



GENEVA CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
ADVANCEMENT AND GLOBAL DIALOGUE

UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Enhanced Interactive Dialogue on the Report of the High Commissioner and the Oral Updated by the Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Myanmar

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PRESENTATION OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

H.E. Mr. Volker TÜRK, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

The report presented by the High Commissioner (HC) is about the people of Myanmar and their aspirations for a better future. Despite massive challenges, people from across society are striving to build a peaceful, sustainable, democratic and diverse Myanmar grounded in human rights. This report is about their vision of the future and about pathways to get there. These solutions are desperately needed because since the last HC's briefing to the UNHRC, the situation in the country has continued to deteriorate.

On 28 March 2025, a **massive earthquake** struck Myanmar, killing nearly 4,000 people, destroying large parts of the centre of the country and leaving 6 million in need of immediate humanitarian assistance. In the wake of the tragedy, despite the announcement of several ceasefires, the **military escalated its attacks**, killing more than 500 civilians and injuring more than 1,000. Instead of increasing access to life-saving aid, the military doubled down on violence and restricted access even further. In many cases, airstrikes or artillery hit schools, religious sites and other protected locations.



OHCHR received reports that the military has launched more than 600 attacks since the earthquake, with over 94% taking place during periods covered by ceasefires. These stark figures mean the military have **killed some 6,800 civilians** since the start of the coup in 2021. More than **22,000 people are still detained** and 172 were sentenced to death by military-controlled courts that do not ensure respect for judicial guarantees and fair trial rights.

In **Rakhine State**, the situation remains dire, with Rohingya in situations of extreme vulnerability. Civilians are caught between the Arakan army and the military who act with complete impunity. The HC is deeply concerned that civilians face a dire humanitarian crisis due to the military's blocking of wide-scale humanitarian support across the state.

Across the country, the **humanitarian situation** is deteriorating. More than 3.5 million people have been displaced by conflict and nearly 22 million need assistance. An estimated 1.3 million people have fled the country to seek safety, often taking extremely perilous journeys. Nearly one out of five people attempting **sea crossings** in the region have been reported as dead or missing so far in 2025. Over 45 million people in Myanmar, four out of five, live below or just above the poverty line.

Throughout all this misery, the people of Myanmar have demonstrated **remarkable courage and resilience**. Human rights defenders and media workers continue to shed lights on violations despite tremendous risks. Religious institutions, civil society and community-based groups are working to provide health and education in the absence of state services. In **protest against military rule**, civil servants resigned *en masse* from public office and are helping establish alternative governance mechanisms. Women are at the forefront of **pro-democracy campaigns** and supporting the families of political prisoners. They are fighting to dismantle the patriarchal systems of the country and demanding representation in emerging institutions. Young people are also involved in their country's political future, helping establish local governance structures and humanitarian networks and advocating for environmental protection.

The HC's report presented today is based on consultations carried out by his Office over several months with people from all ethnic communities across all ages and walks of life in Myanmar. They were united in one message, namely that **the military must play no role in public life**. People yearn for a peaceful, inclusive and democratic society grounded in accountability and human rights. Drawing on their views, the HC's report sets out **four pathways to support these aspirations**.

First, pursuing **accountability and justice** will be crucial to a peaceful, inclusive and democratic Myanmar. The conflict is rooted in grave violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, killings, abductions, torture, arbitrary detention that have largely gone unpunished. Freeing all political prisoners and bringing all perpetrators of human rights violations to justice are key to reconciliation and the way forward. Ongoing proceedings at national and international levels are crucial steps towards accountability. The HC again urges the UN Security Council to refer the situation of Myanmar to the International Criminal Court (ICC). There are also many lessons to be gleaned from **transitional justice mechanisms** for Myanmar, including the importance of truth-telling, recognition of crimes, including violations against ethnic groups and the need for reparation.



Second, **good governance and civic space**. People told the HC's Office of their wish for a civilian-led democratic society with representative and transparent local institutions. These structures need to fully respect diversity, equality and human rights. It is also crucial to repeal laws that have long discriminated based on race, religion and sex. This would be an important step to ensure the rights of many minorities, including the Rohingya. Promoting and protecting a vibrant civic space, including free and independent media, will be central to holding all those in power to account going forward.

Third, the **economy must serve the people of Myanmar**. For decades, the military has exploited Myanmar's economy and the country's rich natural resources for its own benefit and that of its patronage networks. Corruption and cronyism are entrenched. Ordinary people are impoverished. People displaced across borders told my office that they wanted to return to economic opportunities at home. The way forward will require a radical shift towards an economy that can ensure people's rights are fulfilled with investments in education, health, social protection and inclusive policies on land and administering natural resources. The HC urges all partners, including private, international investors and businesses, to work to make this a reality.

Finally, **sustained engagement at the regional and international levels** is vital. This crisis must remain high on the political agenda, but the HC fears it has fallen off it. The HC reiterates his call for an arms embargo, coupled with sanctions consistent with international law, including on jet fuel and dual-use goods, to better protect the people of Myanmar. The HC urges countries in the region and beyond to protect people from fleeing the conflict, including by rescue at sea and refraining from pushbacks or refoulement. Countries could consider providing longer-term legal status in particular for the Rohingya, as the conditions for their return to Rakhine State still do not exist. Countries also need to explore creative options for humanitarian assistance across borders. Going forward, it will be important for the international community to engage with the national unity government, ethnic armed groups and the democracy movement, including women's groups, youth and civil society.

It is imperative for the military **immediately to end the violence**, allow unhindered access and release all arbitrarily detained people as requested by UNSC Resolution 2669. Amidst the turmoil, planning for a future with human rights front and centre offers people a sense of hope. We owe it to the people of Myanmar to make that hope a reality.

STATEMENTS BY PANELLISTS

Mr. Thomas ANDREWS, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Myanmar

The SR commends the High Commissioner and his team for an excellent report that lays out a distressing reality that was made even worse when a **7.7 magnitude earthquake** hit Myanmar on 28 March, even as he was conducting research on the Thai-Myanmar border. Three months after that earthquake struck, many continued to sleep on the streets, grappling with hunger, extreme heat, drenching rains and infectious diseases.

But instead of prioritising the saving of lives, the junta has chosen to **use aid as a political weapon**. The SR has spoken with humanitarian workers who have been physically blocked from



checkpoints, from reaching those in desperate need. The SR has received reports of earthquake survivors who have been evicted from shelters with no place to go. After resistance forces announced a **ceasefire** to focus on disaster relief, the junta felt compelled to follow. But shortly after announcing their own ceasefire, they accelerated attacks on villages.

The High Commissioner's report lays out four pathways forward. The fourth entails the support and engagement of the international community. But at the very moment when the people of Myanmar need the support of the international community the most, that **support is being drastically reduced**. The impact has already been severe, and without a course correction will get exponentially worse. The Rohingya in IDP camps in Central Rakhine State have experienced **severe cuts in food rations**. The SR has received reports of people dying from starvation. Without a renewed funding, most of the more than 100,000 refugees in Thailand will not receive any rations in August. Just a few weeks from now, food distribution for more than a million refugees in Bangladesh will stop in October without additional funding. Health clinics in refugee camps have shut down, forcing patients to face the consequences of going without treatment.

Halfway through 2025, the Rohingya Humanitarian Crisis Joint Response Plan is **only 22% funded**. The Myanmar Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan is only **12% funded**. In March, the SR noted the impact of the sudden significant reduction of aid from the United States, the SR implored other UN member states to step up and increase their level of support to at least partially offset this loss. The SR is deeply sorry to report that not only have many governments failed to step up to fill this gap, many have announced their own **reductions in aid**, even as they announced, as the Netherlands did this week, **increases in military spending**. We are on a terrible trajectory. Governments are cutting funding to save lives while increasing funding to take lives.

The **military junta needs three things** to sustain itself. It needs money, it needs weapons, and it needs legitimacy. Governments and those in the private sector have demonstrated what is possible when action to reduce the junta's capacity to kill innocent people is taken. Action by the government of **Singapore**, for example, reduced the transfer of weapons and weapons materials to the junta through Singapore by over 90%. There has been a drop in transactions related to junta military procurement by some Thai banks, and Bangkok Bank ended its relationship to the junta-controlled Myanmar Economic Bank completely. These and other actions have led to a **one-third reduction in the transfer of weapons and materials** to the junta using the international financial system. Action by the international community does make a difference, but more action is needed, and that should include addressing the junta's cynical attempt to seek legitimacy by announcing what they will call an election later this year.

