

Justice Rapid Response

2017 REPORT

Executive Summary



**JUSTICE
RAPID
RESPONSE**

Letter from the

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Welcome to the Justice Rapid Response 2017 Report.

In 2017, JRR continued to be the international community's "go-to" facility for rapidly deployable professionals, specifically trained to help investigate and address core international crimes and human rights violations.

The service we provide is a vital one, because proper investigation is the necessary foundation for any accountability process to be credible. And if properly conducted, it can give affected populations the confidence to believe that the rule of law is a viable alternative to recurring cycles of violence.

As you will see in the report, in 2017 JRR provided experts for 32 missions in more than 20 countries. We have also been able to demonstrate the positive impact of having qualified experts on the ground – not just on the outcome of the accountability, but also on the lives of survivors. In this respect, the report this year highlights the work of JRR experts in Mali, Iraq and Syria.

The rapid availability of experts also responds to the growing challenge of exponentially increasing documentation in the absence of accountability mechanisms that would have provided the guidance of rules of procedures and evidence. And such experts are also providing mentoring support to organizations conducting documentation of human rights violations, to help ensure evidence collected can be used for future accountability mechanisms.

JRR's work goes beyond supporting individual situations. It includes raising the quality of investigations and thus the standard of accountability for the worst crimes known to humanity. Thank you for visiting JRR's 2017 Report. I hope that you will find your journey through our work inspiring.

