

**STATUS OF HUMAN RIGHTS & SANCTIONS IN MYANMAR**

**MARCH 2024 REPORT**

**Summary.** This report reviews the March 2024 developments relating to human rights in Myanmar.

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## **I. Coup, Crackdown on Protests and Civilian Resistance**

According to a report by the watchdog group Nyan Lynn Thit Analytica, the military government has committed around 210 massacres, which have killed over 2,000 people since the military coup in February 2021.<sup>1</sup> The group defined a massacre as the “killing of five or more unarmed people in a single incident.”<sup>2</sup> According to another rights group, Assistance Association for Political Prisoners, the military government has killed around 4,654 people since the February 2021 coup.<sup>3</sup>

On March 4, the military government imposed martial law on three additional townships in Shan State: Mantong, Namhsan and Namtu townships.<sup>4</sup> This action brings the total number of townships under martial law across the country to 61 townships.<sup>5</sup> These three townships were among those seized by the Ta’ang National Liberation Army (“TNLA”) as part of Operation 1027.<sup>6</sup>

Myanmar’s junta chief, Min Aung Hlaing, blamed the country’s growing armed resistance movement for preventing long-promised elections in a speech following the Armed Forces Day parade.<sup>7</sup> Without offering a timeline, Min Aung Hlaing said efforts to conduct elections were under way, but blamed armed ethnic groups and “so-called People’s Defense Forces” for “deliberately engaging in disruptive actions to sabotage and delay” the process.<sup>8</sup>

The military government continues to make preparations for national conscription to compensate for severe troop shortages, including the selection of the first group of 5,000 conscripts.<sup>9</sup> Detailed data collection processes have started in certain townships in Naypyitaw and Yangon and some draft-eligible residents have already been required to fill out registration forms and have been ordered to report to the administration office of their township.<sup>10</sup>

On March 27, an estimated 30 young men were rounded up and detained in the capital of Sagaing Region after they skipped pre-conscription medical exams.<sup>11</sup> Most of the young people selected as potential draftees in Monywa town fled before they could be detained, residents of the capital said, adding that a list naming young people selected for pre-conscription medical exams had circulated on social media on March 25.<sup>12</sup> Residents said they believed that the names were taken from household registration lists, which include data on the number of people living in a home, their ages and their employment status.<sup>13</sup> Residents of Monywa said they did not know where the detainees were taken.<sup>14</sup> They also said that some of those detained were not even on the conscription list.<sup>15</sup>

Anti-junta resistance groups, including some ethnic armed organizations, warned junta officials to halt forcible military recruitment or face severe consequences.<sup>16</sup> Between March 18-26, resistance groups across Myanmar killed at least ten junta officials and arrested seven others for attempting to forcibly recruit civilians under the Conscription Law.<sup>17</sup> According to one resistance group, Sanchaung Main Strike Column, some administrators have gone into hiding while others have tried to resign from their positions.<sup>18</sup>

Myanmar’s junta summoned enlisted men to training schools and military units in Yangon, Mandalay, Magway and elsewhere in its first conscription batch on March 29.<sup>19</sup> The number of conscripts and their destinations are unknown.<sup>20</sup>

More than 30 Myanmar junta soldiers and police officers surrendered on March 25 to resistance forces in Kayin State after a day of fighting.<sup>21</sup> The Lion Battalion, the New Mon State Party, Albino Tigers and Galone Column attacked Kawt Bein village police station on March 24.<sup>22</sup> Reportedly, two junta soldiers were killed, three injured and 33 personnel surrendered.<sup>23</sup>

Four children and an adult were killed and 13 others injured in Myanmar junta airstrikes in Mrauk-U Township, Rakhine State on March 21.<sup>24</sup> No fighting was reported in the area but Mrauk-U has been under Arakan Army (“AA”) control since February 6.<sup>25</sup>

At least 11 Myanmar junta troops were killed and 19 injured in a resistance bombing in Pakkoku township, Magway region on March 28 according to Myaing People’s Defense Force.<sup>26</sup> Two junta vehicles were carrying over 70 soldiers to Kamma town on the Pakokku-Kamma road when they triggered resistance landmines.<sup>27</sup>

## **II. Political Developments**

### **A. Rohingya Refugee Crisis**

*Reuters* reports that, on March 8, India began deporting the first group of refugees who sought shelter there after the military coup in 2021 and plans to send back more, only weeks after saying it would end a visa-free border policy with Myanmar.<sup>28</sup> Manipur State planned to send back at least 77 refugees starting March 8, according to a state government document seen by *Reuters*.<sup>29</sup>

