

PERMANENT MISSION OF ARMENIA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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Statement by the Delegation of Armenia

13 October 2021

Madam Chair,

Armenia welcomes an open and inclusive process the discussion of the new Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Humanity, which is intended to fill a perceived gap in the international legal landscape by adding to a new treaty to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide of 1948, as well as the Geneva Conventions with respect to war crimes.

The new convention will thus add to the prevention toolbox of the United Nations and play an important role in facilitating interstate cooperation on this subject as a major step towards a world, where the rights of people, no matter where they are, must be properly protected.

Armenia reaffirms that Member States must make every effort to prevent and punish all crimes against humanity. It has been said many times before that crimes unpunished lead to recurrence and repetition. More often than not, at the heart of the crimes against humanity is a history of continued violations of fundamental human rights. At the national level, the new convention will offer an important legal tool for prevention and punishment of crimes against humanity by facilitating national investigations, prosecutions and punishment of such crimes.

We note that a degree of consensus has been duly captured in the draft articles, as recommended by the International Law Commission, reflecting the shared objective of combating impunity for the perpetrators and delivering justice to the victims.

It is important to build upon this consensus to develop the capacity of the international community to protect people from crimes against humanity.

Armenia condemns in the strongest terms policies of ethnic hatred, especially

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We reiterate our commitment to support efforts towards prevention of city crimes and stand ready to work with the Member States and UN relevant bodies to ensure progress in this regard.

I thank you.