

Note on the passing of Professor Paula Escarameia, Portuguese Diplomat and CICC Friend

Dear friends,

The Coalition for the International Criminal Court is saddened to learn of the passing of Professor Paula Ventura de Carvalho Escarameia on October 4, 2010 in Lisbon, Portugal. Professor Escarameia was a remarkable jurist, educator and human rights advocate.

Professor Escarameia was not only a friend of the Coalition and a very competent legal scholar, but a champion of human rights who profoundly influenced some of the most progressive options for the protection of victims within the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

As the first woman ever elected to the United Nations International Law Commission, Professor Escarameia worked for women's rights and gender equality throughout her career and was an honorary member of the Portuguese Association of Women Jurists. At the time of her passing, she was a Professor of International Law at the Higher Institute of Social and Political Sciences of the Technical University of Lisbon and Vice President of the International Centre for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, also based in Lisbon. Professor Escarameia had previously taught at the Superior Institute for Naval Warfare, Portugal; the University of East Asia, Macau; Portuguese Catholic University; and the Higher Institute of Business, Portugal. From 1995-1998 she served as legal counsel to the Permanent Mission of Portugal to the UN and prior to that was the Director of the Centre for International Institutions in Lisbon.

Professor Escarameia was a member of the Portuguese delegation to the negotiations leading to the founding of the International Criminal Court and was present at the first Assembly of States Parties. Her indefatigable commitment to global justice as diplomat, jurist, educator and advocate continues to serve as an inspiration to the Coalition and its members worldwide.

Sincerely,

Coalition for the International Criminal Court
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