Introductory Note to Prosecutor v. Perišić, International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY)

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Recommended Citation
Chris Jenks, Introductory Note to Prosecutor v. Perisic (ICTY), 52 INT’L LEGAL MATERIALS 1065 (2013)
INTRODUCTORY NOTE TO PROSECUTOR V. PERIŠIĆ (ICTY)
BY CHRIS JENKS*
[February 28, 2013]
+Cite as 52 ILM 1065 (2013)+

Introduction

What are the requisite elements to convict an individual of aiding and abetting international crimes committed by an organization? This form of liability question was the principal issue the Appeals Chamber of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) addressed in its February 28, 2013 judgment overturning the 2011 conviction of General Momčilo Perišić, the former head of the Army of Yugoslavia (VJ), for aiding and abetting war crimes in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia.¹

The Perišić judgment is controversial² and serves as a reminder of the still-unsettled nature of international criminal law’s jurisprudence, given that even threshold questions lack consistent and coherent answers. Even more troubling is that the Appeals Chamber of a different tribunal, the Special Court for Sierra Leone, has already affirmatively rejected the Perišić formulation of aiding and abetting liability,³ leading one commentator to claim that “[t]he fragmentation of international criminal law is well and truly upon us.”⁴

Background

Perišić’s conviction in 2011 marked the ICTY’s first judgment against a VJ official for crimes committed in Bosnia-Herzegovina.⁵ Beginning in 1993, Perišić served as Chief of the VJ General Staff, the most senior VJ officer in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Between 1993 and 1995, the VJ provided military and logistical assistance to the Army of Republika Srpska (VRS) in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The Trial Chamber, with Judge Moloto dissenting, found Perišić guilty, as an aider and abettor, of VRS crimes in Sarajevo and Srebrenica,⁶ including murder, inhumane acts (injuring and wounding civilians), inflicting serious injuries, wounding, forcible transfer and persecutions as crimes against humanity, as well as murder and attacks on civilians as violations of the laws and customs of war.⁷ Again with Judge Moloto dissenting, it also found Perišić guilty, as a superior, for failing to punish Serbian Army of the Krajina (SVK) crimes in Zagreb, including murder and inhumane acts (injuring and wounding civilians) as crimes against humanity, and for murder and attacks on civilians as violations of the laws of customs of war.⁸ The Trial Chamber sentenced Perišić to a single term of twenty-seven years of imprisonment.

The Appeals Chamber Judgment

On appeal, the majority largely followed Judge Moloto’s approach in his dissent in the Trial Judgment and acquitted Perišić for the VRS offenses in Bosnia and Herzegovina on a point of law and for the SVK offenses in Croatia following a de novo factual review.⁹ Judge Liu dissented, arguing for Perišić’s guilt along the lines taken by the Trial Chamber majority.

It is the point of law—the elements necessary to convict Perišić of aiding and abetting international crimes committed by the VRS—which has engendered controversy. The Trial Chamber had determined that the actus reus of Perišić’s aiding and abetting was “prove[n] based on the finding that VJ assistance ‘had a substantial effect on the crimes perpetrated by the VRS...’”¹⁰ In other words, the Trial Chamber did not require proof that the VJ’s actions in providing military support were specifically directed towards assisting the VRS crimes.

The Appeals Chamber disagreed, relying on Prosecutor v. Tadić, the first ICTY appeal judgment to address the scope of aiding and abetting liability. The Perišić Appeals Chamber noted that Tadić had emphasized that “[t]he aider and abettor carries out acts specifically directed to assist, encourage or lend moral support to the perpetration of a certain specific crime [] and this support has a substantial effect upon the perpetration of the crime.”¹¹ The Appeals Chamber wrote that “[t]o date, no judgment of the Appeals Chamber has found cogent reasons to depart from the definition of aiding and abetting liability adopted in the Tadić Appeal Judgment.”¹²

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The Appeals Chamber acknowledged that other ICTY appellate judgments addressing aiding and abetting liability did not analyze the issue of specific direction, but found that those cases involved actions proximate to the crimes of the principal perpetrators. The majority held that Perišić’s assistance to the VRS had been remote from their crimes, that the VRS and the VJ were independent of each other and located in different geographic regions, and that there was no evidence that Perišić had been present when the VRS planned or committed criminal acts. As a result, the Appeals Chamber held that “explicit consideration of specific direction is required.”

Conclusion

For some, the majority’s statement that its ruling “should in no way be interpreted as enabling military leaders to deflect criminal liability by subcontracting the commission of criminal acts” rings hollow. At its core, however, Perišić re-examines the line between culpable and non-culpable assistance to a crime. Renewing reliance on specific direction may be a problematic way to draw this line, but critics should consider the ramifications of its removal before dismissing specific direction as too high a bar. What if instead of General Perišić providing assistance to the VRS, the issue was of military assistance to Syrian rebel groups known to have committed war crimes?

ENDNOTES

2 The controversy has several origins. One is that following the heels of Prosecutor v. Gotovina and Markač, Perišić is the latest in a series of high profile ICTY appellate acquittals. See Prosecutor v. Gotovina and Markač, Case No. IT-06-90-A, Judgment (Int’l Crim. Trib. for the former Yugoslavia Nov. 16, 2012). Also, following Perišić, on May 30, 2013 an ICTY trial chamber, applying the specific direction requirement, ordered the release of the former Chief of Serbian State Security Service and a former employee of that service. See Prosecutor v. Stanišić and Simatović, Case No. IT-03-69, Judgment (Int’l Crim. Trib. for the former Yugoslavia May 30, 2013).
3 The Appeals Chamber of the Special Court for Sierra Leone, in upholding the conviction of Charles Taylor, the former President of Liberia, claimed that “[a]lthough the Perišić Appeal Judgment introduces novel elements in its articulation of ‘specific direction’ [to aiding and abetting liability], which may perhaps be developed in time, this Appeals Chamber is not persuaded that there is good reason to depart from settled principles of law at this time.” Prosecutor v. Taylor, Case No. SCSL-03-01-A, Judgment, ¶ 480 (Special Ct. for Sierra Leone Sep. 26, 2013), http://www.scs-l.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=114fjFP4jj8%3d&tabid=53.
5 Prosecutor v. Perišić, Case No. IT-04-81-T, Judgment (Int’l Crim. Trib. for the former Yugoslavia Sep. 6, 2011) [hereinafter Trial Judgment].
7 Trial Judgment, supra note 5, ¶¶ 1815, 1820, 1838.
8 Id. ¶¶ 1818, 1839.
9 The de novo factual review was of an issue of the doctrine of command responsibility, which this Introductory Note does not address.
10 Appeals Judgment, supra note 1, ¶ 17 (referring to Trial Judgment, supra note 5, ¶ 1627).
11 Id. ¶ 26 (referring to Tadić Appeals Judgment ¶ 229) (emphasis in original).
12 Id. ¶ 28.
13 Judge Liu reasoned that Perišić “facilitated the large-scale crimes of the VRS through the provision of considerable and comprehensive aid” constituting “a prime example of conduct to which aiding and abetting liability should attach.” Appeals Judgment, supra note 1, ¶ 9 (Liu, J., partially dissenting). Judge Liu persuasively referred to points from the Trial Judgment, including that Perišić institutionalized the provision of assistance to the VRS, that he had the power to approve or deny requests, that the assistance “sustained the very life line of the VRS,” that Perišić “did not believe that the VRS had another significant source of assistance,” and that from early stages of the war Perišić was aware of “the VRS’ propensity to commit criminal acts.” Id. ¶¶ 6-7, 8.
14 Id. ¶ 39.

16 See Kevin Jon Heller, Why the ICTY’s “Specifically Directed” Requirement is Justified, OPINIO JURIS (June 2, 2013), http://opiniojuris.org/2013/06/02/why-the-ictys-specifically-directed-requirement-is-justified/

IN THE APPEALS CHAMBER

Before: Judge Theodor Meron, Presiding
Judge Carmel Agius
Judge Liu Daqun
Judge Arlette Ramaroson
Judge Andrésia Vaz

Registrar: Mr. John Hocking
Judgement of: 28 February 2013

PROSECUTOR

v.

MOMČILO PERIŠIĆ

JUDGEMENT

The Office of the Prosecutor
Ms. Helen Brady
Ms. Barbara Goy
Ms. Elena Martin Salgado
Ms. Bronagh McKenna

Counsel for Momčilo Perišić
Mr. Novak Lukić
Mr. Gregor Guy-Smith

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The Appeals Chamber of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 ("Appeals Chamber" and "Tribunal", respectively) is seised of an appeal by Momčilo Perišić ("Perišić") against the Judgement rendered by Trial Chamber I of the Tribunal ("Trial Chamber") on 6 September 2011 in the case of Prosecutor v. Momčilo Perišić, Case No. IT-04-81-T ("Trial Judgement").

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Background

2. The underlying events giving rise to this case took place in the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina ("BiH" or "Bosnia") and the Republic of Croatia ("Croatia") in the period between August 1993 and November 1995. Starting on 26 August 1993 and through the rest of this period, Perišić served as Chief of the Yugoslav Army ("VJ") General Staff, a position that made him the VJ’s most senior officer.

3. Perišić was charged with aiding and abetting crimes in the Bosnian towns of Sarajevo and Srebrenica for his role in facilitating the provision of military and logistical assistance from the VJ to the Army of the Republika Srpska ("VRS"). In this regard, the Indictment alleged that Perišić was responsible for the crimes of murder, extermination, inhumane acts, attacks on civilians, and persecution as crimes against humanity and/or violations of the laws or customs of war. The Indictment further alleged that Perišić had superior responsibility for crimes committed in Sarajevo, Srebrenica, and the Croatian town of Zagreb. In particular, the Indictment alleged that Perišić failed to prevent or punish the crimes of murder, extermination, inhumane acts, attacks on civilians, and persecution as crimes against humanity and/or violations of the laws or customs of war. The Office of the Prosecutor of the Tribunal ("Prosecution") subsequently chose not to pursue allegations that Perišić bore superior responsibility for failing to prevent crimes committed in Zagreb.

4. The Trial Chamber, Judge Moloto dissenting, found Perišić guilty, as an aider and abettor, of the following crimes that took place in Sarajevo and Srebrenica: murder, inhumane acts (injuring and wounding civilians, inflicting serious injuries, wounding, forcible transfer), and persecutions as crimes against humanity; and murder and attacks on civilians as violations of the laws or customs of war. The Trial Chamber, Judge Moloto dissenting, also found Perišić guilty as a superior for failing to punish the following crimes related to events in Zagreb: murder and inhumane acts (injuring and wounding civilians) as crimes against humanity; and murder and attacks on civilians as violations of the laws or customs of war. The Trial Chamber sentenced Perišić to a single term of 27 years of imprisonment.

B. The Appeal

5. Perišić submits seventeen grounds of appeal challenging his convictions and sentence. He requests that the Appeals Chamber overturn all of his convictions or, in the alternative, that his sentence be reduced. The Prosecution responds that Perišić’s appeal should be dismissed in its entirety.

6. The Appeals Chamber heard oral submissions regarding this appeal on 30 October 2012.

II. STANDARD OF REVIEW

7. The Appeals Chamber recalls the applicable standards of appellate review pursuant to Article 25 of the Statute of the Tribunal ("Statute"). The Appeals Chamber reviews only errors of law that have the potential to invalidate the decision of the trial chamber and errors of fact that have occasioned a miscarriage of justice. In exceptional circumstances, the Appeals Chamber will also hear appeals where a party has raised a legal issue that would not lead to the invalidation of the trial judgement but that is nevertheless of general significance to the Tribunal’s jurisprudence.

8. Regarding errors of law, the Appeals Chamber has stated:

A party alleging an error of law must identify the alleged error, present arguments in support of its claim and explain how the alleged error invalidates the decision. An allegation of an error of
law which has no chance of changing the outcome of a decision may be rejected on that ground. However, even if the party’s arguments are insufficient to support the contention of an error, the Appeals Chamber may still conclude for other reasons that there is an error of law. 16

9. Where the Appeals Chamber finds an error of law in the trial judgement arising from the application of an incorrect legal standard, the Appeals Chamber will articulate the correct legal standard and review the relevant factual findings of the trial chamber accordingly. 17 In so doing, the Appeals Chamber not only corrects the legal error, but, when necessary, also applies the correct legal standard to the evidence contained in the trial record and determines whether it is itself convinced beyond reasonable doubt as to the factual finding challenged by the appellant before that finding is confirmed on appeal. 18 It is necessary for any appellant claiming an error of law on the basis of lack of a reasoned opinion to identify the specific issues, factual findings, or arguments that an appellant submits the trial chamber omitted to address and to explain why this omission invalidated the decision. 19

10. Regarding errors of fact, the Appeals Chamber will apply a standard of reasonableness. 20 It is well established that the Appeals Chamber will not lightly overturn findings of fact made by the trial chamber:

In reviewing the findings of the trial chamber, the Appeals Chamber will only substitute its own findings for that of the trial chamber when no reasonable trier of fact could have reached the original decision. [...] Further, only an error of fact which has occasioned a miscarriage of justice will cause the Appeals Chamber to overturn a decision by the trial chamber. 21

11. A party cannot merely repeat on appeal arguments that did not succeed at trial, unless it can demonstrate that the trial chamber’s rejection of those arguments constituted an error warranting the intervention of the Appeals Chamber. 22 Arguments which do not have the potential to cause the impugned decision to be reversed or revised may be immediately dismissed by the Appeals Chamber and need not be considered on the merits. 23

12. In order for the Appeals Chamber to assess arguments on appeal, the appealing party must provide precise references to relevant transcript pages or paragraphs in the decision or judgement to which the challenge is made. 24 Moreover, the Appeals Chamber cannot be expected to consider a party’s submissions in detail if they are obscure, contradictory, vague, or suffer from other formal and obvious insufficiencies. 25 Finally, the Appeals Chamber has inherent discretion in selecting which submissions merit a detailed reasoned opinion in writing, and it may dismiss arguments which are evidently unfounded without providing detailed reasoning. 26

III. AIDING AND ABETTING (GROUNDS 1-12)

13. The Trial Chamber, Judge Moloto dissenting, found Perišić guilty, inter alia, for aiding and abetting: murder, inhumane acts (injuring and wounding civilians, inflicting serious injuries, wounding, and forcible transfer), and persecutions on political, racial, or religious grounds as crimes against humanity (Counts 1, 3, 9, 11, and 12); and murder and attacks on civilians as violations of the laws or customs of war (Counts 2, 4, and 10). 27 All of these convictions related to crimes unanimously found to have been committed by the VRS in Sarajevo and Srebrenica (collectively, “VRS Crimes in Sarajevo and Srebrenica”). 28

14. The Trial Chamber considered a broad range of evidence in assessing whether Perišić aided and abetted the VRS Crimes in Sarajevo and Srebrenica. This evidence included, inter alia, the war strategy of the VRS leadership. The Trial Chamber, specifically making reference to VRS objectives involving Sarajevo and Srebrenica, found that this strategy encompassed the systematic perpetration of crimes against civilians as a military objective. 29 The Trial Chamber also reviewed evidence regarding Perišić’s role in implementing the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia’s (“FRY”) policy of having the VJ provide logistical assistance to the VRS, including the supply of weapons, ammunition, fuel, and various other types of support. 30 Finally, the Trial Chamber considered Perišić’s role in facilitating the secondment of VJ personnel to the VRS, including the payment of salaries to and provision of benefits for these soldiers, some of whom served as high-ranking VRS officers. 31

15. The Trial Chamber further found, inter alia, that Perišić was informed about “acts of violence against Bosnian Muslims perpetrated in the BiH theatre of war [that] made Perišić aware of the VRS’s propensity to commit crimes”; 32 was aware of the essential elements of the VRS Crimes in Sarajevo and Srebrenica; and was aware that his actions provided practical assistance to these crimes. 33
16. Perišić contends that the Trial Chamber erred by holding that acts of an aider and abettor need not be specifically directed towards assisting crimes of principal perpetrators. He further contends that the Trial Chamber committed a number of additional errors with respect to his convictions for aiding and abetting.

A. Specific Direction

17. The Trial Chamber, Judge Moloto dissenting, concluded that the *actus reus* of aiding and abetting was proved based on the finding that VJ assistance “had a substantial effect on the crimes perpetrated by the VRS in Sarajevo and Srebrenica”.[36] In assessing Perišić’s liability as an aider and abettor, the Trial Chamber stated that “specific direction’ is not a requisite element of the *actus reus* of aiding and abetting”, citing the Mrkić and Slijivančanin Appeal Judgement. Relying on that appeal judgement, the majority of the Trial Chamber did not consider whether aid from the VJ to the VRS was specifically directed to the commission of crimes.[38]

1. Submissions

18. Perišić asserts, *inter alia*, that the Trial Chamber erred in law by convicting him for aiding and abetting without requiring proof that his acts were specifically directed towards assisting the crimes of principal perpetrators. In particular, Perišić avers that the Trial Chamber relied on the Mrkić and Slijivančanin Appeal Judgement to support its finding that specific direction was not an element of aiding and abetting liability. However, he submits that the Mrkić and Slijivančanin Appeal Judgement erroneously interpreted the Blagojević and Jokić Appeal Judgement in holding that a conviction for aiding and abetting did not require proof of specific direction. Perišić contends that specific direction was included as an element of the *actus reus* of aiding and abetting in the Tadić Appeal Judgement, and that this element distinguishes aiding and abetting from liability for participation in a Joint Criminal Enterprise (“JCE”), a mode of liability that does not require specific direction. He also maintains that the specific direction element of aiding and abetting liability is distinct from the “substantial effect” element.

19. Perišić further asserts that specific direction was included as an element of aiding and abetting in appeal judgements of the Tribunal prior to the Mrkić and Slijivančanin Appeal Judgement, and in appeal judgements of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (“ICTR”) both before and after the Mrkić and Slijivančanin Appeal Judgement. He maintains that the Mrkić and Slijivančanin Appeal Judgement’s approach to specific direction is thus “strikingly inconsistent with the Tribunal’s jurisprudence and should be rejected.” Moreover, even if the Appeals Chamber affirms the Mrkić and Slijivančanin Appeal Judgement’s approach to specific direction, Perišić asserts that in cases such as this, where “remote conduct” is at issue, specific direction should be a requirement in order to establish the *actus reus* for aiding and abetting. He maintains that the Trial Chamber’s approach effectively “amounts to a form of strict liability” where “to in any way assist the VRS in their conduct of hostilities was to aid and abet their criminal acts.”

20. Perišić submits that his acts were not specifically directed towards providing VJ aid to the VRS crimes. He contends that, although he facilitated the provision of aid to the VRS, this was general assistance directed towards a war effort and that, in any event, he could not have stopped the flow of assistance. He maintains, *inter alia*, that the Trial Chamber could not link his support of the VRS with the specific weapons used to commit relevant crimes and that all but three individuals who held key positions within the VRS held those positions prior to his appointment as Chief of the VJ General Staff. Perišić requests that the Appeals Chamber “reverse the Trial Chamber’s judgment and enter an acquittal.”

21. The Prosecution responds, *inter alia*, that the Trial Chamber did not err in setting out the parameters of Perišić’s liability and that it correctly found that specific direction was not a required element of aiding and abetting. In particular, the Prosecution asserts that conduct is directed towards a crime if it facilitates or causes this crime. In this context, the Prosecution contends that specific direction has no independent meaning and is part of the substantial effect requirement. The Prosecution also suggests that specific direction has no independent meaning even in cases where an aider and abettor is remote from actions of principal perpetrators.

22. The Prosecution submits that while specific direction “emanates” from the Tadić Appeal Judgement, the latter did not provide a complete description of aiding and abetting liability. It maintains that even judgements
referring to specific direction focus exclusively on substantial contribution in addressing the actus reus of aiding and abetting. The Prosecution also maintains that caselaw in other jurisdictions does not require specific direction in cases where an aider and abettor’s conduct is remote from relevant crimes.

23. The Prosecution suggests that the proximity of an alleged aider and abettor to crimes committed by the principal perpetrators is one factor that a trial chamber may consider in determining whether substantial contribution is established. However, in this regard, the Prosecution submits that the Delalić et al. Appeal Judgement held that an aider and abettor’s assistance may be removed in time and space from relevant crimes and asserts that a trial chamber may take into account factors other than geographic proximity in determining substantial contribution, including duration, frequency, and intensity of interactions with principal perpetrators or assistance to their crimes.

24. The Prosecution underscores the extensive nature of assistance provided by the VJ to the VRS in this case, suggesting that the scale of this aid alone gives rise to aiding and abetting liability. In this regard, the Prosecution asserts that Perišić knew of VRS crimes but nonetheless “voluntarily provided indispensable, massive, and consistent personnel and logistical assistance” to the VRS, interacted regularly with “VRS perpetrators” of crimes, “visited the war zone several times”, and “continuously and actively lobbied the [FRY Supreme Defence Council (“SDC”)] to ensure that the VRS’s ability to wage war in [Bosnia] was sustained”. The Prosecution further asserts that attacks against civilians, including those in Sarajevo and Srebrenica, were so central to the VRS’s overall military strategy that it “was not possible” for Perišić to direct military assistance only towards the VRS’s legitimate war efforts. Finally, the Prosecution contends that Perišić’s personal motives with respect to VRS crimes are irrelevant to a determination of his criminal liability in this regard, as he knew that the assistance provided to the VRS would probably facilitate the commission of crimes.

2. Analysis

(a) Specific Direction as a Component of Aiding and Abetting Liability

25. Perišić contends that both the Trial Judgement and the Mrkšić and Šljivančanin Appeal Judgement erroneously held that specific direction is not an element of the actus reus of aiding and abetting. Before turning to Perišić’s contention, the Appeals Chamber considers it appropriate to review its prior aiding and abetting jurisprudence.

26. The Appeals Chamber recalls that the first appeal judgement setting out the parameters of aiding and abetting liability was the Tadić Appeal Judgement, rendered in 1999, which described the actus reus of criminal liability for aiding and abetting as follows:

The aider and abettor carries out acts specifically directed to assist, encourage or lend moral support to the perpetration of a certain specific crime (murder, extermination, rape, torture, wanton destruction of civilian property, etc.), and this support has a substantial effect upon the perpetration of the crime.

27. In defining the elements of aiding and abetting liability, the Tadić Appeal Judgement contrasted aiding and abetting with JCE, distinguishing these modes of liability on the basis of specific direction. The Appeals Chamber underscored that, while the actus reus of JCE requires only “acts that in some way are directed to the furthering of the common plan or purpose”, the actus reus of aiding and abetting requires a closer link between the assistance provided and particular criminal activities: assistance must be “specifically” – rather than “in some way” – directed towards relevant crimes.

