

THE BERLIN CONFERENCE
ON
MYANMAR GENOCIDE
(To be webcast LIVE)
26th February 2018

The conference aims to inform the German civil society and European public about the on-going genocide of Rohingya people in Myanmar/Burma. It is hoped that the conference will be able to help influence public opinion, which in turn will demand that the EU leaders take their shared political and human responsibility to make the call: “Never again!” a reality.

The conference categorically rejects the view that only a UN-authorized tribunal can decide whose collective sufferings and which acts of violence and destruction amount to genocide. Five independent academic and legal studies of Myanmar’s persecution and plight of the Rohingya - including the Permanent Peoples Tribunal on Myanmar, the United State Holocaust Memorial Museum, Allard K. Lowenstein International Human Rights Clinic at Yale Law School, the International State Crime Initiative of Queen Mary University of London and the Pacific Rim Law and Policy Journal of the University of Washington School of Law - have arrived at a single common conclusion: There is “mounting evidence of a genocide” against the Rohingya!

Registration: 08:30 – 09:00

Welcome Remarks by Convenor and Host

9:00 – 9:10

Prof. Dr. María do Mar Castro Varela

Professor of Pedagogy and Social Work, Alice Salomon University,
Berlin

Opening Remarks by

Margarete Bause, Member of Deutscher Bundestag (The Greens)

& Full Member, the Commission on Human Rights and Humanitarian Aid

9:10 – 9:15

Laetitia van den Assum, Former Ambassador of the Netherlands
Member of the Advisory Commission for Rakhine State (2016-2017)
(videotaped remarks from Africa)

09:15 – 09:20

Keynote Address I

09:20 – 09:40

Prof. Dr. Rainer Schulze

Professor Emeritus in Modern European History, University of Essex,
Colchester, United Kingdom

& Founding Editor, The Journal of Holocaust in History and Memory

Keynote II

09:40 – 10:05

Professor Yanghee Lee

UN Special Rapporteur on human rights situation in Myanmar (2014- 1
Feb. 2018), Professor of Child Psychology and Education,
Sungkyunkwan University, Seoul

& Founding President of the International Center for Child Rights
Foundation, Republic of Korea

(via Skype from Seoul with Q and A)

PANELS *[All panels are plenary]*

Panel I

Rohingyas speak for themselves

10:05 – 11:00

Chair: **Chowdury Abrar**, Professor of International Relations, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh

Ro Nay San Lwin, renowned citizen-journalist who runs Rohinger Blogger site

Dr. Ro Hla Kyaw, Rohingya medical doctor and Chair, European Rohingya Council, The Netherlands

Sultana Razia, Rohingya lawyer, teacher and researcher, Chittagong, Bangladesh

Ro Tun Khin, Rohingya engineer and President of Burmese Rohingya Organization UK

Refreshments Break 11:00 – 11:20

Panel II

Burmese for an Inclusive, Multiculturalist Society

11:20 – 12:15

Chair: **Harn Yawng hwe**, Executive Director

Euro-Burma Office/ADDB Inc., Canada

Aye Aye Dun

Ph.D. student in English with a focus on Asian American,

postcolonial, and religious studies, Brown University

& co-founder of Saddha: Buddhists for Peace, Burmese American interfaith and interethnic solidarity group

Khin Mai Aung, civil rights lawyer and writer, New York

Ko Aung, former political prisoner, founding member of the All Burma Federation of Student Union in 1988

& Visiting Fellow, London South Bank University Department of Law

Lunch Break 12:15 – 13:30

The Genocide Roundtable

13:30 – 14:25

Chair: **John Packer**, Associate Professor of Law, Director, Human Rights Research and Education Centre, University of Ottawa & former legal adviser to the 1st UN Special Rapporteur to Myanmar in 1992

Gianni Tognoni, Physician and General Secretary,

The Permanent Peoples Tribunal Secretariat, Rome

Penny Green, Professor of Law and Globalization & Director of International State Crime Initiative, Queen Mary University of London

Dr Maung Zarni, Burmese activist, scholar, & “Enemy of the State”
Genocide Documentation Center of Cambodia/The Sleuk Rith Institute

Mofidul Hoque,

Director, Center for the Study of Genocide and Justice

Liberation War Museum, Bangladesh

SPECIAL APPEARANCE

14:30 – 15:00

Irwin Cotler (P.C., O.C.)

