



INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT AT 20



Reflections on the Past,
Present and the Future

Priya Gopalan

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Priya Gopalan is a Malaysian lawyer specialising in international criminal law, human rights law and gender. Her professional experiences include the Balkans, Ukraine, Sri Lanka, Syria, and The Gambia. She has conducted strategic litigation, developed best practices for investigating and prosecuting sexual violence and operationalised transitional justice measures such as reparations for survivors of sexual violence.

Priya has held a variety of positions in the field of transitional justice and accountability. She was a prosecutor and appeals counsel at the UN

International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. Here, she played a leading role in cases that set progressive legal precedents for conflict-related sexual violence (Djordjević and Sainović et al.). She served as the first Legal Advisor for sexual and gender-based crimes at the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism for Syria (the IIIM Syria). She was Gender Advisor for the UN Investigation on Sri Lanka and Senior Advisor to the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission of The Gambia.

In 2021, Priya was appointed by the UN Human Rights Council to the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, as the member from the Asia-Pacific region. She holds a LL.M in Public International Law (Distinction) from the London School of Economics and Political Science and a B.A. Jurisprudence (Hons) from the University of Oxford, where she was a UK Commonwealth Chevening Scholar from Malaysia.