

“If the cable was damaged in the breadth of the territorial sea, it is a principle of criminal law that destructions of cables in this breadth, which extends up to three nautical miles from the coast, are punished in accordance with the laws of the state.”

**International Conference to Solve the Issue of Submarine Cables, 2nd Session, 18 October 1882, Paris, Statement of M. Dambach, German Delegate.**

“M. Velasco recalls that, during the last session of the Conference and since its first session, it was questioned whether the part of the cables laid in territorial waters could benefit from the provisions of the Convention. In this discussion, the honorable Delegate of Belgium demonstrated with very strong arguments why it would be shocking if a nation had a law protecting submarine cables in the high seas and had no law protecting these same cables in its territorial waters; he emphasized the importance of avoiding this anomaly. However, in view of the objections raised by his project, he had to withdraw his motion, and on his side, M. Velasco was – and still is – convinced that any Government signing the Convention would thereby implicitly commit to complete its internal legislation and harmonize it with treaty law regarding the protection of cables.”

**International Conference to Solve the Issue of Submarine Cables, 9th Session, 16 October 1883, Paris, Statement of M. Velasco, Mexican Delegate.**