The SR explains that one cannot hold a democratic election when you arrest, detain, torture, and execute opposition leaders, when it is illegal for journalists to report the truth or for people to express their opinions. It is imperative that all states refuse to recognise this action as a legitimate election because it will not be. Reversing the disastrous trend of **reductions in aid** to the people of Myanmar, **weakening the junta's capacity** to kill innocent people, and **denying legitimacy** to a decidedly illegitimate military junta are critical steps that the international community can and must take. There is no time to waste, and the people of Myanmar deserve nothing less.



Ms. Zue PADONMAR, Human Rights and Women's Rights Defender, and Member of the Interim Executive Council of the State of Karenni, Myanmar

Zue shares with the UNHRC the suffering of her people at the hands of the illegal military junta and the extraordinary resilience of the Karenni people and the people of Myanmar, as well as their aspiration of federal democracy and respect for human rights. The Karenni State has become a **killing field**. She is herself a survivor of airstrikes by the Myanmar military. Every day, the junta deliberately targets civilians with its jets, helicopters, and heavy artillery, regularly bombing schools, religious buildings, and camps for IDPs.

Despite the junta's announcement of a **temporary ceasefire** following the devastating **earthquake** on 28 March, the junta has continued its attacks against civilians, even on the day it declared the ceasefire. Since the quake, the junta has conducted more than 980 airstrikes and artillery attacks, killing more than 600 people and injuring 1,300 more. Myanmar also remains a major threat, injuring eight civilians and killing one this year in Karenni alone. The people there also face arbitrary arrests, threats, and conflict-related sexual violence.

Women and LGBTI people are particularly vulnerable, subjected to gang rapes, other forms of abuse by junta soldiers. Survival is extremely challenging for the people. Over 3.5 million has been displaced across Myanmar. Families have no home to return. The junta shows no respect for human life. Despite immense suffering, the junta is **weaponizing humanitarian aid**. It has obstructed the delivery of life-saving support to those who need it the most. Frontline responders are doing their best to fill the gap, but it is not enough. Yet it is hope.

She cannot test the incredible resilience of its people. Their demands are clear, 'end military tyranny and impunity.' There is an agreement with the federal democratic system and international recognition and support for **civilian-led governance structures**. Over the first four years, their result has only grown stronger. In fact, their collective vision for the future of federal democracy is already coming to life.

The Karenni State is building people-led governance structures, such as the Interim Executive Council (IEC) of the Karenni State. The IEC is a decentralised interim government that provides community participation and decision-making at all levels with ensuring that defined personnel **leadership roles are filled by women**. Despite the challenges, the IEC delivers emergency services, humanitarian aid, education, and help accelerate the rule of law through the state.

Throughout Myanmar, people are seeking new institutions, delivering aid and accelerating the rule of law. These efforts align with the foundation for the **future of a federal State of Myanmar**. The people of Myanmar need support urgently.

First, **assistance to save lives** and alleviate human suffering. Recent pandemic international aid has devastated the lives of vulnerable people. Not only must government and donors provide sufficient funds, but they must work with ethnic authorities and local CSOs to get aid to those with the greatest need.

Second, **building democratic institutions** from the ground up. The people of Myanmar need recognition, technical support, and engagement with the people to address the challenges. They need the recognition of the people's vision of a federal, democratic Myanmar.



Finally, **isolate the military junta** and stop its attacks on people. Stop the flow of weapons and aviation fuel to the military that is used to attack the people. Cut off its access to money, which is used to bankroll its oppression. Help hold the perpetrators accountable for their crimes under international law.

In closing, Zue asks the UNHRC **not to turn a blind eye on the suffering** the people are experiencing in Myanmar. She calls on governments to step up and make concrete efforts to support the struggle against the inhuman military dictatorship.

Mr. Bo KYI, Founder, Association for Assistance to Political Prisoners (AAPP)

Bo KYI is a former political prisoner who brings the voice of **22,000 political prisoners** still behind bars. This includes Aung San Suu Kyi and President Moon Jae-in, leaders elected by the people, now held illegally by the military junta. It is not just about these two individuals. It is about a system of repression. Political prisoners simply believe in democracy, justice, and freedom. They are students, workers, artists, men, ethnic minorities, and everyday civilians. They are arrested arbitrarily through sham trials, military-controlled courts, and face brutal torture. This is not rule of law. It is a deliberate attack on the democratic will of the people.

On March 28, there was an earthquake in Myanmar and prison cells in **Obo Prison collapsed**. There was no help offered, no emergency response, delayed medical care. There has been no investigation, no justice. Political prisoners and inmates have died or faced serious injuries. Aung San Suu Kyi got injured. This is not just a natural disaster. It is a crime of neglect, cruelty, and impunity. The world must understand that living in Myanmar and in its prisons is like hell. The military does not care about who lives or dies.

When requesting the unconditional release of all political prisoners, including the President and State Councillors, people are **demanding more than their freedom**. They are also demanding the return of dignity and peace and justice to walk towards a better future. Military hopes the world will forget, and the international community will get tired and silence will return. But Mr. Bo KYI urges the world to speak up; increase pressure to release all political prisoners; support international justice mechanisms; sanction the regime's source of financing, not people; and support those who are documenting these crimes, so the truth cannot be buried.

Through documentation, one can hear the voices of those who have struggled in the military operation. We must not respond with silence. We must honour these voices, not just in history, but through justice. Because **without justice, we cannot have peace**.

Ms. Noor AZIZA, Rohingya Refugee Advocate

Noor has just returned from Cox's Bazar, the largest refugee camp in the world. What she saw there will never leave her. In a sweltering shelter, a Rohingya mother told me she has not slept in days, not from heat or hunger, but from fear. She stays awake every night to guard her daughters and sons. She tells her children not to cry, not to move, because the dark does not forgive girls. She will not walk to the toilet after sunset. Women do have been raped in the metres between the tents in the latrine.



Furthermore, Noor met a young boy, Abdulrahman, only three years old. His leg was shot while fleeing across the border. His father was executed before his eyes. His mother carried him, drenched in blood, across the Naaf River. She did not know if he would survive. In an MSF clinic, Noor stood in a room of five girls. All had just given birth, none looked older than 15. All had become mothers through rape. This is not just a crisis. It is a call to protect, to deliver justice and to **stop the erasure of an entire people**.

Meanwhile, food rations are being cut. More than 6,500 learning centres have closed. Half a million children now roam aimlessly, exposed to trafficking, injury and despair. In this **climate of abandonment**, a dangerous new pressure is building. Quiet cohesion to return to Myanmar. But return to what? According to the Special Rapporteur, Rakhine is still in a war zone. Rohingya civilians are being bombed, arrested and disappeared. The High Commissioner's report is clear. Conditions for safe, dignified, voluntary return do not exist at all. Still, resettlement from the camp is nearly impossible. Less than 1%. Legal protection is limited and aid is completely shrinking.

So families are forced into **impossible choices** – to risk dangerous journeys across seas toward Malaysia and Indonesia or remain trapped in endless limbo with no clear future. **Return without rights is not a solution**. Return to surveillance, to statelessness, to open-air prisons is not a solution. Rohingya refugees know this. This is why they still say - 'we will return, but only when we can go back as citizens, as humans in dignity.' A future Myanmar that includes Rohingya is not optional, it is urgent. But we must be included from the start, not added later. 'We are not outsiders, we are Myanmar's people.'

To **move forward towards the future**, Noor urges states to expand third country resettlement; provide legal protection, education and livelihoods to those who cannot return; increase humanitarian aid, especially in Rakhine, where food insecurity is rising; support transitional justice and ensure any future political process in Myanmar includes all ethnic groups, especially the Rohingya, from the absolute beginning.

Statelessness is not a natural disaster. It is violence - deliberate, designed, enforced by law, borders and silence. Undoing it takes more than policies. It takes political will. It takes courage. It takes listening to those who have survived the very fire and are still standing today. 'We are not waiting in silence. We are organising, rebuilding, leading. We are not just victims, we are visionaries. Let this not be another moment where the world looks away. Let it be the one where we are finally seen and are believed.'