On March 13, the United Nations (“UN”) called for increased support for the many Rohingya refugees languishing in camps in Bangladesh, where funding shortfalls have left many without enough food or other aid.<sup>30</sup> In its annual Joint Response Plan (“JRP”) for the Rohingya Humanitarian Crisis, the UN appealed for \$852.4 million in donations to provide food, shelter, healthcare, drinking water access, protection services, education and other assistance to the Rohingya refugees and their host communities.<sup>31</sup> The JRP will aim to help around one million Rohingya refugees in the Cox’s Bazar camps and on the island of Bhasan Char, along with nearly 350,000 people from host communities.<sup>32</sup>

The JRP, launched by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Organization for Migration (“IOM”), who co-lead the Rohingya Humanitarian Response in Bangladesh, brings together 117 partners, nearly half of them Bangladeshi organizations, under the overall leadership of the government of Bangladesh.<sup>33</sup> As part of the JRP, the IOM is appealing for \$119 million specifically to support the Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh.<sup>34</sup>

At the launch of the JRP, the UK announced a further £5.2 million to support Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh by providing food and cooking gas, bringing the UK’s support to the Rohingya and neighboring communities in Bangladesh to £379 million since 2017.<sup>35</sup>

*BBC* reports that Indonesian rescuers found 69 Rohingya refugees stranded on the hull of a capsized boat on March 21.<sup>36</sup> Approximately 80 other refugees are missing and presumed dead.<sup>37</sup> One survivor stated that some in the party had been at sea for a month in a wooden

boat.<sup>38</sup> Those aboard had departed from the Kutupalong refugee camp in Cox's Bazar in southeastern Bangladesh.<sup>39</sup> A further six Rohingya were rescued by private fishing boats.<sup>40</sup> A few survivors were taken to a local hospital for treatment, but most were sent to a temporary shelter in the Aceh Barat district.<sup>41</sup> Local authorities in Aceh have received several reports about dead bodies floating in nearby waters.<sup>42</sup>

## **B. Corruption**

The *Irrawaddy* reports that there is increasing monopolization of military businesses in Myanmar by the Authentic Group of Companies owned by Aung Pyae Sone, the son of Min Aung Hlaing, the junta chief.<sup>43</sup> Since Min Aung Hlaing's appointment as the military chief in 2011, his family has gradually taken control of businesses that profit from the military, including insurance, medicine, weapons and hospital beds.<sup>44</sup> Reporting by *Irrawaddy* highlights the preferential treatment given to Authentic Group of Companies in military construction projects, bypassing the usual tender process and notes that the group monopolizes the supply of high-cost medicine to the military and has a significant share in cement and other markets.<sup>45</sup>

On March 21, the *Irrawaddy* reported that junta administrators are abusing the conscription laws to extort money from civilians.<sup>46</sup> The *Irrawaddy* notes that extortion cases have been widespread, with different amounts being demanded of civilians depending on location.<sup>47</sup> Families are being asked to pay sums ranging from 400,000 to 2 million kyats (approximately US\$200 to US\$960) to ensure their children are not conscripted.<sup>48</sup> The money is allegedly divided among the military commander, General Administration Department, police department and local administrators.<sup>49</sup>

## **C. International Community / Sanctions**

In a statement, the research and advocacy group Justice for Myanmar criticized "ASEAN's appointment of Myanmar's junta to coordinate relations between Russia and the regional bloc" as a move that "legitimizes [the junta's] campaign of murder and atrocities."<sup>50</sup>

On March 2-3, the Thai parliament hosted a seminar on the situation in Myanmar that was joined by senior figures from Myanmar's anti-junta shadow government, Thai opposition lawmakers, democracy activists and others.<sup>51</sup> A few days prior to this event, the junta's Foreign Ministry sent a letter to the Thai Foreign Ministry stating that hosting the event would create "negative impacts on the existing friendly bilateral relations between Myanmar and Thailand" and asked "the Government of Thailand to relay Myanmar's concerns on the said activity to the Parliament of Thailand and notify them not to carry out any activities that could hinder the ongoing cordial ties in the future."<sup>52</sup>

