You are cordially invited to a major international conference on the following theme:

**International Law and Justice for Victims of the Gross Human Rights Violation of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence**

The details of the conference are as follows:

**DATE:** 28 – 29 November 2019  
**TIME:** 08h30-17h00 (Thursday) and 08h30-16h30 (Friday)  
**VENUE:** Council Chambers, Madibeng Building, University of Johannesburg  
**RSVP:** to Naomi Hove (naomi@saifac.org.za)

**MORE ABOUT THE CONFERENCE:** Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) falls within the category of the 'most serious crimes' of concern to the international community, and can amount to genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes. This form of gross human rights violation does not only occur during armed conflict: it can also be committed during a time of peace when carried out as part of a genocidal, state or organisational policy. Notwithstanding extensive international condemnation of SGBV and calls for perpetrator accountability and justice for victims, the commission of these horrific crimes is continuing unabated and with near impunity around the world. In Sub-Saharan and East Africa in particular, SGBV has been reported in a number of conflict-situations. It is against this backdrop that the South African Institute for Advanced Constitutional, Public, Human Rights and International Law (SAIFAC), a centre of the University of Johannesburg, is hosting a conference to address the central question: Does the current international legal framework provide adequate recourse for victims of sexual and gender-based violence?

The focus of the conference will be on the achievement of justice for victims of SGBV based on three main themes. They are:  
- criminal and civil accountability;  
- reparation for victims; and  
- the culture of denial and stigma attached to victims.

The conference is co-organised with the generous support of the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung – Rule of Law Program for Sub-Saharan Africa and the South African Research Chair in International Law.

The conference programme will be made available at www.uj.ac.za/SAIFAC.