REPLIES AND CONCLUDING REMARKS

Ms. Noor AZIZA acknowledges the important work done by many states and mechanisms to keep Myanmar on the agenda. It is not easy work, but concern is simply not enough. The situation in Myanmar is not simply deteriorating. It is being allowed to deteriorate. This is not only a humanitarian emergency. It is a **failure of accountability**, a **failure of political will**, and a **failure to address the root causes** that has made this very violence possible for my very community. For the Rohingya people, these are not failures. They are lived realities. They look like families stranded at sea, women confined to camps behind barbed wire, children born into exile, still without citizenship or legal identity. These are not isolated incidents. They are part of an ongoing pattern. Noor urges the UNHRC to meet this moment with clarity, and that means backing the



SR's recommendations. It means ensuring that Rohingya voices - not just organisations speaking about them - are centred in any conversations about future governance, accountability and return. It means using all available international and regional mechanisms to pressure for the **protection of civilians across Myanmar**, including ethnic minorities in Kachin, Karenni, Shan and Chin communities. It means recognising that repatriation without guarantees of safety, justice and restored rights is not a solution. It is a risk. The Rohingya do not want to be remembered only through reports of suffering. They want to be part of shaping solutions that **Rohingya are not passive victims**. They are survivors with dignity, insights and the right to return home with their identity and rights enacted

Mr. Thomas ANDREWS, UN Special Rapporteur on Myanmar, recalls that at a time when the people of Myanmar need an enhanced level of support from the international community, they are getting the opposite. The cost of human lives and human suffering is staggering and it is getting worse. This begs the question, do human rights matter? Because if human rights matter, if saving the lives of the children of Myanmar matters, then why are so many governments reducing their investments and their actions that we know will mitigate suffering and save lives? Why, for that matter, is the UN under such pressure? Why is there a liquidity crisis? The SR believes an answer can be found in the rise of **political forces** that are pushing relentlessly to **reject the very idea of human rights**, to ignore or vilify those who are victimised by brutality, that reject the basic idea that nations can and should work together to solve problems and save lives, like those who are at great risk in Myanmar. The SR believes that it is time for those who care about human rights, here and outside of these walls, to challenge and push back those forces. That all of us need to engage our fellow citizens on why human rights matter.

Leaders should be rewarded for taking actions that advance human rights. Governments should be confident that they can do the right thing. It is clear to the SR that we are facing much more than a liquidity crisis. We are facing a **leadership crisis**, a communication crisis, a **moral crisis**. The SR is deeply concerned with the trajectory that the world is currently on. We are witnessing the use and the impact of the political fear card, the grievance card, the vilification card. We have seen how these types of **political cards** have been played in history and we know where they lead. Indeed, the UN was created on the ashes of the devastation that these cards generated 80 years ago. The UNHCR has been called **the conscience of the United Nations**. Now, more than ever, members of the UNHRC and each and every one of us need to affirm with words and more importantly with action that human rights matter in Myanmar and beyond because they do and the stakes could not be higher.

Mr. Volker TÜRK shares some frank remarks emerging from the dialogue. First, a **litany of violations** of international human rights and humanitarian law. We are fully aware of the dire humanitarian situation of the country. We know what **the pain, the suffering and the frustrated aspirations** of the people of Myanmar mean, including those who are in exile, often in dire circumstances. We also know what the root cause is. There is a political economy behind the current state of affairs and we have in fact analysed it, including some reports by the SR. We know that the **capture of the state by the military** is what is very much at the core of the current situation. No doubt that the situation of Myanmar should remain very high on the international agenda, but it is not. We need to make sure that it is not only discussions at the UNHRC that are lifted to a level where we can actually have a strategic engagement about how to bring about



change in the country. There is also no doubt that the situation in Myanmar is a matter of international concern. Any suggestion of the contrary would be a mockery of the very foundations on which the UN is built. We have **many recurring recommendations**, and it would be very interesting to have a look at all these recurring recommendations and see whether there has been any traction at Ministries of Foreign Affairs in the way they are implemented - Have there been discussions about this at your Ministry of Foreign Affairs level to trigger the action that is actually required? Have you considered what these recurring recommendations actually mean? What your own actionable possibilities are within your remit of possibilities? The High Commissioner believes this is a question that goes back to all states.

On **accountability**, the ICC's Prosecutor has issued the intention of indictments. We have seen, including in Argentina, that universal jurisdiction is being applied in the case of Myanmar and there are provisional binding measures issued by the International Court of Justice. This is a clear reflection that this is an issue of utmost international concern. The **Rohingya Conference** on 30 September raises very high expectations, hoping that the international community will meet those expectations, including on the funding side. When talking about what could be done, the hosting countries, in particular Bangladesh, but also others, will require international solidarity and not just in words, but also in deeds. The High Commissioner sometimes **fears void, empty statements**, with no action. But time has come to do precisely this. A new order is emerging. In many areas where the military is no longer present, there is a notable lack of anarchy. Local governance structures are emerging and flourishing where **women, youth, civil society have risen to the fore** and established these local governance structures. This needs to be embraced, supported, and it actually gives us also the seeds precisely for the day after and for the type of situation that the people of Myanmar have been waiting for. But they need our support – a support that goes beyond words.

INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE

Views Expressed by State Delegations

Albania looks with alarm at the deteriorating human rights situation and remains concerned at the situation of minorities in Myanmar, particularly Rohingya Muslims in Rakhine State. This population continues to be victims of systematic abuses and atrocities by both the military junta and Iraqi army. The world is witnessing barbaric acts, summary executions, torture, rape, forced displacement, and the burning of villages, all crimes that may constitute crimes against humanity and war crimes. Albania strongly condemns these violations and supports accountability efforts, including measures already ordered by the International Court of Justice to protect the Rakhine population. The intensification of fighting in Rakhine State clearly makes the safe return of Rakhine to Myanmar impossible. In such a situation of suffering for the civilian population, particularly in conflict-affected areas, Albania calls for safe, unrestricted cross-border humanitarian access. Finally, Albania commends the courage of civil society in Myanmar and calls on the international community to support them in their efforts for peace, justice, and democratic reconstruction.

Australia jointly with Canada and New Zealand note that the situation in Myanmar continues to deteriorate. An additional 2 million people require humanitarian assistance since the



devastating earthquake in March. The three countries are deeply concerned by the regime continuing to divert aid, restrict humanitarian access, and break multiple ceasefire commitments, including with attacks on civilian populated areas and earthquake-affected regions. As one example, on 12 May, an airstrike on a school in Sagaing region killed civilians, including children. They call on the regime to adhere to an extended ceasefire and stop targeting civilians. They call on all parties to allow safe, rapid and unimpeded humanitarian access. Aid should be distributed in accordance with a principled, needs-based approach. They continue to call on the regime to fulfil its commitments under the Five Point Consensus and engage meaningfully with ASEAN, including its Chair and Special Envoy.

Austria is deeply alarmed by the displacement of over 3.5 million people and the urgent humanitarian needs of nearly 20 million individuals, a significant proportion of whom are children. Austria condemns in the strongest terms the intensified military operations by the Myanmar Armed Forces, including airstrikes and indiscriminate attacks in earthquake-affected areas, despite unilaterally declared ceasefires. Austria is gravely concerned by persistent reports of deliberate obstruction of humanitarian access, targeted violence against humanitarian personnel and serious violations of international law, including acts such as burning civilians alive, dismemberment, beheadings and sexual violence, including rape. These acts may amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity and must cease immediately. Austria is particularly alarmed by the scale of violence against children, including reports of forced recruitment, killing and maiming and attacks on schools and hospitals. Such grave violations of children's rights will have devastating consequences for generations to come. Austria reiterates its call on the Myanmar military and all parties involved in the conflict in Myanmar to abide by the rules of international humanitarian and human rights law and ensure full, safe and unhindered access for humanitarian assistance to all affected populations.

Bangladesh is shouldering an unfair burden of over 1.2 million forcibly displaced Rohingyas for the last eight years. Yet over 118,000 Rohingyas entered Bangladesh since November 2023 due to the ongoing armed conflict in Rakhine. Bangladesh reiterates that sustainable repatriation is the only durable solution to the Rohingya crisis. Uncertainty around repatriation has the potential to affect regional peace and stability. Bangladesh calls on international community to undertake tangible and effective initiatives to create conducive conditions in Rakhine for sustainable repatriation. Due to deepening food insecurity in Rakhine state and the drastic cuts to humanitarian aid in Bangladesh, it is imperative that humanitarian aid and support be maintained and increased. International community must explore options for cross-border humanitarian assistance to elevate the sufferings of the Rohingya and to prevent further exodus of Rohingyas from the Rakhine. Bangladesh expects that the UN high-level conference on Rohingya this September will provide a clear pathway for expedited and sustainable solution of the crisis. Finally, it urges the High Commissioner and the SR to keep the Rohingya issue high on the agenda until a durable solution is achieved through repatriation, ensuring accountability and justice.

