



Plenary sitting

B9-0148/2022

8.3.2022

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

with request for inclusion in the agenda for a debate on cases of breaches of human rights, democracy and the rule of law

pursuant to Rule 144 of the Rules of Procedure

on Myanmar, one year after the coup
(2022/2581(RSP))

Željana Zovko, Seán Kelly, Michael Gahler, David McAllister, Sandra Kalniete, Isabel Wiseler-Lima, Tom Vandenkendelaere, José Manuel Fernandes, Gabriel Mato, Antonio López-Istúriz White, Luděk Niedermayer, Loránt Vincze, Sara Skytvedal, Tomáš Zdechovský, Janina Ochojska, Christian Sagartz, Arba Kokalari, Loucas Foulas, Jiří Pospíšil, Peter Pollák, Stanislav Polčák, Elżbieta Katarzyna Łukacijewska, Miriam Lexmann, David Lega, Stelios Kypourouopoulos, Michaela Šojdrová, Krzysztof Hetman, Adam Jarubas, Ivan Štefanec, Vangelis Meimarakis, Vladimír Bilčík, Romana Tomc, Inese Vaidere, Lefteris Christoforou
on behalf of the PPE Group

**European Parliament resolution on Myanmar, one year after the coup
(2022/2581(RSP))**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Myanmar,
- having regard to a joint statement of 1 February 2022 by the High Representative on behalf of the European Union, and the Foreign Ministers of Albania, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States on the first anniversary of the military coup in Myanmar,
- having regard to the declarations by the High Representative on behalf of the EU of 31 January 2022 on the continuing escalation of violence in Myanmar, and of 8 November, 6 December 2021 on the situation in Myanmar, and of 13 October 2021 to support the work of ASEAN special envoy, and of 30 April 2021 on the outcome of the ASEAN Leaders' Meeting,
- having regard to the statement by the Spokesperson of the EEAS of 11 January 2022 on the latest sentencing of State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi,
- having regard to the fourth round of sanctions of the Council of the EU of 21 February 2022 in view of the continuing grave situation and of intensifying human rights violations in Myanmar,
- having regard to the statement of the UN Security Council of 29 December 2021 on the situation in Myanmar,
- having regard to the statement of the UN Secretary-General of 30 January 2022 on the situation in Myanmar,
- having regard to the statement by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on Myanmar of 28 January 2022,
- having regard to the statement by the ASEAN of 2 February 2022 on the situation in Myanmar,
- having regard to the ASEAN's Five Point Consensus of 24 April 2021,
- having regard to the Council conclusions of 22 February 2021 on Myanmar,
- having regard to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948,
- having regard to the UN Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide of 1948,
- having regard to Rule 144 of its Rules of Procedure,

- A. whereas on 1 February 2021, the military of Myanmar, known as the Tatmadaw, in a clear violation of the constitution of Myanmar, arrested President Win Myint and State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi; whereas in August 2021, the commander-in-chief, Min Aung Hlaing, announced that he was appointing himself Prime Minister and that the state of emergency would be extended until August 2023;
- B. whereas the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar indicated in a formal statement that the military junta's widespread, systematic attacks against the people of Myanmar likely amount to crimes against humanity and war crimes under international law and should be held accountable; whereas according to The Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) Data, there have been roughly 8,647 armed clashes and attacks on civilians across Myanmar since the 1 February coup;
- C. whereas the Committee Representing the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (CRPH) and the National Unity Government (NUG) were formed to represent the democratic wishes of the people of Myanmar; whereas the junta tried to destroy the National League for Democracy (NLD) party by sentencing top officials; whereas as of 1 February 2022, the junta had reportedly arrested 686 NLD members, of whom 489 remained in detention; whereas 14 have died in custody, including one MP;
- D. whereas in response to the coup, peaceful protests and demonstrations broke out in various cities in Myanmar; whereas since 1 February 2021, politicians, government officials, civil society representatives, religious actors, peaceful protestors and writers have been unlawfully arrested or put under house arrest; whereas the latest press release of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights states that since the coup, more than 1,500 people have been killed and military authorities have arrested over 11,780 people, of whom 8,762 in custody; whereas as of 4 March 2022, military courts had sentenced 84 people to death; whereas at least 290 people have died in custody, many likely due to the use of torture;
- E. whereas the junta has, in parallel, been increasing its crackdown on the freedom of expression and access to information in Myanmar; whereas it amended the 2015 Broadcasting Law, lengthening its prison sentences and extending its scope of application to criminalize online criticism of the regime; whereas on 8 December 2021, it doubled the price of data packages to limit access; whereas it turned Myanmar into the second biggest jailer of journalists; whereas as of 4 February 2022, it had arrested 115 journalists and media staffs and killed three; whereas it charged and/or revoked the licenses of 12 news outlets;
- F. whereas the junta has been using the threat of torture as a part of its effort to oppress the opposition; whereas methods of torture include beatings, mock executions with guns, cigarette burns, and rape and threats of rape;
- G. whereas the junta have targeted women through extrajudicial killings, widespread arbitrary detention, sexual assault, and gender-based violence; whereas over 2,000 of those detained since 1 Feb 2021 are women; whereas as of December 2021, junta security forces had killed 94 women during offensives, interrogations, or anti-junta rallies;

