

How to Repair Historical Injustice?

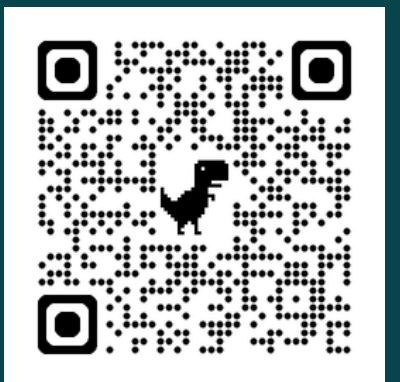
Dialogics of Justice (NWO-VICI)

Final Conference
15-17 April 2026, Utrecht



Program & register for free:

April 15 – **Kick Off Night** @ BAK Basecamp
April 16 – **Day 1** @ UvH
April 17 – **Day 2** @ UvH



DIALOGICS
OF JUSTICE



UvH
University of
Humanistic Studies

THE
NUHANOVIC
FOUNDATION
CENTRE FOR WAR REPARATIONS

bak
BASECAMP

17.00 **Walk-in**

17.30 **Welcome**

BAK Basecamp & Joke van Saane (*Rector, University of Humanistic Studies*)

How to repair historical injustice?

Introduction 'Dialogics of Justice'

Nicole Immler (*Prof. Historical Memory and Transformative Justice, University of Humanistic Studies*)

On the momentum of fighting historical violence & injustice with civil law

Liesbeth Zegveld (*Prof. War Reparations, University of Amsterdam*)

'My Justice Journey' Introduction

Hope Rikkelman (*Director, Nuhanovic Foundation*)

On their justice journey: an intergenerational dialogue

Hasan Nuhanović (*Former Translator for United Nations in Srebrenica*)
& his daughter Nasiha Nuhanović (*Legal Professional*)

Q & A

Wouter Veraart (*Prof. Legal Theory and Legal History, Free University Amsterdam*)

20.00 **Drinks & food**

- 9.30-10.00 **Walk-in**
- 10.00-10.30 **Introduction in 'Dialogics of Justice'**
Nicole Immler (*Prof. Historical Memory and Transformative Justice, University of Humanistic Studies*)
- 10.30-12.00 **Panel: War violence by the State – Genocide in Srebrenica & Responsibility**
- Sabina Tanović (*Architect and commemoration-expert, Delft University of Technology*)
 - Samra Čardaković (*Legal advisor, TRIAL International, Bosnia*)
 - Alma Mustafić (*Lecturer-researcher and genocide-expert, Utrecht University of Applied Sciences*)
 - Moderator: Niké Wentholt (*Assist. Prof. Transitional Justice, University of Humanistic Studies*)
- 12.00-13.00 **Lunch**
- 13.00-14.30 **Panel: Institutional abuse by the Church: Redressing Ripple Effects**
- James Gallen (*Assoc. Prof., School of Law and Government, Dublin City University*)
 - Annemie Knibbe (*Co-founder, Woman's Platform for Church Child Abuse, VPKK*)
 - Naomi Ormskerk (*PhD candidate, University of Humanistic Studies*)
 - Moderator: Maarten Kunst (*Prof. Criminology, Leiden University*)
- 14.30-15.00 **Break**
- 15.00-16.30 **Panel: Environmental & human rights violations by Multinationals**
- Chima Williams (*Barrister, Executive Director of Environmental Defenders Network*)
 - Victoria Bera (*Claimant, court case against Shell*)
 - Obiozo Ukpabi (*PhD candidate, University of Humanistic Studies*)
 - Moderator: Paul Gready (*Prof., Director Centre for Applied Human Rights, University of York*)
- 16.30-17.00 **Break**
- 17.00-17.30 **Performing Relationality**
Lily Abichahine (*Artist and lawyer, Beirut/Paris*)
- 17.30 **Drinks**

9.00-9.30 **Walk-in**

9.30-11.00 **Panel: Archiving as Transitional Justice?**

- Julia Viebach (*Lecturer Criminology, Queen's University Belfast*)
- Fady Asleh (*Director, Khazaaen, Palestine Community Archive, East-Jerusalem*)
- Leah Niederhausen (*PhD candidate, University of Humanistic Studies*)
- Siri Driessen (*Assist. Prof., Historical Memory & Moral Imagination, University of Humanistic Studies*)
- Moderator: Sandra Rios Oyola (*Assist. Prof., Sociology, University College Roosevelt*)

11.00-11.30 **Break**

11.30-12.30 **Workshop: Bridging Academia and Activism: From Assumptions to Alliances**

- Nour Aabu-Assab (*Co-founder/director Centre for Transnational Development and Collaboration CTDC, London/Jerusalem*)
- Carla Boulos (*Gender justice activist and PhD candidate, University of Humanistic Studies*)
- Rosa Mul (*Emotion Networking facilitator and Project Assistant, University of Humanistic Studies*)

