



**Statement by the Republic of Turkey  
On Agenda Item 79  
(Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its 71st  
Session)  
at the Sixth Committee  
28 October – 6 November 2019**

**Cluster III**

**Succession of States in Respect of State Responsibility**

Mr. Chair,

With regard to the topic of “Succession of States in Respect of State Responsibility”, we would like to thank Special Rapporteur Pavel Sturma for his third report.

As we have indicated in previous years, we have some concerns and doubts as to whether it is possible to differentiate between the political and legal aspects of this topic, which are largely intertwined.

The report is well researched, well written and has a significant value regarding the academic literature that it covers. We appreciate the Special Rapporteur’s hard work.

However, the available State practice is scarce and the existing ones are congested with significant differences even within the same category of state succession.

Therefore, we would like to highlight the importance of a cautious approach and looking forward to following future work.

We thank again the Special Rapporteur for all the hard work he has done on this topic.

## **Cluster III**

### **General Principles of Law**

Mr. Chair,

First of all, we would like to thank Special Rapporteur Marcelo Vazquez-Bermudez for the well-written first report on general principles of law.

At this point, the report is of a preliminary and introductory nature, but it will serve as important guidance for future work and it deserves to be studied in detail.

We share the idea that the outcome should take the form of conclusions accompanied by commentaries. As it is indicated in the report, this would be consistent with the purpose.

Turkey acknowledges the importance of the topic to find a common understanding on general principles of law.

Turkey is of the view that illustrative examples of general principles of law could be included in the commentaries together with all the relevant materials. However, the Commission should avoid preparing a list, which we believe would not be sufficient.

We appreciate that the Special Rapporteur has tried in the present report to provide a balanced analysis and as indicated in the report, we would also like to point out the importance of a cautious and rigorous approach.

Thank you.