

Check against delivery!

**Statement by
the Delegation of the Republic of Bulgaria
on Agenda item 81
“Crimes against Humanity”
13 October 2025**

80 Session of the Sixth Committee

Mr./Madam Chair,

Bulgaria aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union and its Member States. I would like to make some remarks in my national capacity.

Bulgaria is a strong and continuous supporter for the elaboration of a Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Humanity and for the timely beginning of formal negotiations on the Convention based on the Draft Articles elaborated by the International Law Commission in 2019.

In times of growing tension and conflicts when the rule of law and accountability mechanisms are put under intense pressure, the consensual decision reflected in the GA Resolution 79/122 to start formal negotiations proves our dedication to strengthen the protection of civilians at risk in accordance with international law. This crucial decision is also an important signal for our commitment to the development of international criminal law as an essential element of the international legal order and a vital tool for achieving justice and accountability.

The adoption of General Assembly Resolution 79/122 paves the way to multilateral negotiations on strengthening the current legal framework for the prevention and prosecution of crimes against humanity, ensuring accountability for those responsible through fair trial, while seeking to pursue justice and closure for those affected.

However, the hard work and the challenges before bringing this process to a successful end must not be overlooked. We call upon all Member States to

support this significant undertaking and to engage in a spirit of good faith and constructive cooperation in the negotiations for an international legally binding instrument, based upon the draft articles prepared by the International Law Commission.

It is our hope that the forthcoming negotiations will result in an overdue Convention that will achieve and reflect the consolidation and codification of international law in the field of crimes against humanity and contribute to legal certainty. In this regard, we express our appreciation for the efforts to maintain coherence with existing legal frameworks by building upon definitions and widely accepted provisions as set out in other multilateral treaties for guidance, such as the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, for example.

We are also hopeful that the future Convention will set up an effective accountability mechanism, which will provide a legal framework that is instrumental in encouraging national-level prosecutions of alleged perpetrators and facilitating inter-State legal cooperation.

Mr./Madam Chair,

We stand ready to engage with all relevant stakeholders in the upcoming preparations for the Conference of Plenipotentiaries and to work towards ensuring transparency, inclusiveness and broad cross-regional support for the process by the international community

Thank you!