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Starving the Kleptocratic Kremlin to rebuild Ukraine: Asset Recovery developments since the start of the war in Ukraine

December 9, 2022, 1:30 PM- 3:00 PM (Washington D.C. time)

Palladium F4T, Omni Shoreham Hotel 2500 Calvert St NW, Washington, DC 20008, USA

The war in Ukraine has led to vast suffering on all fronts. Repairing the physical and economic damage will require unprecedented amounts of funding. Western governments have repeatedly declared their readiness to support Ukraine. As part of that, they have taken unprecedented political and economic sanctions against the Russian state, high-profile politicians and officials, and politically connected oligarchs. This has led to mass asset freezes and political promises that these assets will swiftly be confiscated and put at the disposal of the reconstruction of Ukraine. However, a mechanism for its practical implementation remains a lot more complex issue than we might tend to believe based on political statements with only very limited legal pathways that have been suitably tried and tested for this type of situation.

At the same time, as tragic as it is, the war in Ukraine presents unique opportunities and may finally give governments the necessary enthusiasm to review and reform existing mechanisms for asset recovery and international cooperation.

The aim of the panel discussion organized by Transparency International Ukraine and the Basel Institute on Governance is to discuss the first efforts in in this direction and test them for legal and technical feasibility, and thereby contribute to the global effort to accelerate asset recovery and push boundaries of current practice.

Speakers:

- **Anton Korynevych**, Head of the Task Force UA, Ukraine (tbc)
- **Kateryna Ryzhenko**, Deputy Executive Director on Legal Affairs, Transparency International Ukraine, Ukraine
- **Péter Csonka**, Head of Unit of "Freeze and Seize" Task Force, European Commission, Belgium
- David Lim, Deputy Director, Task Force KleptoCapture, USA
- **Flavia Munteanu**, Head of International and Operational Asset Recovery Policy, Home Office, United Kingdom

Moderator:

• **Gretta Fenner**, Managing Director of the Basel Institute on Governance and Director of its International Centre for Asset Recovery