

lawyers for palestinian  
human rights



## **Should the Attorney General be able to veto judicial arrest warrants against suspected war criminals?**

**LPHR presents a discussion following Israeli demands to change UK law to prevent arrest warrants being issued against its nationals. Law reform may be proposed to Parliament, whether before or after the general election, which would give the Attorney General a veto over arrest decisions.**

**Wednesday 24 February 2010**

**at Garden Court Chambers**

**6.15pm – 7.30pm**

### **Speakers:**

Lord David Pannick QC, Blackstone Chambers  
Daniel Machover, Hickman and Rose Solicitors  
John R.W.D. Jones, Doughty Street Chambers

The recent applications for arrest warrants for Ehud Barack and Tzipi Livni have resulted in extensive public debate. Many Israeli politicians and military officials take the view they can no longer travel to the UK without risk of arrest and there has been subsequent discussion within Parliament for a change to the UK's universal jurisdiction law. This debate has specifically focused upon the right of a victim of the most serious international crimes to apply directly to a magistrate to issue an arrest warrant for those allegedly responsible, if a prima facie case is made out and the suspect is in the jurisdiction. One proposed amendment to this procedure is a requirement for the Attorney General's approval to be given before a warrant is issued.

Lord David Pannick QC has argued in an advice for the Jewish Leadership Council that the current legal position is anomalous and should be changed. Daniel Machover, from the law firm that acted for clients who obtained an arrest warrant for Israeli general Doron Almog in 2005, believes the mooted change would be detrimental to the rights of victims and the application of impartial justice. John R.W.D. Jones is a barrister at Doughty Street Chambers with expertise in universal jurisdiction and is a lecturer and author on International Criminal Law. This talk provides a rare opportunity to hear in discussion the leading practitioners in their field on a contemporary issue that has profound implications for the effective prosecution of individuals allegedly responsible for the most serious human rights violations.

### **Location:**

Garden Court Chambers, 57- 60 Lincolns Inn Fields (close to Holborn tube station)

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