

Press Release

3 May 2017

ICSF presents 3 papers on ICT at the YCC Global Conference in Istanbul

A three member panel of International Crimes Strategy Forum (ICSF) recently presented three papers on the International Crimes Tribunal of Bangladesh (ICT-BD) at the Sixth Annual YCC Global Conference. Organized by the Younger Comparativists Committee (YCC) of the American Society of Comparative Law, the conference took place at the Koç University Law School in Istanbul, Turkey between April 28-29, 2017 bringing together over 100 scholars from all over the world.

The purpose of the conference was to highlight, develop, and promote the scholarship of new and younger comparativists in a diverse range of legal topics. The exclusive ICSF panel was titled *'International Crimes Tribunals (ICTs) of Bangladesh Through the Prism of Comparative Law'* and was chaired by Dr Işık Önay, a member of faculty at the Koç University Law School.

ICSF Trustee Dr Rayhan Rashid presented the first paper titled: *'Prescription versus Obligation to Import Foreign Norms: The Case of the ICTs of Bangladesh.'* Bahzad Joarder, a graduate of the University of Birmingham presented the second paper titled *'Prosecuting Crimes Against Humanity at the ICTs of Bangladesh.'* M Sanjeeb Hossain, a Trustee of ICSF and Doctoral Candidate of the Warwick Law School, presented the third paper titled: *'Trials in absentia at the ICTs of Bangladesh: Jurisprudence and Commentary'*. It is worth mentioning that all three presenters were supported by scholarships offered by the American Society of Comparative Law and Koç University.

Founded in 1951, the American Society of Comparative Law is the world's premier organization relating to study of comparative law. Given the reputation of the organizers and the participants, this was a very important opportunity for ICSF to present the case of the ICT-BD to a diverse international audience, especially given the level of misinformation and misconception spread against this justice process by those opposed to it. During the course of the conference, and especially during the presentations, a number of misconceptions were cleared, while important clarifications on the justice process were provided on prevalent confusions.

ICSF is an independent global network of academics, experts and activists working in the interest of justice for the victims of international crimes and has long campaigned for the recognition of the Bangladesh Genocide and holding trials of its perpetrators.