

Expulsion of aliens

Madam Chairwoman/Mr Chairman,

This year the ILC discussed the ninth report of the Special Rapporteur and adopted on second reading a set of 31 draft articles on the “Expulsion of aliens”.

“Expulsion of aliens” has been a sensitive and difficult topic since its inception. The latest revision of the draft articles in light of the comments and observations made by states has been very beneficial. In particular, the repeated clarifications in the commentary that substantive parts of the draft articles constitute progressive development rather than codification of existing law are of great value.

We would like to thank the Special Rapporteur for his extensive work on this subject and to congratulate him and the Commission for the results achieved in the elaboration of the final draft articles.

Having said that, I must point out that some members of the Commission have raised doubts as to whether this topic lends itself to incorporation into a convention. These doubts merit attention. Although substantive progress has been made on this subject, it is yet too early to consider the elaboration of a convention on the basis of the draft articles.

Thank you.

Protection of persons in the event of disasters

Madam Chairwoman/Mr Chairman,

This year the ILC discussed the seventh report of the Special Rapporteur and adopted on first reading a set of 21 draft articles on the “Protection of persons in the event of disasters”.

Germany welcomes the draft articles. We would like to thank the Special Rapporteur for his extensive work on this subject.

Just two remarks from Germany:

First, in our view the approach to the concept of sovereignty enshrined in draft articles 12 to 15 is highly pertinent. In particular, we share the perception that sovereignty entails the duty of the affected State to ensure within its jurisdiction the protection of persons and the provision of disaster relief. We also concur that although the consent of the affected State shall not be withheld arbitrarily, consent is nevertheless an indispensable requirement for every provision of external assistance.

Second, we welcome the new draft article 18 on the protection of relief personnel, their equipment and goods. Sufficient protection of deployed personnel, their equipment and goods is crucial to allow States and other actors to provide humanitarian assistance efficiently.

In general, the draft articles provide good recommendations supporting international practice and domestic legislation to establish effective national systems of disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and response.

Germany continues to follow this project with great interest.

Thank you!