Andras Vamos-Goldman
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

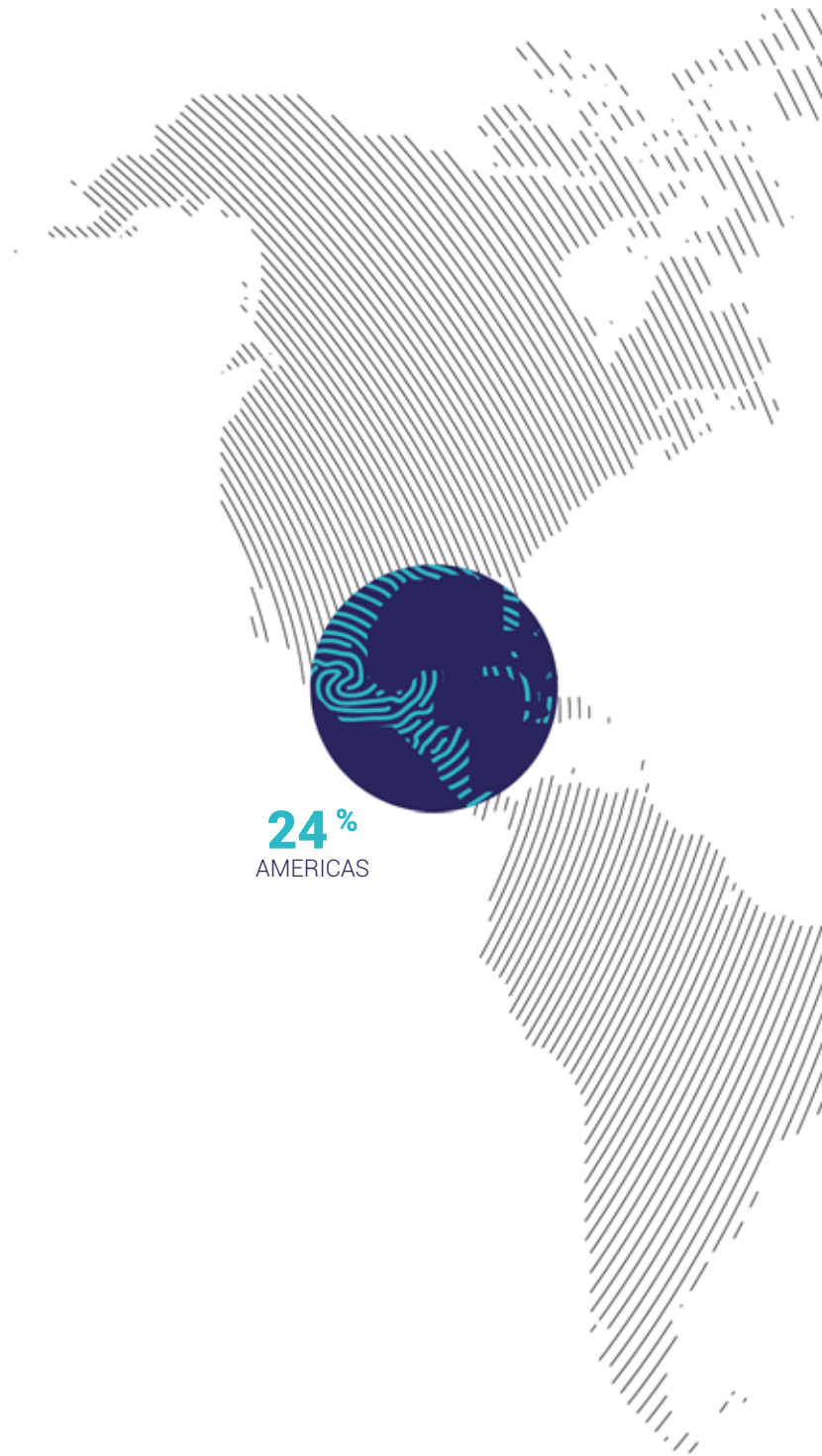
The JRR

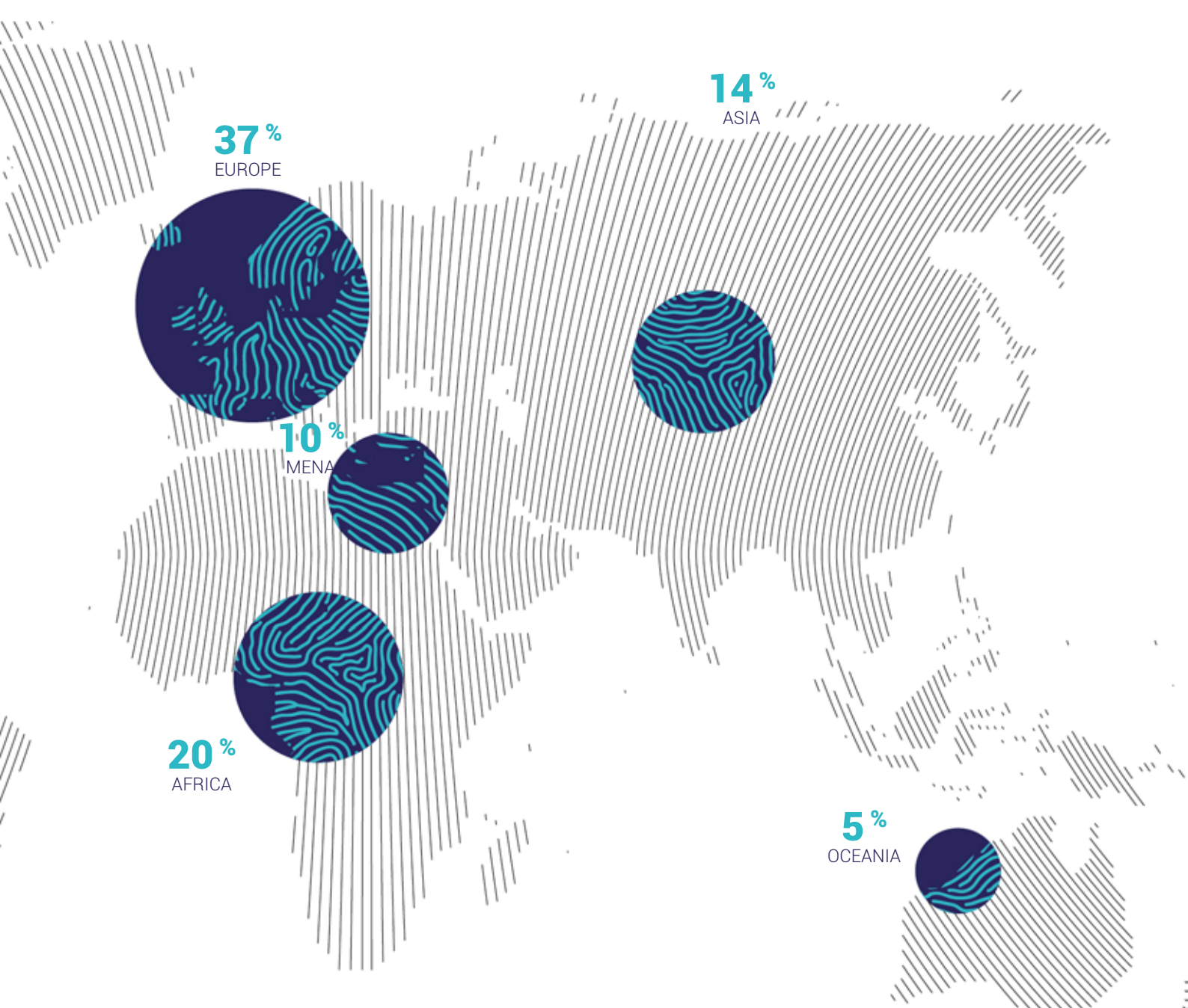
EXPERT ROSTER

At the heart of JRR is our Expert Roster. Through a competitive selection process, we recruit high-quality experts with a diverse range of investigative expertise from around the world. We've built a pool of professionals who can bring the highest level of skills, knowledge and professionalism to an investigation or inquiry. They come from both the public and private sectors, and are trained to be productive members of international teams that often have to work in difficult circumstances. The JRR-UN Women SGBV Justice Experts Roster is comprised of approximately 220 experts and is maintained within the broader 600+ JRR Expert Roster.

"You will not find any roster like JRR's. The difference is not just that these active duty professionals are actually rapidly deployable. It is also because they represent almost 50 disciplines like crime scene investigators, a wide variety of forensics experts, witness protection specialists, military analysts, and psycho-social trauma counsellors. They also come from more than 100 countries and every region of the world. "

– ANDRAS VAMOS-GOLDMAN





683
Number of Experts
on JRR Roster



57%
of Experts on the
JRR Roster are women



43%
of JRR Experts are
from the Global South



95
Languages spoken, from
109 different countries

2017

MISSIONS

In 2017, JRR Experts worked to investigate, document, and strengthen accountability for human rights violations and serious crimes committed in dozens of conflict or post-conflict situations, including situations and locations listed below.

Situation / Location	Requesting entity	Mechanism	Expertise deployed
CAMBODIA	Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC)	Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC)	Criminal Investigator*
SYRIA	UN Women in support of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)	Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic	One SGBV Investigator; one Gender Adviser; one Interpreter/Translator*
SOUTH SUDAN	UN Women in support of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)	South Sudan Human Rights Commission	SGBV/Gender Adviser*
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO	Department of Peacekeeping Operations (UN DPKO)	MONUSCO Rule of Law Office	Criminal Investigator*
