Abstract

The aim of my thesis is to evaluate the results of the first review conference on the Rome Statute that took place from 31 May to 11 June 2010 in Kampala, Uganda. The review conference provided all the attendants with exceptional possibility to share views and experience. Among the attendants were not only State and non-state parties and international legal experts, but also members of intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations.

The thesis composes of four main chapters. Chapter one provides with an introduction to the topic of international criminal justice and my experience in the field and my attachment to the topic of the International Criminal Court.

Chapter two named Introduction to the International Criminal Court briefly describes the establishment and functioning of the Court. It also provides the reader with summary of the crimes covered by the Rome Statute. The chapter concludes with introduction to cases and situations the International Criminal Court investigates.

Chapter three is further divided into six parts and describes the review conference itself. The first part introduces the review conference, its reasons and ambitions together with its program. Part two describes special part of the conference called Stocktaking. Second part is subdivided according to the division at the Review Conference to Cooperation, Complementarity, The Impact on the Victims and Affected communities and Peace and Justice problematic. Stocktaking tries to evaluate the impact of the International Criminal Court in the above mentioned fields according to recent experience. Part three only very briefly comments on the resolution on the strengthening of the enforcement of sentences. Part four explains why the State Parties chose to leave article 124 within the Rome Statute in its unchanged form and thus enabled new State parties to withdraw from the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court for a limited period of time. Fifth part comments on the amendment to Article 8 of the Rome Statute that broadened prohibition of specific weapons from international conflicts to internal conflicts as well. Last but not least, part six describes the definition and related obstacles of the most important outcome of the review conference in Kampala: the crime of aggression.

Rather an optimistic conclusion is drawn in fourth chapter. I conclude the Review Conference was a success though its cost was a lot of compromises. There is however little outcome if there would not be necessary follow up to the findings reached at the conference.