Belarus reaffirms its position of principle against politicised country approaches and country mandates which undermine constructive dialogue on human rights. The discussions within the UNHRC, a body for intergovernmental cooperation, must take place in an inclusive framework of respectful dialogue, and the positions of the governments of the affected countries must be taken into account. Although the authorities of Myanmar have informed about the situation in the



country and cooperate with a number of UN agencies and show readiness to expand in cooperation in order to improve the humanitarian situation, the reports presented to the UNHRC show a lopsided approach which ignores multiple challenges, including the restrictions caused by sanctions. Belarus welcomes regional initiatives and formats for addressing the situation, in the framework of which Myanmar is ready to move towards addressing and solving the crisis. The UN human rights system could make a more positive contribution to these processes if it were turned away from pressure and an exclusively recriminatory rhetoric.

Bulgaria remains deeply concerned by the human rights crisis and deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Myanmar, particularly after the devastating earthquake in March in the central regions of the country. Bulgaria is worried about the gross human rights violations and abuses perpetrated against people, persons belonging to the Rohingya and other ethnic and religious groups by the security and armed forces of Myanmar. Armed by the displacement of more than 3.5 million people and the military's blockade of all humanitarian access channels to nearly 20 million people in need of assistance, Bulgaria is outraged that conditions remain unfavourable for the safe return of internally displaced persons, the Rohingya and other refugees. Bulgaria calls for immediate end of the military campaign and release of political prisoners in Myanmar, as well as for access of humanitarian assistance. Bulgaria supports the ASEAN Five-Point Consensus and highly appreciates the work of the ASEAN Special Envoy for Myanmar in close cooperation with the Special Envoy of the UN Secretary General. It supports the EU's continued engagement on Myanmar, including the efforts of the EU's Special Envoy for Myanmar.

China points out that the Myanmar issue is very complex, with intertwined internal and external factors. As proven by history and reality, only by upholding sovereign equality, non-interference in internal affairs and other international norms can we truly solve problems and promote and protect human rights. Discussions at the UNHRC should help Myanmar's political and social stability, as well as peace and reconciliation by avoiding exacerbating conflicts. China and Myanmar are friendly neighbours. Supporting all parties in Myanmar to resolve differences through political dialogue, China has been active in engagement and persuasion, most notably by facilitating peace talks between Tatmadaw and northern armed groups in Kunming with the signature of the ceasefire agreement. China has sent a ceasefire monitoring group to Lashio, and after the earthquake, it has provided significant humanitarian relief and reconstruction support. China will continue in its own way to constructively help Myanmar achieve peace and stability, livelihood improvement.

Croatia deeply regrets gross human violations in Myanmar that may constitute war crimes and crimes against humanity, and is appalled by the continuing airstrikes and artillery shelling on populated areas that killed more civilians in 2024 than in previous years. It is devastating that the junta continued its operation even after the catastrophic earthquake in March this year and restricted humanitarian access to affected areas. As reported, Myanmar is being used as a major hub for transnational criminal activities and is the world's largest producer of opium and synthetic drugs. At the same time, half of the country's population lives below the poverty line and in food insecurity. Croatia stands in solidarity with the people of Myanmar and joins the cause for peaceful reconciliation and stability of the country. Supporting the aspiration for the civilian-led democratic society based on strong local institutions with representatives selected in free



and fair elections, Croatia urges the international community to maintain Myanmar high on the agenda in order not to be overshadowed by other ongoing crises.

Cyprus is deeply alarmed by the rising death toll that includes women and children at the hands of the military. Violence has displaced 3.5 million people within and beyond Myanmar's borders, while the military persistently blocks humanitarian access even in the aftermath of natural disasters. Cyprus calls for an immediate end to violence and the release of all those arbitrarily detained. Accountability for all perpetrators of gross human rights violations and violations of international humanitarian law is essential. Cyprus further urges all parties to ensure full, safe and timely humanitarian access in line with humanitarian principles and to create the conditions necessary for the safe, dignified and sustainable return of the Rohingya community.

Czechia notes with concern that since the military coup in February 2021, Myanmar has plunged into a deepening human rights crisis. The junta continues to use widespread violence, including airstrikes and scorched-earth tactics, killing thousands and displacing millions. Those who speak out face as arbitrary detention, torture and other severe abuses. Czechia urges the military to cease all acts of violence, release those arbitrarily detained and allow unimpeded humanitarian access. The rights of all those forced to flee, including the Rohingya, must be protected with full respect for the principle of non-refoulement. There can be no sustainable peace without justice, accountability and the restoration of democracy. Czechia echoes the HC's call for a genuine, inclusive political process that reflects the will of the people and includes all ethnic groups and civil society actors.

Estonia on behalf of the Nordic-Baltic countries expresses deep concern at the ongoing massive attacks and violence against civilians, further harming communities in the aftermath of a devastating earthquake. They continue to support ASEAN's and the UN's efforts to establish a ceasefire and to foster genuine, constructive, inclusive and effective dialogue among all stakeholders towards peace, stability and democracy, in accordance with the will of the people of Myanmar, which is key to resolving the crisis. The Nordic-Baltic countries emphasise the urgent need for accountability, including for atrocities committed against Rohingya communities, and welcome the upcoming international conference on the situation of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar.

The **Gambia** remains deeply concerned by the continued violations committed by the military against civilians, particularly the Rohingya Muslim population. The Gambia echoes the report's call for accountability, including through international mechanisms such as the ICC, and reiterates its own commitment to pursuing justice for the Rohingya through the ICJ. The Gambia is deeply grateful to the many partners who have supported and stood with us in this endeavour. While welcoming the report's strong emphasis on accountability and democratic reform, the Gambia notes with concern the limited attention given to the current situation in the country. Applauding the report's strong emphasis on accountability and democratic reform, the Gambia notes with concern the limited attention given to reparations for the Rohingya, including recognition, compensation and guarantees of non-repetition. Reparations, in this case, are a vital component of justice and accountability necessary to ensure the peace and security of the Rohingya community. The Gambia welcomes the convening of the International Conference on



the Situation of Rohingya Muslims and Other Minorities, hoping it will pave the way for comprehensive and durable solutions for the Rohingya.

Georgia stands in solidarity with the people of Myanmar in the aftermath of the catastrophic earthquake which occurred earlier this year. Against this backdrop, Georgia laments the restricted control of humanitarian access to affected areas and further suffering of the civilian population, thereby reiterating that humanitarian aid must be able to reach those in need without impediment. Georgia regrets that, among others, Rohingya civilians regularly face widespread displacement. Steps need to be taken towards removing obstacles for safe, sustainable and dignified return, particularly in situation of long-term displacement such as the case of Rohingya. While human rights crisis affects every single aspect of life in Myanmar, there is an urgent need to achieve a peaceful resolution to this crisis. Bringing to an end infringements against civilian populations, including the Rohingya, remains the matter of critical importance.

India has consistently called for an immediate cessation of violence, release of political detainees, unhindered humanitarian access and a constructive dialogue-based resolution. Yet India remains deeply concerned by the precarious humanitarian and security landscape in Myanmar. The increasing influx of people into India's northeastern states and the growing challenge of transnational crimes such as drug and human trafficking continue to be issues of serious concern. As Myanmar's immediate neighbour and a long-standing development partner, India reiterates the importance of a Myanmar-led and Myanmar-owned political process. India has always prioritised peace, stability and development in Myanmar through people-centric initiatives and humanitarian assistance. As the first responder to the earthquake in Myanmar in March 2025, India launched Operation Brahma, delivering over 750 tonnes of relief material, deploying medical teams and establishing a field hospital. This builds on our earlier humanitarian efforts, including Operation Sadbhav in response to Typhoon Yagi and assistance provided during cyclones Mocha, Mora and Nargis. India remains committed to supporting Myanmar's transition towards an inclusive federal democracy and continues to coordinate closely with ASEAN under the Five-Point Consensus. India also supports the efforts of the UNSG towards a peaceful and lasting resolution.

