

**JUNE 2022** The wheels of justice turn slowly – but turn they do. After five years of litigation, the Paris Court of Appeals has now upheld that the <u>cement corporation Lafarge</u> can be charged with complicity in crimes against humanity. With this ruling

with complicity in crimes against humanity. With this ruling, the court will finally implement the decision by the French Supreme Court from September 2021. In the <u>Kilani case</u>, we encountered a bitter setback: in Germany, double standards are apparently still acceptable when it comes to prosecuting the powerful.

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The criminalization of sea rescue: Pre-trial hearings in Iuventa case opened in Italy

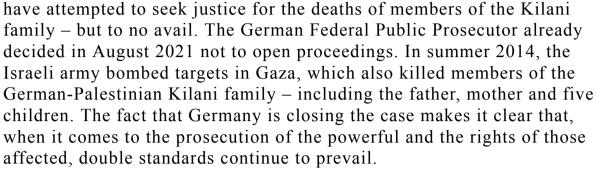
On 21 May, the Trapani Court (Sicily) opened pre-trial hearings against four crew members of the civilian sea rescue ship Iuventa. The judge will decide whether whether the accused (altogether 21 individuals and three organizations) will be tried for aiding and abetting the illegal entry of migrants into Italy – the defendants could face up to 20 years in prison. ECCHR and other organizations will closely monitor the proceedings.

The Iuventa during a rescue mission in the Mediterranean © Kenny Karpov

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#### **BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

Lafarge cement corporation: Charges of complicity in crimes against humanity upheld

Since 18 May, it is now certain: Lafarge will be charged with complicity in crimes against humanity. Our arguments finally prevailed over those of Lafarge in a legal dispute that has already lasted five years. With this step, the Paris Court of Appeals implemented the decision reached by the French Supreme Court in September 2021. The proceedings, which followed our and Sherpa's criminal complaint from 2016, seek to clarify, among other issues, whether Lafarge aided and abetted the crimes of armed groups in Syria.

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Arms exports to the Yemen war? Criminal complaint against French arms companies



Attacks on residential buildings, markets, hospitals – by exporting weapons to the military coalition led by Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, French companies have potentially made themselves complicit in war crimes in Yemen. Thus, ECCHR, Mwatana for Human Rights and Sherpa submitted a criminal complaint with the Paris Court on 2 June. The complaint is directed against the weapons firms Dassault Aviation, Thalès, and MBDA France, as well as employees of the French arms export control authority.

A girl walks past her destroyed school in ad-Dali' © Mwatana

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#### ECCHR

Job posting: We are looking for a Digital Communications Officer



As Digital Communications Officer, you will be responsible for the strategic development and support of ECCHR's digital products, in particular the website and the newsletter. You will work closely with your colleagues in the Communications & Fundraising team to shape ECCHR's digital identity for the outside world. We look forward to receiving your applications by 30 June 2022.

ECCHR General Secretary Wolfgang Kaleck and guests during the recording of an event  ${\rm @}$  Mohamed Badarne

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In the struggle against oppression and racism: Peter Weiss receives Elie Wiesel Award

In May, the US Holocaust Museum awarded its most prestigious honor to the so-called Ritchie Boys. The former secret US intelligence unit, which included Peter Weiss, an honorary member of the ECCHR Advisory Board, played an important role in the fight against Nazism in Europe.

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# EVENTS

Gender, race, colonialism: A conversation with Rita Segato

DISCUSSION 18 JUNE 2022 3 PM AQUARIUM, SÜDBLOCK SKALITZER STRASSE 6, 10999 BERLIN

**Rita Laura Segato** is an Argentine anthropologist, internationally recognized for her work on feminism and violence against women. Through Segato's original and engaged thinking, forged in decades of research, activism and teaching, the event will address how gender and race hierarchies were strengthened by colonialism to further the capitalist project.

The conversation will also provide an opportunity to discuss Segato's work on femicide and femi-genocide advanced in her most recent German-language book *Femizid*, which will premiere the same day at Volksbühne.

Moderated by **Bruna Santos** (ECCHR trainee) and **Palvasha Shahab** (Bertha Global Exchange Fellow).

With an Oud performance by Alaa Zouiten.

