

ity—if it continues to keep an open mind and to learn from the mistakes of the past.

Reading *Trial Justice: The International Criminal Court and the Lord's Resistance Army* is an informative and enriching experience. Coupled with careful presentation of local voices, Allen's extensive empirical engagement with the region and comprehensive knowledge of the subject matter result in an insightful and provocative piece of work. In a time when the relation between peace, justice, and reconciliation is hotly debated by scholars and government leaders alike, Allen's work provides an essential contribution to the study and practice of international justice.

Michael J. Struett, *The Politics of Constructing the International Criminal Court: NGOs, Discourse, and Agency* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2008)

*Elena Pokalova**

Anne-Marie Slaughter, Dean of the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University, has identified the increasing demand for supranational actors at the level of global governance. "Peoples and their governments around the world need global institutions," she argues in her 2004 treatise, "to solve collective problems that can only be addressed on a global scale."¹ Despite the clear need to overcome collective action problems at the global level, strong states still challenge the development of global institutions that threaten to dilute state sovereignty. The modern creation of the ICC is significant in establishing a supranational institution whose powers do in fact transcend those of a sovereign state. In light of the challenges to erecting a supranational institution with such broad scope, however, there exists a debate on the nature of the political processes that led to the very construction of this international body. Why did the ICC succeed while so many other supranational institutions ended up in the scrap heap? Why did the ICC appear in 2002 instead of 1946, when it was originally proposed? In an attempt to shed light on this issue, Michael J. Struett, assistant professor at the Department of Political Science at North Carolina State University, investigates the political story behind the Rome Statute. Struett examines the intricacies behind the creation of the ICC and in so doing reevaluates the role of agency in the contemporary global arena.

Struett begins by tracing the ICC negotiations back to 1946. There were calls for an international justice mechanism in the aftermath of World War II, but it was not until 2002 that the ICC was finally established. Struett attributes the auspicious climate for the reception of such a mechanism in 2002 to the growing prominence of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), many of which advocated for an international court. Interestingly, the inception of Struett's project itself dates back to 2000, when the future of the ICC negotiations was still not clear. Despite the uncertainty at the time, Struett felt the need to look deeper into the dynamics behind the creation of a unique international agency irrespective of the final outcome. As we now know, the Rome

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¹ Anne-Marie Slaughter, *A NEW WORLD ORDER* 8 (Princeton University Press, 2004).