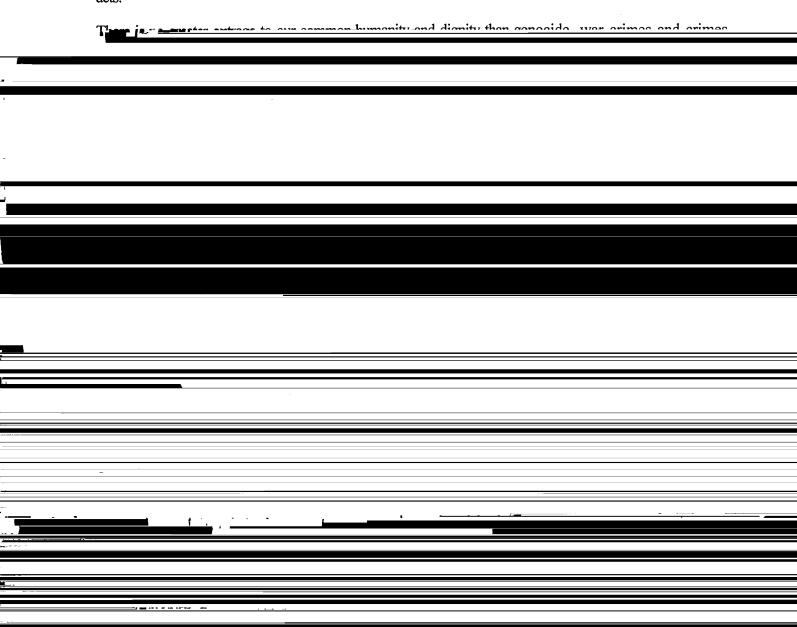


Statement by the Holy See 74th Session of the United Nations General Assembly Sixth Committee consideration of item 84: The scope and application of the Principle of universal jurisdiction New York, 14-15 October 2019

Mr. Chair,

My Delegation is grateful that this Committee continues to play an important role in furthering the cause of justice in the world, particularly as it seeks to prevent impunity for the most egregious criminal acts.



Another long-standing principle that should be present in our discussions is the principle of subsidiarity, which requires that the international community and that third-party States defer to the State nationality of the alleged perpetrator and of the State in which the crime took place, given their nexus to the crime, to the extent that those States are willing and able to prosecute.

	nexus to the crime, to the extent that those States are willing and able to prosecute.
	Moreover, any State seeking to exercise universal jurisdiction must have some concrete link to the
	fight and the perties concerned in the ease such as the presence of the accused or of the victims in
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	its territory. Universal jurisdiction should not justify prosecutions in absentia, "forum shopping" or
	the unwarranted interference in the internal affairs of other States.
	Chaile du la lieute de la constant de la Constant among States, montiques attention must
	Similarly, in light of the principle of the Sovereign equality among States, particular attention must
	be given to the procedural conditions that must be met in order to set aside the jurisdictional
	immunities of nublic officials. While universal invisdiction might be an effective method for
	
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