

# Q&A with Dr. Mark Ellis, Executive Director of the International Bar Association (IBA) and author of *Sovereignty and Justice*

Friday 24 July 2015



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July 21, 2015

*Dr. Mark Ellis is the Executive Director of the IBA based in London and author of the recent book [Sovereignty and Justice: Balancing the Principle of Complementarity between International and Domestic War Crimes Tribunals](#) (Cambridge Scholars, 2014). He agreed to speak with International Justice Monitor*

*about the domestic trial in Libya for members of the former Gaddafi regime and how it impacts the situation before the International Criminal Court (ICC).*

**TR:** *You are currently overseeing a preliminary assessment of [the trial](#) that concluded in late May in Libya for 37 former Gaddafi-era regime officials. What does this entail?*

**ME:** An objective assessment of the trial proceedings entails a number of legal factors. Principle among these is assessing the trial proceedings against internationally recognized standards of fairness and impartiality. It also includes collecting materials, such as the United Nation Support Mission in Libya's (UNSMIL) observation notes and assessing other sources, for example, those who attend the trial proceedings including family members, defense counsel, journalists, and domestic trial observers.

The assessment being conducted is preliminary, as we still have to wait for the verdict...Visit the [International Justice Monitor](#) website to read the full interview.