28. To date, no judgement of the Appeals Chamber has found cogent reasons to depart from the definition of aiding and abetting liability adopted in the Tadić Appeal Judgement. Moreover, many subsequent Tribunal and ICTR appeal judgments explicitly referred to “specific direction” in enumerating the elements of aiding and abetting, often repeating verbatim the Tadić Appeal Judgement’s relevant holding.

29. The Appeals Chamber notes that, while certain appeal judgements rendered after the Tadić Appeal Judgement made no explicit reference to specific direction, several of these employed alternative but equivalent formulations. In particular, the Simić Appeal Judgement defined the actus reus of aiding and abetting as “acts directed
to assist, encourage or lend moral support to the perpetration of a certain specific crime.\textsuperscript{71} Similarly, the Orić Appeal Judgement, discussing aiding and abetting in the context of omission liability, explained that the "omission must be directed to assist, encourage or lend moral support to the perpetration of a crime and have a substantial effect upon the perpetration of the crime."\textsuperscript{72} The ICTR's Niwukulilyayo and Rukundo Appeal Judgements referred to acts that are "specifically aimed" towards relevant crimes.\textsuperscript{73} Finally, the ICTR's Karera Appeal Judgement stated that the "actus reus of aiding and abetting is constituted by acts or omissions that assist, further, or lend moral support to the perpetration of a specific crime."\textsuperscript{74} The Appeals Chamber considers that these judgements effectively included specific direction as an element of the actus reus of aiding and abetting.

30. The Appeals Chamber further notes that although other Tribunal and ICTR appeal judgements neither refer to specific direction nor provide an equivalent formulation, these judgements do not offer a comprehensive definition of the elements of aiding and abetting liability. In particular, the Haradinaj et al., Limaj et al., Furundžija, Renzaho, Nchamihigo, Zigiranyirazo, Ndindabahizi, Gacumbitsi, Semanza, and Rutaganda Appeal Judgements focused, as relevant, only on particular elements of aiding and abetting liability or questions of fact, rather than providing an exhaustive review of aiding and abetting as a whole.\textsuperscript{75} Similarly, the Gotovina and Markač, Krajišnik, Brdanin, and Krstić Appeal Judgements did not explicitly set out all the elements of aiding and abetting liability. Insofar as these appeal judgements referred to the elements of aiding and abetting liability, however, they cited to previous appeal judgements that explicitly discussed specific direction.\textsuperscript{76}

31. By contrast to the judgements discussed above, the 2001 Delalić et al. Appeal Judgement endorsed a definition of the actus reus of aiding and abetting that neither refers to specific direction nor contains equivalent language – the only appeal judgement of the Tribunal or the ICTR to do so.\textsuperscript{77} However, the Appeals Chamber explained in the 2007 Blagojević and Jokić Appeal Judgement that "the Tadić [Appeal Judgement's] definition [of aiding and abetting liability has] not been explicitly departed from".\textsuperscript{78} The Appeals Chamber reasoned that in cases where specific direction is not "included as an element of the actus reus of aiding and abetting", findings on specific direction "will often be implicit in the finding that the accused has provided practical assistance to the principal perpetrator which had a substantial effect on the commission of the crime."\textsuperscript{79} Moreover, the Blagojević and Jokić Appeal Judgement expressly considered the Delalić et al. Appeal Judgement in both its analysis of cases that did not explicitly refer to specific direction, and its conclusion that such cases included an implicit analysis of specific direction.\textsuperscript{80}

32. Mindful of the foregoing, the Appeals Chamber now turns to the 2009 Mrkić and Šljivančanin Appeal Judgement, and Perišić's contention that this judgement erroneously departed from settled jurisprudence by stating that specific direction is not an element of the actus reus of aiding and abetting.\textsuperscript{81} In discussing the mens rea of aiding and abetting, the Mrkić and Šljivančanin Appeal Judgement stated, in passing, that "the Appeals Chamber has confirmed that 'specific direction' is not an essential ingredient of the actus reus of aiding and abetting."\textsuperscript{82} This statement may be read to suggest that specific direction is not an element of the actus reus of aiding and abetting. However, the Appeals Chamber, Judge Liu dissenting, is not persuaded that the Mrkić and Šljivančanin Appeal Judgement reflected an intention to depart from the settled precedent established by the Tadić Appeal Judgement.\textsuperscript{83}

33. At the outset, the Appeals Chamber observes that the Mrkić and Šljivančanin Appeal Judgement's reference to specific direction not being an "essential ingredient" is found in a section of the judgement analysing the mens rea rather than actus reus of aiding and abetting.\textsuperscript{84} In the context of rejecting Šljivančanin's assertion that aiding and abetting by omission requires a heightened mens rea, the Appeals Chamber explained that Šljivančanin's reference to specific direction as part of "the mens rea standard applicable to aiding and abetting" was erroneous because specific direction "forms part of the actus reus not the mens rea of aiding and abetting."\textsuperscript{85} The Appeals Chamber then stated that specific direction was "not an essential ingredient" of the actus reus of aiding and abetting.\textsuperscript{86} The only authority cited to support this latter conclusion was the Blagojević and Jokić Appeal Judgement's holding that specific direction is a requisite element of aiding and abetting liability, albeit one that may at times be satisfied by an implicit analysis of substantial contribution.\textsuperscript{87}

34. The Appeals Chamber recalls its settled practice to only "depart from a previous decision after the most careful consideration has been given to it, both as to the law, including the authorities cited, and the facts."\textsuperscript{88} The Mrkić and Šljivančanin Appeal Judgement's passing reference to specific direction does not amount to such "careful consideration". Had the Appeals Chamber found cogent reasons to depart from its relevant precedent, and
intended to do so, it would have performed a clear, detailed analysis of the issue, discussing both past jurisprudence and the authorities supporting an alternative approach. Instead, the relevant reference to specific jurisprudence was made in a section and paragraph dealing with mens rea rather than actus reus; was limited to a single sentence not relevant to the Appeals Chamber’s holding; did not explicitly acknowledge a departure from prior precedent; and, most tellingly, cited to only one previous appeal judgement, which in fact confirmed that specific direction does constitute an element of aiding and abetting liability. These indicia suggest that the formula “not an essential ingredient” was an attempt to summarise, in passing, the Blagojević and Jokić Appeal Judgement’s holding that specific direction can often be demonstrated implicitly through analysis of substantial contribution, rather than abjure previous jurisprudence establishing that specific direction is an element of aiding and abetting liability.

35. Appeal judgements rendered after the Mrkšić and Šljivančanin Appeal Judgement confirm that the Appeals Chamber in that case neither intended nor attempted a departure from settled precedent. The 2012 Lukić and Lukić Appeal Judgement approvingly quoted the Blagojević and Jokić Appeal Judgement’s conclusion that a finding of specific direction can be implicit in an analysis of substantial contribution. In the same paragraph, the Lukić and Lukić Appeal Judgement found that there were no cogent reasons to deviate from the holding of the Mrkšić and Šljivančanin Appeal Judgement with respect to specific direction. The Lukić and Lukić Appeal Judgement thus confirms that the Blagojević and Jokić and Mrkšić and Šljivančanin Appeal Judgements are not antithetical in their approach to specific direction. In addition, the Appeals Chamber recalls that several ICTR appeal judgements rendered after the Mrkšić and Šljivančanin Appeal Judgement explicitly refer to specific direction or equivalent language in enumerating the elements of the actus reus of aiding and abetting.

36. Accordingly, despite the ambiguity of the Mrkšić and Šljivančanin Appeal Judgement, the Appeals Chamber, Judge Liu dissenting, considers that specific direction remains an element of the actus reus of aiding and abetting liability. The Appeals Chamber, Judge Liu dissenting, thus reaffirms that no conviction for aiding and abetting may be entered if the element of specific direction is not established beyond reasonable doubt, either explicitly or implicitly.

(b) Circumstances in which Specific Direction Must be Explicitly Considered

37. At the outset, the Appeals Chamber, Judge Liu dissenting, recalls that the element of specific direction establishes a culpable link between assistance provided by an accused individual and the crimes of principal perpetrators. In many cases, evidence relating to other elements of aiding and abetting liability may be sufficient to demonstrate specific direction and thus the requisite culpable link.

38. In this respect, the Appeals Chamber notes that previous appeal judgements have not conducted extensive analyses of specific direction. The lack of such discussion may be explained by the fact that prior convictions for aiding and abetting entered or affirmed by the Appeals Chamber involved relevant acts geographically or otherwise proximate to, and thus not remote from, the crimes of principal perpetrators. Where such proximity is present, specific direction may be demonstrated implicitly through discussion of other elements of aiding and abetting liability, such as substantial contribution. For example, an individual accused of aiding and abetting may have been physically present during the preparation or commission of crimes committed by principal perpetrators and made a concurrent substantial contribution. In such a case, the existence of specific direction, which demonstrates the culpable link between the accused aider and abettor’s assistance and the crimes of principal perpetrators, will be self-evident.

39. However, not all cases of aiding and abetting will involve proximity of an accused individual’s relevant acts to crimes committed by principal perpetrators. Where an accused aider and abettor is remote from relevant crimes, evidence proving other elements of aiding and abetting may not be sufficient to prove specific direction. In such circumstances, the Appeals Chamber, Judge Liu dissenting, holds that explicit consideration of specific direction is required.

40. The factors indicating that acts of an accused aider and abettor are remote from the crimes of principal perpetrators will depend on the individual circumstances of each case. However, some guidance on this issue is provided by the Appeals Chamber’s jurisprudence. In particular, the Appeals Chamber has previously concluded,
in discussing aiding and abetting liability, that significant temporal distance between the actions of an accused individual and the crime he or she allegedly assisted decreases the likelihood of a connection between that crime and the accused individual’s actions. The same rationale applies, by analogy, to other factors separating the acts of an individual accused of aiding and abetting from the crimes he or she is alleged to have facilitated. Such factors may include, but are not limited to, geographic distance.

(c) The Trial Chamber’s Analysis of Aiding and Abetting in this Case

41. In assessing Perisic’s culpability and defining the legal standard for aiding and abetting, the Trial Chamber relied on the Mrksic and Slijivančanin Appeal Judgement to find that specific direction was not an element of aiding and abetting liability, and did not consider, either explicitly or implicitly, whether Perisic’s acts were specifically directed towards the VRS Crimes in Sarajevo and Srebrenica. However, as explained above, while the relevant phrasing of the Mrksic and Slijivančanin Appeal Judgement is misleading, that appeal judgement did not deviate from prior well-settled precedent that specific direction is a necessary element of aiding and abetting liability. Accordingly, the Appeals Chamber, Judge Liu dissenting, considers that the Trial Chamber’s holding that specific direction is not an element of the actus reus of aiding and abetting was an error of law.

42. The Appeals Chamber observes that Perisic’s assistance to the VRS was remote from the relevant crimes of principal perpetrators. In particular, the Trial Chamber found that the VRS was independent from the VJ, and that the two armies were based in separate geographic regions. In addition, the Trial Chamber did not refer to any evidence that Perisic was physically present when relevant criminal acts were planned or committed. In these circumstances, the Appeals Chamber, Judge Liu dissenting, further considers that an explicit analysis of specific direction would have been required in order to establish the necessary link between the aid Perisic provided and the crimes committed by principal perpetrators.

43. The Appeals Chamber emphasises that the Trial Chamber’s legal error was understandable given the particular phrasing of the Mrksic and Slijivančanin Appeal Judgement. However, the Appeals Chamber’s duty to correct legal errors remains unchanged. Accordingly, the Appeals Chamber will proceed to assess the evidence relating to Perisic’s convictions for aiding and abetting de novo under the correct legal standard, considering whether Perisic’s actions were specifically directed to aid and abet the VRS Crimes in Sarajevo and Srebrenica.

44. The Appeals Chamber notes that previous judgements have not provided extensive analysis of what evidence may prove specific direction. However, the Appeals Chamber recalls again that the Tadic Appeal Judgement indicated that specific direction involves finding a closer link between acts of an accused aider and abettor and crimes committed by principal perpetrators than is necessary to support convictions under JCE. The types of evidence required to establish such a link will depend on the facts of a given case. Nonetheless, the Appeals Chamber observes that in most cases, the provision of general assistance which could be used for both lawful and unlawful activities will not be sufficient, alone, to prove that this aid was specifically directed to crimes of principal perpetrators. In such circumstances, in order to enter a conviction for aiding and abetting, evidence establishing a direct link between the aid provided by an accused individual and the relevant crimes committed by principal perpetrators is necessary.

(d) The Extent to which Perisic Specifically Directed Assistance to VRS Crimes

45. In order to determine whether the assistance facilitated by Perisic was specifically directed towards the VRS Crimes in Sarajevo and Srebrenica, the Appeals Chamber will now review and assess de novo relevant evidence, taking into account, where appropriate, the Trial Chamber’s findings.

46. As a preliminary matter, the Appeals Chamber recalls that the Trial Chamber did not find the VRS de jure or de facto subordinated to the VJ. In particular, the Trial Chamber found that the VRS had a separate command structure: the President of the Republika Srpska served as Commander-in-Chief of the VRS, with a Commander of the VRS Main Staff assuming delegated authorities. Broader questions of VRS military strategy were addressed by the Republika Srpska’s Supreme Command, composed of the Republika Srpska’s President, Vice President, Speaker of the Assembly, and Ministers of Defence and Interior. While the Trial Chamber noted that the VRS received support from the VJ, the Trial Chamber also identified sources of support other than the FRY.
In addition, the Trial Chamber found that Perišić was not proved beyond reasonable doubt to have exercised effective control over VJ troops seconded to the VRS.120 Finally, the Trial Chamber observed that Ratko Mladić, the Commander of the VRS Main Staff, refused to accept peace plans urged by the VJ and FRY leadership.121 The Appeals Chamber, having considered this evidence in its totality, agrees with the Trial Chamber’s determination that the evidence on the record suggests that “the VRS and the VJ [were] separate and independent military entities”.122

47. Having reaffirmed the Trial Chamber’s conclusion that the VRS was independent of the VJ, the Appeals Chamber will now consider whether VJ assistance to the VRS, which Perišić acknowledged having facilitated, was specifically directed towards VRS crimes.123 In particular, the Appeals Chamber will assess: (i) Perišić’s role in shaping and implementing the FRY policy of supporting the VRS; (ii) whether the FRY policy of supporting the VRS was specifically directed towards the commission of crimes by the VRS; and (iii) whether Perišić either implemented the SDC policy of assisting the VRS in a way that specifically directed aid to the VRS Crimes in Sarajevo and Srebrenica, or took action to provide such aid outside the context of SDC-approved assistance. The Appeals Chamber considers that the relevant evidence in this case is circumstantial and thus can only support a finding of specific direction if this is the sole reasonable interpretation of the record.124

48. The Appeals Chamber underscores that the parameters of its inquiry are limited and focus solely on factors related to Perišić’s individual criminal liability for the VRS Crimes in Sarajevo and Srebrenica, not the potential liability of States or other entities over which the Tribunal has no pertinent jurisdiction.125 The Appeals Chamber also underscores that its analysis of specific direction will exclusively address actus reus. In this regard, the Appeals Chamber acknowledges that specific direction may involve considerations that are closely related to questions of mens rea. Indeed, as discussed below, evidence regarding an individual’s state of mind may serve as circumstantial evidence that assistance he or she facilitated was specifically directed towards charged crimes.126 However, the Appeals Chamber recalls again that the mens rea required to support a conviction for aiding and abetting is knowledge that assistance aids the commission of criminal acts, along with awareness of the essential elements of these crimes.127 By contrast, as set out above, the long-standing jurisprudence of the Tribunal affirms that specific direction is an analytically distinct element of actus reus.128

(i) Perišić’s Role in Shaping and Implementing the SDC Policy of Supporting the VRS

49. The Appeals Chamber recalls that, as the Trial Chamber noted, Perišić served as Chief of the VJ General Staff, and was thus the most senior officer of the VJ, from 26 August 1993 to 24 November 1998.129 In this capacity, Perišić was responsible for ensuring combat readiness and organising VJ operations.130 Perišić was subordinated to the FRY President, whose “enactments” Perišić was obligated to implement.131 Ultimate authority over defence policy and operational priorities for the VJ rested with the SDC.132 While SDC meetings were attended by many individuals, including Perišić, final SDC decisions were taken by political leaders: the President of the FRY and the Presidents of the Republics of Serbia and Montenegro.133

50. The decision to provide VJ assistance to the VRS was adopted by the SDC before Perišić was appointed Chief of the VJ General Staff,134 and the SDC continued to support this policy during Perišić’s tenure in this position.135 Perišić regularly attended and actively participated in meetings of the SDC,136 and the SDC granted him the legal authority to administer assistance to the VRS.137 However, the SDC retained and exercised the power to review both particular requests for assistance and the general policy of providing aid to the VRS.138

51. The Appeals Chamber recalls that the SDC’s responsibility for adopting the policy of assisting the VRS does not, in itself, exempt Perišić from individual criminal liability.139 The Appeals Chamber considers that, in view of the circumstances of this case, Perišić could still be found to have provided assistance specifically directed towards the VRS Crimes in Sarajevo and Srebrenica if: the policy he implemented involved providing assistance specifically linked to VRS crimes; he implemented a policy meant to aid the general VRS war effort in a manner that specifically directed assistance towards the VRS crimes; or, acting outside the scope of the SDC’s official policy, he provided assistance specifically directed towards VRS crimes.140 To assess whether evidence on the record supports any such conclusions, the Appeals Chamber will first consider Trial Chamber findings and evidence regarding the parameters of the SDC policy of providing assistance to the VRS, and will then evaluate evidence regarding Perišić’s individual actions.
(ii) The SDC Policy of Providing Support to the VRS

52. The Appeals Chamber considers that two inquiries are relevant to assessing whether SDC assistance to the VRS was specifically directed to facilitate the latter’s criminal activities. The first inquiry assesses whether the VRS was an organisation whose sole and exclusive purpose was the commission of crimes. Such a finding would suggest that assistance by the VJ to the VRS was specifically directed towards VRS crimes, including the VRS Crimes in Sarajevo and Srebrenica. The second inquiry assesses whether the SDC endorsed a policy of assisting VRS crimes; such a finding would again suggest that the assistance from the VJ to the VRS was specifically directed towards, inter alia, the VRS Crimes in Sarajevo and Srebrenica.

53. With respect to the first inquiry, the Appeals Chamber recalls that the Trial Chamber did not characterise the VRS as a criminal organisation; indeed, it stated that “Perišić is not charged with helping the VRS wage war per se, which is not a crime under the Statute.”141 Having reviewed the evidence on the record, the Appeals Chamber agrees with the Trial Chamber that the VRS was not an organisation whose actions were criminal per se; instead, it was an army fighting a war.142 The Appeals Chamber notes the Trial Chamber’s finding that the VRS’s strategy was “inextricably linked to” crimes against civilians.143 However, the Trial Chamber did not find that all VRS activities in Sarajevo or Srebrenica were criminal in nature. The Trial Chamber limited its findings to characterising as criminal only certain actions of the VRS in the context of the operations in Sarajevo and Srebrenica.144 In these circumstances, the Appeals Chamber considers that a policy of providing assistance to the VRS’s general war effort does not, in itself, demonstrate that assistance facilitated by Perišić was specifically directed to aid the VRS Crimes in Sarajevo and Srebrenica.

54. Turning to the second inquiry, the Appeals Chamber first observes that the Trial Chamber discussed evidence indicating SDC approval of measures to secure financing for the VJ’s assistance to the VRS145 and to increase the effectiveness of this assistance by systematising the secondment of VJ personnel and the transfer of equipment and supplies.146 The Trial Chamber determined that this evidence “conclusively demonstrate[s] that the SDC licensed military assistance to the VRS”.147 However, the Trial Chamber did not identify any evidence that the SDC policy directed aid towards VRS criminal activities in particular.148

55. The Appeals Chamber’s de novo review of the evidentiary record also reveals no basis for concluding that it was SDC policy to specifically direct aid towards VRS crimes.149 Instead, the SDC focused on monitoring and modulating aid to the general VRS war effort.150 For example, SDC discussions addressed difficulties in providing particular levels of assistance requested by the VRS;151 salaries of VJ personnel seconded to the VRS,152 and instances where members of the VJ provided supplies to the VRS without official approval.153

56. The Appeals Chamber notes the Prosecution’s suggestion that the magnitude of VJ aid provided to the VRS is sufficient to prove Perišić’s actus reus with respect to the VRS Crimes in Sarajevo and Srebrenica.154 However, the Appeals Chamber observes that while the Trial Chamber considered evidence regarding volume of assistance in making findings on substantial contribution,155 this analysis does not necessarily demonstrate specific direction, and thus such evidence does not automatically establish a sufficient link between aid provided by an accused aider and abettor and the commission of crimes by principal perpetrators.156 In the circumstances of this case, indicia demonstrating the magnitude of VJ aid to the VRS serve as circumstantial evidence of specific direction; however, a finding of specific direction must be the sole reasonable inference after a review of the evidentiary record as a whole.157

57. The Appeals Chamber underscores that the VRS was participating in lawful combat activities and was not a purely criminal organisation.158 In addition, as explained above, other evidence on the record does not suggest that SDC policy provided that aid be specifically directed towards VRS crimes.159 In this context, the Appeals Chamber, Judge Liu dissenting, considers that a reasonable interpretation of the evidence on the record is that the SDC directed large-scale military assistance to the general VRS war effort, not to the commission of VRS crimes. Accordingly, specific direction of VJ aid towards VRS crimes is not the sole reasonable inference that can be drawn from the totality of the evidence on the record, even considering the magnitude of the VJ’s assistance.

58. In view of the foregoing, the Appeals Chamber, Judge Liu dissenting, concludes that the SDC policy of assisting the VRS was not proved to involve specific direction of VJ aid towards VRS crimes, as opposed to the
general VRS war effort. In these circumstances, insofar as Perišić faithfully executed the SDC policy of supporting the VRS, the aid Perišić facilitated was not proved to be specifically directed towards the VRS's criminal activities.

