



PERMANENT MISSION OF HUNGARY  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
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**Arria-formula meeting on raising effectiveness of atrocity crimes  
prevention:  
role of the United Nations Security Council and its Members  
10 December 2018**

**Intervention by  
H.E. Ambassador Katalin Bogyay  
Permanent Representative**

Your Excellency, Madam President

Honorable members of the Security Council, Dear Colleagues,

At the outset, we would like to **thank the Polish Presidency** of the UN Security Council for organizing this debate at such an appropriate time, when we are the witness of series of violations against civilians/human beings nowadays.

Hungary aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union and by Liechtenstein. However, allow me to make some additional remarks in my national capacity.

Madam President,

- Hungary believes that we must pay **persistent attention to the warning signs** of potential atrocity crimes, particularly those of **serious violations of human rights** in certain areas. Human rights mechanisms can contribute to the effective and timely prevention.
- This is why Hungary strongly **supports utilizing the prevention mechanisms of the Human Rights Council** and as a member of the Human Rights Council for the term 2017-2019, one of our priorities is to work towards the **prevention of these atrocity crimes** and to **promote the already existing tools** of the international community.
- In order to enhance visibility of international human rights mechanisms and ensure platform for international dialogue on current human rights issues, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary annually organizes the **Budapest Human Rights Forum**, bringing together national and international human

rights experts, representatives of non-governmental and governmental organizations and the academies.

- Two weeks ago, on **27 and 28 November 2018**, the Forum was organized for the **eleventh times in a row**, with key topics including the role of education in the protection of human rights, the protection of religious minorities, and the human rights aspects of the sustainable development objectives set out in the Agenda 2030.
- Hungary hosts the **Budapest Centre for the International Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocity**, which is dedicated to assist in the construction of a global architecture for the prevention of atrocity crimes, focuses its activities on education and the dissemination of the culture of dialogue, as essential elements for atrocity crimes prevention.
- The Centre will organize a **roundtable discussion** on *“Implementation of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide”* **next week in Budapest (17 December 2018)** with the aim to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the adoption of the Convention and to raise awareness of some contemporary challenges to increase the international capabilities and support for action.
- Hungary appreciates the efforts taken by the **International Fact-Finding Commission (IHFFC)** with a Hungarian member, Dr. Réka Varga within its ranks, to implement and ensure respect for International Humanitarian Law (IHL) in armed conflict situations, and encourages states to make better use of the good offices of the IHFFC.
- Hungary firmly supports the work of the **International Criminal Court (ICC)** and as well as the work of the **International,**

**Impartial and Independent Mechanism (IIM)**, assisting the investigation and prosecution of the most serious crimes committed in Syria. Financial sustainability is crucial for enabling the Mechanism to carry out its functions and preserve its independence, hence it is important that the IIM receives the necessary funding until the transition to regular budget funding takes place. **Hungary has been a financial contributor to the IIM for the past two years, and intends to maintain its financial support** [through a voluntary contribution of 50 000 EUR] **in fiscal year 2019 as well.**

- The **UN Security Council**, as the ultimate guarantor of international peace and security, has a major role in **raising effectiveness of atrocity crimes prevention**. It is more important than ever to enhance the performance of the SC, which should pay more attention to further **improving its working methods** and **increasing transparency**.
- As an active member of the **Accountability, Coherence and Transparency (ACT) Group**, we encourage all Member States to sign the ACT Code of Conduct that aims at refraining voluntarily from the use of veto in the SC in cases of mass atrocities, genocides, war crimes and crimes against humanity.
- Hungary is committed to constructively engage with the Council members in order to enable the Council to fulfill its mandate with maximum efficiency, effectiveness and legitimacy.

I thank you for your attention.