On March 13, Myanmar's ambassador to the UN urged the United Nations Security Council to take concrete action to stop the forced recruitment of Myanmar youths as junta soldiers under the conscription law.<sup>53</sup>

On March 18, the Thai House Committee on Foreign Affairs released a four-point action plan to help solve the crisis in Myanmar.<sup>54</sup> Along with the release of the plan, the chairman of

the committee released a statement calling on the Thai government to “play a leading role in solving the crisis in Myanmar” and to step up its efforts “beyond the role of facilitator.”<sup>55</sup>

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres released a statement on March 18 condemning all forms of violence and reiterated his call for the protection of civilians, including aid workers in accordance with international humanitarian law, for the cessation of hostilities, and humanitarian access in response to reports of military airstrikes in western Myanmar.<sup>56</sup>

On March 19, Special Rapporteur Tom Andrews told members of the UN Human Rights Council “that despite some opposition successes, the junta remains extremely dangerous.”<sup>57</sup> Andrews further noted that the “killing of civilians continues with sophisticated, powerful weapons of war obtained from abroad.”<sup>58</sup> During his address, Andrews also stated that the current response of using “appeasement and engagement with the junta without conditions” is not working and that “the international community must undermine the junta’s murderous campaign by denying it the weapons and the money it requires to carry on this campaign.”<sup>59</sup> Following the Special Rapporteur’s report, the UK’s Human Rights Ambassador, Rita French, gave a speech to the UN Human Rights Council discussing the worsening human rights situation in Myanmar.<sup>60</sup> During her speech, French emphasized the UK’s concern over the recent conscription announcement by the Myanmar junta and noted that the UN must “end the culture of impunity” in Myanmar.<sup>61</sup>

The International Federation for Human Rights delivered a statement to the UN Human Rights Council on March 19 urging the ASEAN member states “to take action to end human rights abuses, hold the perpetrators accountable and seek the release of political prisoners in Myanmar.”<sup>62</sup>

On March 22, U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas announced that the U.S. Temporary Protected Status immigration protections extended to Myanmar immigrants will be extended for 18 months from May 26 to November 25, 2025.<sup>63</sup> Under this protected status, Myanmar immigrants would be allowed to legally live and work in the U.S. if they cannot return to Myanmar for a variety of reasons, such as natural disasters or war.<sup>64</sup>

The Canadian Embassy in Yangon released a statement on March 27 strongly condemning the Myanmar junta.<sup>65</sup> In the statement, the embassy condemned the “deliberate targeting of civilians and civilian objects” and noted that “the role of a military is to protect its people and defend its country, which the regime continues to fail to do.”<sup>66</sup>

On March 29, research by Justice for Myanmar revealed that ten public sector undertakings in India, “mostly operating under India’s defense ministry . . . have supplied military equipment, technology and fuel to the Myanmar military since the coup and have disclosed attempts to secure business with the illegitimate junta.”<sup>67</sup> In addition, the report indicated that “the Indian air force shipped 52 items to the junta’s air force in January 2024 that appear to be for one or several automatic weather stations.”<sup>68</sup>

On March 30, it was reported by Russian state news agency *RIA Novosti* that the armed forces of Russia and Myanmar are planning more than 50 joint military cooperation activities this year.<sup>69</sup>

### **III. Civil and Political Rights**

#### **A. Freedom of Speech, Assembly and Association**

Nearly 4,000 female political prisoners remained jailed by the junta regime as the world celebrated the International Women's Day.<sup>70</sup> According to the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners-Burma, the junta regime has killed 882 women during interrogation, detention, crackdowns on protests or military attacks against civilian residential areas across the country.<sup>71</sup>

On March 13, Vung Huai Kim, a 23-year-old primary school teacher, was sentenced to life imprisonment under Section 50 (j) and 52 (a) of the Anti-Terrorism Law by the Tonzang Prison Court for involvement in a peaceful movement against the coup by refusing to work for the government.<sup>72</sup> Vung Huai Kim's father, 53-year-old Thang Lian Pao, who was arrested at the same time as Vung Huai Kim, was also sentenced to seven years in prison by the court, but his charges are unknown.

