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Statement of the Delegation of Ukraine at the Resumed Sixth Committee Session "Crimes against humanity" (Agenda Item 80)

Mr. Chair,

Ukraine aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union as well as cross-regional statement on the prevention and punishment of the crimes against humanity and we would like to make comments in our national capacity.

Crimes against humanity were recognized by the international community in the Charters of the Nuremberg and Tokyo Tribunals over 75 years ago. Yet, unlike the crime of genocide and war crimes, which are regulated in distinct conventions, crimes against humanity do not have a dedicated treaty, despite them being one of the atrocity crimes.

We believe, that without an instrument dedicated to crimes against humanity, there is a gap in the international treaty framework. The gap that needs to be filled in the sake of international justice. As a country currently suffering from the aggression of Russian Federation accompanied by a mass of different war crimes and crimes against humanity we clearly see the great importance of covering this gap in international criminal law.

A convention on crimes against humanity would strengthen the prevention and punishment of such heinous crimes at the national level. It would also establish obligations for States to cooperate and provide a new legal basis for extradition and mutual legal assistance.

During last two years, we were delighted to see members of the Sixth Committee engage in a substantive dialogue on the draft articles of the International Law Commission on crimes against humanity and we call upon all the members states to continue our common work on the elaboration of the instrument on the prevention and punishment of the crimes against humanity.

Thank you!