

Justice, rehabilitation, and compensation for the victims of wartime sexual violence in Ukraine

In the framework of provisions of the Convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women, the Council of Europe Convention on combating and preventing violence against women and domestic violence and UN Security Council Resolution 1670 (2009), the European Parliament resolution on recognising the Russian Federation as a state sponsor of terrorism (2022/2896(RSP)), the Council of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) Party convening in Bratislava, Slovakia, on 2-3 December 2022:

Recalls that:

- since the beginning of the Russian aggression against Ukraine in 2014, sexual violence is one of the Russian weapons of war;
- after the 24th of February 2022, the sexual violence that the Russian armed forces committed against Ukrainians became even more widespread: victims of such crimes are women, girls, men, and boys;
- human rights groups and international observer missions have thoroughly documented the numerous atrocities committed by the Russian armed forces against Ukrainian civilians: the number of documented war crimes in Ukraine is nearing 40 000 and is expected to increase.

Notes that:

- Article 7 of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court includes "rape, sexual slavery, enforced prostitution, forced pregnancy, enforced sterilisation, or any other form of sexual violence of comparable gravity" in its definition of crimes against humanity;
- all of these crimes have been perpetrated on the territory of Ukraine by Russian armed forces as a tool to break, demoralise and destroy people, homes, and families.

Calls for the ALDE Party and its member organisations to:

- influence the national governments of the EU member states to bring Russia, including political and military leaders, to justice for the sexual and gender-based violence committed against Ukrainians by measure of the special international tribunal for the crime of aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine;
- cooperate efforts to establish preprogrammes for rehabilitation, support, and compensation for victims of wartime sexual violence in

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Ukraine in close cooperation with Ukrainian authorities and local non-governmental organisations.

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