CONFIDENTIAL	Office of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict (SRSG SVC)	UN Department of Political Affairs	International Law Expert*
GUINEA	Confidential	Confidential	Justice Adviser*
LIBYA	Office of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict (SRSG SVC)	United Nations Support Mission in Libya	SGBV Expert*

*Mission began in 2016

Situation / Location	Requesting entity	Mechanism	Expertise deployed
NEW YORK	UN Women	Confidential	SGBV Investigator*
IRAQ	United Nations Development Program (UNDP)	Civil Society Organizations and National authorities, Iraq	One Conflict-related SGBV Mental Health Psychosocial Support Expert; one SGBV Justice Expert; one Arabic/Kurdish to English Translator
IRAQ	United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)	National Authorities, Iraq	SGBV Psychosocial/Trauma Expert
THE HAGUE	UN Women	International Criminal Court (ICC)	Gender Adviser
DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA	UN Women	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) - Seoul	Gender Adviser
IRAQ	United Nations Development Program (UNDP)	Civil Society Organization and National Authorities, Iraq	One SGBV Justice Expert; one Arabic/Kurdish to English Translator
BURUNDI	UN Women in support of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)	Commission of Inquiry on Burundi	Gender Adviser/SGBV Investigator
MALI	Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission of Mali (CVJR)	Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission of Mali (CVJR)	Investigations and Analysis/ Transitional Justice Expert
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO	United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO)	Confidential Mission	Forensic Pathologist
GENEVA	UN Women in support of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)	Systematizing Gender Integration in Commissions of Inquiry and Fact-Finding Missions	Gender Adviser
UKRAINE	International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission (IHFFC)	International Investigation in Ukraine	Forensic Pathologist
GUATEMALA	United Nations Development Program (UNDP)	Public Prosecutor's Office of Guatemala	Prosecution Adviser
IRAQ	UNICEF	Civil Society Organizations, Iraq	SGBV Psychosocial Counselor
MYANMAR	UN Women in support of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)	Independent International Fact Finding Mission on Myanmar	Gender Adviser

