



Programme Announcement

International Conference

On

International Criminal Justice, Reconciliation and Peace in Africa: The ICC and Beyond

Date: July 10-12, 2014; **Venue:** Dakar

The Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa and the Social Science Research Council's African Peacebuilding Network in collaboration with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute and the Centre for Democracy and Development in Abuja are pleased to announce a conference on the theme *International Criminal Justice, Reconciliation and Peace in Africa: the ICC and Beyond* to be held from July 10-12, 2014 in Dakar. The conference is the first part of a two-phase programme on *International Criminal Justice, Reconciliation and Peace in Africa: the ICC and Beyond*, which will eventually include a three-year research and policy engagement segment. The programme is founded on the observation that the ICC has captured the imagination of many on the continent and come to represent for various parties either the epitome of many of the things that are wrong with the international justice system or a key instrument in the prevention of gross human rights violations in Africa and the promotion of access to justice for its victims. The broad goal of the programme is to significantly improve the quality of scholarship, debates and policy on while further democratizing the nature of conversations on international justice, peace and reconciliation in Africa through conferences, the conduct and dissemination of studies and policy engagement.

The conference will address spatial and temporal variation in perceptions of the ICC across Africa and whether the ICC privileges the fight against impunity over long-term peacebuilding and reconciliation in Africa. Participants will also explore the extent to which the ICC's indictments betray partiality against Africans and against certain parties in situation countries, the degree to which the ICC de-politicizes and de-historicises African human rights abuses and the impact of these actions on the search for justice, peace and reconciliation on the continent. The question of alternative justice mechanisms and the extent to which focus on the ICC may have starved them of attention will also be the subject of sustained debate during the conference. The conference will similarly examine how much the ICC reflects global inequalities, to what extent it is instrumentalized by world powers and whether any such instrumentalization still permits the court to contribute meaningfully towards ending impunity and facilitating peacebuilding and reconciliation in Africa.

Further information on the conference can be obtained from:

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