

FOREWORD

Genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes are some of the most heinous international crimes leaving countless victims and devastated countries in their wake. In the last decade not only has there been increased pressure on the part of the international community to address these crimes directly at the international level, but also a new-found political will to establish international courts and tribunals, rather than relying solely on the investigation and prosecution by states in domestic courts and inter-state cooperation through extradition and other forms of mutual assistance.

In this volume, Dr. Geert-Jan Alexander Knoops provides a detailed comparative analysis of the Statutes, Rules of Procedure and Evidence of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, the recently operative International Criminal Court, as well some commentary on the emerging concept of *ad hoc* internationalized or mixed courts such as the Special Court for Sierra Leone, the *ad hoc* Cambodia Tribunal, the UNTAET (East Timor) Serious Crimes Panel, and the Kosovo Internationalized Panels.

In so doing, Dr. Knoops provides a book that brings together in a succinct and cogent package the substantive and procedural law of these tribunals and courts. Further drawing on his previous works, *Defenses in Contemporary International Criminal Law* (Transnational Publishers, 2001) and *Surrendering to International Criminal Courts: Contemporary Practice and Procedures* (Transnational Publishers, 2002), Dr. Knoops details the modes of international cooperation necessary for surrender as well as defenses available to accused persons.

Dr. Knoops has brought to bear in his writing his expertise as a leading criminal lawyer in The Netherlands and his practical experience in the European Court of Human Rights and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. This book will prove an invaluable resource to both practioners and students of international criminal law.

Sharon A. Williams
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