Indonesia remains concerned over the human rights and humanitarian situations in Myanmar which were worsened by the March earthquake causing thousands of casualties. In a spirit of solidarity, Indonesia has provided humanitarian assistance of more than US\$1.2 million including food and medical supplies to support the affected communities. While welcoming the ceasefire declared by the Myanmar Authority and other relevant stakeholders, Indonesia urges all parties to take concrete steps towards a permanent cessation of violence, allow safe and timely humanitarian aid to all in need without discrimination including to the Rohingyas and help create a conducive environment for an inclusive national dialogue. Indonesia calls upon the international community to scale up its financial support to address immediate humanitarian needs of the people at both in Myanmar and abroad. Taking note of the SR's report highlighting the demand of vast majority of Myanmar people for genuine and inclusive democracy, Indonesia points out this echoes ASEAN's efforts to facilitate an inclusive national dialogue that is Myanmar-owned and Myanmar-led. Indonesia will continue to support the legitimate aspirations of the people of Myanmar for peace, democracy and full respect of human rights.



Iran reiterates the need to refocus the Council's attention on the right of re-engagement. Iran remains concerned about the lasting human rights and humanitarian impacts of the catastrophic earthquake of 28 March 2025. Families who lost their breadwinners need comprehensive support and rebuilding efforts require urgent economic relief. Iran welcomes the positive development reflected in the report, particularly the shift in narrative recognising Rohingya as part of Myanmar and the acknowledgement of the need for deep legal reform, including on their citizenship, race and religion rights. Emerging constituencies for change can be positive and encouraging if leading to national unity and promotion and protection of human rights, including the right of Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar. Iran commends the efforts of the OIC and Iran and express its appreciation to Bangladesh for hosting Rohingya refugees despite their own challenges. Iran urges Myanmar to address root causes and ensure the full restoration of Rohingya Muslims' legitimate rights.

Italy strongly condemns the continued escalation of violence and grave human rights violations committed by the junta since the 2021 coup. Italy is appalled by the widespread use of force against civilians, including airstrikes, torture, sexual and gender-based violence, forced labour and abuses against the Rohingya and other minorities. The severe humanitarian crisis in Myanmar, worsened by the March earthquake, requires urgent action. Alarmed by the conflict impact and junta obstruction of aid, particularly in Rakhine State, Italy calls for full, safe and unhindered humanitarian access to all in need and stress the importance of conditions for the voluntary, safe and dignified return of Rohingya refugees. Italy remains concerned by prevailing impunity and urges accountability for all responsible for international crimes and human rights abuses. Firmly supporting Myanmar's civil society and the vital work of the independent investigative mechanism, Italy calls on the Myanmar military to end violence, release political prisoners and engage in inclusive dialogue towards democratic transition, including credible and inclusive elections.

Japan notes that the ongoing human rights crisis in Myanmar is deeply concerning, particularly the lack of improvement over four years since the coup. Japan again expresses its grave concern over this deteriorating situation and the absence of substantive progress. Japan reiterates its call on Myanmar military to take concrete actions to cease the violence, release those who are arbitrarily detained and swiftly restore Myanmar's democratic political system. The people of Myanmar continue to suffer from the devastating effects of the catastrophic earthquake of 28 March 2025 in its central regions. The government of Japan has provided humanitarian assistance to people affected by the disaster. This assistance included the deployment of medical teams, the provision of emergency relief goods and the US\$6 million emergency grant through international organisations. Japan remains committed to continuing to provide humanitarian assistance that directly benefits the people of Myanmar in need. At this time, it is crucial to improve the human rights and humanitarian situation in Myanmar in a manner that reflects the will and need of the people of Myanmar. While working closely with the international community, including ASEAN, Japan will continue to make every effort to this end.

Kuwait would like to express its deep concern in light of the report which reflects new trends of human rights violations in Myanmar. To this you have to add discrimination, marginalisation and repression against the Muslim minority and indeed other minorities. It is important to address the root causes of this crisis by offering unhindered humanitarian access in order to build sustainable peace and a society based on the principle of non-discrimination. Kuwait has always supported



all international efforts geared towards alleviating the humanitarian suffering of the Rohingya and their host communities in particular through the initiative for the repatriation of Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh. Last year, Kuwait welcomed the SR and looked at the best possible way for providing additional support. In closing, Kuwait supports the recommendations and conclusions contained in the report, in particular the implementation of UNSC Resolution 2669.

The **Lao PDR** firmly supports the restoration of peace, stability and reconciliation in Myanmar, and also welcomes Myanmar's commitment to hold general elections in December 2025. The Lao PDR reaffirms its support for the ASEAN Leaders' Five-Point Consensus as the main reference to address the political conflict in Myanmar and help Myanmar to achieve a Myanmar-owned, Myanmar-led, durable and peaceful solution to its complex problems. The Lao PDR commends Myanmar for its constructive cooperation and engagement with ASEAN member states and the AHA Centre, as well as relevant UN agencies, for the provision of humanitarian assistance to victims of the earthquake in Myanmar that occurred on 28 March. The Lao PDR encourages the international community to constructively cooperate and support Myanmar toward achieving peaceful and sustainable political solution and providing humanitarian assistance to all those in need without discrimination.

Luxembourg on behalf of the Benelux countries remains remain deeply alarmed by the ongoing human rights crisis in Myanmar, which continues to deteriorate in the wake of the military coup in February 2021. They condemn in the strongest terms the continued violence perpetrated by the military against civilians, including airstrikes on populated areas, arbitrary arrests and reports of torture and extrajudicial killings. The Benelux countries are particularly concerned about the humanitarian impact of the conflict, including on women, children and ethnic minorities, including the Rohingya. Over 2 million people have been internally displaced, and access to humanitarian aid remains dangerously restricted. Calling for full accountability for the crimes committed and reiterate their support for international justice mechanisms, the Benelux countries urge the Myanmar military to immediately seize hostilities, to release all political prisoners and restore democratic governance. They call for immediate, safe and unimpeded humanitarian access to all communities in need. Arms transfers and other indirect support to the junta must cease

Malawi joins the HC in expressing the utmost solidarity with the people of Myanmar and reiterates that responses to the overall crisis must uphold human rights principles and address the needs of the civilian population without discrimination. Malawi urges the military authorities in Myanmar to take effective steps to ensure a return to civilian rule, release of all political prisoners, accountability and effective remedies for the human rights violations.

Malaysia, as ASEAN's Chair this year, is committed to facilitating a path towards the peaceful resolution in Myanmar. Malaysia reiterates that the Five-Point Consensus remains the main reference and must be implemented in its entirety to address the country's political crisis. Malaysia welcomes the of three consecutive, temporary and unilateral ceasefires by the Authority in Myanmar as well as similar ceasefire announcements by other stakeholders in the country. It is imperative that all parties honour and fully observe these ceasefires which are crucial for the cessation of violence and more importantly for building confidence on the ground and creating a safe and conducive environment for the delivery of humanitarian assistance. Malaysia calls for



continued support from the international community in the implementation of ASEAN's Five-Point Consensus in order to address the crisis in Myanmar and its wider impact including the rise of transnational crimes such as drugs and human trafficking as well as online scams. Malaysia further calls for enhanced humanitarian assistance to reach all affected communities in Myanmar including through coordination with the ASEAN-led mechanisms such as the ASEAN-AHA Centre.

The **Maldives** underlines that despite the ongoing violence and instability in Myanmar, there are encouraging efforts led by women, youth, civil society, grassroots movements and human rights defenders striving to lay the foundations for an inclusive and democratic future. At the same time, the Maldives remains deeply concerned by the continued violence against civilians, including the targeting of ethnic and religious minorities by the military. The Maldives is alarmed by reports of gender-based violence against women and girls and widespread displacement of over 3.5 million people reflecting a systemic pattern of repression. The Maldives reiterates its call for an immediate cessation of violence, release of political prisoners and unhindered humanitarian access, concurrently to create conditions for voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return of the forcibly displaced persons. Commending Bangladesh for hosting Rohingya refugees and supporting the Gambia's efforts at the ICJ on behalf of the OIC, the Maldives, as an intervening state, stands with the Gambia and like-minded countries to ensure accountability. In closing, the Maldives reiterates its call for the protection of civilians and the restoration of democracy and rule of law in Myanmar.