- H. whereas churches have been shelled and raided, and priests and pastors have been arrested; whereas military troops have also set up camps in church compounds, thus further undermining their role as sanctuaries for people in need;
- I. whereas the junta is composed of the same forces that launched the genocidal attacks against our community in 2017 and are continuing to practice genocidal policies and segregation on the Rohingya; whereas roughly 600,000 Rohingya who remain in Rakhine State are being subjected to persistent discriminatory policies and practices, systematic violations of their fundamental rights, arbitrary arrests, confinement in overcrowded Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps and severely limited access to education and healthcare;
- J. whereas the military has used COVID-19 measures to crack down on pro-democracy activists, human rights defenders and journalists; whereas the right to health is being undermined; whereas the junta has shut down hospitals and targeted medical professionals, leading to the collapse of the health system as COVID-19 surges across the country; whereas troops have destroyed medical supplies and equipment and have occupied dozens of medical facilities, which has prompted the people of Myanmar to stay away from medical facilities for fear of being detained or shot;
- K. whereas the Myanmar Kyat lost over half of its value in 2021, which led to the uptick in prices of food, gas and other imported goods; whereas according to Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), it is projected that there will be 14.4 million people in humanitarian assistance need in 2022, up from 1 million in 2021;
- L. whereas trade union and civil society organisations are targeted, as some leaders and members were threatened or arrested; whereas the organisations' activities were declared by the Junta illegal and many of them were forced to go underground to protect themselves; whereas the Junta introduced important changes to the Penal code and the Criminal Procedure Code which have become the primary legal provisions used to charge those opposing the military regime, including trade union leaders and labour rights defenders;
1. Strongly condemns the coup d'état of 1 February 2021 executed by the Tatmadaw under the leadership of commander-in-chief Min Aung Hlaing; calls on the Tatmadaw to fully respect the outcome of the democratic elections of November 2020 and to immediately reinstate the civilian government, end the state of emergency, end the use of violence against peaceful protesters, respect the right to freedom of expression and association, and allow all elected parliamentarians to assume their mandates;
 2. Calls for the immediate and unconditional release of President Win Myint, State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi and all others who have been arrested on unfounded accusations; considers the release of all political leaders and prisoners the first essential step towards a peaceful solution to the crisis and the restoration of the legitimate authorities;
 3. Supports the CRPH and the NUG as the only legitimate representatives of the democratic wishes of the people of Myanmar, and calls on the ASEAN and the international community to include and involve them in genuine and inclusive political dialogue and efforts aimed at the peaceful resolution of the crisis based on respect for the rule of law;

4. Recalls the multi-ethnic nature of Myanmar; urges the Tatmadaw to fully respect each ethnicity's inalienable rights; calls for an immediate, rigorous, independent and transparent investigation into the crimes committed in the country by the military and for their perpetrators to be brought to justice; reiterates its call to continue implementing targeted sanctions against those who are responsible for the atrocities against the Rohingya, while noting that the legal basis for the sanctions is broader than the situation of the Rohingya;
5. Condemns the persecution of Christians in the country; urges the Tatmadaw to stop killing and arresting Christians and to end the shelling and raiding of churches; stresses that the international community has expressed its deep concerns about the violent targeting of Christian communities in Myanmar;
6. Reiterates its condemnation of the human rights violations and systematic and widespread attacks against the Rohingya population; underlines that the EU will continue to closely monitor the actions of the military leadership towards minorities in the country, including the Rohingya;
7. Urges the junta to remove any restrictions on telecommunications and the internet, including independent media websites and social media platforms; calls for an immediate end to the violence towards labourers and unions, and for the rights of unions and their members to be protected, including the right to operate freely;
8. Condemns the attacks by the military authorities against medical professionals and facilities, and the response of these authorities to the COVID-19 pandemic; highlights that health and access to healthcare and vaccinations are universal human rights;
9. Calls on ASEAN, its members and particularly its Special Envoy to Myanmar to make more proactive use of their special role in Myanmar, to cooperate with the UN Special Envoy and to engage with all parties involved, notably with the NUG and representatives of civil society, in particular women and ethnic groups, in order to promote, at a minimum, the effective and meaningful implementation of the five-point consensus with a view to achieving the sustainable and democratic resolution of the current crisis in the near future;
10. Calls on the Member States and associated countries to maintain the embargo on the direct and indirect supply, sale and transfer, including transit, shipment and brokering, of all weapons, munitions and other military, security and surveillance equipment and systems, as well as the provision of training, maintenance and other military and security assistance; highlights the need for the further investigation of the situation by the International Criminal Court;
11. Warns of the risk of an even larger humanitarian emergency as a consequence of the escalation of violence and of the country's severe economic crisis, poverty and number of displaced people; calls for the EU, its Member States and the international community to urgently meet their financial obligations to the 2021 UN Myanmar Humanitarian Response Plan;
12. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the legitimate President and National Unity Government of Myanmar, the Committee Representing the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the State Counsellor of Myanmar, the Tatmadaw, the Vice-President of the

Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the governments and parliaments of the United States, Bangladesh, the United Kingdom, Japan, India, Australia, Canada, the Member States of ASEAN, the government and parliament of China, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Secretary-General of ASEAN, the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights, the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and the UN Human Rights Council.