In the history of international law, the socialist bloc has been generally relegated to the role of roadblock in fulfilling the ideals of Western liberalism. This conference seeks to question established narratives that have ignored or downplayed the role of state-socialist governments and legal experts in shaping the evolution of international criminal and humanitarian law after the end of the Second World War. With a geographic scope covering the Soviet Union, the Eastern Bloc, Africa, and China, the conference explores the socialist world’s doctrines and international engagements concerning the codification of different international crimes [including crimes against peace, the crimes of aggression, Apartheid, terrorism, slavery, narcotics trafficking and more], approaches to humanitarian intervention, and the relationship between state sovereignty and international law. The conference advances the idea that rather than simply block progress, socialist initiatives played a vital role in the production of norms and ideas that continue to be relevant for the current international criminal and humanitarian legal system.

**ADRESSES**

Conference venue: Humboldt University of Berlin
Unter den Linden 6
10117 Berlin
room 2249a

Motel One – Berlin-Hauptbahnhof
Invalidenstraße 54
10557 Berlin

Restaurant »Zwölf Apostel«
S-Bahnbögen 177–180
Georgenstraße 2
10117 Berlin

**PROJECTS**

1989 after 1989: Rethinking the Fall of State Socialism in Global Perspective [Exeter]
- James Mark
- Raluca Grosescu
- Ned Richardson-Little

Processes of juridification in international relations since 1850 [Leipzig]
- Stefan Troebst
- Dietmar Müller

Jurists in International Politics. Practice and Practitioners of International Law in the 19th and 20th Century [Berlin]
- Marcus Payk

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**Abb:** Geneva Conventions – signing in 1949, British Red Cross.
Quelle: www.flickr.com, Lizenz: CC By 2.0

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**

STATE SOCIALISM, LEGAL EXPERTS AND THE GENESIS OF INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL AND HUMANITARIAN LAW AFTER 1945

24 – 26 November 2016

Humboldt University of Berlin
**THURSDAY, 24 NOVEMBER**

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<td>14.45–15.15</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<td>15.15–17.00</td>
<td><strong>PANEL 1</strong>&lt;br&gt;ICL &amp; IHL IN SOCIALIST LEGAL DOCTRINES&lt;br&gt;Chair / Discussant: Bill Bowring&lt;br&gt;[Birkbeck University of London]&lt;br&gt;Deconstructing the statist concept of international criminal law&lt;br&gt;Gleb Bogush [University of Moscow]&lt;br&gt;Maria Varaki [University of Istanbul]&lt;br&gt;Socialist Legal Doctrines and International Criminal and Humanitarian Law&lt;br&gt;Arno Trültzsch [GWZO Leipzig]&lt;br&gt;The Perestroika of International Criminal Law&lt;br&gt;Mikkel Jarle Christensen [University of Copenhagen]</td>
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<td>17.15–18.15</td>
<td>Light Dinner</td>
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**FRIDAY, 25 NOVEMBER**

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<td><strong>PANEL 2</strong>&lt;br&gt;STATE SOCIALIST CONTRIBUTIONS TO AND CRITIQUES OF THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS&lt;br&gt;Chair / Discussant: Jan Zofka [GWZO Leipzig]&lt;br&gt;The Socialist Bloc and the Geneva Conventions, 1945–1949&lt;br&gt;Boyd van Dijk [European University Institute, Florence]</td>
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<td>14.00–16.00</td>
<td><strong>PANEL 4</strong>&lt;br&gt;STATE SOCIALIST CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL LAW&lt;br&gt;Chair / Discussant: Moritz Vormbaum&lt;br&gt;[Humboldt University of Berlin]&lt;br&gt;The Human Face of Soviet justice? Aron Trainin and the origins of the Soviet Doctrine of International Criminal Law&lt;br&gt;Valentyna Polunina [University of Heidelberg]&lt;br&gt;The Soviets’ Role in the Conceptualisation of the Crime of Aggression&lt;br&gt;Kirsten Sellars [The Chinese University of Hong Kong]&lt;br&gt;The 1968 UN Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations for International Crimes&lt;br&gt;Raluca Grosescu [University of Exeter]</td>
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<td>16.00–16.30</td>
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**SATURDAY, 26 NOVEMBER**

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<td>10.00–12.00</td>
<td><strong>PANEL 6</strong>&lt;br&gt;ICL IN STATE SOCIALIST NATIONAL SETTINGS&lt;br&gt;Chair / Discussant: Kerstin von Lingen&lt;br&gt;[Heidelberg University]&lt;br&gt;International Criminal Law and Human Rights Categories in China&lt;br&gt;Ryan Mitchell [Yale University]&lt;br&gt;Safety First: The East German regime’s embrace of socialist legality, crime prevention, and socialist legal internationalism from the 1960s to the 80s&lt;br&gt;Sebastian Gehrig [University of Oxford]&lt;br&gt;The Implementation of International Criminal Law in the Hungarian Legal System&lt;br&gt;Tamás Hoffman [Hungarian Academy of Science]</td>
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<td>12.00–12.30</td>
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<td>Concluding Remarks</td>
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