Malta condemns the indiscriminate human rights violations committed by the Myanmar military against civilians over the past years, including sexual and gender-based violence, conflict-related sexual violence and armed forces appearances. More recently, in the month following the March earthquake, the military has reportedly launched multiple attacks leading to many civilian casualties. As accountability for the crimes committed is essential, Malta continues to call for justice and accountability for all human rights violations. The worsening humanitarian crisis across Myanmar remains troubling and Malta calls for rapid, safe and unhindered access to humanitarian aid for the millions of people who are relying on this assistance. Myanmar's military must immediately cease its campaign of violence and engage in meaningful dialogue. Malta calls for the establishment of a transparent, inclusive and credible democratic path in Myanmar in line with the will and aspirations of the people of Myanmar. In conclusion, Malta expresses support for all UN initiatives on Myanmar, including the independent investigative mechanism.

Pakistan on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) reiterates its call for greater focus on the human rights situation of Rohingya Muslims who are victims of decades-long persecution, marginalisation. The OIC expresses grave concern over the ongoing conflict in Myanmar that forced more than 118,000 Rohingya to flee to Bangladesh and thousands others to other countries in the region. The OIC urges Myanmar to implement all recommendations of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State, including a clear pathway to citizenship; fully comply with ICJ's provisional measures and cooperate with all ongoing international accountability mechanisms; commence repatriation of the Rohingya from Bangladesh and other host states to Myanmar with rights, safety and dignity; take effective measures to end conflict in Rakhine immediately and stop all human rights violations; and ensure the full and meaningful representation of the Rohingya Muslims in decision-making processes at all levels in Rakhine



State. The OIC is alarmed at the diminishing global attention to the humanitarian needs of the Rohingya. Underscoring the importance of unhindered and adequate humanitarian assistance for the conflict-ridden Rohingya Muslims in Rakhine, the OIC hopes that the proposed High-Level Conference in September this year will provide a clear pathway for the expedited solution of the crisis in a sustainable manner.

The **Philippines** expresses deep concern with the human rights and humanitarian situation in Myanmar, which was aggravated by the 7.7 earthquake that struck the country last March. The longstanding armed conflicts and political-economic crisis in Myanmar have been feeding each other for years. The consequences for the people, especially the Rohingyas and others in situations of vulnerability are grave and wide-ranging. The Philippines calls on all parties to uphold human rights and international humanitarian law at all times. The use of force against civilians, including women and girls, and attacks against public infrastructure must stop. Life-saving assistance from ASEAN and others must reach those in need in a timely manner without discrimination. This is an international obligation that should not be breached. The Philippines are fully committed to the ASEAN Five-Point Consensus, and it reaffirms its strong support to the ASEAN Chair and the Special Envoy as they advance its full and effective implementation. The people of Myanmar have the right to enjoy the bounties of peace, development, and democracy. Thus, the Philippines will continue to support efforts towards an inclusive national dialogue with the aim of achieving a just and lasting solution, one that respects the democratic will of the people and upholds the sovereignty of a unified Myanmar.

The **Republic of Korea** notes with concern the continuing suffering of the people of Myanmar, thereby expressing deeply concerned about the intensifying military attacks against civilians, including airstrikes and artillery shelling. As the situation in Rakhine remains particularly devastating, Korea all parties to immediately cease the violence and protect civilians. The devastating earthquake in March has compounded the already existing humanitarian crisis. Reports of the military blocking humanitarian access, even in the wake of the earthquake, are alarming. All obstructions to aid must be lifted and full humanitarian access must be granted. At this pivotal moment, the international community must step up to resolve the crisis in Myanmar. Firmly supporting ASEAN's continued effort to address the crisis and implement the Five-Point Consensus, Korea also believes that enhanced cooperation between the UN and ASEAN is critical in addressing the crisis. As a supporter of the fundamental principles of human rights and democracy, the Republic of Korea remains committed to participating in international efforts toward a peaceful resolution of the crisis in Myanmar.

The **Russian Federation** pays particular attention to the development of the situation in Myanmar, including in its humanitarian aspects. Any solution to the crisis in this country should be based on respect for the principles of sovereignty, non-interference in the internal affairs and engaged dialogue on an equal footing. Russia is against the approach which pins all the blame for the current situation on the government. As the authorities have expressed their commitment to the constitution, Russia believes it is important for the government to continue on its course for social reconciliation and human development. According to Russia, there should not be unilateral coercive measures or pressure. Attempts to isolate the country only worsens the situation of people of Myanmar and hampers cooperation with the national authorities and international partners. In this context, Russia welcomes ASEAN's efforts to support the



normalisation of the situation, including through addressing humanitarian issues. Russia categorically rejects the attempts to block ASEAN's leading role on this matter.

Saudi Arabia is monitoring the situation very closely, and calls on stakeholders to undertake constructive dialogue to lead to lasting and stable solutions. It further calls for the protection of civilians, including the Rohingya people. All should have their rights recognised immediately, including the right to citizenship, and ensure the necessary preconditions for the return of the Rohingya. Saudi Arabia has provided humanitarian and financial assistance to Rohingya refugees since the onset of the crisis. Thus, the country welcomed Rohingya refugees and provided them with health care services as well as employment opportunities. Saudi Arabia has also supported the hosting of Rohingya in other countries and will continue this support for the Rohingya and work with the international community with a view to ensuring a dignified life in their country.

Sierra Leone is deeply concerned about the ongoing repression and human rights violations in Myanmar. These violations include systemic abuse of civilians, denial of democratic freedoms, the restrictions of humanitarian access. These issues particularly affect the Rohingya people and those impacted by the March 2025 earthquakes. The HC's report accurately portrays the resilience and aspiration of the Myanmar people. They have repeatedly rejected military authoritarianism and demonstrated great courage by calling for civilian-led democratic governance, federalism, inclusion and accountability. Sierra Leone welcomes the four pathways to Myanmar's democratic future. Sierra Leone echoes the HC's conclusion that the people of Myanmar, especially its youth, women and ethnic minorities, are demanding irreversible change rooted in justice, human rights and the rule of law. These inclusive local governance structures now emerging across the country demonstrate the people's commitment to participate in democracy and decentralisation. Sierra Leone supports the recommendations urging the military to respect the democratic aspirations of the Myanmar people, including by establishing genuine civilian oversight, ending all violence against civilians, and comply with relevant international humanitarian and human rights obligations.

Slovenia remains deeply concerned over the ongoing armed conflict, horrific and systematic human rights violations and abuses, as well as the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Myanmar aggravated by the recent earthquake. The prospects for the refugees and displaced persons remain bleak. Effects of organised crime are being felt across the country and the region. Slovenia reiterates its calls for an immediate cessation of all violence against civilians, including the Rohingya, and for their protection in compliance with the international humanitarian and human rights law. Slovenia appreciates that the report highlights the vital role women play in alleviating the suffering of the civilian population in conflict-affected communities. Their efforts in leading pro-democracy campaigns stands as a powerful embodiment of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda. Slovenia echoes the HC's call to ensure their inclusion in decision-making and representation in the new governance structure. Finally, it underscore that accountability remains one of the crucial means for improving the situation of the people in Myanmar. Overcoming the establishment of impunity is the first step toward peace, justice and reconciliation in Myanmar.

Spain emphasizes that the people in Myanmar, including the Rohingya minority and other minorities, suffer the double scourge of conflict and natural disasters. Spain calls for a cease to



the violence and permanent and sustainable access to humanitarian aid. Sharing the SR's view, Spain states that the road forward is the path back to the true democratic path in an economic model which switches weapons for the most basic services for the population with no discrimination on the basis of race, religion or gender. It is essential to have accountability around the non-compliance with international law and human rights and have due reparation to victims.

Switzerland stresses the importance of an international response which is coherent and rooted in international law. More than four years after the military coup, Myanmar's population continues to suffer immensely. This was further exacerbated by the March 2025 earthquake. Switzerland is particularly concerned by the air bombardments targeting civilian zones and the systematic embargo on humanitarian aid. Switzerland condemns violations in abuse and serious human rights and international humanitarian law violations committed by all stakeholders, in particular sexual violence, torture, enforced recruitment of children and attacks against the civilian population and estate and civilian possessions. Switzerland reiterates the importance of combating impunity, including support for international justice mechanisms and national jurisdictions grounded in universal competence. A rigorous use of documentation is essential as well as the inclusion of civil society, women, young people and ethnic communities with a view to ensuring a victim-centred responsabilization. With full respect to the sovereignty of the people of Myanmar, Switzerland urges all to dialogue as the only way forward, and emphasises the efforts undertaken to resolve existing differences through political dialogue and fostering participation of various actors and electoral processes. Once more, Switzerland calls on the UNHRC to think about returning to the principles of non-selectiveness, impartiality and objectivity, definitively eliminating interfering mechanisms which instrumentalise human rights with a political end and continue to weaken the credibility of this space.

