

The Divided East in a Divided Europe: A Comparison of European Union, Ukrainian and Russian Approaches to International Criminal Law

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The research project “The Divided East in a Divided Europe: A Comparison of European Union, Ukrainian and Russian Approaches to International Criminal Law” is informed by the theoretical framework of comparative international law. It aims to explore the European tradition in international criminal law. Given the deep disagreement between the European Union, Russia and Ukraine as to the nature of the armed conflict and legal qualification of conflict-related crimes in Ukraine, it is necessary to examine these actors’ divergent understandings of international criminal law. Filling the gap in the anglophone academic literature, the project centres predominantly on the Russian and Ukrainian national legal practices and legal scholarship. It analyses how both have developed over time and how they can be compared with each other and with the European Union’s grand narrative of progress in international criminal law.