

New Lines Institute Announces Third Call for Papers for the Global Rohingya Initiative

Washington, D.C. – Today, the New Lines Institute issued its final call for papers for the <u>Global</u> <u>Rohingya Initiative</u>. The Initiative, designed to support the aspirations of the Rohingya people and seek durable, rights-based solutions to ensure their safety, dignity, and identity within a democratic and free Myanmar, has issued two previous calls for papers on <u>policy and politics</u> and <u>humanitarian issues</u>.

The third call for papers in the series focuses on accountability, examining 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.

"With the recent U.S. determination that the Burmese military committed genocide and crimes against humanity against the Rohingya, the international community is once again focused on this issue. There are global efforts underway in various forums to prosecute the perpetrators of the genocide and crimes against humanity against the Rohingya," said Dr. Azeem Ibrahim, Director of Special Initiatives at New Lines. "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 judicial proceedings are vital, the Rohingya also seek viable solutions that ensure their safety from would-be perpetrators, not only today but in the future."

The Global Rohingya Initiative focuses on three foundational and interlocking issues facing the Rohingya: policy and politics, humanitarian issues, and accountability. These issues "lay the framework to create an active and vibrant dialogue with the Rohingya that enables a forum in which they can speak on behalf of themselves after years of repression and guide supporting international institutions to act with purpose and focus," said Professor John Packer, Director of the Human Rights Research and Education Centre at the University of Ottawa. "This Initiative is centered on the Rohingya, and accountability for the atrocities committed against them is crucial to demonstrate the seriousness of the international community."

Those interested in submitting for any of the three topics should review the guidelines for the Global Rohingya Initiative Call for Papers: Accountability. [INSERT NEW LINK]