



**PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK**

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CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

THIRD COMMITTEE

**CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE; COUNTERING THE USE OF
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIES FOR CRIMINAL PURPOSES; INTERNATIONAL
DRUG CONTROL**

STATEMENT BY Noah OEHRI, SECOND SECRETARY

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Mr. Chair,

Given rapid technological progress, cybersecurity has become a top priority for many of our Governments. At the current scale, cybercrime in particular poses a threat to the use of a free, open, peaceful and secure cyberspace and the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms including the right to privacy and freedom of expression. Measures to counter cybercrime have been adopted at the national and regional levels, most prominently by the Council of Europe. And, the UN has an important role to play in the fight against cybercrime at the international level, exemplified by the steady progress of the work of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Cybercrime. Liechtenstein therefore is strongly engaged in the AHC and supports a short and functional convention with a clear focus on Cybercrime that is built upon and consistent with existing international law. A universally accepted convention could make a real difference in the fight against cybercrime.

At the same time, we must ensure that investigative powers and the criminalization of cybercrime are not used to dismantle human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the

right to privacy. Therefore, every regulation of cyberspace needs to be carefully calibrated, in order to find a proper balance between security concerns and the respect for human rights. This includes high human rights and data protection standards, the assurance that preventive measures are accompanied with robust safeguards, and a narrow but focused criminalization.

There is no question that cybercrime and the respective consequences for society fall squarely into the context of the United Nation's core mission to advance peace and security, human rights and sustainable development. Trends towards an increasingly militarized cyberspace, developments in artificial intelligence, pervasive data collection and manipulation constitute real security risks to States. They need to be analyzed thoroughly against the existing legal framework and addressed comprehensively across all three pillars of the United Nations .

As the SG's Our Common Agenda notes, serious and urgent ethical, social and regulatory questions confront us, including with respect to the lack of accountability in cyberspace. Strengthening international law in this area thus also includes expanding the fight against impunity to the cyber domain. With the increasing digitization of warfare, understanding the extent to which existing international law applies to cyberattacks and cyber warfare is imperative. Liechtenstein has placed a particular emphasis on this question and together with ten other State Parties to the Rome Statute of the ICC, we have convened a Council of Advisers that produced an in-depth report on the applicability of the provisions of the Rome Statute to cyberwarfare. The Rome Statute indeed applies to cyberwarfare, which creates individual criminal responsibility for anyone that carries out the crime of aggression, war crimes, crimes against humanity or genocide with cyber means. We invite all members of this Assembly to join us in our further examination of this issue which is of direct high relevance to other discussions underway in the UN system.

Mr. Chair,

The fight against human trafficking as well as modern slavery is a priority for Liechtenstein, in line with the 2030 Agenda, with its three references to these heinous crimes. There is clearly an important role for this Committee in this conversation, given the fact that human trafficking and modern slavery are two major human rights crises of our times. Our common objective to prevent and end these crimes, as we all agreed when adopting the SDGs, requires

the active engagement not only from Member States, but other relevant stakeholders such as the private sector, civil society actors, and victims and survivors. This is why Liechtenstein with government, UN and private sector partners supports a global public-private partnership: Finance Against Slavery and Trafficking (or “FAST” for short). FAST aims to leverage the financial sector in the fight against human trafficking and modern slavery through actions in the areas of compliance, responsible investment and financial innovation. It further provides an opportunity to harness knowledge and financing for prevention and support for survivors. We are hopeful that more States, the global financial sector and other relevant stakeholders will assist in the FAST initiative’s implementation to help prevent and end modern slavery and human trafficking.

I thank you.