

Invitation

Accountability for the war crime of starvation of civilians

Wednesday, 30 October 2019, 1.15 – 2.30 p.m., CR 7, United Nations, New York

The starvation of civilians is a dark reality of armed conflicts around the world. 60% of the more than 800 million people that suffer from hunger live in conflict zones.

Intentionally using starvation of civilians as a method of warfare is prohibited under international humanitarian law and considered a crime. However, the Rome Statute only penalizes this conduct as a war crime in international armed conflict.

To allow the International Criminal Court to prosecute the intentional starvation of civilians as a war crime irrespective of the nature of the conflict, Switzerland proposes to amend the Rome Statute. States Parties to the Statute are currently considering the proposal in view of its potential adoption this December.

This side event aims at discussing the humanitarian problem of starvation of civilians in armed conflicts, the international response and the amendment proposal to the Rome Statute.



Panel:

- **Alex de Waal**, Research professor at The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Executive Director of the World Peace Foundation
- **Nathalie Weizmann**, Senior Legal Officer, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
- **Catriona Murdoch**, Senior Legal Consultant, Global Rights Compliance

Introduction and moderation by **Ambassador Corinne Cicéron Bühler**, Director of the Directorate of International Law, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland

A light lunch will be offered next to the Vienna Café.

This side event is co-sponsored by:

