



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

NEW YORK, 1 SEPTEMBER 2015

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

EVENT ON “THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS IN CRIMINALIZING ILLEGAL AND AGGRESSIVE WAR-
MAKING”

STATEMENT BY H.E. MR. ALBERT FRICK

PRESIDENT OF THE LIECHTENSTEIN PARLIAMENT

Honorable Presidents and Members of Parliament,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Welcome to our side event on the topic “The role of Parliamentarians in Preventing Illegal and Aggressive War Making.” We are proud to host this event together with Parliamentarians for Global Action and the Global Institute for the Prevention of Aggression. Our focus today is on the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and more specifically on the amendments adopted in Kampala in 2010. These amendments deal with the crime of aggression. But in essence, they are about the rule of law, and about making sure that international law is respected by all States – big and small.

The Kampala amendments will help enforce the most important rule of international law: the prohibition of the use of force, as contained in the United Nations Charter. Under article 2, paragraph 4, States are generally prohibited from using force or waging war against other

States. Self-defence and the authorization by the UN Security Council are the only exceptions. This is truly the most important rule in international law – yet it is also a rule that has been broken many times in history.

The Kampala Amendments on the Crime of Aggression will help change that. They will allow the International Criminal Court to prosecute leaders who wage aggressive wars. They will help deter future acts of aggression, and make the world a bit more peaceful. But for this to happen, at least 30 States must ratify the amendments. We are almost there, with 23 ratifications so far, and counting.

We as parliamentarians play a key role in supporting this process. In most countries, Parliaments have to give their consent to ratification of international agreements. I am proud to say that the Liechtenstein Parliament was the first in the world to agree to the ratification of the Kampala Amendments. I hope many of you will join us in this effort. There are many things you can do: You could request the government to submit the Kampala Amendments for ratification, or at least ask about the status of preparations. In some systems, you could even submit your own ratification bill. Whatever you do, please count on our concrete support. Do not hesitate to contact us, or to consult our website www.crimeofaggression.info.

By supporting the Kampala Amendments on the crime of aggression, we can advance international law and promote peace. Let us do our bit to ensure their widest possible ratification.