Situation / Location	Requesting entity	Mechanism	Expertise deployed
MALI	Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission of Mali (CVJR)	Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission of Mali (CVJR)	Investigations and Analysis/ Transitional Justice Expert
IRAQ	Civil Society Organization, Iraq	Civil Society Organization, Iraq	One SGBV Justice Expert; one Arabic/Kurdish to English Translator
GUATEMALA	United Nations Development Program (UNDP)	Public Prosecutor's Office of Guatemala	Prosecutions Adviser
CONFIDENTIAL	UN Women	International Criminal Court (ICC)	SGBV Investigator
IRAQ	Hogan Lovells	Hogan Lovells - Civil Litigation Case	Investigator
YEMEN	Civil Society Organization, Yemen	Civil Society Organization, Yemen	One SGBV Justice Expert; one Arabic to English Translator
SOUTH SUDAN	UN Women in support of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)	Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan	Three SGBV Investigators/ Gender Advisers
IRAQ	Hogan Lovells	Hogan Lovells - Civil Litigation Case	Investigator
GUATEMALA	United Nations Development Program (UNDP)	Public Prosecutor's Office of Guatemala	Prosecutions Adviser
GUATEMALA	United Nations Development Program (UNDP)	Public Prosecutor's Office of Guatemala – Capacity Building	One Military Analyst; one Prosecutor; one Investigator; one Local Administrative Support
IRAQ	Civil Society Organization, Iraq	Civil Society Organization, Iraq	SGBV Justice Expert
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO	United Nations Department of Political Affairs (UNDPA)	Follow-on mechanism (Kasai, DRC)	Three Investigators
GUATEMALA	United Nations Development Program (UNDP)	Public Prosecutor's Office of Guatemala – Capacity Building	One Military Analyst; one Prosecutor; one Investigator; one Local Administrative Support
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC	Judicial Authorities of the Central African Republic	Judicial Authorities	Prosecutions Adviser
MYANMAR	Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights (OHCHR)	Independent International Fact Finding Mission on Myanmar	Military Analyst

Situation / Location	Requesting entity	Mechanism	Expertise deployed
CONFIDENTIAL	Confidential	Internal Investigation for International NGO (confidential)	Investigator of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA)
BURUNDI	UN Women in support of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)	Commission of Inquiry on Burundi	SGBV Investigator/Gender Adviser
MALI	Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission of Mali (CVJR)	Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission of Mali (CVJR)	Transitional Justice Expert
KOSOVO	UN Women	Kosovo - Assistance to national judicial authorities	One SGBV Prosecution Expert; one Victim Advocacy Expert

ROSTER

RECRUITMENT

In 2017, JRR held two recruitment courses in collaboration with the Institute for International Criminal Investigations (IICI). These courses resulted in the training of 40 professionals, 32 of which were certified onto the JRR roster, including 20 as part of the JRR-UN Women SGBV Justice Experts Roster.

COURSE ON INVESTIGATING CASES OF **SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AS INTERNATIONAL CRIMES**

Seoul, Republic of Korea (17 – 27 April 2017)

This course, specifically designed to train and certify experts on investigating conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence, was held in Seoul, Republic of Korea, at the invitation of the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and in partnership with UN Women and the Institute for International Criminal Investigations (IICI). This course enabled JRR to certify 21 successful experts onto the JRR roster/JRR-UN Women SGBV Justice Experts Roster.

“The course has enhanced my technical, legal, and investigative capacity, and furthermore provided critical knowledge on risk mitigation during field deployments. It was a very privileged space with a diverse mix of cultures, age, and professional backgrounds. It was thus not only a professional experience but also a deeply human and humanistic one, which will be essential in my future international work.”

