

PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

25th Oct 2022

Groundbreaking model for Ukraine reparations launched in EU Parliament

Brussels: <u>The New Lines Institute for Strategy and Policy</u> today launched the world's first legal model to facilitate Ukraine's reconstruction with frozen and seized Russian funds at the European Parliament in Brussels, with the Ukrainian ambassador to the EU and senior policymakers in attendance.

Governments around the world are planning Ukraine's reconstruction – and how to fund it. The New Lines Institute launched the <u>Multilateral Action Model on Reparations</u> for compensating Ukraine for Russia's invasion.

The authoritative report details a legal mechanism based upon the seizure and distribution of already-sanctioned Russian state capital: the result of a dozen-strong Reparations Study Group of legal scholars, chaired by New Lines Institute's Director of Special Initiatives, <u>Dr. Azeem Ibrahim OBE</u>, and Dr. Thomas Grant, the Principal Author and Study Group Lead Counsel.

Traditional models of reparations cannot work. Russia sits on the U.N. Security Council and will veto any attempt to make it pay for the war. In 13 conclusions, the report explains a legal process to identify, collect, and distribute sanctioned Russian money for the benefit of Ukraine. This money is already sitting idle under the control of foreign governments. It will be vital in the rebuilding of Ukraine and its economy – and paying for the cost of repairing Ukraine's damaged mental health and social stability.

Dr. Ibrahim said, "The Multilateral Action Model on Reparations – the first of its kind – will have wide use. Future wars will resemble Russia's invasion of Ukraine more than they resemble earlier wars which followed other reparations systems. International law will have to adapt to prevent states which launch wars from escaping punishment and the duty to compensate victims. The New Lines model aims to do that – and is already under advisement by numerous major countries and international bodies."

The report was launched at the European Parliament in Brussels on 25th Oct and will be followed by a roundtable discussion in the House of Commons in the United Kingdom on 26th Oct hosted by Natalie Elphicke OBE MP and the Ukrainian Ambassador to the United Kingdom, H.E. Vadym Prystaiko.

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