



# MYANMAR

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**Statement by H.E. Mr. Kyaw Moe Tun, Permanent Representative of the  
Republic of the Union of Myanmar to United Nations under  
agenda Item 84: The Rule of Law at the National and International Levels,  
at the Sixth Committee of the Seventy-Seventh session of UN General Assembly  
(New York, 7 October 2022)**

**Mr. Chair,**

As this is the first time that I have taken the floor, I wish to congratulate you on your election as the Chair of the Committee. I assure you and the Bureau of our full support and cooperation.

I also wish to thank the Secretary-General for his report on the United Nations rule of law activities. The report reflects widespread conflicts and violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, including conflict-related sexual violence. Perceived impunity for such crimes has imposed serious challenges and threats to the rule of law.

The rule of law is the only foundation for a peaceful and just society. Countries built upon the rule of law bring stability to themselves and their region. On the other hand, the consequences of the destruction of the rule of law at national level transcend borders and can undermine the rule of law at the regional and international levels.

Regardless of how many legally binding international instruments UN member states have ratified, they make no difference to the lives of people unless the rule of law is guaranteed nationally. Therefore, it is crucial for the international community to promote and strengthen the rule of law, especially in conflict and post-conflict situations.

In this regard, we strongly support UN efforts to advance justice and support the strengthening of rule of law institutions at national level.

**Mr. Chair,**

This committee must know that the illegal overthrow of a democratically elected government is a flagrant violation of the rule of law. Such unlawful acts should never be acceptable to the international community.

The rule of law is maintained through the separation of power and the checks and balances between the branches of government, especially the independence of the judiciary.

However, in my country of Myanmar, the unwanted military leader, who has no regard for the rule of law and enjoys blanket impunity so far for his many past atrocities, has now made himself the absolute authority of all executive, legislative and judicial powers through the illegal coup. He has criminally arrested the elected President and other members of the government. The illegal junta has neither legal basis nor legitimacy.

Yet the illegitimate junta has been making so-called laws to suit its needs, arbitrarily enforcing them as they wish. Right now, no court independently adjudicates the law. They only rubber stamp the orders of the inhumane military.

These lawless acts of the military junta are evidence by the absurd secret trials against our elected civilian leaders, including President U Win Myint, State Counsellor DawAung San Suu Kyi, and against other innocent people the military is holding hostage.

As a result, the rule of law in my country is being buried and tremendous injustice is being inflicted on the people. This is what is happening, right now, in Myanmar.

Since the coup, Myanmar people have been facing military brutality at massive scales including multiple massacres, whole-sale arson of civilian homes and deliberate attacks against towns, villages and schools by air strikes.

The UN Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar has been collecting evidence in accordance with their mandate. So far, the abundant evidence collected by the Mechanism suggests that the crimes against humanity have been committed.

In July this year, the military junta cruelly executed four democracy activists including Ko Jimmy and former MP U Phyo Zeyar Thaw. These executions were hostage murders, openly carried out by the junta based on the secret sham military tribunals.

Just last month, a military helicopter swooped down a local school in Let Yet Kone Village in Depayin Township in Sagaing Region and brutally killed at least 13 people including seven children who were learning and playing innocently.

These horrifying crimes are blatant violations of international human rights and humanitarian law.

**Mr. Chair,**

The military junta's continued violations of domestic laws and international law have serious implications on regional peace and stability. Their brutal attacks have caused the displacement of more than 1 million people. Many of these women and children are acutely vulnerable to transnational crimes such as human trafficking.

Resolving the situation in Myanmar requires unified action both at the regional and international level, particularly in the UN Security Council. We must end ongoing military brutalities against the civilian population and initiate a transition justice process.

**Mr. Chair,**

The reestablishment of the rule of law and justice in Myanmar must start with the end of the illegitimate military dictatorship. Then we can build a new federal democratic union with inclusive and accountable security and justice institutions.

Therefore, I call on the international community including ASEAN and the United Nations, to stand firm with the people of Myanmar and work with their elected National Unity Government and ethnic resistance organizations in order to restore democracy, justice and the rule of law in Myanmar.

I thank you.

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