(iii) Perišić's Implementation of SDC Policy and Other Actions

59. The Appeals Chamber now turns to consider whether Perišić implemented the SDC policy of assisting the VRS war effort in a manner that redirected aid towards VRS crimes, or took actions separate from implementing SDC policy to the same effect. In this regard, the Appeals Chamber will consider Perišić's role in SDC deliberations, the nature of the assistance Perišić provided to the VRS, and the manner in which this aid was distributed. All of these indicia can serve as circumstantial evidence of whether the aid he facilitated was specifically directed towards VRS crimes. Finally, the Appeals Chamber will consider whether Perišić took actions, independent of his efforts to implement the SDC policy, which would indicate that aid he facilitated was specifically directed towards the VRS Crimes in Sarajevo and Srebrenica.

60. The Appeals Chamber notes that the Trial Chamber found that Perišić supported continuing the SDC policy of assisting the VRS. During meetings of the SDC, Perišić argued both for sustaining aid to the VRS and for adopting related legal and financial measures that facilitated such aid. However, the Trial Chamber did not identify evidence demonstrating that Perišić urged the provision of VJ assistance to the VRS in furtherance of specific criminal activities. Rather, the Trial Chamber's analysis of Perišić's role in SDC deliberations indicates that Perišić only supported the continuation of assistance to the general VRS war effort. Having reviewed the relevant evidence, the Appeals Chamber, Judge Liu dissenting, also finds no proof that Perišić supported the provision of assistance specifically directed towards the VRS's criminal activities. Instead, evidence on the record suggests that Perišić's relevant actions were intended to aid the VRS's overall war effort.

61. The Appeals Chamber observes that Perišić had considerable discretion in providing assistance to the VRS, including the power to deny requests for aid not submitted through official channels. While it is possible that Perišić could have used this power to direct SDC-approved aid specifically towards VRS criminal activities, the Trial Chamber did not make any findings to that effect, and the Appeals Chamber's review of relevant evidence also suggests that Perišić directed assistance towards the general VRS war effort within the parameters set by the SDC. In particular, as discussed below, neither the nature of the aid which Perišić oversaw nor the manner in which it was distributed suggests that the assistance he facilitated was specifically directed towards the VRS Crimes in Sarajevo and Srebrenica.

62. The Appeals Chamber recalls that indicia demonstrating the nature and distribution of VJ aid could also serve as circumstantial evidence of specific direction. The Appeals Chamber notes in this regard that the Trial Chamber classified the assistance provided by the VJ to the VRS in two broad categories: first, secondment of personnel, and, second, provision of military equipment, logistical support, and military training.

63. With respect to the secondment of VJ soldiers to the VRS, the Appeals Chamber recalls that the Trial Chamber found that Perišić persuaded the SDC to create the 30th PC, a unit of the VJ that served as the administrative home of VJ soldiers and officers seconded to the VRS and which was used to increase and institutionalise the support already provided to seconded VJ soldiers and officers. The Trial Chamber also found that the establishment of the 30th PC constituted practical assistance to the VRS, as the 30th PC helped sustain soldiers already seconded to the VRS and facilitated the secondment of additional personnel. However, the record contains no evidence suggesting that the benefits provided to seconded soldiers and officers – including VJ-level salaries, housing, and educational and medical benefits – were tailored to facilitate the commission of crimes. Rather, evidence on the record indicates that such benefits were structured to mirror those offered by the VJ and thus provide seconded soldiers and officers with the same level of support as they received prior to secondment. In addition, the evidence on the record does not suggest that VJ soldiers and officers were seconded in order to specifically assist VRS criminal acts. In the Appeals Chamber's view, the fact that VJ soldiers seconded to the VRS may have been involved in criminal acts after secondment does not, alone, prove that their secondments were specifically directed to
supporting these criminal acts. In sum, the Appeals Chamber, Judge Liu dissenting, finds that neither the Trial Chamber’s analysis nor the Appeals Chamber’s de novo review of evidence on the record provides a basis for concluding that Perišić’s facilitation of secondments was directed to assist VRS crimes rather than the general VRS war effort.

With respect to the second category of assistance provided by the VJ to the VRS, the Appeals Chamber recalls the Trial Chamber’s finding that the VJ supplied the VRS with “comprehensive” logistical aid, often not requiring payment for this assistance. In particular, the Trial Chamber concluded that the VJ provided the VRS with military equipment and supplies on a large scale, including semi-automatic rifles, machine guns, pieces for machine-gun barrels, cannons, bullets, grenades, rocket launchers, mortar ammunition, mines, rockets, anti-aircraft ammunition, and mortar shells. The Trial Chamber further concluded that the VJ offered military training to VRS troops and assisted with military communications. The Appeals Chamber’s review of evidence on the record also demonstrates that, pursuant to the overall policy of the FRY, as expressed in decisions of the SDC, Perišić administered and facilitated the provision of large-scale military assistance to the VRS.

The Appeals Chamber considers that the types of aid provided by the VJ to the VRS do not appear incompatible with lawful military operations. In addition, the Appeals Chamber notes that the Trial Chamber found that bullets and shells recovered from crime sites in Sarajevo and Srebrenica were not proved beyond reasonable doubt to have originated from the VJ, and further notes that the Prosecution does not challenge this finding on appeal. In these circumstances, the Appeals Chamber, Judge Liu dissenting, recalling that evidence proving substantial contribution does not necessarily demonstrate specific direction, finds that evidence regarding the nature of assistance provided by the VJ does not establish that this assistance was specifically directed towards VRS crimes.

The manner in which Perišić distributed VJ aid to the VRS also does not demonstrate specific direction. The Trial Chamber determined that part of this assistance was sent to certain VRS units involved in committing crimes. However, the Appeals Chamber, Judge Liu dissenting, considers that neither the Trial Chamber’s analysis nor the Appeals Chamber’s de novo review identified evidence that aid was provided to the VRS in a manner directed at supporting its criminal activities. Evidence on the record instead suggests that Perišić considered the VRS’s requests as a whole and that VJ assistance was delivered to multiple areas within BiH to aid the general VRS war effort.

The Appeals Chamber also finds that evidence on the record does not prove that Perišić took steps to assist VRS crimes outside his role of implementing the SDC’s general aid policy. Indeed, Perišić refused requests for assistance submitted outside of official channels and urged the SDC to punish VJ personnel who provided such unauthorised assistance. While Perišić appears to have ordered VJ units to support certain VRS combat operations, neither the Trial Chamber’s analysis nor the Appeals Chamber’s review of relevant evidence establish that this assistance was directed at supporting criminal activities of the VRS. In this regard, the Appeals Chamber notes that the Prosecution was unable to identify evidence on the record suggesting that Perišić specifically directed assistance towards the VRS Crimes in Sarajevo and Srebrenica.

Finally, the Appeals Chamber notes that the Trial Chamber considered extensive evidence suggesting that Perišić knew of crimes being committed by the VRS, especially with respect to Sarajevo. However, the Appeals Chamber, Judge Liu dissenting, recalls that evidence regarding knowledge of crimes, alone, does not establish specific direction, which is a distinct element of actus reus, separate from mens rea. Indications demonstrating that Perišić knew of the VRS Crimes in Sarajevo and Srebrenica may serve as circumstantial evidence of specific direction; however, a finding of specific direction must be the sole reasonable inference after a review of the evidentiary record as a whole.

The Appeals Chamber recalls again that the VRS undertook, inter alia, lawful combat activities and was not a purely criminal organisation. In this context, the Appeals Chamber, Judge Liu dissenting, considers that a reasonable interpretation of relevant circumstantial evidence is that, while Perišić may have known of VRS crimes, the VJ aid he facilitated was directed towards the VRS’s general war effort rather than VRS crimes. Accordingly, the Appeals Chamber, Judge Liu dissenting, holds that Perišić was not proved beyond reasonable doubt to have facilitated assistance specifically directed towards the VRS Crimes in Sarajevo and Srebrenica.
Conclusions from De Novo Review of Evidence on the Record

70. The Appeals Chamber, Judge Liu dissenting, has clarified that, in view of the remoteness of Perišić’s actions from the crimes of the VRS, an explicit analysis of specific direction was required. As detailed above, the Appeals Chamber’s review of the Trial Chamber’s general evidentiary findings and de novo assessment of evidence on the record do not demonstrate that SDC policy provided for directing VJ aid towards VRS crimes. Similarly, the Trial Chamber’s conclusions and evidence on the record do not suggest that Perišić’s implementation of SDC policy specifically directed aid towards VRS crimes, or that Perišić took other actions to that effect.

71. The Appeals Chamber has already noted that the Trial Chamber identified evidence of the large scale of VJ assistance to the VRS, as well as evidence that Perišić knew of VRS crimes. However, having considered these Trial Chamber findings alongside its de novo analysis of the record, the Appeals Chamber, Judge Liu dissenting, is not convinced that the only reasonable interpretation of the totality of this circumstantial evidence is that Perišić specifically directed aid towards VRS crimes. Instead, a reasonable interpretation of the record is that VJ aid facilitated by Perišić was directed towards the VRS’s general war effort rather than VRS crimes. Accordingly, the Appeals Chamber, Judge Liu dissenting, is not convinced that the VJ aid which Perišić facilitated was proved to be specifically directed towards the VRS Crimes in Sarajevo and Srebrenica.

72. As demonstrated above, the Appeals Chamber considers that assistance from one army to another army’s war efforts is insufficient, in itself, to trigger individual criminal liability for individual aid providers absent proof that the relevant assistance was specifically directed towards criminal activities. The Appeals Chamber underscores, however, that this conclusion should in no way be interpreted as enabling military leaders to deflect criminal liability by subcontracting the commission of criminal acts. If an ostensibly independent military group is proved to be under the control of officers in another military group, the latter can still be held responsible for crimes committed by their puppet forces. Similarly, aid from one military force specifically directed towards crimes committed by another force can also trigger aiding and abetting liability. However, as explained above, a sufficient link between the acts of an individual accused of aiding and abetting a crime and the crime he or she is charged with assisting must be established for the accused individual to incur criminal liability. Neither the findings of the Trial Chamber nor the evidence on the record in this case prove such a link with respect to Perišić’s actions.

B. Conclusion

73. The Appeals Chamber, Judge Liu dissenting, recalls that specific direction is an element of the actus reus of aiding and abetting liability, and that in cases like this one, where an accused individual’s assistance is remote from the actions of principal perpetrators, specific direction must be explicitly established. After carefully reviewing the evidence on the record, the Appeals Chamber, Judge Liu dissenting, concludes that it has not been established beyond reasonable doubt that Perišić carried out “acts specifically directed to assist, encourage or lend moral support to the perpetration of [the] certain specific crime[s]” committed by the VRS. Accordingly, Perišić’s convictions for aiding and abetting must be reversed on the ground that not all the elements of aiding and abetting liability have been proved beyond reasonable doubt.

74. For the foregoing reasons, the Appeals Chamber, Judge Liu dissenting, grants Perišić’s Second and Third Grounds of Appeal in part, insofar as they relate to his convictions for aiding and abetting, and reverses his convictions under Counts 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, and 12 of the Indictment. In view of this finding, Perišić’s remaining arguments in his First through Twelfth Grounds of Appeal are dismissed as moot.

IV. SUPERIOR RESPONSIBILITY (GROUND 13)

75. The Trial Chamber, Judge Moloto dissenting, convicted Perišić under Article 7(3) of the Statute for failing to punish VJ soldiers who were responsible for crimes perpetrated during the shelling of Zagreb on 2 and 3 May 1995 (“Zagreb Perpetrators”), namely murder and attacks on civilians as violations of the laws or customs of war (Counts 6 and 8); and murder and inhumane acts as crimes against humanity (Counts 5 and 7) (collectively, “Zagreb Crimes”).
76. Perišić submits, *inter alia*, that the Trial Chamber erred in law and fact in determining that he was in a superior-subordinate relationship with the Zagreb Perpetrators at the time the Zagreb Crimes took place. According to Perišić, Perišić requests that the Appeals Chamber reverse his convictions as a superior under Article 7(3) of the Statute.

A. Background

77. The Trial Chamber’s finding of superior responsibility was based in part on Perišić’s position as a senior officer of the VJ. More specifically, the Trial Chamber found that some members of the VJ, including the Zagreb Perpetrators, were seconded to assist war efforts of the Republic of Serbian Krajina (“RSK”). These seconded VJ members served in the Serbian Army of the Krajina (“SVK”). VJ soldiers were seconded to the SVK through administrative assignment to a unit of the VJ named the 40th PC, which provided their salaries, housing, and educational and medical benefits during secondment.

78. The Trial Chamber found that soldiers seconded through the 40th PC “held all the key commanding positions in the SVK.” For example, Milan Čeleketić, an officer seconded through the 40th PC, served as Chief of the SVK Main Staff from 22 February 1994 until mid-May 1995. His replacement, Mile Mrkić, was also a VJ member seconded to the SVK. The Trial Chamber concluded that the SVK operated pursuant to parallel chains of command, one led by Milan Martić as President of the RSK and Supreme Commander of the SVK, and the other by Perišić, the most senior officer of the VJ, and other members of the FRY leadership. The Trial Chamber found that both chains of command could issue binding orders to seconded VJ members, including the Zagreb Perpetrators.

79. The Trial Chamber concluded that the fall of the RSK in August 1995 curtailed the scope of SVK operations. The Trial Chamber also noted witness testimony that SVK forces, including VJ soldiers seconded through the 40th PC, effectively operated as members of the VJ after August 1995.

B. Submissions

80. Perišić asserts that the Trial Chamber erred in finding that he: (i) was the *de jure* superior of the Zagreb Perpetrators; and (ii) had effective control over VJ soldiers seconded through the 40th PC as demonstrated by his ability to discipline and issue binding orders to its members. With respect to *de jure* authority, Perišić asserts that the law of the VJ defined a “superior” as a person who “commands a military unit or military institution, or individuals serving in a military unit or military institution.” In this regard, Perišić submits that VJ soldiers seconded through the 40th PC were part of a chain of command separate from his own authority and that any authority he possessed over the 40th PC was solely administrative and too circumscribed to make him a *de jure* superior.

81. Perišić further contends, *inter alia*, that evidence on the record does not prove that he possessed the material ability to discipline the Zagreb Perpetrators at the time of the shelling of Zagreb in early May 1995. He submits that the Trial Chamber’s findings to the contrary failed to adequately account for: (i) evidence of divergences between the goals of the VJ and the SVK that would have impeded his ability to discipline VJ soldiers seconded through the 40th PC; (ii) the fall of the RSK in the months following the shelling of Zagreb, which then enabled Perišić to discipline soldiers and officers seconded through the 40th PC; and (iii) the Prosecution’s decision not to pursue charges of “failure to prevent”, by which, Perišić contends, the Prosecution effectively conceded Perišić’s lack of effective control over the Zagreb Perpetrators. More broadly, Perišić submits that the Trial Chamber failed to assess a key indicator of superior responsibility: whether he and the Zagreb Perpetrators acted as though they were in a superior-subordinate relationship. Perišić further submits that the Trial Chamber did not sufficiently consider the testimony of Prosecution Witness Rade Rašeta, who stated that Perišić did not possess disciplinary power over soldiers and officers seconded to the SVK through the 40th PC. Perišić also contends that the Trial Chamber erred by failing to understand that his power to “verify” promotions of VJ soldiers seconded through the 40th PC did not give him the ability to control these soldiers’ actions.

82. Perišić submits that the Trial Chamber erred in finding that Martić and Perišić each controlled VJ soldiers seconded to the SVK through separate chains of command. He submits that even if such a “bifurcated” command
structure existed, it would nonetheless have negated effective control by one chain of command, given the high risk of conflicting orders from the two command chains.\(^{235}\) In any case, Perišić maintains that the Trial Chamber erred in concluding that he possessed the power to issue orders to VJ soldiers seconded through the 40th PC and serving in the SVK during the shelling of Zagreb.\(^{236}\) In this regard, he underscores the “paucity of orders” he “allegedly issued” to VJ soldiers seconded through the 40th PC\(^{237}\) and the fact that these orders were not always executed.\(^{238}\) Perišić further underscores Čeleketić’s refusal to cease shelling Zagreb despite Perišić’s explicit request to that effect.\(^{239}\) Finally, Perišić maintains that the Trial Chamber: (i) erred by identifying as non-administrative (“command”) orders documents emanating from outside his chain of command or constituting requests, administrative orders, or attempts to influence;\(^{240}\) (ii) did not sufficiently consider relevant testimony from, *inter alia*, Witness Rašeta and Prosecution Witness Rade Orlić to the effect that Perišić did not issue command orders to the SVK;\(^{241}\) and (iii) erroneously inferred from orders he issued after the shelling of Zagreb that he had been able to issue command orders during the shelling.\(^{242}\)

83. The Prosecution responds, *inter alia*, that it did not concede Perišić’s lack of effective control over VJ soldiers seconded through the 40th PC when it decided not to pursue “failure to prevent” charges against him.\(^{243}\) The Prosecution maintains that the Trial Chamber reasonably concluded that Perišić exercised effective control over the Zagreb Perpetrators.\(^{244}\) The Prosecution also asserts that Perišić “confuses ‘effective control’ with ‘ability to control the acts of the perpetrators’”. It submits that in determining whether an individual possessed effective control, the relevant inquiry is whether he or she had the ability to prevent or punish acts of subordinates.\(^{245}\)

84. More specifically, the Prosecution contends that Perišić fails to demonstrate that the Trial Chamber erred in concluding that Perišić was the *de jure* superior of the Zagreb Perpetrators.\(^{246}\) The Prosecution submits that the Trial Chamber reasonably relied upon Perišić’s initiation of disciplinary proceedings against key officers of the 40th PC as an especially relevant indicator of effective control.\(^{247}\) The Prosecution adds that Perišić fails to cite any evidence of “new command and control relationships” after the fall of the RSK,\(^{248}\) and it rejects Perišić’s claims that the VJ’s goals diverged from those of the SVK during the shelling of Zagreb.\(^{249}\) Moreover, the Prosecution maintains that the Trial Chamber acted within the scope of its discretion in preferring evidence of Perišić’s “actual exercise of disciplinary powers” over “ostensible structures and overt declarations of the belligerents”.\(^{250}\) The Prosecution also asserts that the Trial Chamber acted reasonably in considering that “Perišić’s ability ‘to make independent recommendations with respect to the verification of promotions’ militate[d] ‘in favour of effective control.’”\(^{251}\)

85. The Prosecution further contends that the Trial Chamber reasonably considered evidence on the record in concluding that the VJ and SVK operated pursuant to parallel chains of command and that Perišić could nonetheless exercise effective control.\(^{252}\) In particular, the Prosecution maintains that command orders issued by Perišić indicated his effective control over the Zagreb Perpetrators.\(^{253}\) The Prosecution submits that the Trial Chamber reasonably discounted testimony by Witnesses Rašeta and Orlić about Perišić’s inability to issue command orders.\(^{254}\) Finally, the Prosecution suggests that Perišić did not issue many command orders because of his seniority and the concurrence of VJ and SVK goals,\(^{255}\) and denies that the limited evidence of compliance with Perišić’s orders undermined the Trial Chamber’s relevant conclusions.\(^{256}\)

C. **Analysis**

86. The Appeals Chamber recalls that a conviction pursuant to Article 7(3) of the Statute requires:

i. The existence of a superior-subordinate relationship;

ii. the superior knew or had reason to know that the criminal act was about to be or had been committed; and

iii. the superior failed to take the necessary and reasonable measures to prevent the criminal act or punish the perpetrator thereof.\(^{257}\)

87. The Appeals Chamber recalls that a superior cannot be held criminally liable under Article 7(3) of the Statute unless he or she exercised effective control over his or her subordinates.\(^{258}\) Indicators of effective control are “more
a matter of evidence than of substantive law, and those indicators are limited to showing that the accused had the power to prevent [or] punish.\textsuperscript{259} The Appeals Chamber further recalls that an accused may not be held liable under Article 7(3) of the Statute for failure to punish crimes that were committed by a subordinate before the accused assumed command over the subordinate.\textsuperscript{260}

88. As a threshold matter, the Appeals Chamber first addresses Perišić’s assertion that, by not pursuing charges for his failure to prevent the Zagreb Crimes, the Prosecution conceded that he lacked effective control over the Zagreb Perpetrators.\textsuperscript{261} The Appeals Chamber recalls that the duty to prevent is distinct from the duty to punish, involving different conduct committed at different times.\textsuperscript{262} In addition, the ability to prevent a crime is not necessarily a prerequisite to proving effective control.\textsuperscript{263} In these circumstances, the Appeals Chamber is not persuaded that the Prosecution conceded that Perišić lacked effective control over the Zagreb Perpetrators.

89. The Appeals Chamber also notes Perišić’s submission that the Trial Chamber did not sufficiently consider relevant testimony by Witnesses Rašeta and Orlić.\textsuperscript{264} Before turning to the specifics of Perišić’s relationship with the Zagreb Perpetrators, the Appeals Chamber will consider whether the Trial Chamber committed an error in this regard.

1. The Testimony of Witnesses Rašeta and Orlić

90. The Appeals Chamber recalls that the Trial Chamber’s conclusions on effective control were premised on its finding that at relevant times, Perišić had the ability to discipline or issue binding command orders to the SVK, but that in the context of a “bifurcated” command structure, wherein the SVK also answered to Martić, Perišić generally chose not to exercise these powers.\textsuperscript{265} The Trial Chamber relied on its finding in this regard to explain both the absence of any evidence that Perišić took disciplinary actions against VJ soldiers seconded to the SVK prior to the shelling of Zagreb,\textsuperscript{266} and the limited evidence of binding command orders issued by Perišić to VJ soldiers seconded through the 40th PC during the same period.\textsuperscript{267} In finding that Perišić exercised effective control over seconded VJ soldiers, the Trial Chamber also noted evidence that, after the fall of the RSK, Perišić initiated disciplinary proceedings against VJ soldiers seconded through the 40th PC\textsuperscript{268} and identified evidence suggesting that Perišić could influence promotions and terminations of seconded VJ soldiers.\textsuperscript{269} In addition, the Trial Chamber considered Perišić’s involvement in paying salaries to seconded officers and soldiers, the general support provided by the VJ to the SVK, and reports on SVK activities sent to the VJ.\textsuperscript{270}

91. In reviewing evidence regarding effective control, the Trial Chamber summarised the relevant testimony of Witness Rašeta, a VJ officer who testified that he did not participate in the VJ chain of command after he was seconded to the SVK\textsuperscript{271} and that prior to the shelling of Zagreb, Perišić did not possess immediate disciplinary powers over VJ soldiers seconded through the 40th PC.\textsuperscript{272} The Trial Chamber also summarised the relevant evidence of Witness Orlić, a VJ officer seconded to the SVK, who testified that he did not receive any command orders from the VJ while serving in the SVK.\textsuperscript{273} The testimony of these two witnesses suggested that Perišić did not have the authority to issue command orders or discipline members of the VJ seconded to the SVK, and thus that he did not exercise effective control over the Zagreb Perpetrators at the time the Zagreb Crimes were committed.\textsuperscript{274} However, while the Trial Chamber noted this testimony from Witnesses Rašeta and Orlić when summarising relevant evidence, it concluded that Perišić exercised effective control over VJ soldiers and officers seconded through the 40th PC without discounting or addressing the testimony of either of these two witnesses.\textsuperscript{275}

92. The Appeals Chamber acknowledges that a trial chamber is entitled to rely on the evidence it finds most convincing.\textsuperscript{276} The Appeals Chamber, nevertheless, recalls that:

\begin{quote}
a [t]rial [c]hamber need not refer to the testimony of every witness or every piece of evidence on the trial record, 'as long as there is no indication that the [t]rial [c]hamber completely disregarded any particular piece of evidence.' Such disregard is shown 'when evidence which is clearly relevant [. . .] is not addressed by the [t]rial [c]hamber's reasoning.'\textsuperscript{277}
\end{quote}

The Appeals Chamber also recalls that “not every inconsistency which the [t]rial [c]hamber failed to discuss renders its opinion defective”,\textsuperscript{278} what constitutes a reasoned opinion depends on the specific facts of a case.\textsuperscript{279} However, in certain circumstances, insufficient analysis of evidence on the record can amount to a failure to provide a reasoned
opinion. Such a failure constitutes an error of law requiring de novo review of evidence by the Appeals Chamber.