#### **B. Freedom of the Press and Censorship**

According to a report by the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law, since the junta regime's crackdown on media freedom as part of the 2021 coup, it has detained 206 journalists from 90 media outlets, charging 160 journalists with a crime under nine separate laws, mainly incitement, "false news," and weaponized counter-terrorism provisions.<sup>73</sup> Seventy-six of these journalists have been sentenced to a combined total of 335 years of imprisonment, with at least three journalists being tortured to death and 59 journalists still remaining jailed as of February 2024.<sup>74</sup>

The Myanmar junta cut off internet and phone lines in approximately 80 townships around the country between mid-February and mid-March.<sup>75</sup> The largest number of communications blackouts have occurred in Rakhine, Kayah States and Sagaing Region.<sup>76</sup> In many of the townships, the outages affect both internet and phone lines; in others, they only affect mobile internet signals.<sup>77</sup> The junta reportedly uses blackouts to stifle anti-regime forces by limiting the flow of information and funds.<sup>78</sup> According to *Statista*, Myanmar was the country with the second-most internet shutdowns during 2023, after India.<sup>79</sup>

On March 16, Yanghee Lee, former UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, urged Elon Musk to provide free Starlink satellite internet access to Myanmar civilians.<sup>80</sup> Starlink internet first became available in parts of Myanmar in June 2023.<sup>81</sup>

On March 27, a UN investigation found the Myanmar military used Facebook to systematically spread hate speech against the Rohingya prior to the military's violent crackdown in 2017.<sup>82</sup> The UN's Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar investigation uncovered a network of dozens of Facebook pages, which published 10,485 items containing

hate speech.<sup>83</sup> According to the report, the military disseminated material “designed to instill fear and hatred of the Rohingya minority” before the military committed genocide against the Rohingya and forced displacement of hundreds of thousands of them.<sup>84</sup> Facebook removed the pages in August 2018.<sup>85</sup>

#### **IV. Economic Development**

##### **A. Economic Development—Legal Framework, Foreign Investment**

The Central Bank of Myanmar has again changed the rule on the amount of foreign currency earned by exporters, raising the amount they have to sell to authorized dealers and setting the rate the dealers will pay for U.S. dollars.<sup>86</sup> Exporters of rice, broken rice, corn, beans and pulses must sell 70% of their U.S. dollar earnings to authorized forex dealers at the rate of 3,088 to 3,155 kyats per U.S. dollar.<sup>87</sup>

On March 25, the AA announced that it invites and welcomes foreign investment in areas that it controls and that it will protect any foreign investment in its areas.<sup>88</sup> The announcement also urged foreign investors who already have projects underway in Rakhine State to cooperate with the AA and continue with their projects.<sup>89</sup> Foreign-financed projects underway in Rakhine State include the Chinese-funded Kyaukphyu Special Economic Zone and the Indian-funded Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project, which also extends through areas of Chin State under AA control.<sup>90</sup>

##### **B. Economic Development—Infrastructure, Major Projects**

There have been no material updates since the prior report.

##### **C. Land Seizure**

There have been no material updates since the prior report.

#### **V. Peace Talks and Ethnic Violence**

##### **A. Ethnic Violence**

The Kachin Independence Army (“KIA”) reportedly seized dozens of military outposts and bases across the region in March. On March 3, the KIA seized three military outposts in Mansi Township, Kachin State.<sup>91</sup> On March 7, the KIA launched a campaign that began with a simultaneous attack across ten military outposts along a 120-mile road near Myanmar’s border with China.<sup>92</sup> By March 19, the KIA had reportedly seized over 30 military outposts and bases and two battalion headquarters.<sup>93</sup> The KIA seized another three battalion headquarters on March 23-24 in Mansai and Momauk townships.<sup>94</sup>

In March, the AA launched an offensive in Rakhine State’s Ann township, where the Myanmar junta’s Western Military Command is located.<sup>95</sup> In response, the Myanmar junta launched drone attacks and airstrikes on AA bases. The AA claimed that 15 regime soldiers were killed and 15 others were injured, while two AA troops were also injured.<sup>96</sup> Fighting

continued in the surrounding areas of Tone Gyi and Chaung Phyar villages in Ngape township, where it is reported that Myanmar junta forces suffered the six troop deaths and 10 injuries.<sup>97</sup> The AA seized neighboring Myebon township, while the Myanmar junta abandoned Ma-ei town on the Ann-Taungup road in Taungup township, blowing up the major bridge on the Ann-Taungup road and another major bridge on Ma-ei-Kyaukphyu road in retreat.<sup>98</sup> The AA also seized the Myanmar junta's Taung Bazar base in Buthidaung following the killing of eight troops in the township.<sup>99</sup> Since launching an offensive on November 13 of last year, the AA has occupied about 170 junta positions, including several battalion headquarters across Rakhine State and Paletwa township in southern Chin State and seized all of Paletwa township, six of Rakhine State's 17 townships and three other towns.<sup>100</sup>

