:00**

Time	Activity
12:00 – 13:00	Registration, Meet and Greet
Anchor	Abeka Salmin Abdallah
13:00 – 13:10	Opening Remarks by Ms Sophia Ugwu (Founder, Centre for African Justice, Peace and Human Rights) Represented by Mr David Okwo (Advisory Council Member)
13:10 – 13:25	Presentations by Members of Centre for African Justice; Ms Janine Ms Stephanie Ms Augusta



Centre for African Justice, Peace and Human Rights
 Laan van Meerdervoort 70, 2517 AN The Hague, The Netherlands

13:25 – 13:30	Presentation by Feminists of Maastricht and We Care
PANEL DISCUSSION	
13:30 – 14:10	<p>Presentation by The Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, H.E. Ms. Mirsada Čolaković</p> <p>“Sexual Violence against men during conflict from a societal perspective”.</p>
14:10 – 14:50	<p>Presentation by Mr. Kazi Russel Pervez (Counsellor of The Embassy of Bangladesh, The Hague)</p> <p>“The definition of rape under the domestic laws of the People's Republic of Bangladesh: To what extent are men and boys legally protected and recognized as potential victims of rape in Bangladesh”.</p>
14:50 – 15:05	Coffee Break
15:05 – 15:45	<p>Presentation by Ms Rachel Ploem (Rutgers, SRHR and Gender Adviser)</p> <p>“Involving boys and men in gender equality by</p>



Centre for African Justice, Peace and Human Rights
 Laan van Meerdervoort 70, 2517 AN The Hague, The Netherlands

	recognizing male victims of sexual violence”
15:45 – 16:15	<p>Presentation by Ms Gloria Atiba Davis (Head of the Gender and Children Unit (GCU), Office of the Prosecutor, International Criminal Court)</p> <p>The Impact of Sexual Violence on boys as Child Soldiers: Child Soldiers as perpetrators and Victims.</p>
16:15 – 17:15	Question & Answer Session / THE WAY FORWARD
17:15 – 17:45	WORK THE TALK by Mr. David Okwo
17:45 – 17:55	<p>Closing Remarks by</p> <p>Feminists of Maastricht</p> <p>Dr. Sumiaya Musharraf (Centre for African Justice, Peace and Human Rights Focal Point & Sexual Violence Team Leader)</p>
18:00	Reception



Centre for African Justice, Peace and Human Rights
Laan van Meerdervoort 70, 2517 AN The Hague, The Netherlands

ABOUT THE MAASTRICHT UNIVERSITY SYMPOSIUM ON SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Sexual and gender-based crimes, victimizes women, men, girls and boys alike and they often have lasting consequences for individuals and communities. Though significant progress has been made in addressing these crimes with respect to the female gender, much remains to be done for the male gender. It is against this backdrop that we are organising a symposium, titled “Sexual Violence: The Male Perspective”, with focus on the theme ‘Unseen, Unheard, Unspoken’, scheduled to hold on the 15th February, 2019, at Turnzaal, Grote Gracht 90-92, Maastricht University, Maastricht, The Netherlands from 13:00 to 18:00.

Sexual violence is largely identified

as a menace which is eating deep into our society both in conflict and peace situations yet; many aspects of it have been left rarely or entirely undiscussed. Sequel to the 20th anniversary of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and other very significant developments that occurred in international law in 2018 pertaining to

prosecuting conflict related sexual violence perpetrated against males, Centre for African Justice will be organizing a symposium on sexual violence against males, in our efforts to contribute to the nurturing of the criminal justice system in the area of sexual violence.

Accordingly, in line with the United Nations International Day for Elimination of Conflict related Sexual Violence celebrated on June 19 every year, this conference hopes to discuss the UN’s responses to sexual violence against men and boys in armed conflict, to better understand the problem and explore possible measures of prevention and protection of the male victims from the UN perspective.

Through the conversation arising from this conference and the information that would be shared by the resource persons plus the interactive sessions among the participants, recommendations will be made and action plans developed with respect to closing the gap surrounding sexual violence against men and boys and possible ways of exchanging best practices between international and domestic jurisdiction. One of such best practices could be the definition of rape



Centre for African Justice, Peace and Human Rights
Laan van Meerdervoort 70, 2517 AN The Hague, The Netherlands

and some other forms of sexual violence which is usually narrow in domestic jurisdictions and broad in international law.

There is mounting reports of the issue that calls for urgent action. The issue has been brought into sharp focus at the global level by studies undertaken by International bodies and litigations handled by international courts/tribunals. However, much remains to be done.

