

## **Sexual and Gender Based Crimes in International Criminal Law: Moving Forwards or Backwards**

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**Abstract :** Prosecution of sexual violence in international criminal law requires not only an understanding of the mechanisms employed to prosecute sexual violence but also a critical analysis of the factors facilitating perpetuation of such crimes in armed conflicts. The extrapolations laid out in this essay delve into the jurisprudence of international criminal law pertaining to sexual and gender based violence followed by the core question of this essay: Has the entrenchment of sexual violence as international crimes in the Rome Statute been successful to address such violence in armed conflicts?

**Keywords :** conflict, gender, international criminal law, sexual violence

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