Dozens of residents were injured and over 300 houses destroyed when Myanmar junta warships shelled a village in Mon State's Kyaikmaraw township in retaliation for the capture of a nearby police station by Kayin forces, according to the Mon State Federal Council.<sup>101</sup> The Karen National Liberation Army and allies seized the police station in Kawbein village, 96 kilometers from the junta's Northeastern Command, on March 26.<sup>102</sup> Naval vessels bombarded nearby Dhamma Tha village from the Gyaing River on March 27.<sup>103</sup> The villages lie on the border with Kayin State.

Fresh fighting broke out between regime troops and the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army on March 26 near Lashio in northern Shan State, where the military's Northeastern Command is based, according to residents.<sup>104</sup> The clash was the first military confrontation since mid-January when the regime and the Brotherhood Alliance agreed to a ceasefire in northern Shan following talks brokered by China.<sup>105</sup> Neither side reported casualties in the fighting.<sup>106</sup>

On March 31, a Myanmar junta warplane bombed the Myoma Shwe Kyaung monastery, which was sheltering displaced civilians from Kayin State's Papun town, killing eight and wounding 15 more, according to a source from the Karen National Union ("KNU").<sup>107</sup> The bombing followed KNU's seizure of a Myanmar junta battalion and an armory the day before.<sup>108</sup>

## **B. Peace Talks**

From February 29 to March 1, the Brotherhood Alliance, comprised of the AA, Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army and TNLA, and the junta held a fourth round of peace talks, which followed the Beijing-brokered negotiations in January that resulted in a ceasefire in northern Shan State, which borders China.<sup>109</sup> After the fourth round of talks, an unconfirmed report claimed that the two sides made a number of commitments on a variety of fronts, including politics and trade and that they also discussed the possibility of a ceasefire in Rakhine State.<sup>110</sup> However, on March 4, while the AA deputy commander-in-chief confirmed that the Brotherhood Alliance held a new round of talks with the junta, he said that the talks did not result in any agreements on a ceasefire in Rakhine State and that some of the commitments that had been reported were not true.<sup>111</sup>

The Pa-O National Liberation Organization ("PNLO") in southern Shan State has urged other signatories of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement to fight against the military dictatorship.<sup>112</sup> The PNLO formally left junta peace talks and joined the fight against the regime



in January.<sup>113</sup> General Khun Thurein, the PNLO's president said, "The military dictators are champions in lying. They are destroying homes and killing people. We should not support them."<sup>114</sup> He continued, "Armed resistance is the only way to root out the dictatorship."<sup>115</sup>

