



CSV The Centre for the Study of
Violence and Reconciliation

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Press Release
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Continental Transitional Justice Forum: The State of Transitional Justice in Africa

The Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation (CSV) and the African Union Commission – Department of Political Affairs (AUC-DPA), are co-hosting a Continental Forum on Transitional Justice in Africa titled “The State of Transitional Justice in Africa”, a first in a series of annual continental convenings to address transitional justice issues on the continent. The Forum will take place on 19-21 October 2017 at The Capital 20 West, Johannesburg.

Among other things, the Forum seeks to provide a platform to take stock of the status of transitional justice in Africa and to identify and discuss the various issues that require further in-depth study for filling the gaps in existing knowledge. The Forum also creates a space to explore new opportunities to build collaboration across different sectors to guide and strengthen the transitional justice policy and interventions. The Continental Forum brings together scholars, policy researchers, practitioners, policy makers and representatives of civil society organisations. Through sharing lessons across these sectors and between countries, we hope to improve how societies respond to mass human rights violations and legacies of authoritarian rule.

The Continental Forum will have the following focus:

- Evaluating the discourse on transitional justice in Africa – tracing the trajectory of the discourse on transitional justice in Africa, examining the lessons from various African experiences on the limits of the mainstream discourse on transitional justice and articulating an African conception of TJ;
- Balancing peace, justice and reconciliation – looking at African experiences in reconciling the competing objectives of transitional justice;
- The weight and relevance of contexts in formulating TJ mechanisms in Africa - focusing on how contextual realities have either enabled or hindered the successful application of TJ in Africa;
- Traditional/community-based justice in transitional justice in Africa – analyzing how traditional/community-based justice/healing/reconciliation serves as inspiration and a mechanism for transitional justice; and

CSV is a multi-disciplinary institute involved in research, policy formation, community interventions, service delivery, education and training, as well as providing consultancy services. The primary goal of CSV is to use its expertise in building reconciliation, democracy and a human rights culture and in preventing violence in South Africa and in other countries in Africa.

Board: Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Mpilo Tutu (Patron), Tefo Raditapole (Chairperson), Nomfundo Mogapi (Executive Director) Nontsikelelo Sisulu-Singapi, Judge Fayeza Kathree-Setiloane, Nokukhanya Ntuli, Prudence Malefu Madlokazi

- CSOs' contribution to shaping, promoting and challenging TJ norms in Africa – exploring how CSOs have initiated, shaped and facilitated transitional justice processes in Africa.

For your information please consult the relevant media platforms:

Twitter: @_CSV ; @AUC_DPA

Facebook: Transitional Justice in Africa Forum 2017

Hashtag for the Conference: #TJinAfricaForum2017

Website: www.TJinAfrica.com (the website will go live on 19 October 2017)

Issued by the Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation.

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