

UNITED NATIONS



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THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

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**MESSAGE FOR THE LAUNCH OF THE GUIDANCE NOTE ON
TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE AS A STRATEGIC TOOL FOR PEOPLE,
PREVENTION AND PEACE**

New York, 11 October 2023

(Read by USG Ryder)

In a world grappling with conflict and human rights violations, transitional justice is central to healing societies and forging lasting peace.

Quite simply, transitional justice has transformative potential.

Ensuring redress to victims is a critical step towards restoring dignity, reviving hope and empowering communities. A comprehensive approach –encompassing truth-seeking, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence– can break cycles of violence, build trust and prevent future conflicts.

That is the central message of this new Guidance Note on “*Transitional Justice as a Strategic Tool for People, Prevention and Peace.*”

It is the product of wide-ranging consultations across the UN system and beyond and aims to help our Organisation harness the full potential of transitional justice.

The approach is rooted in three priorities: promoting transitional justice as a pragmatic human rights-based policy tool across all our work; innovating the design and implementation of our transitional justice work; and putting people and communities at the centre.

The United Nations supports transitional justice processes in increasingly diverse and complex contexts. I trust this new tool will help colleagues across the United Nations family put this approach into action for people, prevention and peace.
