



New Lines Institute Announces New Global Rohingya Initiative and Call for Papers

Washington, D.C. – Today, the New Lines Institute for Strategy and Policy announced the formation of the Global Rohingya Initiative, a new Special Initiatives forum under the leadership of Dr. Azeem Ibrahim. The Global Rohingya Initiative seeks to re-energize international efforts to address the ongoing Rohingya genocide and promote short-, medium-, and long-term solutions. The initiative will focus on three foundational and interlocking issues facing the Rohingya: policy and politics, humanitarian issues, and accountability.

For decades, the Rohingya people have been persecuted by their own country and sought uneasy refuge in neighboring countries. Successive Myanmar governments have violated their rights to identity, nationality, and security through systemic discrimination, violence, and repression. Myanmar’s military, which again seized power from a nominally civilian government in a February 2021 coup, continues to commit atrocities against the Rohingya as part of its systematic denial of their right to live in peace and dignity as full citizens of Myanmar. While the international community has loudly condemned the atrocities against the Rohingya — including through the United States’ recent genocide determination — and provided them with substantial humanitarian assistance, long-term sustainable solutions to the crisis remain elusive.

“New Lines remains focused on convening the right people and partners to center on the Rohingya crisis,” said Dr. Azeem Ibrahim, Director of Special Initiatives at New Lines Institute. “The Global Rohingya Initiative is our next step to ensure the voices of the Rohingya community are heard in all discussions with international entities, are leading efforts to build enduring frameworks, and are at the center of any path forward.”

In support of the initiative, New Lines Institute is commissioning a series of working papers. Today’s call solicits abstracts on the first of three foundational issues: Policy and Politics. Political and policy issues around identity, belonging, and security within Myanmar’s civic and political spaces continue to contribute to the Rohingya crisis, alongside the lack of meaningful policy and political mechanisms from the international community. Those interested in submitting should review the guidelines for the [Global Rohingya Initiative Call for Papers: Policy and Politics](#).

Subsequent calls for papers will examine Humanitarian Issues and Accountability. The Humanitarian Issues call will focus on the necessary preconditions for safe, voluntary, and durable returns to Rakhine state for the Rohingya, the current humanitarian challenges of supporting the Rohingya community, and the options for local integration and third country resettlement. The Accountability call will focus on the roles and responsibilities of states and international organizations in pursuing accountability for the Rohingya genocide and the intersection with broader efforts to address impunity in Myanmar.

“Through this exciting new initiative, New Lines hopes to empower the Rohingya and reinvigorate international efforts to secure a peaceful future for them in Myanmar,” Ibrahim said.

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