



New Lines Institute Announces Second Call for Papers on Fifth Anniversary of Rohingya Genocide

Washington, D.C. – This week the world commemorates Rohingya Genocide Remembrance Day, marking the fifth anniversary of the August 2017 attacks on the Rohingya people in northern Rakhine State. The New Lines Institute for Strategy and Policy adds its solemn representations on behalf of those who died and suffered as a result of these and other atrocities committed against the Rohingya people.

It is in the spirit of both remembrance and ensuring non-recurrence that New Lines has launched the [Global Rohingya Initiative](#) to support the aspirations of the Rohingya people and those who seek durable, rights-based solutions that ensure their safety, dignity, and identity within a democratic and free Myanmar. Today, New Lines has announced the Initiative’s second call for papers, which focuses on the humanitarian response to the Rohingya genocide.

As Bangladesh enters its fifth year of hosting more than 1 million Rohingya refugees — after decades hosting hundreds of thousands — and civil war drags on in Myanmar, the humanitarian situation for the Rohingya on both sides of the border remains dire. A small number of refugees have returned to Myanmar on their own or left the camps through irregular migration, but since the February 2021 coup in Myanmar, hopes for organized returns have faded. Within the camps, there is growing frustration with the lack of security and the unmet educational, livelihood, health care, and housing needs, even as host communities grow resentful. In recent months, the camps have been roiled by the destruction of shelters by massive fires, deadly violence against community leaders, and protests over relocation to the newly constructed island of Bashan Char.

“There continues to be a broad failure at the regional and international level to listen to and respect the agency of the Rohingya community, hampering efforts to find durable humanitarian solutions,” said Kelley Currie, former U.S. Ambassador for Global Women’s Issues. “This Initiative — and specifically this call for papers on humanitarian response — seeks to provide a venue for developing, highlighting, and building out community-based, survivor-centered approaches.”

This call for papers is focused on humanitarian issues, soliciting recommendations for best practices to support the resettlement, integration, and return of Rohingya refugees. Papers should focus on balanced solutions looking at all options, with a focus on the necessary pre-conditions for a safe, voluntary, and durable return to Rakhine state, including the possibility/necessity of an international presence to secure and administer a safe zone.

The Global Rohingya Initiative is 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.

“Five years on, it is incumbent on leaders, nations, academia, and the human right community to focus on meaningful solutions to help the Rohingya people,” said Dr. Azeem Ibrahim, Director of Special Initiatives at New Lines Institute. “This Initiative and the calls for papers, we hope, will provide real solutions to this ongoing crisis.”

Those interested in submitting should review the guidelines for the [Global Rohingya Initiative Call for Papers: Policy and Politics](#).

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