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International Criminal Court

Topic 2 Brief

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Background

Dominic Ongwen (The White Ant) was known as one of the Lord's Resistance Army's most vicious commanders (LRA). He is from Uganda's northwestern region. He was born in 1980, and the LRA kidnapped him on his way to school in 1990, when he was about ten years old. He received military training from senior LRA officials and eventually rose through the ranks to become an LRA commander. According to the time statutes, he is being charged for war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide, all of which are grounds for prosecution in the ICC. The LRA, which claims to be fighting for a biblical state, has killed over 100,000 people and kidnapped over 60,000

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children over the course of a three-decade struggle that has spread to Uganda's neighbors. The

Charges

Ongwen is to be charged with violation of the following articles of the

Roman Statute:

- War crimes: Article 8,
- Crime against humanity: Article 7
- War crimes: Article 25 (3) (a)
- War crimes: Article 25 (3) (b)

Witnesses

Possible Witnesses for the prosecution include:

- Helen Opoka Acan
- David Muhoozi

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Possible Witnesses for the defense include: (partners of dominic)

- Joseph Kony
- Vincent Otti

Note that Advocates can choose different witnesses, and can have a maximum of 3 witnesses

Resources:

- https://www.humanrightspulse.com/mastercont
 entblog/the-prosecutor-v-dominic-ongwen-a-judgment-of-many-firsts
- https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-30709581
- https://www.refworld.org/pdfid/58b0587e4.pdf

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