

CONCEPT NOTE

A panel debate on the Ljubljana – The Hague MLA CONVENTION

Event co-organised by the Permanent Missions of Argentina, Belgium,
Mongolia, the Netherlands, Senegal and Slovenia
to the United Nations, New York
24 October 2023

The adoption of the Ljubljana – The Hague Convention is the result of more than 10 years of cooperation under the MLA Initiative, an international project led by Argentina, Belgium, Mongolia, the Netherlands, Senegal, and Slovenia. It was born out of the realisation of the legal vacuum in international criminal law regarding the prosecution of the most serious international crimes such as genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes.

Prosecuting international crimes is an extremely complex judicial process and often involve investigations that cross international borders. In many cases the crimes are committed in one State, the perpetrators and victims are in a different State, and the prosecution is carried out in a third State.

The Ljubljana – The Hague Convention forms a **landmark international treaty** that will help deliver justice to victims of genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and other international crimes by facilitating effective and efficient international cooperation in the domestic investigation and prosecution of these crimes.

The next step, after the adoption of the text of the Convention, is for States to sign and ratify the Convention. For that purpose, a **Signing Conference**