



**S L O V A K I A**

**STATEMENT**

**by**

**Mr. Mat ě ě . R ě X W K**

**Legal Adviser**

**Permanent Mission of the Slovak Republic to the United Nations**

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Sixth Committee**

**The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction  
(item 85)**

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(check against delivery)

Mr. Chair,

Conventions, genocide or torture. From our perspective, universal jurisdiction provides a valuable jurisdictional basis for national to try the most serious crimes under international law pursuant to their respective domestic laws, which complements a well-established territorial and personal jurisdictional basis for prosecuting these crimes. In the absence of universal acceptance of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and a truly universal framework for mutual legal assistance, universal jurisdiction remains the guarantee of accountability for perpetrators of such crimes.

Following the full-scale Russian military aggression in Ukraine in February this year with a consequence of a vast number of atrocities committed by Russian troops, Slovakia has launched a domestic investigation into crimes against humanity and war crimes committed in Ukraine based on universal jurisdiction.

To conclude, Mr. Chair,

the gravest crimes under international law must not remain unpunished, no matter by whom or where perpetrated. We hope that this underlying idea and the biggest benefit of universal jurisdiction will guide our deliberations during the present session. Slovakia is prepared to engage constructively.

I thank you.