



Coalition for the ICC Statement

General Debate of the ASP Special session on the review of the amendments on the crime of aggression

7 July 2025

Madame President,
Excellencies and distinguished colleagues,

I am honored to speak on behalf of the Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC), a global network of civil society organizations, steadfast in our commitment to the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the Rome Statute System.

At the outset, we welcome the progress made thus far in the Working Group on Amendments (WGA), with gratitude to Ambassador Quintana, who has led the process in the spirit of inclusivity, transparency, and respect. Through this process, civil society remained actively and meaningfully engaged in the work of the WGA as well as this week's special session.

The crime of aggression was one of the four crimes listed in the Rome Statute when the treaty was adopted in 1998, though the completion of the definition and provisions of jurisdiction were postponed for further negotiation. The Review Conference in 2010 achieved a major milestone when the definition of the crime of aggression was adopted by consensus.

At its 2024 session, the Assembly of States Parties [decided](#) to convene this special session on the review of the amendments on the crime of aggression. This week's session offers the Assembly a crucial opportunity to address the shortcomings of the current jurisdictional framework and take action to harmonize the Court's jurisdiction over the crime of aggression.

Harmonization of the Court's jurisdiction over all four core crimes would bridge the current accountability gaps and strengthen not only the ICC as an institution but also the broader Rome Statute system. Many members of civil society are of the firm belief that harmonization of the ICC's jurisdiction over the crime of aggression is crucial in combatting double standards present in the application of the court's jurisdiction.

In conclusion, Excellencies, this is simply not a theoretical matter – acts of aggression continue to occur since the entry into force of the Rome Statute, and by making progress today in harmonizing the Court's jurisdiction, the Assembly would contribute to ending impunity for grave crimes and ensure that no victim is left behind due to jurisdictional technicalities.