



IVORIAN JUSTICE AND REPRESSION OF SERIOUS CRIMES OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW: BETWEEN PROGRESS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The commission of serious crimes during international or non-international armed conflict entails the individual criminal responsibility of the perpetrators. International humanitarian law (IHL) therefore requires states parties to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their additional Protocols of 1977 to prosecute and punish the perpetrators of crimes defined as grave breaches. Between 2002 and 2011, during the decade of politico-military crisis that it experienced, Côte d'Ivoire recorded sequences of conflict that fall under the qualification of internal armed conflict. Hence the obligation for the State of Côte d'Ivoire, which is a party to the relevant IHL conventions, to organise national repression in line with its treaty commitments, alongside the international repression organised by the International Criminal Court. Despite a national legal framework that has been adapted accordingly, the organisation of the repression of serious crimes by the ivoorian justice system, as it has been carried out to date, has weaknesses that do not guarantee a satisfactory response to the end of impunity.