Founder and Chair of the Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights,
Emeritus Professor of Law at McGill University, former Member of
Parliament, former Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada

(video-recorded or via Skype, with Q and A)

Refreshments Break 15:00 – 15:20

Panel III

Historical, Human Rights, and International Perspectives

15:20 – 15:15

Chair: **Khin Mai Aung**

Michael Charney, Professor of S. E. Asia
and Military History. SOAS, London

Karen Jungblut, Director of Global Initiatives, USC Shoah Foundation,
University of Southern California

Chowdhury Abrar, Professor of International Relations,
University of Dhaka

& Convener of Dhaka Conference on Ending Myanmar's Slow Burning
Genocide

Hon. David Kilgour, former Canadian Secretary of State for Asia-Pacific
& Nobel Peace Prize nominee

Panel IV

European Perspectives

15:15 – 16:10

Chair: **Prof. Dr. María do Mar Castro Varela**, Alice Salomon University,
Berlin

Prof. Dr. Beate Rudolf, Director of the German Institute for Human
Rights and Chairperson of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights
Institutions (GANHRI)

Andreas Schüller, Director of the International Crimes and
Accountability Program, the European Center for Constitutional and
Human Rights (ECCHR)

Dr. Thomas Seibert, International Director for Human Rights in Turkey,
Syria and South Asia, medico international, Germany

Special Session

**Scenarios for International Accountability and Justice for
the Rohingya**

(via skype from Chicago with Q and A)

16:15 – 16:45

Ambassador David Scheffer, U.S. Ambassador at Large for War Crimes Issues (1997-2001), Mayer Brown/Robert A. Heiman Professor of Law & Director, Center for International Human Rights, Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law

Refreshments Break 16:45 – 17:00

ROUNDTABLE II

Ending Myanmar Genocide: What needs to be done?

17:00 – 17: 55

Chair: **Dr. Maung Zarni**

Harn Yawngwe, Euro-Burma/ADDB Inc.

Andreas Schüller, Director of the International Crimes and Accountability Program, the European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR)

Mofidul Hoque, Founding Trustee Bangladesh's National Liberation War Museum

Dr. Ro Hla Kyaw, Chair, European Rohingya Council (ERC)

Kyle Matthews, Executive Director, The Montreal Institute of Genocide and Human Rights Studies, Canada

CLOSING KEYNOTE ADDRESS

18:00 – 18:30

Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak

University Professor in Humanities and Human Rights Activist, Columbia University,
New York

A quiet procession from Brandenburg Gate to the Memorial for the Murdered Jews of Europe and Candlelight Vigil in memory of victims of all past genocides and crimes against humanity

Venue:

W. M. Blumenthal Academy/Jewish Museum
Fromet-und-Moses-Mendelssohn-Platz 1, 10969 Berlin, Germany
<https://www.jmberlin.de/w-michael-blumenthal-akademie>

Further info & RSVP: BerlinConferencMyanmarGenocide@gmail.com

The conference's co-sponsors include:

The Jewish Museum of Berlin, Germany

Alice Salomon University, Berlin, Germany

Institute for Comparative Literature and Society, Columbia University, New York

Center for the Study of Genocide and Justice of Liberation War Museum, Bangladesh

Genocide Watch, USA

Human Rights Research and Education Centre, University of Ottawa

Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights, Canada

Montreal Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies, Concordia University, Canada

Euro-Burma Office/ADDB Inc., Canada

*Genocide Documentation Center of Cambodia (DC-Cam)/The Sleuk Rith Institute
Center for International Human Rights, Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law, USA*