

CZECH REPUBLIC

Permanent Mission of the Czech Republic to the United Nations

77th Session of the General Assembly Sixth Committee – resumed session

Crimes against Humanity

Statement by

Mr. Emil Ruffer

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12th April 2023

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Mr. Chair,

On the issues pertaining to cluster 5 of our debate (safeguards), I wish to make the following remarks on behalf of the Czech Republic.

Our delegation appreciates the inclusion of draft article 5 concerning the application of the principle of **non-refoulement**. Apart from refugee law, this principle is already incorporated in Geneva Conventions, it is part of the interpretation of human rights treaties and is included in extradition and other criminal law treaties. Nevertheless, with respect to crimes against humanity, it is important to reiterate and emphasize the prohibition of sending persons to a country where they might be at risk. The draft article serves this purpose well.

Similarly, we consider important that the draft article 11 expressly provides for basic principles of fair treatment of the alleged offenders. The text of the draft article reflects and refers to relevant rights and guarantees in universal and regional human rights instruments and, in principle, aptly summarizes the norms protecting the alleged offender for purposes of prosecuting crimes against humanity.

The inclusion of draft article 12 in the text