



INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

***The Situation in the Republic of Alba
The Case of Magnus Contra***

The Republic of Alba and the State of Blanco are neighbouring countries, both being UN members and parties to the Statute of the International Criminal Court since 2013.

On the 1st of February 2015, the State of Blanco initiates an armed attack against Alba, invoking "the sacred right of humanitarian intervention", because, in the opinion of Blanco, Alba has designed an extermination plan against the Blanquese minority concentrated in Alba's Zet District.

During the military campaign undertaken in the Zet District, the Blanquese army sets into motion a pre-established plan of 'neutralising' the Alban population in the district, by seeking to transfer Alban children aged under 10 from the territory, as well as to destroy Alban monuments dedicated to art and religion located in in the District. According to documents belonging to the Blanquese High Command, the person who conceived the plan is Mr Magnus Contra, a civilian member of the Blanquese High Command, overseeing the operations from the Headquarters of the High Command located in Blanco's capital city. Magnus Contra was not involved at all in the field operations undertaken in the Zet District.

On the 1st March 2015, the UN Security Council, acting under *Chapter VII of the UN Charter*, qualifies the situation as an "act of aggression", ordering the State of Blanco to immediately cease its actions and instituting an embargo on the delivery of arms, weapons and ammunition.

One week later, the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court initiates an investigation *proprio motu* according to *Article 13 (c) of the Rome Statute*. Two months later, in May 2015, taking into consideration the provisions of *Article 53 of the Statute*, an investigation of formally initiated regarding "the situation in the Republic of Alba", and in February 2016 a warrant of arrest is issued against Mr Magnus Contra. On 15 May 2016, while in an official visit in the State of Debra, Mr Contra is arrested and surrendered to the International Criminal Court. The State of Debra signed the Rome Statute, but its internal procedure to ratify it has not yet been started.

On the 11th of March 2017, Pre-Trial Chamber I of the International Criminal Court holds, under *Article 61*, a hearing to confirm the charges against Mr Magnus Contra. Exceptionally, Pre-Trial Chamber I requests the charged person to submit any other defences he wishes to present regarding the present case.

Element introduced exclusively for the purposes of the moot court.