

REPUBLIC OF POLAND

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court

Special session on the review of amendments on the crime of aggression

General debate

Statement by Mr. Wojciech Deptuła

Head of the Delegation of the Republic of Poland

Director

Department of International Cooperation and Human Rights

Ministry of Justice

New York, 7 July 2025

Madame President,

Excellencies,

Distinguished Delegates,

Poland aligns itself with the statement of the Group of Friends for Review of the Rome Statute and presents the following remarks in its national capacity.

The Polish delegation believes the crime of aggression should be treated under the same jurisdictional framework as the other crimes encompassed by the Statute. Accordingly, we advocate for removal of existing restrictions limiting the International Criminal Court's jurisdiction over this grave crime. This will require the adoption of relevant amendments to the Kampala Amendments to give the ICC a consistent, clear mandate.

At the same time, we stress the need for great care in any move towards unifying jurisdiction. We must avoid jeopardizing the significant progress made to date or risking division among States Parties to the Rome Statute. Our shared objective should be harmonizing jurisdiction through a consensual decision by the Assembly, reflecting the unity of States Parties. We are open to discussing compromise solutions to accommodate concerns highlighted by various groups.

Moreover, we cannot overlook the broader challenges currently confronting the Court. These include external pressures such as sanctions and lack of cooperation by some states, as well as damage to the Court's reputation related to alleged misconduct by an elected official. These challenges threaten the Court's ability to continue fulfilling its mandate.

In light of this, the overriding priority for all States Parties should be to present a united front to defend the ICC and safeguard its integrity and ability to function.

We look forward to a constructive dialogue on this crucial issue and to working together to further our shared commitment to international justice.

Thank you.