Thailand, as a neighbouring country of Myanmar, reaffirms its commitment in playing a proactive role, including to ASEAN, in helping Myanmar find a lasting solution. Thailand echoes the HC's call for the protection of people fleeing violence and seeking safety. Since the coup d'état in Myanmar, Thailand has taken care of over 56,000 Myanmar persons fleeing unrest. Amidst the trend of humanitarian aid cuts, Thailand initiated a policy framework to provide assistance along the Thai-Myanmar borders, which includes the provision of medical supplies and training for health personnel, as well as ensuring the access for basic education for Myanmar children. In light of the recent earthquake in Myanmar, Thailand has provided relief items and made financial contributions to international organisations for assistance in the needed areas. Thailand will also continue to engage with the SR, including to ensure that financial transactions facilitated by the Thai banks will not be used to support any human rights violations.

Türkiye stresses that the security situation in Myanmar has taken a turn for the worse over the years. The effects of the military coup continue to be felt across the country and in all sectors. Turkey supports Myanmar's democratic transition. Türkiye further notes the military regime's announcement to hold elections by late 2025 or early 2026. These elections must be free, fair and reflect the will of the Myanmar people. Türkiye will closely follow the electoral process and its outcome, and supports ASEAN's Five-Point Consensus. Nearly eight years since the outbreak of the Rohingya crisis, Türkiye remains gravely concerned by ongoing violence since October 2023 and urges all parties to respect international law, protect civilians and allow unhindered flow of humanitarian aid. The ICJ ruling on the admissibility of the Gambia's application is also a crucial



step toward accountability. Türkiye continues providing humanitarian aid to Rohingyas in various fields. At the recent OIC Foreign Minister's meeting in Istanbul, the Rohingya issue remained high on the agenda. Türkiye commends Bangladesh's generosity and reaffirm the joint responsibility to ensure the voluntary, safe and dignified return of the Rohingya people.

The **United Kingdom** recalls that the devastating earthquake in Myanmar on 28 March has compounded an already dire humanitarian crisis. Over 22 million people across the country are now in need of assistance, many forced to flee across borders in search of safety. The deliberate blocking of humanitarian access to areas outside military control during the earthquake was unacceptable. The UK provided £25 million through local delivery partners capable of overcoming access restrictions and reaching the most vulnerable. The conflict in Rakhine State continues, driving mass displacement and humanitarian crisis, impacting all communities. Reports of human rights abuses and violations continue to emerge, including of arbitrary detention and forced recruitment. Since 2017, the UK has provided over £108 million to support communities in Rakhine with humanitarian aid. The military's airstrikes continue across the country, targeting civilian infrastructure, including schools and hospitals. This must stop. All parties must protect civilians. Meanwhile, courageous journalists and activists continue to document human rights abuses and violations in Myanmar. The UK supports organisations like Myanmar Witness to collect independent verifiable data for future prosecution.

Viet Nam remains concerned about the continued conflict and humanitarian challenges in Myanmar, particularly following the devastating earthquake that struck the nation in March of this year. Viet Nam emphasises the need to prioritise the well-being of the people of Myanmar and to create conditions conducive to peace, stability and sustainable development. It reaffirms ASEAN's principled position on the Five-Point Consensus and support the ongoing efforts of the ASEAN Chair, the ASEAN Special Envoy and the AHA Centre to facilitate humanitarian relief and confidence-building. Viet Nam also welcomes the outcome of the 46th ASEAN Summit in Kuala Lumpur in May 2025 and underscores the importance of a coordinated, practical and non-interference-based approach in support of the people of Myanmar. The country looks forward to continued cooperation with the UN and relevant partners in supporting ASEAN's central role and constructive contribution to regional peace, stability and development.

Views Expressed by Intergovernmental Organizations

The **European Union** reiterates its deep concern over the deteriorating human rights situation in Myanmar. The Myanmar military bears the overwhelming responsibility for the ongoing crisis, including for acts that, as previously reported by the High Commissioner, stand not only as gross violations of human rights, but may also constitute war crimes and crimes against humanity. Not even the Marth earthquake made it stop its aerial attacks. The EU calls for the end of all violence against civilians by the military and the release of all individuals arbitrarily detained, particularly in the aftermath of the 2021 coup. For years, the people of Myanmar have courageously defied the military's authoritarianism and violence. Their investment and commitment to a bottom-up form of government, as reported, provide hope in the face of immense adversity. The EU calls for stability, peaceful reconciliation, and for the swift establishment of a transparent, inclusive and credible democratic process, including through dialogue between all stakeholders. The EU reaffirms its support to the efforts deployed by the UN and ASEAN in this regard, including the full



and effective implementation of the Five Points Consensus. Calling for justice, accountability, and the full implementation of UNSC Resolution 2669, the EU further urges the de-escalation of violence and the protection of civilians and the reversal of the rising militarisation.

Views Expressed by Non-Governmental Organizations

Fortify Rights points out that since the last Council's session, the Myanmar military junta has continued its campaign of death and destruction without pause. Even in the wake of March's deadly earthquakes and the junta's self-declared ceasefires, Myanmar military jets have pounded civilians and civilian infrastructure, including schools and places of worship, housing displaced civilians. In a particularly horrific incident, on May 12th at approximately 9.35am, a junta jet dropped two bombs on a school in Sagaing region, killing 22 children between the ages of 7 and 16. A forthcoming Fortify Rights' report will detail further junta airstrikes on schools, churches and displaced persons camps in Kachin and Karenni states. As long as the junta has fuel in its jets, weapons in its arsenals and funds in its accounts, it will continue to kill, maim and displace the people of Myanmar. Earlier this month, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) called on the international community to disable the junta's ability to commit atrocities. Fortify Rights urges the UNHRC to adopt the measures listed in the ILO's resolution, including a jet fuel and arms embargo. Fortify Rights also reiterates its recommendation to the member states of the ICC to refer the Myanmar situation to the court under Article 14 or the Rome Statute.

Legal Action Worldwide (LAW) stresses that eight years after the horrific crimes committed against the Rohingya during the so-called clearance operations, the Myanmar military continues to enjoy near total impunity. Relentless airstrikes, sexual violence and arbitrary detention are only a few examples of the gross human rights violations still occurring across the country today. The over 400 survivors LAW represents demand justice and accountability for the atrocities they have suffered at the hands of the military. Their resilience should compel member states to act even further. To that end, LAW strongly encourages member states to review and take all necessary action, including legislative action, to enable the investigation and prosecution of core international crimes under their domestic jurisdictions, as well as to ensure the meaningful participation of survivors and witnesses in these proceedings. To continue to enforce targeted sanctions against individuals and entities supporting the Myanmar military, especially those limiting jet fuel sales, contributing to civilian harm. Lastly, in line with the Gambia's call for securing reparative measures, and even further, striving for the establishment of a trust fund for victims and survivors of grave human rights violations.

Human Rights Now (HRN) underscores that over the past year, airstrikes against civilian targets by Myanmar's military have increased fivefold, including attacks on civilian infrastructure, schools, clinics, villages and internally displaced persons camps, killing thousands and driving new waves of displacement. Over three million people have been displaced and four million are in desperate need of humanitarian assistance due to the conflict. At the same time, there are significant shortfalls in humanitarian funding from states and aid organisations, including the complete dismantling of USAID. The World Food Programme (WFP) has warned that it will be forced to cut off one million people from life-saving food aid due to funding shortfalls. Compounding the misery, the devastating March 2025 earthquake in central Myanmar caused nearly 3,800 civilian deaths and 200,000 more people to lose their homes, further deepening the



humanitarian crisis. Despite the overwhelming needs of its population, Myanmar's military has blocked humanitarian aid reaching affected areas, confiscated supplies and opened fire on aid convoys while imposing tight controls on local responders, not only failing to provide sufficient assistance, but making the humanitarian situation much worse. HRN urges states to help stop the illegal actions of Myanmar's military by supporting binding embargoes on weapons and jet fuel to ensure companies doing business in Myanmar conduct heightened due diligence and diverse from all military-linked business, and to restore and increase all forms of humanitarian aid to Myanmar.

