

Advancing Accountability, the Special Tribunal for the Crime of Aggression, and Ukraine's Path to EU Membership

The Congress of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) Party convening in Vienna, Austria, on 3-4 of July 2026:

Notes that:

- Russia continues its unprovoked and unjustified war of aggression against Ukraine, accompanied by constant missile and drone attacks primarily targeting civilians and critical infrastructure;
- significant progress has been achieved in advancing accountability, including the completion of the core legal framework for the Special Tribunal for the Crime of Aggression against Ukraine, as well as the establishment of the Advanced Team, supported by the European Union's €10 million contribution;
- important elements of a comprehensive international compensation mechanism have been established, including the Register of Damage for Ukraine and the International Claims Commission;
- Russia continues grave violations of international law, including the deportation and forced transfer of over 20,000 Ukrainian children, while only just over 2,100 have been returned through the Bring Kids Back UA initiative;
- around 1.6 million Ukrainian children remaining in the temporarily occupied territories are subjected to systematic policies aimed at erasing their Ukrainian identity, including militarisation, indoctrination and forced assimilation;
- Russia continues to target civilians, including the unlawful detention of journalists, media workers, residents of temporarily occupied territories, such as Enerhodar, local government representatives, and personnel of the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant;
- despite the ongoing war and immense challenges, Ukraine continues to implement reforms and make steady progress towards EU membership.

Believes that:

- ensuring full accountability for international crimes committed by Russia is essential for achieving a just and lasting peace;
- the timely establishment and functioning of the Special Tribunal for the Crimes of Aggression is a crucial step in closing existing gaps in the international justice system;
- a comprehensive compensation mechanism, including an operational Claims Commission and a future Compensation Fund, is necessary to ensure that Russia pays for the damage caused;
- the deportation and forced transfer of Ukrainian children, as well as the unlawful detention of civilians, requires a coordinated international response;
- Ukraine's EU membership is a strategic investment in European security democracy, and resilience, and should be advanced based on a merit-based approach -grounded in democracy, the rule of law, the protection of fundamental rights, and continued progress in strengthening transparency and accountability;

Calls on:

- states that have not yet done so to join the Enlarged Partial Agreement on the Special Tribunal for the Crime of Aggression, and to provide sustained support to the Advanced Team to ensure its timely operationalisation already in 2027;
- states to join the International Claims Commission, and to accelerate efforts towards establishing a

fully operational Compensation Fund as part of a comprehensive compensation mechanism;

- Europe and its partners to take all necessary measures to finance the Compensation Fund at Russia's cost, including by furthering work on segregating frozen Russian sovereign assets and make them available for compensating Ukraine;
- all partners to strengthen support for international initiatives aimed at the return of Ukrainian children, including the Bring Kids Back UA initiative and the International Coalition for the Return of Ukrainian Children, and to contribute to these efforts in all possible ways;
- the international community to intensify efforts to secure the release of all unlawfully detained Ukrainian civilians, including journalists, media workers, and employees of critical infrastructure such as the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant;
- the EU and its Member States, as well as other Ukraine's allies to maintain, strengthen and timely deliver the necessary political, financial, military, and humanitarian support for Ukraine, ensuring the country's resilience and its ability to achieve a just and lasting peace;
- EU institutions and Member States to continue advancing Ukraine's accession process and to work towards a clear political decision on Ukraine's membership;
- ALDE member parties to actively advocate at national and European levels for accountability, sustained support for Ukraine, and a credible and accelerated EU enlargement process based on merit based approach.