

## Sixth Committee - Agenda item 80 Resumption of the seventy-seventh session

## Crimes against Humanity Consideration of the ILC Recommendation

## Michael Hasenau Legal Adviser

## Statement by the Federal Republic of Germany 4 April 2024

Germany fully aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union.

In 2019, the International Law Commission recommended the elaboration of a Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Humanity by the General Assembly or by an international Conference of plenipotentiaries on the basis of its draft articles. As a staunch supporter of international criminal law, Germany welcomed and worked towards implementing this recommendation.

Since then, we have witnessed dedicated engagement by States Parties, civil society and the general public in making a Convention on Crimes against Humanity a reality.

This second round of the resumed session on crimes against humanity produced a dense discussion on all political and legal aspects and elements of the future Convention. An impressive number of speakers from all regions engaged in deliberations in a way that was anticipating the start of negotiations. The Chair and the Co-Fascilitators deserve recognition for allowing this to happen.

Side events, different formats and platforms for exchange accompanied and continue to accompany this process. Germany organised in March 2023 and again in February 2024 a "Workshop on a Convention on the prevention and punishment of crimes against

humanity" binging states and civil society together for a dedicated exchange on the project. Civil society engaged with force to bring the project forward.

It is time to put this process on a firm basis and to implement the recommendation by the International Law Commission by moving forward towards a structured and irreversible process of treaty negotiations.

Germany remains strongly committed to the fight against impunity for the most serious international crimes. We fully support the elaboration of a Convention on Crimes against Humanity and will continue to proactively contribute to the process leading to its adoption.

Thank you.