93. Turning to the particulars of this appeal, the Appeals Chamber recalls that in the months prior to the shelling of Zagreb, Witnesses Rašeta and Orlić occupied senior positions within the SVK: Witness Rašeta served as Chief of the SVK Main Staff Security Department, while Witness Orlić served as Chief of the SVK Intelligence Department. The Trial Chamber cited Witness Rašeta’s testimony that he was in daily contact with the VJ General Staff and that this contact included reports on individuals seconded from the VJ. The Trial Chamber also noted Witness Orlić’s testimony that the SVK Intelligence Department, which he headed, coordinated closely with its counterparts in the VJ. Because of their official roles, each witness interacted with both the VJ and the SVK chains of command and was in position to experience first-hand the relationship between the VJ and SVK; Witness Rašeta, in particular, filed reports about VJ personnel seconded to the SVK. These two witnesses would thus have an informed perspective as to whether VJ soldiers seconded through the 40th PC participated in the VJ’s chain of command, as well as Perišić’s relevant disciplinary powers. In this context, their testimony was clearly relevant to the Trial Chamber’s analysis of effective control.

94. The Trial Chamber did not make any explicit findings as to potential deficiencies in the testimony of Witnesses Rašeta or Orlić. To the contrary, the Trial Chamber explicitly discussed Witness Rašeta’s testimony in at least 11 paragraphs of the Trial Judgement with respect to other issues and cited to Witness Rašeta’s testimony in at least 17 additional paragraphs, not directly related to Perišić’s effective control over seconded VJ soldiers. Several of these references rely on Witness Rašeta’s testimony without corroboration. The Trial Chamber also explicitly discussed testimony by Witness Orlić in at least two paragraphs of the Trial Judgement and cited to Witness Orlić’s testimony in at least eight additional paragraphs, not directly related to Perišić’s effective control over seconded VJ soldiers. This extensive reliance, without corroboration in some cases, suggests that the Trial Chamber considered these witnesses’ testimony to be credible.

95. The Appeals Chamber considers that the analysis undertaken by the Trial Chamber with respect to Perišić’s effective control might be regarded as “reasoned” in itself. However, in the Appeals Chamber’s view, an analysis limited to a select segment of the relevant evidentiary record is not necessarily sufficient to constitute a reasoned opinion. In the context of this case, the Trial Chamber’s failure to explicitly discuss and analyse the evidence of Witnesses Rašeta and Orlić constituted a failure to provide a reasoned opinion. The Appeals Chamber acknowledges that a trial chamber’s failure to explicitly refer to specific witness testimony will often not amount to an error of law, especially where there is significant contrary evidence on the record. However, the Appeals Chamber underscores that, as explained above, the testimony of Witnesses Rašeta and Orlić was clearly relevant, relied upon in other sections of the Trial Judgement, and not explicitly discounted in whole or in part. The Appeals Chamber also notes that the Trial Chamber acknowledged the comparatively limited evidence on the record regarding Perišić’s ability to issue orders to or discipline VJ soldiers seconded through the 40th PC. In these circumstances – i.e. given the paucity of relevant evidence, and the credible testimony contrary to the Trial Chamber’s conclusions – the Appeals Chamber is not satisfied that, merely by noting its existence, the Trial Chamber adequately addressed the testimony of Witnesses Rašeta and Orlić.

96. Accordingly, the Appeals Chamber concludes that the Trial Chamber’s failure to address the relevant portions of this testimony in its analysis of Perišić’s superior responsibility constituted a failure to provide a reasoned opinion, an error of law. In view of the Trial Chamber’s legal error, the Appeals Chamber will proceed to assess the evidence relevant to Perišić’s exercise of effective control de novo. As detailed below, the evidence relating to Perišić’s effective control is circumstantial and thus can only support a finding of effective control if this is the sole reasonable interpretation of the record.

2. Perišić’s Ability to Exercise Effective Control over the 40th PC

97. In order to determine whether Perišić exercised effective control over VJ officers and soldiers seconded through the 40th PC at the time of the Zagreb Crimes, the Appeals Chamber will review and assess de novo relevant evidence on the record, taking into account, as appropriate, the Trial Chamber’s findings. In particular, the Appeals Chamber will consider: (i) Perišić’s instruction that Zagreb not be shelled; (ii) whether Perišić could issue
command orders to soldiers seconded through the 40th PC; (iii) whether Perišić could exercise disciplinary authority over VJ soldiers seconded through the 40th PC; and (iv) other indicia of Perišić’s ability to control VJ soldiers seconded through the 40th PC, including his influence over promotions and terminations.301

(a) Perišić’s Instruction that Zagreb not be Shelled

98. The Appeals Chamber recalls that the Trial Chamber found that SVK forces under Čeleketić’s command began to shell Croatian targets on 1 May 1995, and that this shelling encompassed the Zagreb area on 2 May 1995.302 The shelling of Zagreb continued until 3 May 1995, resulting in deaths and injuries of civilians.303 According to the Trial Chamber, Čeleketić ordered that this shelling take place on the basis of instructions from Martić, the RSK President.304

99. The Trial Chamber also found that during the SVK attacks in Croatia, Perišić instructed Čeleketić not to shell Zagreb.305 However, these instructions were not obeyed, and Perišić explained to Milošević that Čeleketić had continued shelling Zagreb pursuant to Martić’s orders and in complete disregard of Perišić’s own instructions to the contrary.306 Though Perišić told Milošević that he forced Čeleketić to stop the shelling,307 the attack on Zagreb continued for two days, after Perišić’s initial instructions on 1 May 1995.308

100. The Appeals Chamber notes that intercepted conversations between Perišić and Milošević suggest neither was convinced that Perišić was able to exercise effective control over Čeleketić. In one such intercept, when asked why he could not instruct Čeleketić to ignore Martić’s orders, Perišić explained that Čeleketić was obedient to Martić.309 In the Appeals Chamber’s view, this intercept suggests that Perišić did not believe Čeleketić to be under his effective control, and that Milošević considered Perišić able to influence but not command Čeleketić.

101. The Appeals Chamber recalls that the crimes Perišić was found responsible for failing to punish occurred during the shelling of Zagreb in early May 1995.310 Any indicia of Perišić’s effective control over the SVK at that specific time are thus particularly significant.311 The Appeals Chamber observes that during this period, the evidence described above demonstrates that, when Martić and Perišić endorsed directly conflicting courses of action, Čeleketić chose to obey orders from Martić and ignore Perišić’s explicit instructions.312 In addition, the phone intercepts identified by the Trial Chamber suggest that neither Perišić nor Milošević perceived Čeleketić as effectively controlled by Perišić.313 On its face, Perišić’s inability to control significant actions by Čeleketić, an important VJ officer seconded through the 40th PC during the shelling of Zagreb, and apparent acknowledgement that he lacked such power, is inconsistent with exercise of effective control over the Zagreb Perpetrators.

(b) Evidence Regarding Perišić’s Ability to Issue Command Orders to Soldiers Seconded Through the 40th PC

102. As set forth above, two witnesses whom the Trial Chamber considered credible,314 and who served as senior SVK officers, testified that Perišić did not issue command orders to them while they were serving in the SVK. Witness Rašeta stated that he was no longer part of the VJ’s chain of command after being assigned to the 40th PC, while Witness Orlić testified that he received no command orders from Perišić after his secondment.315

103. In addition, the Trial Chamber noted evidence of Prosecution Witness MP-80, who testified that Perišić did not issue command orders to Čeleketić316 and further noted that VJ communications to the SVK prior to the shelling of Zagreb, which raised issues such as weapons handling and material for meetings, used terms associated with encouragement rather than coercion, such as “please”.317 The Trial Chamber also referred to reports by Perišić that Dušan Lončar, a VJ officer seconded through the 40th PC and Commander of the SVK 11th Corps, “accepted” approaches Perišić had advocated.318 The Appeals Chamber considers that the use of non-coercive terms suggests that Perišić did not exercise effective control over VJ soldiers seconded through the 40th PC.

104. The Appeals Chamber notes that Perišić transmitted an order from Milošević to, inter alia, the SVK on 7 December 1994, several months prior to the shelling of Zagreb (“7 December Order”), ordering the SVK to facilitate the passage of United Nations aid.319 However, the text of the 7 December Order does not demonstrate that it constituted an order by Perišić to individuals falling within the VJ chain of command. First, the 7 December Order was addressed to both Čeleketić,320 who was a seconded VJ officer, and RSK President Martić, who was not.321 Given that the RSK President was not formally linked to the VJ,322 the Appeals Chamber considers that Martić's
inclusion in the 7 December Order suggests that the order was not an instruction issued to soldiers falling within the VJ’s chain of command. Second, the 7 December Order invokes Milošević’s personal authority as President of Serbia and makes no apparent reference to the VJ’s chain of command other than using Perišić as a conduit to pass on the order.\(^3\) Finally, the Appeals Chamber notes that Čeleketić responded to the 7 December Order by addressing Milošević directly,\(^4\) thereby bypassing Perišić and the VJ chain of command entirely. In these circumstances, the Appeals Chamber does not consider that the 7 December Order establishes Perišić’s ability to issue command orders to VJ soldiers seconded through the 40th PC.

105. The Appeals Chamber also notes that Perišić issued an order on 24 March 1995, prior to the shelling of Zagreb, establishing a group of coordinating staff to aid activities of the 40th PC (“24 March Order”).\(^5\) Perišić ordered that this coordinating staff be composed of a mixed group that included VJ members, VJ members seconded to the SVK, a retired VJ officer, and a member of the RSK’s Ministry of Defence.\(^6\) The Appeals Chamber observes that certain individuals to whom the order referred, including the retired officer and the member of the RSK’s Ministry of Defence, were not subject to Perišić’s authority.\(^7\) In addition, the Trial Chamber noted the absence of any evidence that the 24 March Order was actually obeyed.\(^8\) In these circumstances, the Appeals Chamber does not consider that the 24 March Order is capable of supporting the inference that Perišić could issue command orders to soldiers seconded through the 40th PC.

106. Finally, the Appeals Chamber notes evidence on the record indicating that after the shelling of Zagreb, and after Čeleketić was replaced by Mrkšić in mid-May 1995, Perišić issued instructions to soldiers and officers seconded through the 40th PC.\(^9\) Nevertheless, evidence on the record suggests that Perišić had a better relationship with Mrkšić than with Čeleketić, and that Mrkšić’s compliance with Perišić’s instructions marked a departure from the chain of command obeyed by Čeleketić.\(^10\) The personal relationship between Perišić and Mrkšić could plausibly account for Perišić’s increased influence over the SVK after Čeleketić ceased serving as SVK commander. In any event, however, this evidence does not in any way demonstrate that Perišić exercised effective control over the Zagreb Perpetrators at the time of the shelling of Zagreb.

107. In sum, the Appeals Chamber is not convinced that Perišić could issue command orders to soldiers seconded through the 40th PC at the time of the shelling of Zagreb. While some evidence does suggest the existence of such power,\(^11\) this interpretation of the record is not the only reasonable one, especially given credible direct evidence from Witnesses Rašeta and Orlić that VJ soldiers seconded through the 40th PC were not within Perišić’s chain of command.\(^12\)

(c) Evidence Regarding Perišić’s Ability to Discipline VJ Members Seconded to the SVK

108. The Appeals Chamber recalls that Witness Rašeta, a senior SVK officer, testified that Perišić did not possess immediate disciplinary powers over soldiers seconded through the 40th PC while they served in the SVK.\(^13\) The Appeals Chamber considers that Witness Rašeta’s testimony is supported by the Trial Chamber’s acknowledgement that evidence on the record did not demonstrate that Perišić initiated any disciplinary proceedings against soldiers seconded through the 40th PC before, during, or immediately after the Zagreb Crimes.\(^14\)

109. The Trial Chamber considered evidence suggesting that in the months after the fall of the RSK in August 1995,\(^15\) Perišić was involved in disciplinary proceedings against individuals seconded through the 40th PC, and that these proceedings involved actions taken during service with the SVK.\(^16\) One reasonable interpretation of this evidence is that Perišić always possessed dormant disciplinary powers but only exercised them after the fall of the RSK.\(^17\) However, the Appeals Chamber notes evidence that SVK forces came under direct VJ control after the fall of the RSK.\(^18\) In the Appeals Chamber’s view, an equally reasonable interpretation is that Perišić acquired disciplinary powers over VJ members seconded to the SVK after the Zagreb Crimes were committed.

110. The Appeals Chamber notes the possibility that Perišić could have punished the Zagreb Perpetrators after they rejoined the VJ chain of command following the fall of the RSK. The Appeals Chamber recalls, however, that an accused may not be held liable under Article 7(3) of the Statute for failure to punish crimes committed by a subordinate before the accused assumed command over the subordinate.\(^19\) Thus, the fact that, after the shelling of Zagreb, Perišić may eventually have acquired the power to punish the Zagreb Perpetrators does not expose him to liability for failure to punish the Zagreb Crimes.
111. In these circumstances the Appeals Chamber does not consider that evidence of Perišić’s involvement in disciplinary activities proves that he exercised effective control over the Zagreb Perpetrators at the time of the Zagreb Crimes.

(d) Other Evidence

112. The Appeals Chamber notes the existence of evidence that Perišić had some control over promotions and terminations of service for VJ soldiers serving in the SVK. In particular, Perišić had an extensive role in the “verification” of promotions granted by the SVK to VJ personnel seconded through the 40th PC. In addition, even though Perišić’s power to terminate the careers of VJ soldiers seconded through the 40th PC was circumscribed by law, he possessed a “certain amount of discretion” over this process. The Appeals Chamber is thus satisfied that Perišić exercised influence over the professional development of VJ soldiers and officers seconded to the SVK. The Appeals Chamber also notes that the Trial Chamber reviewed evidence indicating that Perišić was heavily involved in SVK operations through his influence over VJ aid.

113. The Appeals Chamber is satisfied that evidence relating to Perišić’s power over the careers of VJ members seconded to the SVK, as well as evidence regarding Perišić’s involvement in broader SVK operations, demonstrates his influence over VJ soldiers serving in the SVK at the time of the Zagreb Crimes. The Appeals Chamber will consider this evidence in conjunction with the totality of evidence on the record to determine whether effective control is proved.

(e) The Totality of the Evidence

114. Having assessed different types of evidence relevant to Perišić’s effective control, the Appeals Chamber will now consider whether this evidence, assessed in its totality, proves that Perišić possessed effective control over the Zagreb Perpetrators at the time of the Zagreb Crimes. The Appeals Chamber again notes the circumstantial nature of the relevant evidence; in these circumstances, a finding of effective control is possible only if that is the sole reasonable inference from this evidence.

115. Some evidence is consistent with Perišić possessing effective control over soldiers seconded through the 40th PC, including the Zagreb Perpetrators, at the time of the Zagreb Crimes. At the time Zagreb was shelled, Perišić could influence promotions and terminations of seconded VJ soldiers, and, more broadly, the operations of the SVK. In addition, there is evidence that Perišić was able to issue orders to soldiers seconded through the 40th PC after the Zagreb Crimes. Finally, following the fall of the RSK, Perišić was involved in disciplinary proceedings related to actions by VJ soldiers seconded to the SVK.

116. Other evidence on the record, however, suggests that during the shelling of Zagreb, Perišić did not possess effective control over VJ soldiers serving in the SVK. Most importantly, the Appeals Chamber notes that Čeleketa, a VJ officer seconded through the 40th PC, ignored Perišić’s instruction not to shell Zagreb and instead complied with the contrary orders of RSK President Martić. Considered in isolation, this failure to obey Perišić’s instruction might be dismissed as an exceptional instance of disobedience or rebellion. Yet no evidence proves beyond reasonable doubt that Perišić ever issued a command order to a VJ soldier serving in the SVK prior to the shelling of Zagreb. Similarly, there is no conclusive evidence that Perišić ever disciplined a VJ soldier seconded through the 40th PC prior to the fall of the RSK.

117. In this context, the Appeals Chamber considers that a reasonable alternative interpretation of the record is that Perišić could influence, but did not possess effective control over, the Zagreb Perpetrators at the time of the shelling of Zagreb. Months after the Zagreb Crimes, Perišić may have acquired effective control over VJ soldiers seconded to the SVK. However, this is of no consequence for purposes of command responsibility under Article 7(3) of the Statute. An accused superior may not be held liable for failure to punish crimes committed by subordinates before he or she assumed command over them.

118. Accordingly, a finding that Perišić exercised effective control over the Zagreb Perpetrators at the time of the Zagreb Crimes is not the sole reasonable inference from the totality of the circumstantial evidence in this case. Thus, Perišić’s effective control has not been established beyond reasonable doubt.
3. Conclusion

119. Absent a finding of effective control over subordinates, superior responsibility cannot be established. Thus, the Appeals Chamber reverses the Trial Chamber’s finding that Perišić was liable for failing to punish the Zagreb Perpetrators for their actions during the shelling of Zagreb. Perišić’s remaining submissions regarding superior responsibility are therefore moot and need not be addressed.

120. For the foregoing reasons, the Appeals Chamber finds that the Trial Chamber erred in convicting Perišić for failing to punish the Zagreb Perpetrators. Accordingly, the Appeals Chamber grants Perišić’s Thirteenth Ground of Appeal and reverses his convictions under Counts 5, 6, 7, and 8 of the Indictment.

V. SENTENCING (GROUNDS 14-17)

121. The Trial Chamber, Judge Moloto dissenting, sentenced Perišić to 27 years of imprisonment. Perišić appeals against his sentence. The Appeals Chamber recalls, however, that it has reversed all of Perišić’s convictions. Accordingly, Perišić’s contentions in his Fourteenth through Seventeenth Grounds of Appeal are dismissed as moot.

VI. DISPOSITION

122. For the foregoing reasons, THE APPEALS CHAMBER,

PURSUANT TO Article 25 of the Statute and Rules 117 and 118 of the Rules;

NOTING the respective written submissions of the parties and the arguments they presented at the hearing of 30 October 2012;

SITTING in open session;

GRANTS, Judge Liu dissenting, Momčilo Perišić’s Second and Third Grounds of Appeal, in part;

REVERSES, Judge Liu dissenting, Momčilo Perišić’s convictions for murder, inhumane acts, and persecutions as crimes against humanity, and for murder and attacks on civilians as violations of the laws or customs of war; and ENTERS, Judge Liu dissenting, a verdict of acquittal under Counts 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, and 12 of the Indictment;

GRANTS Momčilo Perišić’s Thirteenth Ground of Appeal; REVERSES Momčilo Perišić’s convictions for murder and inhumane acts as crimes against humanity, and for murder and attacks on civilians as violations of the laws or customs of war; and ENTERS a verdict of acquittal under Counts 5, 6, 7, and 8 of the Indictment;

DISMISSES, Judge Liu dissenting, as moot Momčilo Perišić’s remaining grounds of appeal; and

ORDERS, in accordance with Rules 99(A) and 107 of the Rules, the immediate release of Momčilo Perišić, and DIRECTS the Registrar to make the necessary arrangements.

Done in English and French, the English text being authoritative.

______________________________  ______________________________
Judge Theodor Meron, Presiding  Judge Carmel Agius

______________________________  ______________________________
Judge Liu Daqun  Judge Arlette Ramaroson  Judge Andrésia Vaz

Judges Theodor Meron and Carmel Agius append a joint separate opinion.

Judge Liu Daqun appends a partially dissenting opinion.

Judge Arlette Ramaroson appends a separate opinion.
Dated this 28th day of February 2013,
At The Hague, The Netherlands.

