CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY INITIATIVE

- The Crimes Against Humanity Initiative was launched in 2008 to study the need for a comprehensive convention on the prevention and punishment of crimes against humanity, analyze the necessary elements of such a convention, prepare a draft treaty, and support the adoption of a new convention on crimes against humanity by the international community.

- The Initiative is directed by a seven-member Steering Committee:
  
  **Professor Leila Nadya Sadat**, Chair
  
  **Professor M. Cherif Bassiouni**
  **Ambassador Hans Corell**
  **Justice Richard Goldstone**
  **Professor Juan Méndez**
  **Professor William Schabas**
  **Judge Christine Van den Wyngaert**

- The Initiative has progressed in phases, the first three of which have been completed:
  
  - **Phase I.** Preparation of the project and methodological development.
  
  - **Phase II.** Private study of the problem through the commission of working papers by leading experts and collaborative discussion of draft treaty language at expert meetings.
  
  - **Phase III.** Public discussion through consultation and adoption of the final text of the *Proposed International Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes Against Humanity*; publication of *Forging a Convention for Crimes Against Humanity* (2nd ed. Cambridge 2013) containing the *Proposed Convention* in English, French, and Spanish, the papers commissioned in Phase II and a Comprehensive History of the Initiative.
  
  - **Phase IV.** Promotion of the strengths and innovations of the *Proposed Convention*, which has now been translated into Arabic, Chinese, German, and Russian in addition to French and Spanish; advocacy with members of the International Law Commission, academics, government officials, civil society representatives, and other stakeholders in the international community.