The **Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development** (Forum-Asia) notes that despite the ongoing junta's bloodshed, pro-democracy actors, independent media, women, youth, CSOs and grassroots networks continue to lead efforts towards a vision of a federal, democratic Myanmar rooted in human rights, justice and accountability. The military's proposed so-called elections are universally rejected by the people of Myanmar and represent nothing more than a desperate attempt to seize power. States backing these sham elections solely for their own benefit risk further complicity in ongoing atrocities. Rohingya communities in Rakhine face renewed threats to their existence amid escalating violence by the Myanmar military and the American army. In Bangladesh, refugees confront deepening insecurity and hunger as life-saving aid dwindles, forcing many to once again risk their lives in search of safety. Recognising the Rohingya as an ethnic nationality and ensuring their full participation in political processes is essential to prevent recurrence of past atrocities and to make the vision for a new and inclusive Myanmar a reality. A sustainable future for Myanmar requires the meaningful participation of Rohingya and all minority communities. Forum-Asia urges the national unity government and democratic and ethnic actors to guarantee inclusive political processes with full participation of Rohingya and other minorities. There can be no sustainable solution without holding the military and all perpetrators of grave human rights violations and atrocity crimes in Myanmar, including genocide, against Rohingya accountable.

Christian Solidarity Worldwide (CSW) notes that egregious violations continue with impunity. Devastating March earthquake further deepened civilian suffering, especially for Christian and Muslim communities due to aid being weaponised to legitimise military control in conflict-affected areas. Meanwhile, the military continued airstrikes targeting religious and ethnic communities in Kachin and Karenni State and is proceeding with plans for a sham election without addressing the urgent needs of earthquake-affected communities. Since the 1990s, discriminatory administrative procedures and practises have hindered renovation and construction of minorities' places of worship. These challenges now compounded as the earthquake destroyed many religious sites. It is concerning that many Muslims' earthquake-damaged sites remain without approval to rebuild. CSW is also deeply concerned by ongoing violations against women and girls, particularly in post-earthquake contexts. The military has systematically weaponised rape and the use of sexual violence in conflict zones and detention facilities. Women in detention have repeatedly reported instances of torture and sexual violence committed by prison personnel. CSW calls on Myanmar's military to cease the direct targeting and monitoring of minority religious groups and to end the systemic use of sexual and gender-based violence. CSW urges states to strengthen their cooperation with the ICC and ICJ and other accountability mechanisms to hold Myanmar's military accountable for crimes against



humanity, including religious persecution. Breaking the patterns of impunity is vital for preventing future crises.

Christian Solidarity International (CSI) believes that creating conditions for long-term peace in Myanmar must involve explicitly addressing religious freedom concerns. Amidst the widespread suffering of the civil war since 2021, Christian ethnic groups such as the Chin and Karen, Rohingya Muslims and Christians, who predominantly live in conflict zones, are particularly affected. These groups have already experienced decades of persecution by Myanmar's successive military governments, which have sought to promote an inseparable Burmese and Buddhist identity. CSI commends the SR's clear condemnation of the continued military airstrikes following the earthquake in March, despite declared ceasefires, and further asks him to consider the religious targeting of many of these attacks. The junta's airstrikes have destroyed at least 300 places of worship, sometimes killing those inside. Only two weeks after the earthquake, one such regime airstrike that destroyed a church in Chin State killed a pastor, along with his entire family. With the recent collapse of the military regime's control in much of the country, a crucial window has opened for practical UN-led mechanisms, such as the Scenario Planning Working Group, to support a future federal democratic transition and prevent further inter-ethnic and inter-religious strife. CSI asks for explicit recognition of local faith leaders as a key constituency for change. Engaging Buddhist as well as religious minority faith leaders can spearhead the shift from Buddhist nationalism to religious liberty, laying the groundwork for long-term peace.

Article 19 highlights it has now been four years since the coup, and the military's onslaught on media freedom shows no signs of abating. Yet, as the High Commissioner eloquently notes in his report, journalists and media workers continue their courageous work shining a spotlight on the dire human rights situation. Without them, the crisis could have been forgotten. Currently, up to 60 journalists remain in jail across the country. In February, Than Htike Myint was arrested as his wife was due to give birth. After seven days of interrogation, where he was subjected to beatings, he was charged and eventually sentenced to five years in prison under the counterterrorism law, which has been routinely used to target and silence journalists and other civil society actors. This is emblematic of the dire consequences faced by journalists for shedding light on the human rights crisis. For Myanmar's media, US government-sourced funding was a lifeline. This end to US government-funded grants is a major blow on top of the severe human rights violations journalists already face. Radio Free Asia and Voice of America, which provided consistent coverage of the human rights crisis, have now been shut down. Without financial viability, journalists and media workers cannot continue their vital work. Article 19 urges all states dedicated to media freedom to continue to vocally condemn all attacks on journalists and media workers in the country, as well as to address the financial viability of media organisations through funding and other forms of support.

The **International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute**, the International Commission of Jurists, the Law Council of Australia and Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada again condemn the ongoing systematic atrocity crimes that have been carried out chronically in Myanmar. Over four years since the 2021 military coup, arbitrary arrests and detention and unfair trials of perceived opponents of the military regime remain widespread. Credible reports indicate members of the military and security forces are responsible for the torture and other ill-treatment of individuals



in detention, including rape and other sexual violence, forced labour and denial of medical care. This is often to extract so-called confessions from detainees. Judges reportedly dismiss lawyers' credible allegations of torture, with forced confessions being routinely relied upon by courts to convict perceived opponents. The judicial system has become entirely subsumed by the military and lacks any independence. Lawyers continue to face severe and undue restrictions on the exercise of their professional duties, having to work under a constant fear of being arrested. The NGOs again urge the UNHRC to respond decisively to the human rights crisis in Myanmar and call on the international community to use and support all necessary and effective means to ensure justice and accountability for all crimes under international law.

Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada appreciates the HC's report on the dire human rights situation in Myanmar and pathways for positive changes. Four years into the military coup, an unabated rise in indiscriminate and systemic attacks on ethnic minorities by the military junta has caused mass displacement, with 3.5 million displaced and over 20 million in humanitarian need across Myanmar. Internally displaced persons and refugees from minority communities such as Karenni, Karen, Chin, Kachin, Shan and Rohingya peoples need more international attention and assistance. The primary root cause of the violations is the unbridled impunity of Myanmar's military, including laws that violate international law implemented by courts subsumed by the junta. Absent the rule of law and independent courts, most crimes committed by the junta are unreported. More than 22,000 are unlawfully detained without access to independent courts or adequate legal representation. Torture, ill-treatment and extrajudicial killings are routine, along with arrests of lawyers. At least 53 lawyers have been arrested since the coup. What more must be done to persuade all states and UN bodies to urgently halt all engagement with the junta and stop the flow of weapons, engage with the national unity government, ethnic communities and civil society to strengthen local governance systems and ensure adequate international protection and humanitarian assistance for vulnerable groups?

Amnesty International emphasizes that Myanmar is truly at a crossroads, politically, economically and socially. The situation is bleak, perhaps the bleakest since the 2021 coup, as civilian deaths reached 7,000 and unlawful military airstrikes continue, killing civilians in classrooms, at weddings, in shelters and even in the aftermath of the earthquake that struck Myanmar in March. Yet many people in Myanmar continue to work towards a future based on justice, truth and accountability that they hope will one day rise from the ashes of the current conflict. This includes students, teachers, medical workers, trade unionists, artists, journalists and many others, whom the HC's report has identified as constituencies for change. However, there is a disturbing trend of states pulling back from aid commitments, leaving people in Myanmar short-changed. Funding is needed now for Rohingya teachers, journalists in exile, college students, earthquake survivors, refugees reliant on medical care, people who are internally displaced by armed conflict, frontline humanitarian workers and dissidents on the run needing urgent safe houses, among many others. While states and international agencies fumble on their purse strings, it should not be forgotten that it is the people in Myanmar that will have paid the highest price. Amnesty International asks the High Commissioner and the SR to elaborate on urgent steps that UN member states can take to ensure that the people in Myanmar get the international financial support that they need.



GENEVA CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
ADVANCEMENT AND GLOBAL DIALOGUE

FACTS & FIGURES ON ID PARTICIPATION

38 State Delegations

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