[Seal of the Tribunal]

ENDNOTES

1 For ease of reference, two annexes are appended: Annex A — Procedural History and Annex B — Cited Materials and Defined Terms.
2 See Trial Judgement, paras 9-21.
3 See Trial Judgement, para. 3.
4 See Indictment, paras 8-33, 40-46, 55-62; Trial Judgement, paras 6, 9-11, 16-21.
5 See Indictment, paras 34-62; Trial Judgement, paras 7-21.
6 See Trial Judgement, para. 15.
7 Trial Judgement, paras 1815, 1820, 1838.
8 Trial Judgement, paras 1818, 1839.
9 Trial Judgement, para. 1840.
10 Notice of Appeal, paras 19-69; Appeal, para. 7.
11 Notice of Appeal, para. 70; Appeal, paras 417, 429, 452, 492-493.
12 Response, para. 333.
13 AT. 30 October 2012 p. 10.
14 Lukić and Lukić Appeal Judgement, para. 10; Gotovina and Markač Appeal Judgement, para. 10. See also Gatete Appeal Judgement, para. 7.
15 Lukić and Lukić Appeal Judgement, para. 10; Gotovina and Markač Appeal Judgement, para. 10.
16 Lukić and Lukić Appeal Judgement, para. 11 (internal citations omitted). See also Gotovina and Markač Appeal Judgement, para. 11; Gatete Appeal Judgement, para. 8.
17 Lukić and Lukić Appeal Judgement, para. 12; Gotovina and Markač Appeal Judgement, para. 12. See also Gatete Appeal Judgement, para. 9.
18 Lukić and Lukić Appeal Judgement, para. 12; Gotovina and Markač Appeal Judgement, para. 12. See also Gatete Appeal Judgement, para. 9.
19 Lukić and Lukić Appeal Judgement, para. 11; Gotovina and Markač Appeal Judgement, para. 12.
20 Lukić and Lukić Appeal Judgement, para. 13; Gotovina and Markač Appeal Judgement, para. 13.
21 Lukić and Lukić Appeal Judgement, para. 13 (internal citations omitted). See also Gotovina and Markač Appeal Judgement, para. 13; Gatete Appeal Judgement, para. 10.
22 Gotovina and Markač Appeal Judgement, para. 14; Boškoski and Tarčulovski Appeal Judgement, para. 16. See also Gatete Appeal Judgement, para. 11.
23 Gotovina and Markač Appeal Judgement, para. 14; Boškoski and Tarčulovski Appeal Judgement, para. 16. See also Gatete Appeal Judgement, para. 11.
24 Practice Direction on Formal Requirements for Appeals from Judgement, IT/201, 7 March 2002, paras 1(c)(iii)-(iv), 4(b)(i)-(ii). See also Gotovina and Markač Appeal Judgement, para. 15; Boškoski and Tarčulovski Appeal Judgement, para. 17; Gatete Appeal Judgement, para. 12.
25 Gotovina and Markač Appeal Judgement, para. 15; Boškoski and Tarčulovski Appeal Judgement, para. 17. See also Gatete Appeal Judgement, para. 12.
26 Gotovina and Markač Appeal Judgement, para. 15; Boškoski and Tarčulovski Appeal Judgement, para. 17. See also Gatete Appeal Judgement, para. 12.
27 Trial Judgement, para. 1838.
28 See Trial Judgement, paras 556-563, 729-760. See also Trial Judgement, paras 1580-1650.
29 Trial Judgement, paras 1588-1591, 1621.
30 Trial Judgement, paras 1594-1602.
31 Trial Judgement, paras 1607-1619.
32 Trial Judgement, para. 1631.
33 Trial Judgement, paras 1628-1648. See also Trial Judgement, paras 1588-1589, 1620.
34 Notice of Appeal, paras 22-24; Appeal, paras 38-64. See also Appeal, paras 105-109.
35 Notice of Appeal, paras 19-21, 25-54; Appeal, paras 16-37, 65-314.
36 Trial Judgement, para. 1627. See also Trial Judgement, paras 1580-1626.
37 Trial Judgement, para. 126, citing Mrkšić and Šljivančanin Appeal Judgement, para. 159.
38 See generally Trial Judgement.
40 Appeal, para. 42.
41 Appeal, paras 41-44. See also AT. 30 October 2012 pp. 18-19.
42 See Appeal, paras 41, 52-54. Cf. Reply, paras 8-12.
43 Reply, para. 16. See also AT. 30 October 2012 pp. 24-33.
44 See Appeal, paras 41 n. 34 (citing, inter alia, Tadić Appeal Judgement, para. 229, Ntagura et al. Appeal Judgement, para. 370), 45 (citing, inter alia, Kalimanžira Appeal Judgement, para. 74), 55 (citing, inter alia, Kupreškić et al. Appeal Judgement, paras 277, 283). See also Appeal, para. 46; AT. 30 October 2012 pp. 19-20. Perišić further asserts that trial judgements of the Special Court for Sierra Leone have required evidence of specific direction. See Appeal, para. 47.
45 Appeal, para. 46.
46 Appeal, para. 49. See also Appeal, para. 48; Reply, paras 18-19.
47 Appeal, para. 24. See also Appeal, para. 21.
70 Appeal, paras 57, 61. See also Appeal, paras 98, 108-109.
48 AT. 30 October 2012 p. 78.
49 Appeal, paras 58-59. See also Appeal, paras 124-133.
50 Appeal, para. 60.
51 Appeal, para. 64.
52 Response, paras 21-41. See also AT. 30 October 2012 pp. 48-53.
53 Response, paras 27-32. See also AT. 30 October 2012 pp. 46, 54.
54 See Response, para. 33. See also AT. 30 October 2012 p. 51.
55 Response, para. 31.
56 See Response, paras 26, 30. See also AT. 30 October 2012 pp. 48-50.
57 See Response, paras 37-38.
58 See Response, para. 34.
59 See Response, para. 35.
60 See Response, para. 36.
61 See Response, para. 45-47.
62 See Response, para. 47.
63 Response, para. 48.
64 Response, para. 84. See also Response, paras 83, 85; AT. 30 October 2012 pp. 59-60. The Prosecution further maintains that whether some of Perišić’s assistance may have been supplied to VRS units not involved in perpetrating crimes is “irrelevant” and does not undermine his criminal responsibility for the crimes charged. See Response, para. 73. See also Response, paras 75-76.
65 Response, para. 86.
66 Appeal, paras 41-44. See also AT. 30 October 2012 pp. 18-19.
67 Tadić Appeal Judgement, para. 229 (emphasis added).
68 Tadić Appeal Judgement, para. 229 (emphasis added).
70 See Blagojević and Jokić Appeal Judgement, para. 127 (stating that “an aider and abettor carries out acts specifically directed to assist, encourage, or lend moral support to the perpetration of a certain specific crime, which have a substantial effect on the perpetration of the crime”); Kvočka et al. Appeal Judgement, para. 89 (stating that “[t]he aider and abettor carries out acts specifically directed to assist, encourage or lend moral support to the perpetration of a certain specific crime”) (internal quotation omitted); Blaškić Appeal Judgement, para. 45 (stating that “[t]he aider and abettor carries out acts specifically directed to assist, encourage or lend moral support to the perpetration of a certain specific crime”) (internal quotation omitted); Vasiljević Appeal Judgement, para. 102 (stating that “[t]he aider and abettor carries out acts specifically directed to assist, encourage or lend moral support to the perpetration of a certain specific crime”); Krmolejac Appeal Judgement, para. 33 (stating that “[t]he aider and abettor carries out acts specifically directed to assist, encourage or lend moral support to the perpetration of a certain specific crime”) (internal quotation omitted); Kupreškii et al. Appeal Judgement, para. 254 (stating that “aiding and abetting the perpetration of persecution requires proof that [an accused] carried out acts specifically directed to assisting, encouraging or lending moral support to the perpetration of the offence of persecution”); Aleksovski Appeal Judgement, para. 163 (stating that “[i]t must be shown that the aider and abettor carried out acts specifically directed to assist, encourage or lend moral support to the specific crime committed by the principal”). See also Kalimanžira Appeal Judgement, para. 74 (stating that “an aider and abettor carries out acts specifically directed to assist, encourage, or lend moral support to the perpetration of a certain specific crime”) (internal quotation omitted); Muvuni Appeal Judgement, para. 79 (stating that “an aider and abettor carries out acts specifically directed to assist, encourage, or lend moral support to the perpetration of a certain specific crime”); Seromba Appeal Judgement, para. 139 (stating that “the actus reus for aiding and abetting extermination as a crime against humanity comprises of acts specifically directed to assist, encourage, or lend moral support to the perpetration of this crime”); Nahimana et al. Appeal Judgement, para. 482 (stating that “[t]he actus reus of aiding and abetting is constituted by acts or omissions aimed specifically at assisting, furthering or lending moral support to the perpetration of a specific crime”) (internal citation omitted); Nkurunziza and Nkurunziza Appeal Judgement, para. 530 (stating that “[t]he actus reus for aiding and abetting the crime of extermination is that the accused carries out acts specifically directed to assist, encourage or lend moral support to the perpetration of that crime”).
71 Simić Appeal Judgement, para. 85 (emphasis added).
72 Orić Appeal Judgement, para. 43 (emphasis added).
73 Ntawukuliyayo Appeal Judgement, para. 214 (stating that “the actus reus of aiding and abetting is constituted by acts or omissions specifically aimed at assisting, encouraging, or lending moral support to the perpetration of a specific crime”) (emphasis added); Rukando Appeal Judgement, para. 52 (stating that “an aider and abettor commits acts specifically aimed at assisting, encouraging, or lending moral support for the perpetration of a specific crime”) (emphasis added) (internal quotations omitted).
74 Karera Appeal Judgement, para. 321 (emphasis added).
76 See Gotovina and Markač Appeal Judgement, para. 127 (noting that the Appeals Chamber was addressing the elements of aiding and abetting liability "as relevant"), citing Blagojević and Jokić Appeal Judgement, para. 127 (including specific direction in its discussion of elements of aiding and abetting liability); Krajšnik Appeal Judgement, para. 662 (noting differences between aiding and abetting and JCE liability), citing Kvočka et al. Appeal Judgement, paras 89-90 (including specific direction in its analysis of aiding and abetting liability), Vasiljević Appeal Judgement, para. 102 (explicitly referring to specific direction in its discussion of the elements of aiding and abetting liability);
Blagojević and Jokić Appeal Judgement, para. 102 (explicitly including specific direction: see supra, paras 26-27; Blagojević and Jokić Appeal Judgement, para. 189; Tadić Appeal Judgement, para. 229. See also Rukundo Appeal Judgement, paras 48-52. The Appeals Chamber recalls that specific direction may be addressed implicitly in the context of analysing substantial contribution. See Blagojević and Jokić Appeal Judgement, para. 189.

Indeed, the Lukić and Lukić Appeal Judgement specifically noted this relationship in its citation to the Mrksić and Stjićanin Appeal Judgement’s reference to specific direction: “Mrksić and Stjićanin Appeal Judgement, para. 159, confirming Blagojević and Jokić Appeal Judgement, para. 189.” See Lukić and Lukić Appeal Judgement, para. 244 n. 1286 (emphasis added).
The Appeals Chamber underscores that the requirement of explicit consideration of specific direction does not foreclose the possibility of convictions in cases of remoteness, but only means that such convictions require explicit discussion of how evidence on the record proves specific direction. Cf. Mrkić and Šlijančanin Appeal Judgement, para. 81 (finding that in the context of the actus reus of aiding and abetting, substantial contribution may be geographically and temporally separated from crimes of principal perpetrators).

103 See Kupreškić et al. Appeal Judgement, paras 275-277 (finding that a six-month delay between an appellant being observed unloading weapons and a subsequent attack reduced the likelihood that these weapons were directed towards assisting in this attack).

104 See Trial Judgement, para. 126, citing Mrkić and Šlijančanin Appeal Judgement, para. 159. See also Trial Judgement, paras 1582-1627.

105 See supra, paras 32-36.

106 Judge Liu dissents from the analysis in this paragraph.

107 See Trial Judgement, paras 2-3, 205-210, 235-237, 262-266.


109 See, e.g., Trial Judgement, paras 1592-1627.

110 See supra, paras 37-40.

111 Judge Liu dissents from the findings and analysis in this paragraph.

112 See supra, para. 9; Statute, Article 25. Cf. Statute, Article 21.

113 See supra, para. 9; Gotovina and Markač Appeal Judgement, para. 64; Zigiranirazo Appeal Judgement, para. 43. While consideration of specific direction may be implicit (see Blagojević and Jokić Appeal Judgement, para. 189), in the context of correcting a legal error of the Trial Chamber, the Appeals Chamber will undertake an explicit examination.

114 See supra, paras 26-27.

115 Cf. Trial of Bruno Tesch and Two Others (The Zyklon B Case), British Military Court Hamburg 1946, in United Nations War Crimes Commission, 1 Law Reports of Trials of War Criminals 93-102 (1947) (finding two defendants guilty of assisting killings of concentration camp detainees by providing poison gas, despite arguments that the gas was to be used for lawful purposes, after reviewing evidence that defendants arranged for S.S. units to be trained in using this gas to kill humans in confined spaces).

116 See Trial Judgement, paras 262-293, 1770-1779.

117 See Trial Judgement, para. 265.

118 Trial Judgement, para. 267.

119 See Trial Judgement, paras 1012-1231.

120 See Trial Judgement, paras 1770-1779.

121 Trial Judgement, paras 1365-1369, 1772. See also Trial Judgement, para. 266.

122 Trial Judgement, para. 1772.

123 Appeal, para. 57.

124 See Krajišnik Appeal Judgement, para. 202; Stakić Appeal Judgement, para. 219.


126 See infra, paras 68-69, 71.
127 Mrkić and Šijivančanin Appeal Judgement, para. 159. See also Orić Appeal Judgement, para. 43; Blaškić Appeal Judgement, para. 49.
128 See supra, paras 25-36. Judge Liu dissents from the analysis in this sentence.
129 Trial Judgement, para. 3.
130 See Trial Judgement, paras 206-207. See also Trial Judgement, paras 208-209.
131 Trial Judgement, para. 208. See also Trial Judgement, paras 205-207.
132 See Trial Judgement, para. 199.
133 See Trial Judgement, paras 198-200.
134 See Trial Judgement, paras 761-763, 948, 1595.
135 See Trial Judgement, paras 962-988, 1622.
136 See Trial Judgement, paras 198, 962, 1008. See also Trial Judgement, paras 963-986.
137 Trial Judgement, paras 965-967, 988, 1007.
138 See Trial Judgement, paras 962-974.
139 See Boškoski and Tarčulovski Appeal Judgement, para. 167, citing Statute, Article 7(4).
141 Trial Judgement, para. 1588. See also Trial Judgement, paras 172-194, 262-293.
142 See, e.g., Prosecution Exhibits 348, 375 (expert reports on aspects of the conflict in, inter alia, the BiH); T. 4 February 2009 pp. 3165-3232 (testimony by Prosecution Witness Martin Bell, a journalist covering the conflict in BiH). See also Adjudicated Facts Motion, para. 40, Annex A (proposing, inter alia, adjudicated facts involving the structure and combat abilities of BiH forces); Decision on Adjudicated Facts, para. 28 (taking judicial notice of, inter alia, certain adjudicated facts related to the structure and combat abilities of BiH forces as proposed in the Adjudicated Facts Motion). The Appeals Chamber notes that where exhibits are originally in B/C/S, all citations herein refer to the English translation as admitted at trial.
143 Trial Judgement, para. 1588. See also Trial Judgement, paras 184-185, 1589-1591, 1621-1625.
144 See Trial Judgement, paras 303-563, 598-760, 1588-1591. See also Adjudicated Facts Motion, Annex A (proposing, inter alia, adjudicated facts involving the structure and combat abilities of BiH forces); Decision on Adjudicated Facts, para. 28 (taking judicial notice of, inter alia, certain adjudicated facts related to the combat abilities and structure of BiH forces as proposed in the Adjudicated Facts Motion).
145 See Trial Judgement, paras 963, 970.
146 See Trial Judgement, paras 763-771, 780-787, 966-967, 974.
147 Trial Judgement, para. 974.
148 See generally Trial Judgement.
149 See, e.g., Defence Exhibit 344, p. 5 (excerpt from Mladić's notebook, dated 12 August 1994, in which Perišić notes that FRY policy is more general than the policy of the Republika Srpska); Prosecution Exhibit 230, p. 2 (minutes of meeting of FRY and Republika Srpska political and military leaders held on 25 August 1995 in which Slobodan Milošević warns the Republika Srpska leadership not to take action that could trigger NATO retaliation); Prosecution Exhibits 708-726, 731-734, 737-741, 743-800 (transcripts of SDC meetings documenting decisions taken there).
150 See generally Prosecution Exhibits 708-726, 731-734, 737-741, 743-800 (transcripts of SDC meetings documenting decisions taken there).
151 See Prosecution Exhibit 776, pp. 38-45 (transcript of SDC meeting on 7 June 1994).
152 See Prosecution Exhibit 794, pp. 45-48 (transcript of SDC meeting on 18 January 1995).
153 See Prosecution Exhibit 779, pp. 55-65 (transcript of SDC meeting on 2 November 1994).
154 See supra, para. 24.
155 See Trial Judgement, paras 1580-1627.
156 See supra, paras 37-40.
158 See Trial Judgement, para. 1588 (noting that the VRS strategy included "military warfare against BiH forces").
159 See supra, paras 52-55.
160 See Trial Judgement, paras 962-988.
161 See Trial Judgement, paras 963-974.
162 See Trial Judgement, paras 1007-1009.
163 See, e.g., Prosecution Exhibits 708-726, 731-734, 737-741, 743-800 (transcripts of SDC meetings documenting decisions taken there).
164 Prosecution Exhibit 791, p. 5 (transcript of SDC meetings on 10 and 13 January 1994).
165 Prosecution Exhibit 776, pp. 38-39 (transcript of SDC meeting on 7 June 1994); Prosecution Exhibit 2716, pp. 1-2 (proposal by Perišić to the FRY President, dated 15 September 1995, urging the adoption of widespread measures to support the VRS).
166 Prosecution Exhibit 763, p. 2 (minutes of SDC meeting on 29 July 1995).
167 See Trial Judgement, paras 948-952.
168 See Trial Judgement, paras 941-1009.
169 See, e.g., Prosecution Exhibit 791, pp. 4-5 (transcript of SDC meetings on 10 and 13 January 1994 at which Perišić set out the overall scope and costs of assistance to the VRS); Prosecution Exhibit 734 (VJ General Staff instructions issued by Perišić on 8 December 1993, concerning operation of, inter alia, the 30th Personnel Centre ("PC");): Prosecution Exhibit 709, pp. 32-33 (transcript of SDC meeting on 11 October 1993 at which Perišić discussed organising secondments of VJ personnel to the VRS and the importance of making these secondments more compatible with the legal framework of the FRY); Prosecution Exhibit 776, p. 38 (transcript of SDC meeting on 7 June 1994 at which Perišić advocated assisting, inter alia, VRS combat operations on the basis that the VRS would otherwise lose territory to opposing forces); Prosecution Exhibit 779, pp. 55-65 (transcript of SDC meeting on 2 November 1994 at which Perišić discussed taking action against VJ personnel who provided assistance to the VRS outside official channels); Defence Exhibit 452 (letter from the Office of the Chief of the VJ General Staff, dated 29 October 1993, denying a request for assistance).
170 See Trial Judgement, paras 761-940.
171 See Trial Judgement, paras 1010-1154, 1232-1237.
172 See Trial Judgement, paras 763-766, 1607-1611. See also Trial Judgement paras 793, 795.
173 See Trial Judgement, paras 1607-1619.
174 See Trial Judgement, paras 866-915.
175 See, e.g., Prosecution Exhibit 791, pp. 52-53 (transcript of SDC meetings on 10 and 13 January 1994); Prosecution Exhibit 1871, p. 1 (order by Perišić dated 17 August 1994 stating that housing for, inter alia, soldiers seconded through the 30th PC should be "dealt with in the same manner as all other members of the [VJ]"; T. 5 March 2010 p. 10520 (testimony by Defence Witness Stamenko Nikolić, explaining that salaries from FRY soldiers who were seconded to, inter alia, the VRS continued to receive their salaries from the FRY in a way that the "cycle was never broken"). See also Trial Judgement, paras 867-889; T. 5 March 2010 pp. 10543-10544, 10559, 10587-10588 (testimony by Witness Nikolić, explaining that the establishment of, inter alia, the 30th PC aimed to ensure that officers of the VRS were able to exercise the rights they were entitled to as members of the VJ). The Appeals Chamber recalls that the Trial Chamber concluded that Perišić did not possess effective control over VJ soldiers seconded to the VRS who perpetrated crimes during their secondment, despite the fact that the VJ provided these benefits. See Trial Judgement, paras 1770-1779.
176 See, e.g., Prosecution Exhibit 785, p. 19 (transcript of SDC meeting on 21 July 1994); Prosecution Exhibit 731 (order dated 10 November 1993 establishing, inter alia, the 30th PC); Prosecution Exhibit 734 (VJ General Staff instructions dated 8 December 1993 on operation of, inter alia, the 30th PC); Prosecution Exhibit 2722 (document dated 31 May 1995 from Mladić to Perišić, requesting expert assistance from the VJ); Prosecution Exhibit 2518 (request by the VRS dated 23 May 1995 for secondment of specific officers); Prosecution Exhibit 2725 (request by the VRS dated 12 June 1995 for secondment of 292 officers); T. 22 March 2010 pp. 11213-11215; T. 23 March 2010 pp. 11317-11318 (testimony by Defence Witness Stojan Malčić, indicating that when VJ members who were born in Bosnia requested leave to serve in the VRS, their requests were favourably received).
177 See, e.g., Trial Judgement, para. 562.
178 Cf. supra, para. 46.
179 See Trial Judgement, paras 761-940, 1607-1619.
180 See, e.g., Prosecution Exhibit 709, pp. 32-37 (transcript of SDC meeting on 11 October 1993); Prosecution Exhibit 780, pp. 18-24 (transcript of SDC meeting on 10 November 1993); Prosecution Exhibit 785, pp. 1-21 (transcript of SDC meeting on 21 July 1994); Prosecution Exhibit 794, p. 45 (transcript of SDC meeting on 18 January 1995); Prosecution Exhibit 731 (order dated 10 November 1993 establishing, inter alia, the 30th PC); Prosecution Exhibit 734 (VJ General Staff instructions, issued by Perišić on 8 December 1993 on operation of, inter alia, the 30th PC); T. 8 March 2010 pp. 10635-10642, 10663 (testimony by Witness Nikolić, indicating that the 30th PC was established to provide a legal basis to dispatch VJ personnel outside of the FRY).
181 Trial Judgement, para. 1594. See also Trial Judgement, paras 1234-1237.
182 Trial Judgement, paras 1035, 1597. See also Trial Judgement, paras 1116-1134.
183 See Trial Judgement, paras 1034-1069.
184 Trial Judgement, paras 1135-1154.
185 Trial Judgement, paras 1352-1358.
186 See, e.g., Prosecution Exhibit 1009 (1994 order of the FRY President delegating to Perišić the power to regulate the provision of VJ assistance to the VRS); Prosecution Exhibit 1258, pp. 1-2 (VJ General Staff order of 27 December 1993 in which Perišić gave himself the power to approve or deny requests for assistance to, inter alia, the VRS); Prosecution Exhibit 791, pp. 5, 56 (transcript of SDC meetings dated 10 and 13 January 1994 in which Perišić set out the cost of providing assistance to the VRS and advocated provision of this assistance); Prosecution Exhibits 1265-1267, 1270-1272 (VJ orders dated between 31 March and 11 July 1994 providing assistance to the VRS); Prosecution Exhibit 1214, pp. 19-21 (VRS annual financial statement, dated 17 February 1995, indicating assistance received from the VJ).
187 See, e.g., Prosecution Exhibits 1265-1267, 1270-1272 (VJ orders dated between 31 March and 11 July 1994 providing assistance to the VRS); Prosecution Exhibit 1214, pp. 19-21 (VRS annual financial statement, dated 17 February 1995, indicating assistance received from the VJ); Prosecution Exhibit 877 (VJ decision dated 28 December 1993 providing various types of assistance to the VRS including grenades, shells, mines, rockets, rocket launchers, and fuses); Prosecution Exhibit 1269 (VJ order dated 19 November 1993 providing the VRS with, inter alia, rifle grenades and rocket launchers); Prosecution Exhibits 708-726, 731-734, 737-741, 743-800 (transcripts, minutes, and other evidence related to SDC meetings and decisions taken there); Prosecution Exhibit 1232 (report from a VRS unit dated 31 January 1994 informing the VRS Main Staff that the FRY had supplied equipment including semi-automatic and automatic rifles, sub-machine guns, sniper rifles, pistols, rocket launchers, and radio sets); Prosecution Exhibit 2716, p. 1 (proposal by Perišić to the FRY President, dated 15 September 1995, noting that the Republika Srpska authorities had requested, inter alia, "help in arms, equipment and foodstuffs," and deployment of VJ brigades "for the stabilisation of the front"); Prosecution Exhibit 2766 (message from Radovan Karadžić to Perišić, dated 15 May 1994, discussing equipment shortages); T. 12 May 2009 pp. 6056-6057 (testimony by Prosecution Witness Milomir Kovačević about his participation in delivering VJ military supplies to the VRS); T. 17 February 2009 pp. 3559, 3564-3565, 3568-3570 (testimony by Prosecution Witness MP-14, testifying to VJ provision of anti-artillery rockets, grenades, rounds for machine guns and sniper-rifles, and universal rounds to the VRS).
188 See Trial Judgement, paras 1291-1302, 1624.
190 See supra, paras 37, 56.
191 Judge Liu dissents from the assessment in this paragraph.
192 See, e.g., Trial Judgement, paras 1035-1037, 1067, 1237, 1594.
193 See Trial Judgement, paras 943-1154.
194 See, e.g., Prosecution Exhibit 1258, pp. 1-2 (VJ General Staff order of 27 December 1993 in which Perišić gave himself the power to approve or deny requests for assistance to the VRS); Prosecution Exhibit 791, p. 5 (transcript of SDC meetings on 10 and 13 January 1994 at which Perišić detailed the total cost of providing assistance to the VRS);
Prosecution Exhibit 75, p. 4 (witness statement of Đorđe Đukić dated February 1996, indicating that trucks carrying supplies provided by the VJ went to a variety of VRS bases); Prosecution Exhibit 2716, p. 1 (proposal by Perišić to the FRY President, dated 15 September 1995, urging the provision of aid to “Northwest Bosnia”); T. 3 March 2009 pp. 3886-3887 (testimony by Prosecution Witness Mladen Mihajlović that requests from the VRS were sent through the VRS Main Staff).