12.30-13.30 **Lunch**

13.30-15.00 **Panel: Dialogics of Justice Findings & Translation into Practices: On the Logics of Harm and of Repair**

- Niké Wentholt (*Assist. Prof., University of Humanistic Studies*)
- Elvira Loibl (*Endowed Prof. Recognition, Dialogue, and Recovery After Intercountry Adoption, University of Humanistic Studies/Maastricht University*)
- Joandi Hartendorp (*L & L Sensitive History Education Advice*)
- Nina Huygen (*Ambassador Recognition and Repair, Ministry Interior and Kingdom Relations*)

15.00-15.30 **Break**

15.30-17.00 **Round table: Transformative justice – where to? Co-creating a research agenda**

- Paul Gready (*Prof. University of York*) & our (inter)national guest speakers
- Moderator: Nanci Adler (*Prof. Memory, History and Transitional Justice, The NIOD Institute for War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies*)

17.00 **Drinks**

Panel: War violence by the State – Genocide in Srebrenica & Responsibility

- Sabina Tanović (*Architect and commemoration-expert, Delft University of Technology*)
- Samra Čardaković (*Legal advisor, TRIAL International, Bosnia*)
- Alma Mustafić (*Lecturer-researcher and genocide-expert, Utrecht University of Applied Sciences*)
- Moderator: Niké Wentholt (*Assist. Prof. Transitional Justice, University of Humanistic Studies*)

In July 1995, the Bosnian-Serb army committed a genocide on the Bosniak (Bosnian Muslim) community in Srebrenica, part of a wider genocidal campaign targeted at the whole Bosniak population of Bosnia. In Srebrenica, Dutch troops were present as part of the United Nations peacekeeping mission.

Relatives of the killed have since tried and succeeded in holding the Dutch state and military accountable. Three major civil court cases by Hasan Nuhanović, the family Mustafić, and the Mothers of Srebrenica against the Dutch state have challenged the Dutch official narrative. In the Dialogics of Justice-project we started from these court cases to ask bigger questions about responsibility and (experiences of) repair. How did the court cases contribute to or interfere with the process of reparations for the genocide? How did it confront the Dutch state and society with questions of political responsibility? How does the compensation enforced by the court for individual claimants and sharply delineated groups relate to the experienced collective nature of the harm? In this panel, we also look at the wider legal and societal context by including at the role of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), both internationally and within the Dutch reality and imaginary of responsibility and repair. We will explore how the ICTY building can function as a monument. We also zoom out, taking a transnational perspective, and ask how the ICTY-trials can impact repair in Bosnia.

Panel: Institutional abuse by the Church: Redressing Ripple Effects

- James Gallen (*Assoc. Prof., School of Law and Government, Dublin City University*)
- Annemie Knibbe (*Co-founder, Woman's Platform for Church Child Abuse, VPKK*)
- Naomi Ormskerk (*PhD candidate, University of Humanistic Studies*)
- Moderator: Maarten Kunst (*Prof. Criminology, Leiden University*)

In 2010, widespread abuse in Dutch Catholic institutions sparked public outrage and led to redress mechanisms focused on individual complaints and compensation. While important for acknowledging victim-survivors, these measures also raise questions about justice for the broader impact of historical institutional abuse by Catholic clergy; on families, communities, social relationships and society at large. This panel reviews legal, social, and empirical aspects of recognition, redress, and accountability, discussing the role of civil litigation, and the ripple-effects of clerical abuse and redress on individuals and communities. It explores how justice claims are pursued, negotiated and contested at individual and institutional levels. Comparing lessons learned from different forms of abuse, including forced labor of former pupils of the Congregation of the Good Shepherd. How can responses to historical institutional abuse by clergy be understood through a transitional justice lens, and what would it mean to move towards transformative justice? How can legal processes address collective, relational and long-term harms; and what are their limits in doing so? When does redress lead to meaningful recognition and when does it fall short?

Panel: Environmental & human rights violations by Multinationals

- Chima Williams (*Barrister, Executive Director of Environmental Defenders Network*)
- Victoria Bera (*Claimant, court case against Shell*)
- Obiozo Ukpabi (*PhD candidate, University of Humanistic Studies*)
- Moderator: Paul Gready (*Prof., Director Centre for Applied Human Rights, University of York*)

Residents of the Niger Delta have sued multinational oil and gas company Shell for environmental harm and human rights violations. Netherlands-based advocacy organisations supported the affected residents in their endeavour, together with local civil society. Within this transnational justice alliance multiple ideas and narratives of the harm experienced and what should be done about it interact, through dynamic processes which have been conceptualised in social movement and human rights scholarship as travel, translation and transformation. The Dialogics of Justice project investigated how resulting strategies of (un)making distance were used by both claimants and defendants. It too presented an analysis of practices of assemblage as a way for claimants to seek redress. What implications do these processes have for the environmental justice agenda of different stakeholders and their chances of achieving meaningful redress? And how can strategic transnational litigation contribute to, or hinder the kinds of conversations that are needed to transform the complex legacy of oil in the Niger Delta? What is the impact of such a court case, both on the lived experiences of those directly involved in it, and in terms of achieving sustainable change and justice?

