

**UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED  
NATIONS**

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Statement by the United States  
72<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly Sixth Committee  
Agenda Item 80: United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study and Wider  
Appreciation of International Law  
Emily Pierce, Counsellor  
October 16, 2017

Thank you, Chair.

The United States thanks the Secretary-General for his report on the United Nations  
Program of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of

Particularly in the context of a heightened focus on the rule of law, it is clear that knowledge of international law is a key component to furthering the rule of law at the national and international levels. Through a firm understanding of international law, new generations of lawyers, judges and diplomats gain a deeper appreciation of the complex instruments that govern ~~the interconnected world. The Program of Assistance is one of the many~~

important tools that help to strengthen the rule of law.

The United States recognizes the significant role of the Office of Legal Affairs, in particular the Codification Division, in implementing the Program of Assistance. We very much appreciate the ways the Codification Division has been able to keep important programs going in the face of limited resources, including with respect to desktop publishing and the International Law Handbook, and we encourage it to continue its commendable efforts to secure voluntary contributions to fund that work. There is no question that the Program of Assistance activities