

Book Note**THE MILOŠEVIĆ TRIAL: LESSONS FOR THE
CONDUCT OF COMPLEX INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL
PROCEEDINGS, by Gideon Boas¹**

SCOTT JONES

THE CREATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT in 2002 was widely heralded as the beginning of a new era for the pursuit of international criminal justice. However, by the time Slobodan Milošević died in his cell in March 2006, his extraordinarily lengthy and still unfinished trial had threatened to derail those expectations. Written by the senior legal advisor to the Trial Chamber, the book is an in depth analysis of the first trial of a former head of state by an international tribunal. As an insider, Gideon Boas experienced first-hand many of the trial's shortcomings, and draws on this experience to develop a series of proposals for the reform of complex international criminal tribunals.

The first chapter analyzes the principles of a fair and expeditious trial within the context of international criminal law. The author discusses the complexities that arise in defining these principles, how they interact, and how they are to be balanced and applied, keeping in mind that both the accused and the international community have interests at stake. In the second chapter, Boas turns his attention to the prosecution's approach to the case against Milošević, focusing specifically on its indictments, its case strategy, and the actual substance of its case. The author identifies the problematic strategic and policy issues in the prosecution's case, and suggests that these put the fair and expeditious framework of international proceedings at risk. In chapter three, Boas analyses the case management challenges faced by the Trial Chamber, and discusses the techniques that were considered and ultimately tried. He then proposes a framework for best practice case management in international criminal proceedings.

1. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007) 324 pages.

The fourth chapter examines the principles of representation and resources for an accused in a complex international criminal trial, and how these were specifically dealt with in the Milošević case. Finally, the author concludes his analysis by proposing a series of reforms with a view to achieving best practice in the conduct of fair and expeditious international criminal trials.