National Jurisprudence summary

Dutch case no. 09/748011-19

The Court sentenced the accused, a Syrian national who had applied for asylum in The Netherlands, to 6 years' imprisonment for the war crime of outrage upon personal dignity and participation in a terrorist organisation. While in Syria, the accused was involved with Ahrar al-Sham, a jihadist-Salafist armed group. He appeared in videos where him and others kicked, spat on and treated in a degrading or humiliating manner the bodies of deceased opponents. The videos were published on Youtube, which allowed a wider audience and further contributed to the humiliation and dishonour of the victims. The Court further found that Ahrar al-Sham qualifies as a terrorist organisation, despite not being included on the European or national terrorism sanctions list.