



PERMANENT MISSION

OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Mr. Chair,

Slovakia fully aligns itself with the statement made on behalf of the European Union and its Member States. I will proceed by adding further remarks in my national capacity on draft articles 13 to 15 regarding extradition, mutual legal assistance and settlement of disputes.

Beginning with draft article 13, we take due note of its interlinkage with other draft articles, specifically, draft article 7, paragraph 2, draft article 9, paragraph 3 and draft article 10. In accordance with draft article 10, a State can satisfy its obligation arising out of the principle *aut dedere aut judicare* by extraditing or surrendering the alleged offender to another State or to a competent international court or tribunal. Draft article 13 is useful in this regard, facilitating such extradition, clearly setting out applicable rights, obligations and procedures. We note with great satisfaction that the specific paragraphs of draft article 13 draw from the text of the Convention against Corruption, which, in turn, was inspired by the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. From our own experience, we consider this model a very successful one.

By contrast, draft article 14 regulates situations where the State undertakes to prosecute crimes against humanity instead of extradition and seeks assistance from another State in one of the envisaged forms. This provision is thus the core part of the inter-State cooperation element of the draft articles. Similarly to draft article 13, we welcome that the source of inspiration for draft article 14 was the Convention against Corruption with some acceptable modifications. It is our understanding that these provisions provide guidance to States mostly in situations when there is no mutual legal assistance treaty between the requesting and requested States.

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