Side event to the United Nations Human Rights Council 39th Session

Mass starvation: analysis and accountability for the international crime of starvation

12 September 2018 1400 – 1500
Room XXV, Palais des Nations
Avenue de la Paix 8–14, 1211 Genève

An expert panel is to discuss the important distinction between famines and the international criminal law (ICL) crime of using starvation as a method of warfare, as well as the nexus between conflict-induced hunger and the same crime. Panellists will also discuss the ICL crime of starvation, analysing the elements of the offence, the gaps and constraints in the existing law, whether the current legal framework is sufficient to prosecute individuals for international crimes of starvation and other challenges to accountability. Furthermore, an overview of the type of information needed to mount a successful investigation and prosecution, or alternative accountability measures with regards to the crime of starvation, will be discussed, with the objective to foster a better understanding of challenges to investigations and to promote compliance with ICL and international humanitarian law (IHL).

MODERATOR
Federica D’Alessandra
Executive Director, Oxford Program on International Peace and Security;
Co-Chair, IBA War Crimes Committee

SPEAKERS
Brian Lander
Deputy Director, World Food Program

Wayne Jordash QC
Managing Partner of Global Rights Compliance

Emanuela Chiara Gillard
European University Institute

Her Excellency
Monique T G van Daalen
Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Geneva
(Introductory remarks)

Hilal Elver
United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food
(Keynote remarks via video link)