195 See, e.g., Trial Judgement, para. 949, citing Defence Exhibit 452 (letter from the Office of the Chief of the VJ General Staff dated 29 October 1993, noting that a request for assistance from the Republika Srpska’s Ministry of the Interior did not fall within VJ authority); Prosecution Exhibit 1258, pp. 1-2 (VJ General Staff Order of 27 December 1993, prohibiting the provision of aid from the VJ that was not approved by Perišić).

196 See, e.g., Trial Judgement, para. 951; Prosecution Exhibit 779, pp. 55-65 (transcript of SDC meeting on 2 November 1994 at which Perišić discussed taking action against VJ personnel who provided assistance to the VRS outside official channels).

197 See Trial Judgement, paras 1319-1351.

198 See, e.g., Prosecution Exhibit 782, pp. 55-60 (transcript of SDC meeting on 7 February 1994); Prosecution Exhibit 2933, pp. 1-2 (excerpt from Mladic’s notebook on 13 December 1993); Prosecution Exhibit 2934, 3 (excerpt from Mladic’s notebook on 14 December 1993); Defence Exhibit 521, p. 2 (report of VRS Commander Stanislav Galić to the VRS Main Staff dated 22 December 1993); T. 15 September 2009 pp. 8951-8952 (testimony by Prosecution Witness MP-11); T. 16 September 2009 pp. 9006-9007 (testimony by Witness MP-11); T. 4 March 2009 pp. 3962-3963 (testimony by Witness Mihajlović stating that he was not aware of Perišić having bypassed official procedures for providing aid to the VRS); T. 13 April 2010 pp. 11468-11469 (testimony by Defence Witness Borivoje Jovančić indicating that ammunition from the VJ war reserves could only be provided to the VRS by decision of the SDC). The Appeals Chamber notes that a report entitled “Military Help from the So-Called FRY (Serbia and Montenegro) to the So-Called Republika Srpska /RS/”, dated August 1995 and attributed to the BiH Ministry of Foreign Affairs, claims that Perišić controlled all VRS activities, especially attacks on Srebrenica in July 1995. See Prosecution Exhibit 1830. The Appeals Chamber notes, however, that the Trial Chamber did not address this report (see generally Trial Judgement) and that the record also includes statements by Perišić indicating that he did not command the VRS in Srebrenica. See Prosecution Exhibit 2202, pp. 2-3. In the absence of any corroborating evidence, the Appeals Chamber does not consider that the report’s allegations that Perišić generally controlled VRS operations or commanded attacks in Srebrenica prove beyond reasonable doubt that he specifically directed aid towards VRS crimes.

199 AT. 30 October 2012 p. 55.

200 See Trial Judgement, paras 1390-1579, 1628-1648.

201 See supra, paras 37, 48. The Appeals Chamber, Judge Liu dissenting, recalls that specific direction establishes a culpable link between an accused aider and abettor and relevant crimes. See supra, para. 37.


203 See supra, para. 53.

204 See supra, para. 42.

205 See supra, paras 56-57, 64, 68-69.

206 Cf. supra, para. 53. Judge Liu dissents with respect to the specific direction requirement.

207 Relevant forms of liability, in addition to aiding and abetting, could include JCE and superior responsibility.

208 See supra, paras 37-40, 42.

209 Tadić Appeal Judgement, para. 229. See also supra, paras 70-72.

210 See Trial Judgement, paras 585, 591-596, 1658-1660, 1769, 1784, 1839.

211 Notice of Appeal, paras 55-57; Appeal, paras 315-384.

212 Appeal, para. 384.

213 See supra, para. 2.

214 See Trial Judgement, paras 761-772, 1658-1660.

215 Trial Judgement, paras 770-772.

216 See Trial Judgement, paras 867-914.

217 Trial Judgement, para. 1757.

218 Trial Judgement, para. 1659.

219 Trial Judgement, paras 297, 1729.

220 Trial Judgement, paras 3, 295, 1763.

221 See Trial Judgement, paras 1761-1769.

222 See Trial Judgement, paras 171, 1733.

223 See Trial Judgement, para. 1734.


225 Appeal, paras 321, 341-376.

226 Appeal, para. 334 (emphasis in original), citing Prosecution Exhibit 197 (FRY law on the VJ).

227 Appeal, paras 335-340. See also Reply, paras 92-95; AT. 30 October 2012 pp. 33-37.

228 Appeal, paras 342-353.

229 Appeal, para. 347. See also Reply, para. 98.

230 Appeal, paras 345-346; Reply, para. 97.

231 Appeal, paras 379-382.

232 Appeal, paras 318, 323-327.

233 Appeal, para. 352.

234 Appeal, para. 339. See also Appeal, para. 331 n. 407.

235 Appeal, para. 372. See also Appeal, paras 373-375.

236 Appeal, paras 354-371.

237 Appeal, para. 356. See also Reply, paras 101-102.

238 Appeal, para. 357.

239 Appeal, para. 370. See also AT. 30 October 2012 pp. 39, 74-75.

240 Appeal, paras 358-361.

241 See Appeal, paras 362, 365.

242 Appeal, paras 364-365.

243 Response, paras 276-278.

244 Response, paras 242, 244-245, 247-250.
Response, para. 246.

Response, paras 251-253. See also AT. 30 October 2012 pp. 63-65.

Response, paras 255-256, 258.

Response, para. 257 (internal quotations omitted).

Response, para. 258.

Response, para. 259 (internal quotation omitted).

Response, para. 273. See also Response, paras 274-275.

See Response, paras 268-270.


Response, para. 272.

Response, para. 261.

Response, paras 263-267.

Halilović Appeal Judgement, para. 59.

See, e.g., Orić Appeal Judgement, para. 20; Halilović Appeal Judgement, para. 59. See also Nahimana et al. Appeal Judgement, para. 484.

Strugar Appeal Judgement, para. 254, citing Blaškić Appeal Judgement, para. 69.


See supra, para. 81.

Blaškić Appeal Judgement, para. 83.

Cf. Strugar Appeal Judgement, para. 254 (holding that “indicators of effective control are more a matter of evidence than of substantive law” (internal quotation omitted)).

See supra, paras 81-82.

Trial Judgement, para. 1763. See also Trial Judgement, paras 1757-1762, 1764-1769.

Trial Judgement, paras 1758-1759.

See Trial Judgement, paras 1701-1719, 1761-1762.

See Trial Judgement, paras 1758-1760.

Trial Judgement, paras 1743-1749.

See Trial Judgement, paras 1739-1742, 1750, 1752.


Trial Judgement, para. 1720, citing T. 29 April 2009 pp. 5740, 5762-5763.

See Trial Judgement, paras 1678, 1720.

See Trial Judgement, paras 1758-1769.


Limaj et al. Appeal Judgement, para. 86 (internal citations omitted).


See Kvočka et al. Appeal Judgement, para. 24. The Appeals Chamber notes, for example, that a trial chamber’s failure to discuss witness testimony has not been deemed a failure to provide a reasoned opinion when disregarded testimony was confusing, biased, or contradicted by substantial and credible contrary evidence. See Kvočka et al. Appeal Judgement, paras 483-484, 487, 582-583.

See, e.g., Zigiranirazo Appeal Judgement, paras 44-46; Muvunyi Appeal Judgement, paras 144, 147 n. 321, citing Simba Appeal Judgement, para. 143 (finding that a trial chamber’s failure to explain its treatment of witness testimony, in context, constituted an error of law).


Trial Judgement, para. 299. Witness Rašeta remained in this position in the SVK during and after the shelling of Zagreb. See T. 7 May 2009 p. 5903. See also T. 29 April 2009 pp. 5743-5744.

Trial Judgement, para. 1426.

Trial Judgement, paras 1399, 1431.

Trial Judgement, para. 1426.

See generally Trial Judgement.

See Trial Judgement, paras 302, 573, 582-583, 792, 847, 883, 887, 910, 1252, 1426. The Appeals Chamber notes that the Trial Chamber also discussed Witness Rašeta’s testimony in additional paragraphs, which either established particular facts about himself or were directly relevant to effective control. See Trial Judgement, paras 299, 1678, 1720.

See Trial Judgement, paras 297 n. 727, 298 n. 728, 300 n. 733, 565 n. 1647, 566 n. 1648, 781 nn. 2166-2167, 805 n. 2272, 832 n. 2345, 843 n. 2372, 845 n. 2378, 867 n. 2439, 876 n. 2466, 881 n. 2488, 1250 n. 3574, 1403 n. 4014, 1428 n. 4071, 1435 nn. 4089-4090.

See Trial Judgement, paras 300 n. 733, 876 n. 2466, 883, 887, 1250 n. 3574, 1435 nn. 4089-4090.

See Trial Judgement, paras 887, 1431. The Appeals Chamber notes that the Trial Chamber also discussed Witness Orlić’s testimony in additional paragraphs, which either established particular facts about himself or were directly relevant to effective control. See Trial Judgement, paras 299, 1720.

See Trial Judgement, paras 294 n. 719, 297 n. 725, 300 n. 734, 781 nn. 2166, 2168, 867 n. 2439, 924 n. 2613, 1399 n. 4004, 1659 n. 4595.

See supra, para. 94 n. 289.

See, e.g., Kvočka et al. Appeal Judgement, paras 23, 483-484, 487, 582-583. See also Simba Appeal Judgement, paras 143, 152, 155.

See supra, paras 93-94.

See supra, para. 90.


See Gotovina and Markač Appeal Judgement, para. 64.

Cf. Blaškić Appeal Judgement, para. 69 (holding that “indicators of effective control are more a matter of evidence than substantive law”).
302 Trial Judgement, paras 566-567.
303 Trial Judgement, paras 568-572.
304 Trial Judgement, para. 585.
305 See Trial Judgement, paras 1721-1722, 1763.
306 Trial Judgement, para. 1726, citing Prosecution Exhibit 1286, p. 3 (undated intercepted telephone conversation between Perišić and Milošević which the Trial Chamber dated to 3 May 1995). See also Trial Judgement, paras 1725, 1727, 1763.
307 Trial Judgement, para. 1728, citing Prosecution Exhibit 1286, p. 5 (undated intercepted telephone conversation between Perišić and Milošević which the Trial Chamber dated to 3 May 1995).
308 See supra, paras 567-572, 1721.
309 See Trial Judgement, para. 1726, citing Prosecution Exhibit 1286, p. 3 (undated intercepted telephone conversation between Perišić and Milošević which the Trial Chamber dated to 3 May 1995). See also Trial Judgement, para. 1727, citing Prosecution Exhibit 1321, pp. 2-3 (undated intercepted conversation between Milošević and RSK Prime Minister Borislav Mikić which the Trial Chamber dated to 3 May 1995).
310 See supra, para. 75.
311 Halilović Appeal Judgement, para. 67; Hadžihasanović et al. Appeal Decision on Jurisdiction, para. 51 (holding that criminal liability as a superior does not attach where crimes occurred prior to assumption of effective control).
312 See supra, paras 98-99.
313 See supra, para. 100.
314 See supra, para. 94.
315 See supra, para. 91.
316 Trial Judgement, para. 1714.
317 See Trial Judgement, paras 1716, citing Prosecution Exhibit 1138 (correspondence dated 19 July 1994 on weapons disassembly from Perišić to SVK Main Staff), 1717, citing Prosecution Exhibit 2177 (letter dated 11 May 1994 from VJ General Staff to SVK Main Staff). See also Trial Judgement, paras 1710, 1715, 1718.
318 Trial Judgement, para. 1723, citing Prosecution Exhibit 1303, pp. 3-4 (undated intercepted telephone conversation, which the Trial Chamber dated to 1 May 1995, between Perišić and a security guard of Milošević). See also Trial Judgement, para. 1724, citing Prosecution Exhibit 1373, p. 2 (undated intercepted telephone conversation between Perišić and Milošević).
319 Trial Judgement, para. 1712, citing Prosecution Exhibit 1800 (the 7 December Order).
320 The Appeals Chamber notes that the 7 December Order is addressed to, inter alia, Major General Milan Olegetić, but considers this to be a typographical error and is satisfied that the 7 December Order was sent to Čeleketić.
321 See Trial Judgement, paras 1712, 1763; 7 December Order.
322 See, e.g., Trial Judgement, para. 1763.
323 See 7 December Order (making reference to Milošević’s authority as President of Serbia).
324 Trial Judgement, para. 1712, citing Prosecution Exhibit 2857 (report from Čeleketić dated 7 December 1994 referring to 7 December Order).
325 Trial Judgement, para. 1711; Prosecution Exhibit 1925 (24 March Order).
326 Trial Judgement, para. 1711; 24 March Order, pp. 1-3.
327 See Trial Judgement, para. 1711, citing T. 8 June 2009 p. 6762 (testimony by Prosecution Witness Miodrag Starčević).
328 Trial Judgement, para. 1711.
329 See Trial Judgement, paras 1730-1734, 1764; Prosecution Exhibit 1340, p. 3 (undated telephone intercept in which Perišić confirms that Mrkšić is not taking orders from Martić). See also Prosecution Exhibit 2412, p. 1 (document dated 20 June 1995 responding to an order from Perišić).
330 See Trial Judgement, paras 1725-1730, 1764. See also Prosecution Exhibit 1340, p. 3 (undated telephone intercept in which Perišić confirms that Mrkšić is not taking orders from Martić).
331 See supra, paras 104-106.
332 See supra, paras 91, 93-94.
333 See supra, para. 91.
334 See Trial Judgement, paras 1674-1689.
335 Trial Judgement, para. 171.
336 See Trial Judgement, paras 1675-1689.
337 See Trial Judgement, para. 1759.
338 See Trial Judgement, para. 1734. See also Trial Judgement, para. 294.
340 See Trial Judgement, paras 866, 933, 1768.
341 See Trial Judgement, paras 841-866, 1743-1745. See also Trial Judgement, para. 1768.
342 Trial Judgement, para. 1749. See also Trial Judgement, para. 1768.
343 See Trial Judgement, paras 763-802, 1238-1263, 1750.
344 See Trial Judgement, paras 1672-1689, 1701-1752, 1755-1769.
345 See Krajišnik Appeal Judgement, para. 202; Stakić Appeal Judgement, para. 219.
346 See supra, paras 112-113.
347 See supra, para. 106; Trial Judgment, paras 1733-1734.
348 See supra, para. 109.
349 See supra, paras 98-101.
350 See supra, paras 108-111.
352 See supra, para. 87.
353 Trial Judgement, para. 1840.
354 Notice of Appeal, paras 58-69; Appeal, paras 385-492.
355 See supra, paras 74, 120.
VII. JOINT SEPARATE OPINION OF JUDGES THEODOR MERON AND CARMEL AGIUS

1. While we agree with the analysis and conclusions of the Appeal Judgement, we write separately to address the issue of whether specific direction should be considered as part of the actus reus or mens rea of aiding and abetting.

2. Starting with the 1999 Tadić Appeal Judgement, the Appeals Chamber has always approached specific direction as an element of the actus reus of aiding and abetting. We observe, however, that whether an individual commits acts directed at assisting the commission of a crime relates in certain ways to that individual’s state of mind. In this regard, we note that, as set out in the Appeal Judgement, proof of specific direction will often be found in evidence that may also be illustrative of mens rea. Thus, for example, Perišić’s comments to the SDC, which directly relate to his mental state, are considered in the Appeal Judgement as circumstantial evidence relevant to whether his subsequent acts were specifically directed towards VRS crimes.

3. We also note that the mens rea standard of aiding and abetting – knowledge that aid provided assists in the commission of the relevant crime and awareness of the essential elements of the crime – would not preclude consideration of issues relevant to specific direction. Indeed, in our view, whether an individual specifically aimed to assist relevant crimes logically fits within our current mens rea requirement.

4. Accordingly, were we setting out the elements of aiding and abetting outside the context of the Tribunal’s past jurisprudence, we would consider categorising specific direction as an element of mens rea. However, we are satisfied that specific direction can also, as the Appeal Judgement’s analysis demonstrates, be reasonably assessed in the context of actus reus. The critical issue raised by the requirement of specific direction, regardless of whether it is considered in the context of actus reus or mens rea, is whether the link between assistance of an accused individual and actions of principal perpetrators is sufficient to justify holding the accused aider and abettor criminally responsible for relevant crimes. In these circumstances, we do not believe that cogent reasons justify departure from the Tribunal’s precedent of considering specific direction in the context of actus reus. Such departures from established precedent should, in our view, generally be limited to untenable situations, such as a holding which is logically impossible or is demonstrated to be contrary to customary international law.

Done in English and French, the English text being authoritative.

Judge Theodor Meron

Judge Carmel Agius

Dated this 28th day of February 2013,
At The Hague,
The Netherlands.

[Seal of the Tribunal]

ENDNOTES

1 See Appeal Judgement, paras 25-36.
2 See Appeal Judgement, para. 48.
3 See Appeal Judgement, paras 59-60.
4 See Lukić and Lukić Appeal Judgement, para. 428.
5 See Appeal Judgement, paras 45-74.
VIII. PARTIALLY DISSENTING OPINION OF JUDGE LIU

1. In this Judgement, the Majority reverses Perišić's convictions for aiding and abetting murder, inhumane acts, and persecution as crimes against humanity; and murder and attacks on civilians as violations of the laws or customs of war.1 This reversal is predicated on the finding that the Trial Chamber erred in holding that specific direction is not a required element of the actus reus of aiding and abetting liability.2 The Majority then conducts a de novo review of the evidence and concludes that it was insufficient to prove that the aid Perišić provided was specifically directed towards the criminal activities of the VRS in Sarajevo and Srebrenica.3 I respectfully disagree with the Majority's reasoning and its conclusion in this regard.

2. While I recognise that the specific direction requirement has been mentioned in the relevant jurisprudence, I note that it has not been applied consistently. Indeed, the cases cited by the Majority as evidence of an established specific direction requirement merely make mention of "acts directed at specific crimes"4 as an element of the actus reus of aiding and abetting liability. In the majority of these cases the Appeals Chamber simply restates language from the Tadić Appeal Judgement without expressly applying the specific direction requirement to the facts of the case before it.5 Moreover, the jurisprudence of the Tribunal demonstrates that aiding and abetting liability may be established without requiring that the acts of the accused were specifically directed to a crime.6 In these circumstances, I am not persuaded that specific direction is an essential element of the actus reus of aiding and abetting liability7 – or that it is necessary to explicitly consider specific direction in cases where the aider and abettor is remote from the relevant crimes.8

3. Given that specific direction has not been applied in past cases with any rigor, to insist on such a requirement now effectively raises the threshold for aiding and abetting liability.9 This shift risks undermining the very purpose of aiding and abetting liability by allowing those responsible for knowingly facilitating the most grievous crimes to evade responsibility for their acts. The present appeal is a case in point.

