Call for Papers: New Perspectives on the Rohingya Crisis
Accountability
November 2022

New Lines Institute is calling for original research papers examining key issues related to the Rohingya crisis, with a focus on identifying sustainable short-, medium- and long-term solutions. This final call for papers is centered on issues related to accountability. Previous calls focused on policy and political issues, with a specific focus on identity and belonging within Burmese civic and political spaces, and responses to humanitarian issues, including refugee returns and resettlement.

The March 2022 U.S. determination that the Burmese military committed genocide and crimes against humanity against the Rohingya has focused the international community once again on this issue. Along with the U.S. atrocity determination, efforts are underway in various forums to prosecute the perpetrators of the genocide and crimes against humanity against the Rohingya. In addition to the ongoing case before the International Court of Justice brought by The Gambia, there are also proceedings under Argentina’s universal jurisdiction provision, and the International Criminal Court is considering a request from Bangladesh. The United Nations has established an International Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar that is collecting evidence in anticipation of legal action. While previous Myanmar civilian authorities failed to prevent, effectively respond to, or prosecute the perpetrators of these atrocities, Myanmar’s democratic movement has shown both greater empathy for the situation of the Rohingya and an openness to cooperate with international judicial mechanisms since the February 2021 coup.

Papers should explore themes related to the interplay of roles and responsibilities of the various relevant actors—including survivors, civil society, national authorities, neighboring states, regional organizations, and international institutions—in pursuing accountability for the atrocities committed against the Rohingya people. Papers can examine the implications of The Gambia’s case against the military junta of Myanmar; the potential utility of other international accountability mechanisms; the prospects for and implications of state responsibility in addressing and preventing further atrocities; the responsibility of the National Unity Government and other Myanmar political actors in securing accountability; and the intersection between accountability efforts around the Rohingya genocide and broader efforts to address impunity in Myanmar.

Submission process:
Authors should initially submit an abstract, no longer than one page, outlining the research topic, thesis, theoretical approach, and methodology to the stated problem. Authors may also submit additional background information on themselves, including a curriculum vitae and a bibliography of relevant research or publications. The New Lines Selection Committee will review each submission and notify selected authors that they have been chosen to move forward with full papers. Abstract submissions will open on Nov. 3, 2022, and will close 5:00 PM EST on Dec. 2, 2022. An honorarium will be provided to authors of selected abstracts upon completion of full papers.

Guidelines:
• Abstract submissions should be no longer than one (1) page, in 12-point Times New Roman font, single spaced. Those selected will be required to submit a final paper ten (10) to twelve (12) pages in length.
• Abstracts may be submitted by single or multiple authors. Preference will be given to Rohingya authors.
• Papers should be written for an audience of interested non-experts, avoiding jargon and technical language. Papers should be formatted, including reference notations, using APA Style and submitted as an editable Word document (.doc or .docx).
• Each submission may include the author’s curriculum vitae and bibliography.
• Authors may be requested to present their papers or otherwise engage with impacted communities and/or communities of practice. New Lines may publish selected papers.

Questions and final submissions should be sent to the attention of Emily Prey: eprey@newlinesinstitute.org.