BIOGRAPHY OF SPEAKERS

THE AMBASSADOR OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS, H.E. MS. MIRSADA ČOLAKOVIĆ



Prior to her appointment as the Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the Kingdom of The Netherlands and

the Permanent Representative to the OPCW in 2016, Ms. Čolaković held the post of the Permanent Representative to the United Nations for the Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina from 2012 to 2016. Ms. Čolaković was also previously the Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations for the Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina, a post she held from 2005 to 2012. From July to November 2005, she headed the Department of International Cooperation in the Fields of Science, Technology, Education, Culture and Sports within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Sarajevo.

Between November 2002 and June 2005, Ms. Čolaković served as Deputy Head of Mission in her country's Embassy to the United States, having held the same rank at the Embassy in Greece from November 2000 to October 2002, with concurrent service as Chargée d'affaires for the period April 2001 through 2002.

Ms. Čolaković served as an Adviser in the Office of the Deputy Foreign Minister from June 1999 to November 2000, prior to which she worked in the Office for Foreign Relations of the President of Bosnia and Herzegovina, from June 1998 to July 1999.



Centre for African Justice, Peace and Human Rights
Laan van Meerdervoort 70, 2517 AN The Hague, The Netherlands

After joining her country's foreign service in 1995, she served in multiple capacities at the Embassy in Brussels, Belgium, and in Bosnia and Herzegovina's missions to the European Union, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the Council of Europe.

A professor of philosophy and sociology at the University of Sarajevo, Ms. Čolaković completed her post-graduate studies at the University of Belgrade in 1983, having earned a specialization in European Institutions and Lobbying at the Institute for European Studies in Brussels, in 1997.

**MR KAZI RUSSEL PERVEZ -
COUNSELLOR, EMBASSY OF
BANGLADESH, THE HAGUE**



Mr. Kazi Russel Pervez joined the Embassy of Bangladesh in The Hague as Counsellor in August 2015. He is also concurrently accredited to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) as Alternate Permanent Representative of Bangladesh.

Mr. Kazi Russel Pervez served in Bangladesh Embassy in Bangkok for the period 2012-2015 as First Secretary/Counsellor with concurrent accreditation to the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) as the Deputy Permanent Representative of Bangladesh. Mr. Russel Pervez served in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dhaka as Assistant Secretary/ Senior Assistant Secretary for the period 2004-2012.

Before joining Bangladesh Foreign Service, Mr. Kazi Russel Pervez briefly served the Government of Bangladesh as an Assistant Commissioner & Magistrate for the period 2001-2003 and also as an Assistant Engineer, Local Government Engineering Department during 1998-1999.

Mr. Kazi Russel Pervez completed Master of Economics in Socio-Economic System from Nagoya University of



Centre for African Justice, Peace and Human Rights
Laan van Meerdervoort 70, 2517 AN The Hague, The Netherlands

Japan. He also obtained Master of Business Administration from the Institute of Business Administration, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh; and Bachelor of Technology in Civil Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, India.

**RACHEL PLOEM - RUTGERS,
TECHNICAL ADVISOR**



“Without engaging men, equal, caring and non-violent relationships will remain a dream. Transforming dominant notions of masculinity begins with listening to the stories of men.”

Expertise

Women’s Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, Gender, Gender Based Violence, Men's engagement in SRHR, GBV and Gender justice.

Short Biography

Rachel Ploem has a degree in Nursing and a Master in International Relations. She has extensive professional working experience in Central America, Southern and Eastern Africa, South East Asia, working for United Nations, ministries and civil society. She is passionate about exploring social issues. She is convinced that equality between men and women will contribute to healthy and happy (sexual) relationships, resilient communities and societies.

Since 2006 she is working for Rutgers, a centre of expertise in sexuality, based in the Netherlands. As technical advisor she has developed with partners in Indonesia and South Africa, the ‘Toolkit for Men’: A counselling-programme for male clients to stop intimate partner violence. Currently she works on a 5-years programme Prevention+: Men and Women ending GBV, by making use of the gender transformative approach, see:

<https://www.rutgers.international/news/news-archive/rutgers-launches-evidence-based-toolkit-gender-transformative-approaches-srhr>

Her strong analytical skills and innovative thinking help her in developing new interventions and



Centre for African Justice, Peace and Human Rights
Laan van Meerdervoort 70, 2517 AN The Hague, The Netherlands

partnerships. She is sensitive in listening to marginalized voices of people. In her work she is strategic, results-oriented and driven, critical and self-reflective. She is strong in networking and alliance building.