– SEOUL COURSE PARTICIPANT

ADVANCED COURSE ON THE INVESTIGATION OF **CRIMES AND VIOLATIONS INVOLVING CHILDREN**

The Hague, Netherlands (4 – 8 December 2017)

This advanced course was held in The Hague, Netherlands, in collaboration with IICI. The course enabled the certification of 11 successful experts to the JRR Roster. Thanks to this course, JRR increased the availability of rapidly deployable experts trained in investigating international crimes and serious human rights violations involving children.

“The course was an excellent, practical blend of theory and practice to be applied in the field. Not only were the instructors real experts, each of my fellow students was an inspiration as well. A valuable experience for anyone hoping to investigate international crimes involving children.”

– AICVIC COURSE PARTICIPANT

MESSAGE FROM THE

CHAIR OF THE JRR EXECUTIVE BOARD

Having followed closely the work of Justice Rapid Response (JRR) over the past four years, I am happy to say that JRR is well on its way to becoming the organization of reference for international criminal and human rights investigative expertise: a unique brand that is widely recognized and appreciated.

Since it became operational in 2009, JRR has contributed crucial expertise to mechanisms which have achieved milestones of criminal justice, such as the conviction of former President of Chad Hissène Habré in the Extraordinary African Chambers in Senegal, and the confirmation, by a unanimous panel of judges, of all charges related to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) as war crimes and crimes against humanity against Bosco Ntaganda at the International Criminal Court.

JRR has played an instrumental role in raising the standard of international investigations in general and, through its partnership with UN Women, in relation to SGBV. Ensuring that gender advisers and experts are part of the core team of investigators in Commissions of Inquiry and Fact-Finding Missions has been reflected in an increasingly high standard of gender analysis in the Commission of Inquiry and Fact-Finding Mission reports. Investigation

of SGBV crimes is an important part of JRR's work and one in which JRR's expertise, professionalism and compliance with highest standards of duty of care are essential.

Virtually every new investigative mechanism set up in 2017 has turned to JRR for support. JRR experts have been deployed to the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism on international crimes committed in the Syrian Arab Republic (IIIM), and have helped the first mission ever conducted by the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission (IHFFC) to Ukraine. JRR's experts were also called upon to assist the follow-on mechanism established by the UN Secretary-General to assist the authorities of the Democratic Republic of the Congo with its investigation into the killing of two UN investigators and four Congolese nationals in Kasai.

JRR has also deployed tailored support to mechanisms documenting the plight of the Rohingya minority in Myanmar. In 2017, JRR completed several deployments to the Human Rights Commission on South Sudan and Syria Commission of Inquiry.

The JRR Complementarity Programme is unique in that it provides tailored mentoring assistance. Last year, several States have asked JRR for specialized expertise

for the first time, including the Central African Republic and The Gambia. National authorities in Mali and Guatemala have continued to rely on JRR's support as they strengthen their own domestic efforts for truth and justice.

It is also notable that almost every State, international institution or organization that has made use of experts from the JRR roster, or the JRR-UN Women SGBV Justice Experts roster, has come back to JRR more than once, demonstrating JRR's ability to rapidly deliver professional expertise, when and where it is needed the most. All these developments show that in 2017, after less than ten years of activities, JRR has become the "go-

to" organization for support to sensitive international investigations.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank all those—States, international institutions and organizations, private actors and individuals—who have relied on JRR and made its success possible.

Ambassador Marja Lehto

CHAIR, JRR EXECUTIVE BOARD

FINANCIALS

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT:

STATES

Australia – Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Canada – Global Affairs Canada, Peace and Stabilisation Operations Program (PSOPs)

Denmark - Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Permanent Mission of Denmark to the UN in Geneva

Finland - Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Ireland - Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Trade

Republic of Korea - Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)

Liechtenstein - Office for Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg - Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs

The Netherlands - Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Switzerland - Swiss Expert Pool for Civilian Peacebuilding and the Human Security Division, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA)

FOUNDATIONS, INSTITUTES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Draper Richards Kaplan Foundation

The Greenbaum Foundation

Hogan Lovells

Institute for International Criminal Investigations (IICI)

UNDP Guatemala Programa de Acompañamiento a la Justicia de Transición (PAJUST)

UN Women

OTHER PARTNERS

JRR would also like to thank its partners for contributing to JRR's activities through support to events, but also support to deployments and trainings. These include: The Netherlands, Canada, UN Women, Finland and Uganda.

JRR EXECUTIVE BOARD



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UGANDA



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