Performing Relationality

Lily Abichahine (*Artist and lawyer, Beirut/Paris*)

An artist monologue, reflecting on the Dialogics of Justice research, performing relationality between the different forms of historical injustices, tracing how narratives shift, how historical injustices are named, denied, and redefined within Dutch civil courts. Blending fact and fiction, the personal and the political, the work moves between testimony and imagination, where legal records fracture and embodied voices emerge. A monologue on institutionalized violence, memory, and the politics of recognition. How does language shape justice and what remains unresolved?

Panel: Archiving as Transitional Justice?

- Julia Viebach (*Lecturer Criminology, Queen's University Belfast*)
- Fady Asleh (*Director, Khazaaen, Palestine Community Archive, East-Jerusalem*)
- Leah Niederhausen (*PhD candidate, University of Humanistic Studies*)
- Siri Driessen (*Assist. Prof., Historical Memory & Moral Imagination, University of Humanistic Studies*)
- Moderator: Sandra Rios Oyola (*Assist. Prof., Sociology, University College Roosevelt*)

What is the role of the archive in transitional justice? To what extent can archives be transformative? How can we move from static academic archival practices to a more dynamic approach that ensures that narrations are listened to and acted upon? And what can we learn from community archives on archiving practices as (re)forms of resistance and repair? In this panel, we reflect on the notions of Transitional and Community Archives. We explore how connecting (oral) histories of different groups and recognition claims through the lens of the archive could contribute to a more structural approach to repair and justice. In thinking along rather than against the archive, we discuss whose voices are included in the archive, whose stories can be told, and our responsibility as researchers to imagine and enable just archiving processes.

Workshop: Bridging Academia and Activism: From Assumptions to Alliances

- Nour Aabu-Assab (*Co-founder/director Centre for Transnational Development and Collaboration CTDC, London/Jerusalem*)
- Carla Boulos (*Gender justice activist and PhD candidate, University of Humanistic Studies*)
- Rosa Mul (*Emotion Networking facilitator and Project Assistant, University of Humanistic Studies*)

Academia and activism are often framed as opposing worlds: one “objective but distant,” the other “engaged but biased.” These assumptions shape collaboration, funding, knowledge production, and impact, yet they are rarely unpacked collectively. This workshop invites participants to surface, challenge, and rewrite these assumptions based on lived experience, with the aim of co-creating more ethical, grounded, and transformative forms of activist-academic engagement. To map the lived experience of the participants we will use emotion networking.

Panel: Dialogics of Justice Findings & Translation into Practices: On the Logics of Harm and of Repair

- Niké Wentholt (*Assist. Prof., University of Humanistic Studies*)
- Elvira Loibl (*Endowed Prof. Recognition, Dialogue, and Recovery After Intercountry Adoption, University of Humanistic Studies/Maastricht University*)
- Joandi Hartendorp (*L & L Sensitive History Education Advice*)
- Nina Huygen (*Ambassador Recognition and Repair, Ministry Interior and Kingdom Relations*)

In this panel we reflect first on the patterns we identified between the Dialogics of Justice cases (discussed the previous day), presenting our developed framework, before we link this to other cases of Dutch institutional injustice, we engaged with during the project through commissioned evaluation/research, which broadened our understanding of relationality and the systemic nature of logics of harm and repair. These cases include the child benefits scandal, violence in youth care, intercountry adoption, and reparation for slavery. Additional speakers, representing these wider cases of Dutch institutional injustice will be invited to share which similarities they recognize from the discussion on the first day. We want to also discuss whether we do see continuities of the Dutch colonial past in those present-day institutional injustices. We will wrap by asking which concepts or practices the panellists find most promising in going forward in the process of transformative justice.

Round table: Transformative justice – where to?

Co-creating a research agenda

- Paul Gready (*Prof. University of York*) & our (*inter*)national guest speakers
- Moderator: Nanci Adler (*Prof. Memory, History and Transitional Justice, The NIOD Institute for War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies*)

The concluding roundtable is led by Paul Gready, who will summarize key points to push the field and practice of Transformative Justice forward. Then we invite our international speakers to share their insights and to collaboratively develop a research agenda.