

Address to the Sixth Committee

Remarks by H.E. Mr. Csaba Kőrösi, President of the 77th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

13 October, 2022, 11.00 a.m.

Ambassador Alfonso, Chair of the Sixth Committee,
Distinguished Delegates,

Let me offer to your attention a quote from Dame Hilary Mantel, the British author who died just three weeks ago:

When you are writing laws you are testing words to find their utmost power. spells, they have to make things happen in the real world, and like spells, they work if people believe in them.

She was right: creating laws and interpreting them is a unique endeavor that comes with great responsibility.

In his report *Our Common Agenda*, the Secretary-General called upon States to abide by international law and ensure justice.

Indeed, law and justice are essential dimensions of the social contract, especially in our turbulent and uncertain times.

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Before concluding, I want to give my heartfelt congratulations to Ambassador Afonso, as well as all the members, on your election to the Sixth Committee.

Please be assured that you have my full support of my office

I also want to commend the continued maintenance of gender parity in the Bureau of the Sixth Committee

My hope is that Member States will bring the gender representation that I see here today to the international courts and tribunals and the International Law Commission too

I wish you all the best in your endeavors.

Thank you.