

77th Session of the General Ion4(ram3()4blyET Q q 0.00000887

Mr. Chair,

Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine by the Human Rights Council as well as the invocation of the Moscow Mechanism within OSCE in order to document violations of international humanitarian law in Ukraine. In the same vein, Austria remains a strong supporter of the IIIM for Syria and the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar both contribute to gathering evidence in view of future prosecutions. Accountability and the fight against impunity for violations are essential elements in the humanitarian law system. Austria has been a strong supporter of the International Criminal Court (ICC) since its creation and we continue to promote, together with the other EU Member States, the universal acceptance of the jurisdiction of the Court. Amendments of the Rome Statute with regard to the activation of the Court's jurisdiction over the crime of aggression or starvation as a method of warfare in non-international armed conflicts strengthen the ICC's role in the protection of civilians.

Before concluding, allow me to reference some of the measures Austria has taken in the past year to strengthen the implementation and dissemination of IHL:

- In 2021 Austria hosted a virtual conference on "Safeguarding Human Control over Autonomous Weapon Systems" in order to contribute to the discussion on a legally binding instrument prohibiting autonomous weapon systems that do not provide for meaningful human control.
- In 2022 Au

Thank you