On the urgency of programs for survivors of sexual violence in the Russian war against Ukraine

The Council of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) Party convening in Bucharest, Romania on 20-21 October 2023:

Recalling:

- the ALDE Party resolution ‘Justice, rehabilitation, and compensation for the victims of wartime sexual violence in Ukraine’, adopted in December 2022;

Notes that:

- as of September 1, Prosecutor General’s Office of Ukraine has recorded 231 facts of conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV): among victims are 82 men and 13 minors. CRSV remains a problem of high magnitude and requires reparations, medical, and psychosocial support for survivors;
- it is a welcome fact that the International Centre for the Prosecution of the Crime of Aggression against Ukraine (ICPA) began operations on July 3, 2023, because CRSV would not happen without a crime of aggression first, but its survivors need more urgent help;
- the Ukrainian parliament and government are developing legislation, projects, and funds to help survivors of CRSV, but they need European resources to be most effective.

Believes that:

- criminal jurisdictions that have recognised the principle of universal criminal responsibility for international crimes must prosecute CRSV as a war crime and a crime against humanity;
- the Special Tribunal should be established as the mechanism of prosecuting the crime of aggression against Ukraine.

Calls for the ALDE member parties and member states to:

- collaborate with Ukraine’s government and civil society to urgently establish and finance programs for reparations and comprehensive support for survivors of sexual violence in the Russian genocidal war against Ukraine;
- to facilitate the return of Ukrainian people from Russian captivity, under which they suffer from CRSV, and to support weapons and resources provision for the liberation of the occupied territories of Ukraine.