Abstract
This research paper is an analysis of the case United States v Flick et al which took place in 1947 in Nuremberg, Germany. Friedrich Flick, a powerful German industrialist, and several high ranking officials of his firm were tried by a United States military tribunal for war crimes and crimes against humanity committed during the Third Reich. The proceedings and the decision itself are the subject of a critical examination, including an investigation of the factual and legal background. The trial will be regarded in the historical context of prosecutions against German industrialists after World War II. Seen from present-day perspective, the question will be raised whether any conclusions can be drawn from the Flick case in respect of the substance of present-day international criminal law.
War crimes and crimes against humanity by participating in the deportation and enslavement of the civilian populations of countries and territories under the belligerent occupation of or otherwise controlled by Germany, and of concentration camp inmates, for use in slave labor in Flick mines and factories. War crimes and crimes against humanity through the plundering and spoilation of occupied territories, and the seizure of plants both in the west (France) and the east (Poland, Russia). Janosch Kuner: The War Crimes Trial Against German Industrialist Friedrich Flick et al - A Legal Analysis and Critical Evaluation, University of the Western Cape, 2010. L. M. Stallbaumer: Frederick Flick’s Opportunism and Expediency, in: DIMENSIONS, Vol. 13, No. 2. 1947 in Germany. The United States of America vs. Friedrich Flick, et al. or Flick trial was the fifth of twelve Nazi war crimes trials held by United States authorities in their occupation zone in Germany (Nuremberg) after World War II. It was the first of three trials of leading industrialists of Nazi Germany; the two others were the IG Farben Trial and the Krupp Trial. These trials were all held before American military tribunals. The Flick trial was one of the 12 Subsequent Nuremberg Trials of the military