



Permanent Mission of Hungary to the United Nations

Statement by Hungary
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Check against delivery!

Mr / Madam Chair,

As it is the first time Hungary takes the floor, allow me to congratulate you and the members of the Bureau on their election and wish them a successful work.

Hungary aligns itself with the statement of the European Union and wishes to make a few observations in its national capacity.

First of all, let me reflect on the importance of the Draft Articles on Prevention and Punishment of Crimes Against Humanity. These draft articles have been adopted by the International Law Commission (ILC) in 2019, after 5 years of research and extensive consultations. In the last two years—partly due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its wide-ranging effects—it was difficult to address all questions related to the Draft Articles in a comprehensive manner. Yet the work of the ILC forms a solid basis for further discussion.

Crimes against humanity threaten fundamental principles of the international community. Moreover, there is a consensus that the perpetrators of these crimes must be brought to justice. Therefore, the need for a comprehensive international legal framework is undeniable. In this context, I would like to remind that the ILC has included the prohibition of crimes against humanity in the list of peremptory norms of general international law, which should be respected in any circumstances.

Therefore, we are of the view that it is time to take further steps towards negotiating and adopting an international legally binding instrument based on the ILC's draft articles.

As a first step on this path, Hungary is fully committed to establishing an Ad hoc committee within the Sixth Committee. Such Ad hoc committee must be open to all Member States and observers of the United Nations and members of specialized agencies. The mandate of this committee should encompass the exchange of substantive views, and the consideration of the recommendation of the ILC, namely, the elaboration of a convention by the General Assembly or by an international conference of plenipotentiaries.

Thank you for your attention.