

Beyond Nuremberg: The Global Search for Accountability

9th Annual Conference of the Historical Dialogues, Justice & Memory Network
NIOD Institute for War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies
Amsterdam
June 9-11, 2022

Call for Papers

Deadline for submissions: January 20, 2022

Over 75 years ago, World War II ended and Europe was liberated from National Socialist rule. It has also now been 75 years since the convening of the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg and the International Military Tribunal for the Far East in Tokyo – the beginning(s) of institutionalized accountability measures for reckoning with crimes against humanity, war crimes, genocide, and massive violations of human rights. Despite the ‘never again’ avowals in the wake of the Holocaust, in this three-quarters of a century, we have witnessed new and recurrent cycles of mass state-sponsored violence that cast a wide geographic net.

Against this backdrop, this conference seeks to explore the extent to which the search for social, political, historical, and legal accountability is still a ‘work in progress’, including lots of ups and downs. In cases where accountability may not be an informing factor, we seek to consider what other assumptions are. Accordingly, we are interested in analyzing civil society initiatives, truth commissions, international and national criminal tribunals, restitution, state-sponsored commemorative activities, and memorialization practices. What successes and failures to substantive progress toward accountability for – and confrontation with – past crimes do these proceedings and/or their legacy reflect? How has this question influenced the perspectives of new generations of government representatives, civil society organizations, the heirs to victims, the heirs to perpetrators? Relatedly, how has the ascent of the global human rights discourse and the search for accountability broadened to encompass: reparations for slavery; the restitution of looted art, intellectual property and human remains; the renaming of institutions, buildings and streets; the removal of memorials, and related measures.

In keeping with the broad focus of the Network, in addition to papers that specifically address these questions regarding the efficacy of justice, accountability, and reconciliation mechanisms, priority will also be given to papers that explore the relationship between memory (individual, transnational, collective, societal) and historical dialogue, and empirical approaches to historical dialogue.

The Historical Dialogues, Justice and Memory Network (www.historicaldialogues.org), coordinated by an international Steering Committee and the Alliance for Historical Dialogue and Accountability (AHDA) of the Institute for the Study of Human Rights at Columbia University, will hold its annual conference on **June 9-11, 2022** at the NIOD Institute for War Holocaust and Genocide Studies in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. We are closely monitoring global and Dutch governmental guidelines and aspire to hold this conference on location in Amsterdam, with live-streaming of the Keynote address of **Professor Ben Kiernan (Yale University)** and any other plenary session. We will observe masking and social distancing guidelines if they are still in effect.

The conference is open to scholars, practitioners, advocates and activists from around the world. The conference language is English, no translation is available. There is no conference registration fee, and no funding for participation will be provided.

Individual Submissions

If you are interested in participating, please **e-mail a 300-500 word abstract, a 2-3 sentence bio, and contact information** to Helen Koekenbier at: H.Koekenbier@niod.knaw.nl **no later than January 20th, 2022**. This material should be sent as a single email attachment. Applications for panels or roundtables are also very welcome.

Panel Submissions

Panels consist of a chair and 3-4 panelists. Panelists should plan to speak for 15 minutes each. Panelists are not asked to circulate their papers in advance. If you are interested in submitting a panel, please provide a title for the panel and a brief overview of the theme or question that the panel will explore. Participants should also provide a title, a 300-500 word abstract for their presentation, and 2-3 sentence bio with their contact information. These materials should be submitted as a single email attachment to: H.Koekenbier@niod.knaw.nl.

Roundtables

Roundtable sessions consist of 4-5 discussants and a moderator, who participates more fully in the session than a panel chair in a traditional panel. Participants in roundtables do not present or read formal papers, but rather engage in a discussion or exchange about a specific question, text, or issue. The focus of discussion must be clearly articulated in the abstract, and participants are expected to prepare their remarks in advance, even if the nature of a roundtable is less formal than a traditional panel. If you are interested in submitting a roundtable abstract, please include the title of the roundtable, a description (300-500 words) of the issue or question to be discussed, and a list of participants with a brief bio for each person listed, including contact information for each participant. These materials should be submitted as a single email attachment to: H.Koekenbier@niod.knaw.nl.