



# Voices from the Rwanda Tribunal

## Official Transcript: Alessandro Caldarone (12 of 12)



<b>Role:</b>	Senior Officer of External Relations
<b>Country of Origin:</b>	Italy
<b>Interview Date:</b>	3 November 2008
<b>Location:</b>	Arusha, Tanzania
<b>Interviewers:</b>	Lisa P. Nathan Donald J Horowitz
<b>Videographer:</b>	Nell Carden Grey
<b>Interpreter:</b>	None

### Interview Summary

Alessandro Caldarone compares his experiences at the ICTR with his time at the EU-Human Rights Mission in Rwanda providing technical assistance. Caldarone reflects on a personal eye-opening moment during the defense of accused genocidaires when he realized that the perpetrators were not monsters but human beings. He questions the concept of 'victim' in the Rwandan context where everybody is, in some sense, victimized. He also suggests that the ICTR should be considered an extension of Rwandan justice.

*The transcript of Part 12 begins on the following page.*

## Part 12

- 00:00** Donald J Horowitz: I'm going to ask you one more question. Right now you're speaking to the future.
- 00:06 Yes.
- 00:06** DJH: You're speaking to me today. You're speaking to Lisa today, but you're speaking to a world a year from now, five years from now, young children, grownups, UN people, ordinary people. What is it you want to say to the future?
- 00:22** DJH: Alessandro, what do you want to say to the future, Alessandro Caldarone?
- 00:30 Just keep the freedom of your thoughts, just think, just be, just be honest. The people will not come back in life in any case. And if you say too much, you look like a, you're a p-, you know, you become a strong man and it's not that you want to impress. You don't, I don't want to impress anybody.
- 00:54 I will just say to my niece and son, just be honest. Just say the truth. Fight for it, with moderation of course, with caution, I mean, with you know, because the other people maybe they're right also. It's not because you think differently that you are right all the time. So you have to be humble, and – but this is the teaching that I really, this what I've . . .
- 01:14 What I've learned from the tribunal is this one – wait. I learned how to wait to fight against injustices because you have to wait. Moderation. And I feel very close to the Rwandese. That is for sure. I feel very close for – but, my message is just to be free with your thoughts.
- 01:43 And study, learn, make your own knowledge, your own wisdom and just go ahead. Otherwise, our existence is useless whatsoever you are working ICTR or not.
- 02:00** DJH: Thank you, very much. Thank you, thank you.