4. The Trial Chamber held Perišić responsible for facilitating the criminal acts of the VRS in Sarajevo and Srebrenica. Although the Trial Chamber did not characterise the VRS as a wholly criminal organisation,10 it nonetheless found that the crimes committed by the VRS were "inextricably linked to the war strategy and objectives of the VRS leadership."11 It further found that the VRS "wag[ed] a war that encompassed systematic criminal actions against Bosnian Muslim civilians as a military strategy and objective."12 In this regard, the Trial Chamber found that the siege of Sarajevo was instrumental to the implementation of a VRS objective and that the "systematic and widespread sniping and shelling of civilians in Sarajevo by the VRS over a period of three years demonstrate[d] that the VRS's leading officers relied on criminal acts to further the siege."13 With regard to Srebrenica, the Trial Chamber found that the VRS pursued a strategic objective "aimed at establishing a corridor in the Drina River valley and eliminating the Drina River as a border between the Serbian states."14 It concluded that "this goal was implemented through the plan of 'plunging the Bosnian Muslim population into a humanitarian crisis and ultimately eliminating the enclave'."15

5. As the highest ranking officer of the VJ, Perišić oversaw a system which provided considerable practical assistance to the VRS.16 In his capacity as Chief of the VJ General Staff, Perišić institutionalised the provision of logistical assistance to the VRS17 and had the power to approve or deny aid requests from the VRS.18 The Trial Chamber noted that Perišić refused aid requests that did not comply with his procurement procedure and that his decisions in this regard were final.19 Moreover, the Trial Chamber considered that "Perišić's role went beyond administering the logistical assistance process" and noted that Perišić "recurrently encouraged the SDC to maintain this assistance, thereby helping craft the FRY's policy to aid these armies."20

6. The Trial Chamber found that Perišić presided over "a system providing comprehensive military assistance to the VRS".21 It noted that this assistance included "considerable quantities of weaponry comprising a very large part of the VRS's munition requirements"22 and the transfer of a number of VJ officers and key personnel to the VRS.23 The Trial Chamber carefully assessed the magnitude of the logistical aid Perišić directed towards the VRS and found that "without the regular supply of considerable quantities of ammunition and other weaponry, as well as fuel, technical expertise, repair services and personnel training, the VRS would have been hampered in conducting its operations in Sarajevo and Srebrenica."24 Significantly, the Trial Chamber established that "important logistical
and technical support was provided to the units involved in perpetrating the charged crimes” in Sarajevo and Srebrenica.²⁵

7. This comprehensive assistance was crucial to the VRS’s continued existence.²⁶ The Trial Chamber found that the assistance provided by Perišić “sustained the very life line of the VRS and created the conditions for it to implement a war strategy that encompassed the commission of crimes against civilians.”²⁷ Without this aid, the Trial Chamber concluded, the VRS could not have operated effectively as an army.²⁸ It consequently found that “Perišić’s logistical assistance and personnel assistance, individually and cumulatively, had a substantial effect on the crimes perpetrated by the VRS in Sarajevo and Srebrenica”.²⁹

8. The Trial Chamber also reviewed extensive evidence in finding that Perišić was aware of the VRS’s propensity to commit criminal acts. It found that, from the early stages of the war, “Perišić was provided with information, from a variety of sources, of the VRS’s criminal behaviour and discriminatory intent. This information related to acts of violence against Bosnian Muslims perpetrated in the BiH theatre of war and made Perišić aware of the VRS’s propensity to commit crimes.”³⁰ The Trial Chamber concluded that Perišić knew “of the VRS criminal intent in the implementation of its war strategy” and nonetheless provided assistance to the VRS war effort in the Sarajevo campaign.³¹ It further found that Perišić “knew that individual crimes committed by the VRS before the attack on Srebrenica would probably be followed by more crimes committed by the VRS after the takeover of the enclave in July 1995” and that “Perišić had contemporaneous knowledge of allegations that the VRS was committing crimes in Srebrenica.”³²

9. Having carefully reviewed Perišić’s submissions on appeal,³³ I am satisfied that the Trial Chamber did not err in its assessment of the evidence on the record or in its analysis of aiding and abetting liability. Perišić’s acts, which facilitated the large-scale crimes of the VRS through the provision of considerable and comprehensive aid, constitute a prime example of conduct to which aiding and abetting liability should attach. Moreover, even assuming specific direction were a required element of aiding and abetting liability, I am not convinced that an acquittal would be justified given the magnitude, critical importance, and continued nature of the assistance Perišić provided to the VRS.

10. In these circumstances, I would have upheld Perišić’s convictions for aiding and abetting the crimes committed by the VRS in Sarajevo and Srebrenica.

Done in English and French, the English text being authoritative.

Judge Liu Daqun

Dated this 28th day of February 2013
At The Hague,
The Netherlands.

[Seal of the Tribunal]

ENDNOTES

1 Appeal Judgement, paras 73-74, 122.
2 Appeal Judgement, paras 25-36. See also Appeal Judgement, paras 37-74.
3 Appeal Judgement, paras 45-72.
4 As noted in the Appeal Judgement, this formulation varies slightly from case to case. For a list of cases using this or a

The express application of the specific direction requirement appears to have been limited to the Vasišćević case (see Vasišćević Appeal Judgement, para. 135). In my view, this tends to demonstrate that the Appeals Chamber accorded extremely limited importance to specific direction in previous cases. Moreover, I note that the specific direction “requirement” was first mentioned in the Tadić Appeal Judgement, which focused on JCE liability and only considered aiding and abetting liability by way of contrast (see Tadić Appeal Judgement, para. 229). Thus, subsequent cases have relied on language that was not intended to be a definitive statement of aiding and abetting liability.

See Mrkić and Slijivančin Appeal Judgement, para. 159; Lukić and Lukić Appeal Judgement, para. 424. See by contrast Lukić and Lukić Appeal Judgement, Separate and Partially Dissenting Opinions of Judge Mehmet Güney, paras 10-11 and Separate Opinion of Judge Agius.

In my view, specific direction may be a pertinent factor in evaluating the mens rea of an aider and abettor. However, I believe that specific direction is a red herring when considered in the context of the actus reus of aiding and abetting liability.

The remoteness of an accused from the crimes is not dispositive in assessing the actus reus of aiding and abetting liability. In this context, I believe that the crucial consideration is whether the acts of the aider and abettor had a substantial effect on the commission of the relevant crime. See Delalić et al. Appeal Judgement, para. 352.

If specific direction is indeed part of the actus reus of aiding and abetting liability, it could be argued that there is little difference between aiding and abetting and certain forms of commission. See Seromba Appeal Judgement, para. 171.

See Trial Judgement, paras 262-293, 1588.

Trial Judgement, para. 1588. See also Trial Judgement, para. 1602 (“the crimes charged in the Indictment were an integral part of the VRS’s war strategy”).

Trial Judgement, para. 1621.

Trial Judgement, para. 1590. See also Trial Judgement, para. 1589.

Trial Judgement, para. 1591.

Trial Judgement, para. 1591.

Trial Judgement, para. 1594.

Trial Judgement, para. 948.

Trial Judgement, paras 948-949, 956. See Trial Judgement, paras 943 (at a meeting on 27 September 1993, Perišić announced that “[s]upply of material and technical equipment to the [VRS and SVK] should be realised in accordance with the real possibilities and only upon the authorization of the Chief of the General Staff of the Yugoslav Army”, i.e. only upon Perišić’s own authorisation (internal reference omitted)), 967 (“the evidence conclusively establishes that the SDC granted Perišić authority over the logistical assistance process”). See also Trial Judgement, paras 965-966.

Trial Judgement, paras 949-950, 956. See also Trial Judgement, paras 952-953.

Trial Judgement, para. 1008 (emphasis added). See also Trial Judgement, paras 964 (at the SDC meeting held on 10 January 1994 to discuss funding “Perišić stated that 522 million dollars and 307 million dollars were respectively required for the needs of the VRS and SVK. He subsequently pled: ‘We cannot abandon Ratko and others – they are asking for extremely expensive ammunition they use to fire on land targets. Why? Because it is very effective ...’” (internal references omitted)), 968 (“[o]n 7 June 1994, Perišić personally advised the SDC that logistical assistance to the VRS and SVK was necessary and must continue [and] recommended that the SDC approve the grant of ammunition and spare parts to the VRS and SVK” (internal reference omitted)), 970 (on 21 July 1994, “Perišić did not propose discontinuing military assistance to the VRS and SVK, instead urging the SDC to increase the VJ’s budget: ‘[I]t is not possible to send supplies across the Drina river out of these reserves. But that leads to the conclusion that a budget of additional funds for this purpose should be considered.’ Slobodan Milošević and Zoran Lilić agreed with Perišić that the VJ’s budget should be raised accordingly, and the SDC went on to reach this conclusion” (emphasis in Trial Judgement) (internal references omitted)), 972 (“[o]n 7 June 1995, Perišić again encouraged the SDC to keep on authorising the VJ’s assistance to the VRS and SVK: ‘Allow us, as has been the case so far, to offer certain help to the [Republika Srpska (“RS”)] and the [RSK], primarily with spare parts and whatever we can give that will not have an impact on FRY’s combat readiness’” (internal reference omitted)). See also Trial Judgement, para. 1622 (“Perišić urged the FR Yugoslavia to continue its policy of assisting the VRS. He notably oversaw the provision of wide-ranging logistical and technical assistance to the VRS”).

Trial Judgement, para. 1234 (emphasis added). See also Trial Judgement, paras 1594-1595. The Trial Chamber also noted “unequivocal” evidence that Perišić sought to provide assistance to the VRS and the SVK regardless of the United Nations Security Council’s (“UNSC”) resolutions. See Trial Judgement, para. 1005 (at a meeting with a delegation of leaders from the Serbian Orthodox Church, Perišić had said that “despite the unfair sanctions imposed by the international community the FRY has been assisting RS and the RSK in every respect (humanitarian, military, etc.) in order for the Serbian people to successfully defend itself [sic] and survive on its [sic] territory. ‘Perišić promised to do everything within his power to continue helping the Serbian people’” (emphasis in Trial Judgement) (internal references omitted)).
encompassed systematic criminal actions without impediments”). In addition, the Trial Chamber noted that Perišić himself did not believe that the VRS had another significant source of assistance. See Trial Judgement, para. 1165 (“They rely solely on us and come to us with demands.” In an interview conducted after the war, Perišić said, while referring to the FRY, RS and RSK, that there was ‘one single army’ that ‘was getting its logistics support mostly from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia’ (emphasis in Trial Judgement) (internal references omitted)).

25 Trial Judgement, para. 1237. See Trial Judgement, para. 1594. See also Trial Judgement, 1595 (“although the VJ was providing logistical assistance to the VRS even before Perišić became Chief of the VJ General Staff, he helped to efficiently continue this policy. Perišić recurrently urged the SDC to continue providing the VRS with extensive logistical and technical assistance free of charge, and oversaw this process in practice” (internal reference omitted)).

26 See Trial Judgement, paras 1597-1602. The Trial Chamber noted that “Karadžić admitted that ‘nothing would happen without Serbia. We do not have those resources and we would not be able to fight’. Mladić too reckoned that ‘we would not be able to live’ if the FRY suspended its assistance. At the end of the war, Mladić addressed a letter to Milošević, copying Perišić, to express his gratitude for the ‘invaluable’ assistance that the VRS had received from FRY authorities. Mladić acknowledged that:

It would be difficult to imagine the course of events if it had not been for that assistance. It was comprehensive and basically timely. We would like to emphasize that it had always come at the right moment and was precious when we needed it most. This is well known, especially among the VRS which will remain forever grateful.”

See Trial Judgement, para. 1598 (internal references omitted).

27 Trial Judgement, para. 1623 (emphasis added).

28 See Trial Judgement, para. 1622.

29 Trial Judgement, para. 1627.

30 Trial Judgement, para. 1631 (internal references omitted).

31 Trial Judgement, para. 1620. The Trial Chamber based its conclusions regarding Perišić’s knowledge of the Sarajevo crimes on evidence which included, inter alia, diplomatic cables, some of which copied Perišić, discussing the international community’s views of shelling and sniping incidents in Sarajevo; UNSC Resolutions and international reports detailing VRS crimes, as well as related discussions by the FRY leadership; and detailed international media reports and intelligence information gathered by FRY intelligence and security organs which were presented to Perišić (see Trial Judgement, paras 1450-1456, 1461-1485, 1489-1494, 1496-1516, 1518-1521, 1633; see also Trial Judgement, paras 1390-1437).

32 Trial Judgement, para. 1579. With regard to Srebrenica, the Trial Chamber noted diplomatic cables to the FRY leadership detailing serious allegations of crimes by VRS forces in Srebrenica, some directly copying Perišić (see Trial Judgement, paras 1526, 1547-1553). In this context, the Trial Chamber also considered UNSC resolutions in April and June 1993, and April 1994, which noted that VRS forces were committing crimes against civilians in areas including Srebrenica; VRS and VJ intelligence reports; evidence of meetings between Perišić and VRS members; and media reports on crimes committed by VRS forces in Srebrenica (see Trial Judgement, paras 1526, 1529, 1532, 1534-1540, 1547-1556, 1567-1577). Significantly, the Trial Chamber noted that Perišić continued to provide the VRS with assistance after the crimes had been committed in Srebrenica. See, e.g., Trial Judgement, para. 973 (“[o]n 29 July 1995, pursuant to another briefing by Perišić, the SDC decided to ‘continue extending certain assistance to the Armed Forces of RS and the RSSJ within limits that do not jeopardise the combat readiness of the [VJ]’. The SDC agreed that it was ‘immediately’ necessary to ‘continue extending material and expert assistance to the VRS and SVK, to the extent of VJ abilities’” (internal references omitted)).

33 Appeal, paras 16-314.
IX. OPINION SÉPARÉE DU JUGE RAMAROSON SUR LA QUESTION DE LA VISÉE SPÉCIFIQUE DANS LA COMPLICITÉ PAR AIDE ET ENCOURAGEMENT

A. Introduction

1. La Chambre d’appel acquitte ce jour Perišić et infirme sa condamnation notamment au titre de la complicité par aide et encouragement pour les crimes d’assassinat, actes inhumains et persécutions comme crimes contre l’humanité de même que pour les crimes d’assassinat et d’attaques contre des civils comme violation des lois et coutumes de la guerre. Je souscris à la conclusion dégagée dans l’arrêt. Toutefois, je ne partage pas le point de vue exprimé par la majorité selon lequel la visée spécifique constitue un élément essentiel de la complicité par aide et encouragement et devant être exclusivement analysé dans le cadre de l’actus reus.

B. La visée spécifique n’est pas un critère explicite de la complicité par aide et encouragement

2. Le présent arrêt soutient que la visée spécifique constitue une composante requise de la complicité par aide et encouragement, ce qui, à mon humble avis, est une conclusion erronée se basant sur le postulat selon lequel l’arrêt Tadić considère la visée spécifique comme étant un élément de la complicité par aide et encouragement. En effet, la Chambre d’appel prend comme point de départ l’affaire Tadić, laquelle a défini la complicité par aide et encouragement en opposition avec l’entreprise criminelle commune. Le fait que cette définition inclut les termes « qui visent spécifiquement » indiquerait selon la majorité que la visée spécifique constitue une composante de la complicité par aide et encouragement. Or, cette définition est de nature purement contextuelle car elle était destinée à établir une comparaison entre la complicité par aide et encouragement et l’entreprise criminelle commune, sans établir une description complète de la responsabilité pénale du complice.

3. La Chambre d’appel affirme ensuite que la jurisprudence postérieure ne s’est jamais écartée de la définition fournie dans l’arrêt Tadić, l’amenant ainsi à conclure que la visée spécifiques est une condition requise de l’actus reus pour établir la complicité par aide et encouragement, conclusion à laquelle je ne puis souscrire. En effet, la visée spécifique n’a jamais été isolée en tant que telle, tant d’un point de vue légal que factuel.

4. D’un point de vue légal, les arrêts postérieurs n’ont fait que reprendre, pour la grande majorité de façon verbatim, la définition énoncée dans l’affaire Tadić, certains d’entre eux ayant utilisé des synonymes. Je note par ailleurs que la Chambre d’appel, en évoquant la visée spécifique sous une forme substantivée, dénote en ce sens qu’elle érige un nouveau critère. D’un point de vue factuel, je constate que la jurisprudence n’a jamais caractérisé ce critère en l’appliquant expressément aux faits de l’espèce. La plupart des affaires n’en font pas mention tandis que certaines l’incluent de façon implicite à travers l’effet substantiel.

5. J’en conclus que la Chambre de première instance n’a pas commis d’erreur de droit en indiquant que : « l’élément matériel de l’aide et l’encouragement n’exige pas que l’aide apportée par le complice “vise expressément à faciliter les crimes ” » . Elle fonde à juste titre cette conclusion sur le paragraphe 159 de l’arrêt Mrkšić et Stjepančič et les paragraphe 182, 185 à 189 de l’arrêt Blagojević et Jokić. L’arrêt Mrkšić et Stjepančič indique qu’il ne s’agit pas d’un ingrédient essentiel tandis que l’arrêt Blagojević et Jokić affirme que ce critère peut être pris en compte de façon implicite dans une analyse fondée sur l’effet substantiel. A mon avis, ces deux affirmations ne se contredisent pas. L’arrêt Lukić et Lukić rendu le 4 décembre 2012 a également statué de la sorte, tout en indiquant que l’arrêt Mrkšić et Stjepančič « a clarifié “que la visée spécifique n’est pas un ingrédient essentiel de l’actus reus de la complicité par aide et encouragement” » . Or, le présent arrêt juge que l’arrêt Mrkšić et Stjepančič a employé une formulation pouvant induire en erreur. Il s’agit là d’une nette contradiction avec la jurisprudence antérieure. La conclusion de la Chambre de première instance me paraît à ce titre fondée en droit.

6. En conséquence, je ne partage pas la conclusion légale dégagée par la majorité en vertu de laquelle la visée spécifique, à défaut d’être implicite dans l’effet substantiel, a été l’immuable position jurisprudentielle et doit constituer une condition requise de l’actus reus pour établir la complicité par aide et encouragement. Au regard de l’état des lieux de la jurisprudence, cette affirmation catégorique de la Chambre d’appel me semble constituer un revirement de jurisprudence. Il s’agit également de la première fois que la visée spécifique est appliquée de façon explicite aux faits de l’espèce.
C. **Les implications de la visée spécifique**

7. Je considère que l’idée d’une visée spécifique est implicitement prise en compte dans le cadre de la mens rea. Orienter un acte, le viser est à mon sens subjectif et implique nécessairement une analyse de la mens rea du complice. Cependant, la jurisprudence a traité la question de la visée spécifique à travers l’actus reus. En effet, elle a considéré que la visée spécifique pouvait être implicite à travers l’effet substantiel, lequel fait partie de l’actus reus. Toutefois, comme la frontière avec la mens rea me paraît ténue, je ne puis souscrire à l’affirmation selon laquelle la visée spécifique est un élément requis de l’actus reus, séparé de la mens rea. Je note par ailleurs que la façon dont la Chambre d’appel applique ce critère comprend des éléments relatifs au lien de causalité, lien qui n’est pourtant pas requis en tant que tel par notre jurisprudence. A mon sens, le lien de causalité est pris en compte à travers l’effet substantiel.

8. La Chambre d’appel précise les circonstances d’application de la visée spécifique et affirme la nécessité de la considérer de façon explicite lorsque l’accusé est loin de la scène de crime, pour établir un lien entre les actes de l’accusé et les actions des auteurs principaux. Or, la jurisprudence indique que les actes de complicité peuvent être commis en un endroit éloigné du lieu de sa commission sans pour autant exiger la visée spécifique. En conséquence, la Chambre d’appel introduit à mon sens une distinction nouvelle dans le droit de l’aide et l’encouragement en affirmant que dans les cas où l’accusé se trouve loin de la scène de crime, la visée spécifique doit être analysée de façon explicite. En vertu du principe *ubi lex non distinguat*, je ne peux souscrire au raisonnement de la Chambre d’appel sur ce point.

9. Prenant acte de l’absence de développements factuels relatifs à la visée spécifique dans la jurisprudence antérieure, la Chambre d’appel justifie ce point au motif que l’accusé se trouvait à proximité de la scène de crime. Cela démontre à mon sens que le cœur du problème n’est point la question d’une visée spécifique, conditionnée à l’éloignement ou non de l’accusé, mais celle de sa mens rea. En effet, lorsque l’accusé se trouve à proximité de la scène de crime, la mens rea peut se déduire aisément des actes mêmes de l’accusé. Or, il est plus difficile de l’établir quand l’accusé est éloigné de la scène de crime, plus spécifiquement s’agissant du deuxième volet de la mens rea qui est la conscience que l’aide fournie assiste les crimes commis.

D. **La mens rea de Perišić**

10. La Chambre d’appel indique qu’elle n’a pas trouvé de preuve démontrant que Perišić soutenait la fourniture d’une aide spécifiquement dirigée vers les activités criminelles de la VRS et qu’au contraire, de par ses actes, Perišić voulait soutenir l’effort de guerre général de la VRS. Cela suggère à mon sens que la Chambre d’appel a considéré que Perišić n’avait pas la mens rea requise, à savoir qu’il n’avait pas conscience que ses actes assistaient la commission des crimes commis à Sarajevo et Srebrenica. A mon humble avis, si les actes de Perišić ne visaient pas spécifiquement à, cela signifie qu’il n’avait pas conscience que, par ses actes, il assistait à la commission des crimes commis à Sarajevo et Srebrenica. Pour cette raison, je me rallie à la majorité et souscris à l’acquittement de Perišić car je considère que la Chambre d’appel a inclus de façon implicite dans son analyse de la visée spécifique, celle de la mens rea de Perišić. Cependant, je l’aurais exprimée dans le cadre d’une analyse explicite relative à la mens rea car l’acquittement de Perišić prononcé sur la base d’un critère qui ne constitue pas un précédent établi dans notre jurisprudence, ne me paraît pas fondé en droit.

Fait en français et en anglais, la version française faisant foi.

Juge Arlette Ramaroson

Le 28 février 2013
La Haye (Pays-Bas)

[Sceau du Tribunal]
ENDNOTES

1 Ces crimes correspondent aux chefs 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11 et 12 de l’acte d’accusation.

2 Visée spécifique est une traduction non officielle de specific direction, cette traduction se basant sur les termes qui visent spécifiquement utilisés dans l’Arrêt Tadić.

3 Voir Arrêt, par. 26-28 et par. 32 : « (...) the settled precedent established by the Tadić Appeal Judgement ».

4 Le paragraphe 229 de l’Arrêt Tadić indique : « Compte tenu de ce qui précède, il convient à présent de faire la distinction entre, d’une part, un acte visant à réaliser l’objectif ou dessein commun de commettre un crime et, d’autre part, le fait d’aider ou d’encourager la perpétration d’un crime. (...) Le complice commet des actes qui visent spécifiquement à aider, encourager ou fournir un soutien moral en vue de la perpétration d’un crime spécifique (meurtre, extermination, viol, torture, destruction arbitraire de biens civils, etc.), et ce soutien a un effet important sur la perpétration du crime. En revanche, dans le cas d’actes commis en vertu d’un objectif ou dessein commun, il suffit que la personne qui y participe commette des actes qui visent d’une manière ou d’une autre à contribuer au projet ou objectif commun. » [non soulignés dans l’original]. Je note que les termes soulignés démontrent que les termes « qui visent spécifiquement » à servent à établir une comparaison. « Qui visent spécifiquement à » s’oppose à cet égard aux termes « qui visent d’une manière ou d’une autre » employés pour l’entreprise criminelle commune. Or, la visée d’une certaine manière n’est pas devenue un critère de l’entreprise criminelle commune. Sur la nature contextuelle de cette définition, voir les Arrêts Blagojević et Jokić, par. 185 et Aleksovski, par. 163.