- <sup>1</sup> The Irrawaddy, March 11, 2024: <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/over-2000-killed-in-210-massacres-by-myanmar-junta-forces-since-coup-report.html>.
- <sup>2</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>3</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>4</sup> The Irrawaddy, March 5, 2024: <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/number-of-townships-placed-under-martial-law-by-myanmar-junta-rises-to-61.html>.
- <sup>5</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>6</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>7</sup> The Irrawaddy, March 28, 2024: <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-junta-chief-blames-election-delays-on-resistance-fighters.html>.
- <sup>8</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>9</sup> The Irrawaddy, March 6, 2024: <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmars-junta-is-racing-ahead-with-military-conscription.html>.
- <sup>10</sup> The Irrawaddy, March 14, 2024: <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-junta-officials-begin-summoning-draft-age-residents-of-yangon-naypyitaw.html>.
- <sup>11</sup> The Irrawaddy, March 29, 2024: <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-draft-dodgers-detained-in-monywa-as-junta-conscription-bid-backfires.html>.
- <sup>12</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>13</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>14</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>15</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>16</sup> The Irrawaddy, March 20, 2024: <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-resistance-backs-conscription-warning-with-wave-of-assassinations.html>.
- <sup>17</sup> The Irrawaddy, March 26, 2024: <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-resistance-groups-assassinate-10-junta-officials-linked-to-forced-conscription.html>.
- <sup>18</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>19</sup> The Irrawaddy, March 30, 2024: <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmar-junta-begins-conscription-early.html>.
- <sup>20</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>21</sup> The Irrawaddy, March 26, 2024: <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/over-30-myanmar-junta-personnel-surrender-at-karen-state-police-station.html>.
- <sup>22</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>23</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>24</sup> The Irrawaddy, March 22, 2024: <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/five-rakhine-civilians-killed-in-myanmar-junta-airstrikes.html>.
- <sup>25</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>26</sup> The Irrawaddy, March 30, 2024: <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/magwe-resistance-traps-junta-resupply-vehicles.html>.
- <sup>27</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>28</sup> Reuters, March 9, 2024: <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/india-deports-first-group-myanmar-refugees-who-fled-2021-coup-2024-03-08/>.
- <sup>29</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>30</sup> Myanmar Now, March 14, 2024: <https://myanmar-now.org/en/news/un-seeking-more-than-850m-for-rohingya-refugees/>.
- <sup>31</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>32</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>33</sup> International Organization for Migration, March 14, 2024: <https://www.iom.int/news/iom-appeals-usd-119-million-rohingya-refugee-response-bangladesh>.
- <sup>34</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>35</sup> The Business Standard, March 14, 2024: <https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/uk-provide-ps52m-additional-aid-rohingyas-808826>.
- <sup>36</sup> BBC, March 22, 2024: <https://www.bbc.com/news/av/world-asia-68634054>.
- <sup>37</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>38</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>39</sup> The Diplomat, March 22, 2024: <https://thediplomat.com/2024/03/indonesia-rescues-dozens-of-rohingya-refugees-from-capsized-boat/>.
- <sup>40</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>41</sup> Nikkei Asia, March 24, 2024: <https://asia.nikkei.com/Spotlight/Society/Bodies-of-three-Rohingya-refugees-are-found-dead-in-the-sea>.
- <sup>42</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>43</sup> The Irrawaddy, March 1, 2024: <https://www.irrawaddy.com/opinion/analysis/myanmars-contractor-has-been-busy-monopolizing-military-businesses.html>.
- <sup>44</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>45</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>46</sup> The Irrawaddy, March 21, 2024: <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/for-local-officials-myanmar-juntas-conscription-law-is-a-goldmine.html>.
- <sup>47</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>48</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>49</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>50</sup> The Irrawaddy, March 5, 2024: <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/asean-blasted-for-legitimizing-myanmars-junta-again.html>.
- <sup>51</sup> The Irrawaddy, March 4, 2024: <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/myanmars-crisis-the-world/myanmar-junta-cries-foul-as-thai-parliament-hosts-anti-regime-figures.html>.

- <sup>52</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>53</sup> The Irrawaddy, March 15, 2024: <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/myanmars-un-ambassador-calls-for-security-council-action-to-halt-conscription.html>.
- <sup>54</sup> The Bangkok Post, March 18, 2024: <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/politics/2760236/four-point-plan-for-crisis-in-myanmar>.
- <sup>55</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>56</sup> The Associated Press, March 19, 2024: <https://apnews.com/article/rakhine-arakan-rohingya-airstrikes-fa2753011e1191c3906fe9e1623cd326>.
- <sup>57</sup> United Nations News, March 19, 2024: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/03/1147746>.
- <sup>58</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>59</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>60</sup> Gov.UK, March 19, 2024: <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/un-human-rights-council-55-uk-statement-on-myanmar>.
- <sup>61</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>62</sup> International Federation for Human Rights, March 19, 2024: <https://www.fidh.org/en/region/asia/myanmar/myanmar-oral-statement-at-the-un-human-rights-council-30443>.
- <sup>63</sup> The Tucson Sentinel, March 25, 2024: [https://www.tucson sentinel.com/nationworld/report/032524\\_burmese\\_immigrants/us-extends-immigration-protections-burmese-immigrants/](https://www.tucson sentinel.com/nationworld/report/032524_burmese_immigrants/us-extends-immigration-protections-burmese-immigrants/).
- <sup>64</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>65</sup> Mizzima, March 30, 2024: <https://eng.mizzima.com/2024/03/30/8502>.
- <sup>66</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>67</sup> Mizzima, March 29, 2024: <https://eng.mizzima.com/2024/03/29/8491>.
- <sup>68</sup> *Id.*
- <sup>69</sup> The Star, March 30, 2024: <https://www.thestar.com.my/aseanplus/aseanplus-news/2024/03/30/russia-and-myanmar-plan-over-50-joint-military-activities-in-2024-reports-ria>.
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