Kenniscentrum
seksualiteit

t +31 (0)30 231 34 31
m +31(0)6-51499695
r.ploem@rutgers.nl
www.rutgers.nl
www.rutgers.international
skype:rachel_ploem

**GLORIA ATIBA DAVIES - Head
of the Gender and Children Unit
(GCU), Office of the Prosecutor,
International Criminal Court**



Gloria Atiba Davies is currently the Head of the Gender and Children Unit (GCU) in the Office of the Prosecutor, International Criminal Court. With her professional training as a lawyer, she gained expertise working on issues of sexual and gender-based violence in her home country Sierra Leone where she started her legal practice as a State Prosecutor, raising to the level of Principal State Council and acted in the position of the Director of Public Prosecutions, and also in the Gambia, where she held the position of Deputy Director of Public Prosecutor. In her current job, she provides support to integrated Teams thus cutting across the different Divisions and situations/cases being investigated and prosecuted by the OTP. Three of her focus areas are (1) Sexual and gender-based violence (2) Crimes against and affecting children and (3) issues relating to victims and witnesses. She is also involved in the development of policies, protocols and guidelines relevant to her focus areas, the Sexual and Gender-based Crimes Policy being one.

www.centreforjustice.org
info@centreforjustice.org



Centre for African Justice, Peace and Human Rights
Laan van Meerdervoort 70, 2517 AN The Hague, The Netherlands

ANCHOR - ABEKA ABDALLAH



Abeka Abdallah, Kenyan born journalist with passion for African stories. Abeka's life has always been behind the lenses telling African stories both in Africa and abroad. After graduating from Kampala international University, Abeka has worked within Africa and abroad.

After over 8 years practicing his trade in Africa as video journalist, producer and editor for major media houses in the world, he moved to Europe in 2016 where he has small stint working at EBS as African Editor, but later started his own media company moving minds Europe, which operates the first of its own audiovisual online radio (Radio Africa EU).

Abeka has worked with major international Media houses in Africa both as an editor, producer and DOP, notable production under his belt are Inside Africa, a feature story about Africans airing on CNN, BBC Sema Kenya (a political talk show which was aired immediately after the promulgation of the new constitution) Panorama an investigative piece on BBC news and many others TV Station (AP, Aljazeera, DW and BBC world service both as editor and producer.

Abeka shares his work experience with passion and empathy, it's unfortunate that we African are afraid to tell our own stories or have our own media outlets, we end up being falling in the trap of the west with same narrative of Africa being poor. Personally, I long for the day when Africans will have solutions to their own problems instead of looking abroad to be the answer, so it's us who should be telling our stories to the world and not the vice versa. This is what made me start media company for Africans.



Centre for African Justice, Peace and Human Rights
Laan van Meerdervoort 70, 2517 AN The Hague, The Netherlands

ABOUT FEMINISTS OF MAASTRICHT



Feminists of Maastricht is a student organization of Maastricht University students but open to all Higher education students in the Maastricht region who are passionate about fact-based gender equality education and advocacy. We campaign on issues such as reproductive rights, sexual violence, body-positivity, gender identity and freedom of choice. Our aim is to provide a steady platform and voice that promotes and raises awareness of the feminist movement in Maastricht. For more information about us, we invite you to visit us on Facebook via: <https://www.facebook.com/FeministsOfMaastricht>, and follow us on Instagram via: @feministsofmaastricht Contact us via: feministsofmaastricht@gmail.com
Thank you.

ABOUT CENTRE FOR AFRICAN JUSTICE, PEACE AND HUMAN RIGHTS



Centre for African Justice Peace and Human Rights is a young Dutch based Foundation established with the aim of promoting justice, peace and human rights through capacity building, research, education and campaign, among others. At Centre for African Justice, we strongly believe that research, education, capacity building and awareness are the most powerful ways of investing in nations because through these means, people are developed and equipped with information and skills that change stereotypes, improve legislations, advance peace, justice and human rights in their environment.

The vision of our Foundation is largely driven by young professionals below the age of 35, from different parts of the world, who are committed to making contributions in different ways for the



Centre for African Justice, Peace and Human Rights
Laan van Meerdervoort 70, 2517 AN The Hague, The Netherlands

purpose of achieving an environment where equality, peace, justice and human rights is highly upheld. We have amazing board members, Adesola Adeboyejo (Ms), Takeh Birshu Kidze Sendze (Mr), Sophia Uzoamaka Ugwu (Ms), who invest so much in mentoring these young professionals and ensuring that our visions for human rights, peace and justice are actualized. We invite you to visit our website at <http://centreforafricanjustice.org> for more information about us. Contact us via email on: info@centreforafricanjustice.org and on Telephone: +3168798845.