5 Arrêt, par. 25-36.

6 Arrêt Aleksovski, par. 163.

7 Je note à titre additionnel que le paragraphe 229 de l’arrêt Tadić dont le but est de distinguer l’aide et l’encouragement de l’entreprise criminelle commune survient après un long développement consacré à l’entreprise criminelle commune et à son caractère coutumier (voir les par. 185 à 228). Ce développement est compris à cet égard dans une sous-section intitulée : « L’article 7.1) du Statut et la notion de but commun ». La complicité par aide et encouragement ne constitue donc pas le cœur du raisonnement.

8 Arrêt, par. 36.

9 Arrêt, note de bas de page 70.

10 Arrêt, par. 29 se référant aux Arrêts Simić, par. 85 et Orić, par. 43.

11 Voir par exemple les affaires Simić, Blaškić, Lukić et Lukić, Orić, Mrkić et Stjićančanin, Kvočka et al., Knojelac, Furundžija, Kordić et Cerkez, Delalić et al., Gotovina et Markač, Krajišnik, Brdanin, Krstić, Seromba, Nahimana et al., Kalimanžira, Rukundo, Muvunyi, Muhimana, Ntakirutimana et Ntakirutimana, Nhemachigo, Zigranyirazo, Ndirindabahi, Gacumbitsi, et Semanza. Je note par ailleurs que la seule affaire qui tendait à apprécier cet élément serait l’affaire Kupreškić (voir Arrêt Kupreškić et al., par. 283 : « Cependant, la simple présence de l’accusé devant l’hôtel Vitez ne saurait être assimilée à un acte visant précisément à aider, encourager ou soutenir moralement les auteurs de persécutions. »)

12 Voir par exemple l’Arrêt Njagerurera et al., par. 375. Je note à cet égard la phrase suivante : « La Chambre d’appel considère que les constatations de la Chambre de première instance ne permettent pas d’établir que l’omission d’imanishimwe visait spécifiquement à offrir à ses soldats la possibilité d’aller perpétrer le massacre, ni qu’il avait connaissance de l’assistance qu’il leur apportait. » Voir également les Arrêts Ntwukutiłyayo, par. 215-216; Vasiljević, par. 134-135; Blagojević et Jokic, par. 194-199; Karera, par. 322; Renzano, par. 337.

13 Arrêt, par. 41.

14 Jugement, par. 126.

15 Jugement, note de bas de page 258. La Chambre de première instance, en se référant également à l’Arrêt Blagojević et Jokic, a donc bien noté que la visée spécifique pouvait s’analyser de façon implicite à travers l’effet substantiel même si elle en a conclu à juste titre que cet élément n’était pas exigé de façon explicite.

16 Arrêt Lukić et Lukić, par. 424 (traduction non officielle).

17 Arrêt, par. 41 (« while the relevant phrasing of the Mrkšić and Stijivančanin Appeal Judgement is misleading »).

18 A titre additionnel, je note que l’Arrêt Gotovina et Markač, lequel est un arrêt récent, ne mentionne aucunement la visée spécifique alors qu’il indique les éléments pertinents (« as relevant ») de la complicité par aide et encouragement, à savoir l’effet substantiel et la mens rea requise (cf. par. 127 : « The Appeals Chamber first recalls, as relevant, that for an individual to be held liable for aiding and abetting, he must have substantially contributed to a crime and must have known that the acts he performed assisted the principal perpetrator’s crime » [notes de bas de page omises]). De même, l’Arrêt Brdanin montre dans le cadre de son analyse que l’effet substantiel et la mens rea sont les deux éléments à considérer dans le cadre de la complicité par aide et encouragement (cf. par. 496). De même, l’Arrêt Delalić et al. ne mentionne aucunement la visée spécifique (par. 352).

19 Arrêt, par. 36.

20 Arrêt, par. 32 et 35, « settled precedent ». Voir également par. 36 « remains » et « reaffirms » et par. 48 « long-standing jurisprudence ».

21 Voir les paragraphes correspondant à l’examen de novo des éléments du dossier. Arrêt, par. 43, 45-69.

22 Voir les Arrêts Orić par. 43; Mrkšić et Stijivančanin, par. 159; Blagojević et Jokic, par. 189. Je note cependant que l’affaire Blagojević et Jokic n’a pas entièrement exclu des considérations de mens rea. Voir par. 189 : « La Chambre d’appel considère également que, dans la mesure où cette finalité de l’aide fait implicitement partie intégrante de l’élément matériel de la complicité par aide et encouragement, lorsque l’accusé a sciendi pris part à un crime et que sa participation a eu un effet important sur sa perpétration (…) » [non souligné dans l’original].

23 Arrêt Blagojević et Jokic, par. 189.

24 A titre d’exemple, il convient de noter que le présent arrêt était de la manière dans laquelle Perišić a distribué l’aide de la VJ à la VRS, ce qui implique nécessairement une analyse de la mens rea. Arrêt, par. 66 : « The manner in
which Perišić distributed VJ aid to the VRS also does not demonstrate specific direction». Voir également Arrêt, par. 59 et 61.

Arrêt, par. 68 : « However, the Appeals Chamber, Judge Liu dissenting, recalls that evidence regarding knowledge of crimes, alone, does not necessarily establish specific direction, which is a distinct element of actus reus, separate from mens rea ». Voir également Arrêt, par. 48 : « The Appeals Chamber also underscores that its analysis of specific direction will exclusively address actus reus » et « ( . . . ) the long-standing jurisprudence of the Tribunal affirms that specific direction is an analytically distinct element of actus reus ».

Voir par exemple Arrêt, par. 63 : « However, the record contains no evidence suggesting that the benefits provided to seconded soldiers and officers – including VJ-level salaries, housing, and educational and medical benefits – were tailored to facilitate the commission of crimes. » Voir également Arrêt, par. 65 : « In addition, the Appeals Chamber notes that the Trial Chamber found that bullets and shells recovered from crime sites in Sarajevo and Srebrenica were not proved beyond reasonable doubt to have originated from the VJ ( . . . ) » [notes de bas de page omises].

Voir les Arrêts Mrkić et Šljivančanin, par. 81; Simić, par. 85; Blaškić, par. 48; Blagojević et Jokić, par. 187; Rukundo, par. 52; Aleksovski, par. 164.

Arrêt, par. 39 et 70.

Arrêt, par. 42.

Arrêt Simić, par. 85, Arrêt Blaškić, par. 48.

Arrêt, par. 38.

La mens rea comprend deux volets, à savoir la connaissance par l’accusé des crimes commis par les auteurs principaux (ou de la probabilité qu’ils se commettent) et la connaissance que les actes de l’accusé assistent la commission des crimes. Voir Arrêt Mrkić et Šljivančanin, par. 159 : « The aider and abettor must know that his omission assists in the commission of the crime of the principal perpetrator. »; Arrêt Blaškić, par. 49 : « Le fait que le complice sache que ses actes contribuent à la perpétration d’un crime par l’auteur principal suffit à établir l’élément moral de la complicité. » Voir les Arrêts Haradinaj, par. 57 : « The aider and abettor must have knowledge that his or her acts assist in the commission of the crime of the principal perpetrator. »; Gotovina et Markač, par. 127 : « The Appeals Chamber first recalls, as relevant, that for an individual to be held liable for aiding and abetting, he must have substantially contributed to a crime and must have known that the acts he performed assisted the principal perpetrator’s crime. »; Blagojević et Jokić, par. 127 : « L’élément moral de la complicité par aide et encouragement s’analyse comme le fait pour le complice de savoir que les actes qu’il accomplit contribuent à la perpétration d’un crime précis par l’auteur principal. Dans le cas de crimes supposant une intention spécifique comme la persécution ou le génocide, le complice doit connaître celle de l’auteur principal. »

Traduction de « Perišić’s relevant actions were intended. »

Arrêt, par. 60 : « Having reviewed the relevant evidence, the Appeals Chamber, Judge Liu dissenting, also finds no proof that Perišić supported the provision of assistance specifically directed towards the VRS’s criminal activities. Instead, evidence on the record suggests that Perišić’s relevant actions were intended to aid the VRS’s overall war effort. » [non souligné dans l’original].

Voir Arrêt, par. 60 et 61.
X. ANNEX A – PROCEDURAL HISTORY

1. The Trial Chamber rendered the Trial Judgement in this case on 6 September 2011. The main aspects of the appeal proceedings are summarised below.

A. Notice of Appeal and Briefs

2. On 13 September 2011, Perišić filed a motion requesting an extension of time to file his notice of appeal, which the Prosecution did not oppose. Perišić’s motion was granted on 16 September 2011, providing him an extension of 30 days. Perišić filed his notice of appeal on 8 November 2011. On 21 November 2011, Perišić filed a motion requesting an extension of time to file his appellant’s brief, which the Prosecution did not oppose. Perišić’s motion was granted on 24 November 2011, providing him an extension of 14 days. On 25 January 2012, Perišić filed a motion requesting an 8,000 word extension to the word limit of his appellant’s brief, which the Prosecution did not oppose. Perišić’s motion was granted on 30 January 2012, and both he and the Prosecution were granted an 8,000 word extension to the word limits applicable to, respectively, the appellant’s brief and the Prosecution response. Perišić filed his appellant’s brief on 6 February 2012. The Prosecution responded to Perišić’s appeal on 19 March 2012. Perišić filed his reply brief on 3 April 2012.

B. Assignment of Judges

3. On 14 September 2011, the President of the Tribunal assigned the following Judges to hear the appeal: Judge Mehmet Güney; Judge Liu Daqun; Judge Andréia Vaz; Judge Theodor Meron; and Judge Carmel Agius. Pursuant to Rule 22(B) of the Rules, Judge Meron was elected the Presiding Judge in the case. On 16 September 2011, Judge Meron designated himself as Pre-Appeal Judge. On 7 March 2012, the President of the Tribunal replaced Judge Mehmet Güney with Judge Khalida Rachid Khan. On 23 May 2012, the President of the Tribunal replaced Judge Khalida Rachid Khan with Judge Arlette Ramaroson.

C. Status Conferences

4. In accordance with Rule 65bis(B) of the Rules, status conferences were held on 7 March 2012 and 5 July 2012.

D. Request to Allow Legal Consultant to Appear Before the Appeals Chamber

5. On 29 October 2012, Perišić sought leave for Mr. Stéphane Bourgon to appear before the Appeals Chamber during the Appeal Hearing. The Appeals Chamber granted Perišić’s request in a decision delivered orally at the start of the Appeal Hearing.

E. Appeal Hearing

6. On 24 September 2012, the Appeals Chamber issued a scheduling order for the Appeal Hearing in this case. On 15 October 2012, the Appeals Chamber issued an addendum inviting the parties to address several specific issues at the Appeal Hearing. The Appeal Hearing was held on 30 October 2012 in The Hague.

ENDNOTES

1 Motion for an Extension of Time to File a Notice of Appeal, 13 September 2011, para. 14.
2 Prosecution Response to Defence Motion for Extension of Time, 15 September 2011, para. 2.
3 Decision on Momčilo Perišić’s Motion for an Extension of Time to File a Notice of Appeal, 16 September 2011, pp. 1-2.
4 Notice of Appeal of Momčilo Perišić, 8 November 2011. See also Corrigendum to Mr. Perišić’s Notice of Appeal, 7 February 2012.
5 Mr. Perišić’s Request for an Extension of Time to File his Appeal Brief, 21 November 2011, para. 8.
6 Prosecution Response to Defence Motion for Extension of Time to File Appeal Brief, 22 November 2011, para. 2.
7 Decision on Momčilo Perišić’s Motion for an Extension of Time to File his Appeal Brief, 24 November 2011, pp. 1-2.

8 Mr. Perišić’s Motion for Leave to Exceed the Word Limit for the Appeal Brief, 25 January 2012, paras 1, 6, 13.

9 Response to Defence Motion to Exceed Word Limit for Appeal Brief, 26 January 2012, para. 1.

10 Decision on Momčilo Perišić’s Motion for Leave to Exceed the Word Limit for the Appeal Brief, 30 January 2012, pp. 2-3.

11 Appeal Brief of Momčilo Perišić, 6 February 2012 (confidential). A final public redacted version was filed on 10 April 2012. *See also* Book of Authorities for the Appeal Brief of Momčilo Perišić, 6 February 2012.

12 Prosecution Response to Momčilo Perišić’s Appeal Brief, 19 March 2012 (confidential). A public redacted version was filed on 12 April 2012. *See also* Book of Authorities to Prosecution Response to Momčilo Perišić’s Appeal Brief, 19 March 2012.

13 Reply of Momčilo Perišić to Prosecution’s Response Brief, 3 April 2012 (confidential). A public redacted version was filed on 7 November 2012. *See also* Book of Authorities for the Reply Brief of Momčilo Perišić, 3 April 2012.

14 Order Assigning Judges to a Case Before the Appeals Chamber, 14 September 2011, p. 2.

15 See Order Designating a Pre-Appeal Judge, 16 September 2011, p. 1.

16 Order Designating a Pre-Appeal Judge, 16 September 2011, p. 1.

17 Order Replacing a Judge in a Case Before the Appeals Chamber, 7 March 2012, p. 1.

18 Order Replacing a Judge in a Case Before the Appeals Chamber, 23 May 2012, p. 1.

19 The parties agreed that certain status conferences need not be held.

20 Motion on Behalf of Momčilo Perišić Seeking Permission for a Legal Consultant to Appear Before the Appeals Chamber During the 30 October 2012 Appeal Oral Hearing, 29 October 2012 (public with confidential annexes), paras 1, 5.

21 AT. 30 October 2012 p. 11.


XI. ANNEX B – CITED MATERIALS AND DEFINED TERMS

A. Jurisprudence

1. Tribunal

ALEKSOVSKI

BLAGOJEVIĆ AND JOKIĆ

BLAŠKIĆ

BOŠKOSKI AND TARČULOVSKI

BRDANIN

DELALIĆ ET AL.

FURUNDŽIJA

GOTOVINA AND MARKAČ
Prosecutor v. Ante Gotovina and Mladen Markač, Case No. IT-06-90-A, Decision on Motion to Intervene and Statement of Interest by the Republic of Croatia, 8 February 2012 (“Gotovina and Markač Croatia Decision”).


HADŽIHASANOVIĆ ET AL.

HALILOVIĆ

HARADINAJ ET AL.

KORDIĆ AND ČERKEZ
Prosecutor v. Dario Kordić and Mario Čerkez, Case No. IT-95-14/2-A, Judgement, 17 December 2004 (“Kordić and Čerkez Appeal Judgement”).
KRAJIŠNIK

KRNOJELAC

KRSTIĆ
Prosecutor v. Radislav Krstić, Case No. IT-98-33-A, Judgement, 19 April 2004 ("Krstić Appeal Judgement").

KUPREŠKIĆ ET AL.

KVOČKA ET AL.

LIMAJ ET AL.
Prosecutor v. Fatmir Limaj, Haradin Bala, and Isak Musliu, Case No. IT-03-66-T, Judgement, 30 November 2005 ("Limaj et al. Trial Judgement").

LUKIĆ AND LUKIĆ
Prosecutor v. Milan Lukić and Sredoje Lukić, Case No. IT-98-32/1-A, Judgement, 4 December 2012 ("Lukić and Lukić Appeal Judgement").

MRKŠIĆ AND ŠLJIVANČANIN
Prosecutor v. Mile Mrkšić and Veselin Šljivančanin, Case No. IT-95-13/1-A, Judgement, 5 May 2009 ("Mrkšić and Šljivančanin Appeal Judgement").

NALETILIĆ AND MARTINOVić

ORIĆ

PERIŠIĆ
Prosecutor v. Momčilo Perišić, Case No. IT-04-81-T, Decision on Second Defence Motion for Judicial Notice of Adjudicated Facts, 2 August 2010 ("Decision on Adjudicated Facts").
Prosecutor v. Momčilo Perišić, Case No. IT-04-81-T, Judgement, 6 September 2011 (public with confidential Annex C) ("Trial Judgement").

SIMIĆ
Prosecutor v. Blagoje Simić, Case No. IT-95-9-A, Judgement, 28 November 2006 ("Simić Appeal Judgement").

STAKIĆ
STRUGAR

TADIĆ

VASILJEVIĆ

2. ICTR

GACUMBITSI
The Prosecutor v. Sylvestre Gacumbitsi, Case No. ICTR-2001-64-T, Judgment, 17 June 2004 (the English translation of the French original was filed on 24 January 2005) ("Gacumbitsi Trial Judgement").
Sylvestre Gacumbitsi v. The Prosecutor, Case No. ICTR-2001-64-A, Judgement, 7 July 2006 ("Gacumbitsi Appeal Judgement").

GATETE
Jean-Baptiste Gatete v. The Prosecutor, Case No. ICTR-00-61-A, Judgement, 9 October 2012 ("Gatete Appeal Judgement").

KALIMANZIRA

KARERA
François Karera v. The Prosecutor, Case No. ICTR-01-74-A, Judgement, 2 February 2009 ("Karera Appeal Judgement").

KAYISHEMA AND RUZINDANA
The Prosecutor v. Clément Kayishema and Obed Ruzindana, Case No. ICTR-95-1-A, Judgement (Reasons), 19 July 2001 (the English translation of the French original was filed on 4 December 2001) ("Kayishema and Ruzindana Appeal Judgement").

MUHIMANA
Mikael Muhimana v. Thé Prosecutor, Case No. ICTR-95-1B-A, Judgement, 21 May 2007 ("Muhimana Appeal Judgement").

MUVUNYI
Tharcisse Muvunyi v. The Prosecutor, Case No. ICTR-00-55A-A, Judgement, 29 August 2008 ("Muvunyi Appeal Judgement").

NAHIMANA ET AL.

NCHAMIHIGO
Siméon Nchamihigo v. The Prosecutor, Case No. ICTR-01-63-A, Judgement, 18 March 2010 ("Nchamihigo Appeal Judgement").
NDINDABAHIZI

NTAGERURA ET AL.

NTAKIRUTIMANA AND NTAKIRUTIMANA

NTAWUKULILYAYO

RENZAHO

RUKUNDO

RUTAGANDA
Georges Anderson Nderubumwe Rutaganda v. The Prosecutor, Case No. ICTR-96-3-A, Judgement, 26 May 2003 (the English translation of the French original was filed on 9 February 2004) (“Rutaganda Appeal Judgement”).

SEMANZA

SEROMBA

SIMBA

ZIGIRANYIRAZO

3. Other Jurisdictions

TESCH
Trial of Bruno Tesch and Two Others (The Zyklon B Case), British Military Court Hamburg 1946, in United Nations War Crimes Commission, 1 Law Reports of Trials of War Criminals 93-1-2 (1947).
B. Other Sources

Practice Direction on Formal Requirements for Appeals from Judgement, IT/201, 7 March 2002.


C. List of Defined Terms and Abbreviations

According to Rule 2(B) of the Rules, the masculine shall include the feminine and the singular the plural, and vice versa.

7 December Order Prosecution Exhibit 1800, Order from Milošević to, *inter alia*, the SVK, transmitted by Perišić on 7 December 1994

24 March Order Prosecution Exhibit 1925, Order from Perišić to, *inter alia*, members of the SVK dated 24 March 1995

30th PC 30th Personnel Centre which involved VJ staff seconded to the VRS

40th PC 40th Personnel Centre which involved VJ staff seconded to the SVK

Appeal Public Redacted Version of the Appeal Brief of Momčilo Perišić, 10 April 2012

Appeal Hearing Oral submissions in the present case, held in The Hague on 30 October 2012

Appeals Chamber Appeals Chamber of the Tribunal

AT. Appeal Hearing Transcript

BiH or Bosnia *Bosna i Hercegovina* – Bosnia and Herzegovina

Čeleketić Milan Čeleketić, VJ officer seconded through the 40th PC and Chief of the SVK Main Staff from 22 February 1994 until mid-May 1995

*Cf.* Compare with

command orders Non-Administrative Orders

Croatia Republic of Croatia

Defence Exhibit Defence Exhibits in the present case (where Defence exhibits are originally in B/C/S, all citations herein refer to the English translation as admitted at trial)

FRY Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

ICTR International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States, between 1 January 1994 and 31 December 1994


JCE Joint Criminal Enterprise

Martić Milan Martić, president of the RSK and Supreme Commander of the SVK
Milošević  Slobodan Milošević, President of Serbia
Mladić  Ratko Mladić, Commander of the VRS Main Staff
Mrkšić  Mile Mrkšić, VJ officer seconded through the 40th PC who became Chief of the SVK Main Staff in mid-May 1995

n. (nn.)  Footnote(s)
Notice of Appeal  Notice of Appeal of Momčilo Perišić, 8 November 2011
p. (pp.)  Page(s)
para. (paras)  Paragraph(s)
PC  Personnel Centre
Prosecution  Office of the Prosecutor of the Tribunal
Prosecution Exhibit  Prosecution Exhibits in the present case (where Prosecution exhibits are originally in B/C/S, all citations herein refer to the English translation as admitted at trial)
Reply  Reply of Momčilo Perišić to Prosecution’s Response Brief, 7 November 2012 (public redacted version)
Response  Prosecution Response to Momčilo Perišić’s Appeal Brief, 12 April 2012 (public redacted version)
RSK  Republika Srpska Krajina – Republic of Serbian Krajina
Rules  Rules of Procedure and Evidence of the Tribunal
SDC  Supreme Defence Council of the FRY
Statute  Statute of the Tribunal
SVK  Srpska Vojska Krajine – Serbian Army of Krajina
T.  Trial Hearing Transcript
Trial Chamber  Trial Chamber I of the Tribunal
Trial Judgement  Prosecutor v. Momčilo Perišić, Case No. IT-04-81-T, Judgement, 6 September 2011
Tribunal  International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the former Yugoslavia since 1991
VJ  Vojska Jugoslavije – Army of Yugoslavia
VRS  Vojska Republike Srpske – Army of the Republika Srpska
VRS Crimes in Sarajevo and Srebrenica  VRS crimes in BiH that the Trial Chamber found Perišić aided and abetted
Zagreb Crimes  SVK crimes in Zagreb that the Trial Chamber found Perišić failed to punish
Zagreb Perpetrators  VJ soldiers seconded to the SVK who were responsible for crimes perpetrated during the shelling of Zagreb on 2 and 3 May 1995