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# Justice across borders: Survivor and civil society perspectives on universal jurisdiction in Germany

DISCUSSION/WORKSHOP 29 JUNE 2022 5 PM MITOSIS LAB SONNENALLEE 69, 12045 BERLIN

Struggles for justice and accountability are not confined by borders. When the gravest crimes are committed – war crimes, genocide, or crimes against humanity – the principle of universal jurisdiction comes into play.

In conjunction with the 20-year anniversary of Germany's universal jurisdiction legislation, ECCHR is gathering some of our long-term and newer partners engaging with German courts in their struggles for justice – from Syria, Belarus, the Gambia and Kashmir – for a critical exchange. Our guests will share updates on the situations in their home countries and reflect on their expectations, hopes, doubts and challenges regarding their efforts in Germany.

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#### PAST EVENTS

Corporate crimes and international criminal law – Moving beyond the Nuremberg Paradigm Conference at the T.M.C. Asser Institute (Netherlands): Recording of the livestream from 18 May 2022

Transnational civil litigation and corporate liability: Mexico v Smith & Wesson With Christian Schliemann-Radbruch (ECCHR) and other experts

#### Reclaim the game

An event organized by Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung with: Piara Powar (FARE), Binda Pandey (Nepalese politician), Julia Bustamante (formerly Olympics and World Cup People's Committee), Ronny Blaschke (journalist), Sebastian Sons (CARPO), Miriam Saage-Maaß (ECCHR) WATCH VIDEO

Is the future of international criminal law domestic? With Catherine Marchi-Uhel (IIIM), Hadi al-Khatib (Syrian Archive), Jeanne Sulzer (Amnesty International), Beth Van Schaack (US Department of State), Andreas Schüller (ECCHR) WATCH VIDEO

Lightning Talk: (III)legitmität von Drohneneinsätzen With Andreas Schüller (ECCHR)

Universal jurisdiction: Controversies and opportunities With Balkees Jarrah (Human Rights Watch), Zachary D Kaufman (University of Houston Law Center), Wolfgang Kaleck (ECCHR) WATCH VIDEO

Menschenrechte und Klimakrise: Der Kampf gegen die Klima-Apartheid

With Miriam Saage-Maaß (ECCHR) WATCH VIDEO

# PUBLICATIONS

ECCHR/Amnesty International/Centre Delàs

Spanish arms exports and alleged war crimes in Yemen: How Spanish arms exports may have facilitated or contributed to international crimes allegedly committed in Yemen, 2015-2021 READ ONLINE

#### Wolfgang Kaleck

Interview: "Die Klagen dienen nicht nur dem Einzelfall", *Prinzip* Apfelbaum 20 READ ONLINE

# Delphine Rodrik

Rights not recognized: Applying the right to recognition as a person before the law to pushbacks at international borders, International Journal of Refugee Law, May 2022 READ ONLINE

#### Silvia Rojas-Castro et al.

En Colombia nos volvimos cifras: Informe para el esclarecimiento de los hechos ocurridos el 9, 10 y 11 de septiembre de 2020 en Bogotá y Soacha READ ONLINE

#### Miriam Saage-Maaß

Veränderte gesellschaftliche und rechtliche Rahmenbedingungen, in Klaus J. Zink (Hrsg.) Arbeit in globalen Lieferketten, vdf Hochschulverlag AG 2022, p. 59-77

#### Miriam Saage-Maaß

Editorial: Ein lange überfälliger Schritt, Zeitschrift für Product Compliance 2/2022, p. 49

# PUBLICATIONS BY ECCHR ALUMN\*

#### Paolo Caroli

Compensation without recognition: The German-Italian dispute over war crime compensation and transitional justice, *Verfassungsblog*, 6 June 2022 READ ONLINE

# Andreas Gutmann/Lilian Löwenbrück

Die Energiecharta ist eine Gefahr für den Klimaschutz, *klimareporter*, 28 April 2022

READ ONLINE

#### Alexandra Lily Kather/Angela Mudukuti

Symposium in Pursuit of Intersectional Justice at the International Criminal Court: Ongwen amici curiae Submissions from a Feminist Collective of Lawyers and Scholars, *OpinioJuris*, 2 May 2022 READ ONLINE

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#### EUROPEAN CENTER FOR CONSTITUTIONAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Zossener Straße 55 – 58 D – 10961 Berlin

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+ 49 30 400 485 90 info@ecchr.eu

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