



# CROATIA

Statement by

Gordana L G RMEŠAČIĆ  
Director-General  
Directorate General for European and International Law  
Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs

at the

78th Session of the General Assembly  
Sixth Committee

Agenda item 79  
Report of the International Law Commission  
on the work of its seventy-fourth session

27 October 2023

Mr. Chair, distinguished colleagues,

At the outset, let me welcome the members of the Bureau and

In addition, it seems to us that additional clarifications are also needed in order to avoid a wrong conclusion that there are no differences between general principles of law and customary law.

Furthermore, having in mind that Conclusion 8 defines that the decisions of international courts and tribunals, in particular of the International Court of Justice, concerning

international instruments, would contribute to better address and deal with the serious impacts of climate change, including sea level rise, we are witnessing more and more often. Two advisory opinions on climate change still pending before the ITLOS and the ICJ demonstrate the importance of this issue which has enormous impacts on the future of our planet.

We note with interest the reference to the right of self-determination as it is suggested in paragraph 70 of the Report. It is mentioned that <sup>3</sup> was observed that the principle of self-determination implied that States should not lose their right to territorial integrity as a result of sea level rise. In this regard we find it important to emphasize that the principle of self

order to defer the international organization from other international bodies and entities and other subjects of international law.

We are looking forward to the further elaborations related to this topic.

[Succession of States in respect of State responsibility]

Mr. Chair,

As regards the topic of Succession of States in respect of State responsibility, Croatia highly appreciates the significance that the ILC has given to this issue so far. In this regard, we took note of the recommendations of the established Working Group, chaired by professor Reinisch, related to exploring the possible ways forward for this topic. This topic is of particular interest for Croatia due to its own experience especially having in mind that, unfortunately, even after more than 30 years from the dissolution of the former SFRY, the Agreement on succession issues concluded in 2001 between five successor States of the former SFRY has not been fully implemented yet. In this regard, we hope that the Commission will continue to further elaborate this topic in its forthcoming sessions.

Mr. Chair,

Let me conclude by emphasizing once again the great importance that Croatia attaches to the