

General Assembly  
Seventysixth Session  
13 October 2021  
Sixth Committee  
Agenda item 8:  
Crimes against humanity  
Statement by Sweden on behalf of the Nordic countries

Madam Chair,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the five Nordic countries, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and my own country, Sweden.

Crimes against humanity are among the most serious crimes international

our efforts to prevent and punish these heinous crimes.

The draft articles adopted by the International Law Commission have significant potential for establishing a convention on crimes against humanity. The elaboration of a Convention on the basis of the draft articles, as recommended by the ILC, would strengthen the international criminal justice system and contribute to strengthening national laws and criminal jurisdiction in the fight against impunity for crimes against humanity. It would thus be an important addition to the international legal framework and promote inter-state cooperation and efficient investigations of crimes against humanity.

Madam Chair, few

states have asked for clarification on some of the Draft Articles. We are convinced that these concerns can be addressed through efficient, inclusive, transparent and constructive intersessional discussions among experts. An Ad Hoc Committee with a clear mandate and time frame would provide a suitable format for these discussions. The aim should be to ensure progress

The sixth committee should carry on the successful and important work of the ILC to strengthen the prevention and fight against impunity for these horrendous crimes, which are the concern of the international community as a whole

Thank you.