

**Statement by the Republic of Turkey
on Agenda Item 81
(Crimes against humanity)
at the Sixth Committee
15 October 2020**

Mr. Chair,

We would like to thank once again the International Law Commission and Special Rapporteur Sean Murphy for their work in preparing the draft articles on the prevention and punishment of crimes against humanity.

Crimes of the most serious nature, such as genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, terrorism and torture pose existential threats against human dignity and against the core principles on which we have established the United Nations. Preventing these crimes and fighting impunity is without doubt a common essential goal for the international community.

It is indeed the essential nature of this challenge that obliges us to address it in a diligent and inclusive manner which will enable all nations to act in unison towards their shared goal.

Last December, the General Assembly took note of the draft articles adopted by the recommendation regarding these articles.

We believe that thorough consideration by States of aspects of the matter constitutes an important first step in the overall examination by the Sixth