

The International Criminal Court

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A New International Institution

The establishment of the International Criminal Court was provided for by the 1998 Rome Statute (ratified in 2003). Those countries that have ratified the Rome Statute (known as the States Parties) accept the jurisdiction of the ICC to hear cases of war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide.

The ICC is the first permanent institution to carry out such trials. Prior to its establishment a number of ad-hoc trials and tribunals were set-up by the international community to prosecute such crimes.

Understanding Institutional Change: A Gender Perspective

