

JUDGE FAUSTO POCAR

International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia

Born: 21 February 1939, Milan, Italy

Fausto Pocar is Professor of International Law at the Law Faculty of the University of Milan, where he has also served as the Dean of the Faculty of Political Sciences and as the Vice-Rector. As of 1 February 2000, he has been a Judge of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) in The Hague. He was re-elected for a four year term by the General Assembly of the United Nations, as of 16 November 2001, and subsequently re-elected for another term, expiring November 2009.

Since his appointment, he has served first as a Judge in a Trial Chamber, where he sat on the first case concerned with rape as a crime against humanity, and later in the Appeals Chamber of the Tribunal, where he is still sitting. As a Judge of the Appeals Chamber, he is also a Judge of the Appeals Chamber of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR). On appeal, he has participated in the adoption of the final judgments in several ICTY and ICTR cases, heard both at The Hague and in Arusha, Tanzania. From March 2003 and 17 November 2005, he served as Vice-President of the ICTY.

Judge Pocar also has a long standing experience in United Nations activities, in particular in the field of human rights and humanitarian law. He has served for 16 years (1984-2000) as a member of the Human Rights Committee under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and has been its Chairman (1991-92) and Rapporteur (1989-90). Further, he was appointed Special Representative of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights for visits to Chechnya and the Russian Federation during the first conflict in 1995 and 1996. He has also chaired the informal working group that drafted, within the Commission on Human Rights, the Declaration on the rights of people belonging to national or ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities, that was adopted in 1992 by the General Assembly. He has also been for a decade the Italian delegate to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its Legal Subcommittee.

Judge Pocar is the author of numerous publications on International Law, including human rights and humanitarian law, Private International Law and European Law. He has lectured at The Hague Academy of International Law and is a member and treasurer of the “Institut de Droit International”, as well as a member of several other international law associations.