

The rights of Victims under International Criminal Justice

Erinda DURAJ (MALE)

BOZO & Associates

Abstract

The goal of this paper is to examine the role of victims before the ICC criminal justice system by giving a general overview of their role and participation.

It also focuses on examining some specific rights of victims before international criminal court such as right to participation, the right to protection and the right to reparations which represent one of the greatest advances made by the international criminal justice system and a significant challenge that the Court has already faced in its early hearings.

The right of victims to participate in the proceedings of the Court, as being the primary right granted by the Statute, shall be a crucial topic in this paper. Explanation will be given during this study regarding the various elements that need to be considered to understand the scope of this right, as well as when this right will be exercised.

Therefore, through this paper a specific attention shall have the right of victims to legal representation before the Court and how to guarantee the independency by the Court of the representatives. Finally, some conclusions and recommendation will be given at the end of this paper concerning how to improve victims access and participation in the International Criminal Court proceedings.

Keywords: *ICC, Victims, penal law, rights.*

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