

16 September 2020

Media Invitation - International Day of Peace

Online Press Conference

What is the Peace We Want to See?

Voices from the Ground: Ethnic Nationalities and Religious Minorities Engagement in the 3rd Cycle Universal Periodic Review to Improve the Human Rights Situation on the Ground

Launching of the joint Submissions for the Universal Periodic Review and Panel Discussion

On 21 September 2020 as we mark the International Day of Peace, diverse human rights defenders and activists from ethnic and religious communities will discuss the current pressing human rights situation on the ground and present key issues from the joint submissions which were submitted to the Universal Periodic Review. 30 Myanmar civil society organizations have taken part in submitting three separate joint stakeholder submissions, containing key recommendations to the Myanmar government to improve the human rights situation on the ground. Journalists, members of the press and the civil society are invited to join this event.

The UPR is a unique mechanism of the Human Rights Council under which all UN Member States undergo a periodic review of their human rights records in Geneva, Switzerland every five years. Myanmar's last review was in November 2015, two days before the general election. The submissions reflect the progress of human rights within the past five years since the current government came into power.

Date: 21 September 2020, Monday

Time: 14:00 – 16:00 (Yangon time)

RSVP here: <https://bit.ly/2RxyaMU>

Panelists will focus on key issues reflected in the submissions which include:

- The situation of refugees and internally displaced persons
- The rise of Hate Speech and shrinking democratic and civil society space
- The 1982 Citizenship Law and right to citizenship of minorities and freedom of movement

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the press conference will be held online. The discussion will be in Burmese language, however, simultaneous English translation for non-Burmese speakers will be provided. If you are an English speaker and/or would like to participate in the online press conference and the Q&A, please RSVP to the event.

The event will be livestreamed on Khit Thit Media (<https://www.facebook.com/khitthitnews>) and Progressive Voice's (<https://www.facebook.com/progressivevoice>) Facebook Pages.

For more information, please contact: info@progressive-voice.org

30 Civil Society Organizations

1. Human Rights Foundation of Monland
2. Karen Student Network Group
3. Karen Human Rights Group
4. Karen Refugee Committee
5. Karen Women's Organization
6. Karenni Refugee Committee
7. Karenni Legal and Human Rights Center
8. Karenni Education Department
9. Karenni National Women's Organization
10. Karenni Social Welfare and Development Center
11. Kachin Women's Association Thailand
12. Koung Jor Shan Refugee Camp
13. Progressive Voice
14. Ta'ang Women's Organization
15. Action Committee for Democracy Development
16. Athan – Freedom of Expression Activist Organization
17. Burma Monitor (Research and Monitoring)
18. Generation Wave
19. Mandalay Community Center
20. Myanmar Cultural Research Society
21. Myanmar People Alliance (Shan State)
22. Olive Organization
23. Pon Yate
24. Reliable Organization
25. Synergy – Social Harmony Organization
26. Thint Myat Lo Thu Myar (Peace Seekers and Multiculturalist Movement)
27. Nyan Lynn Thit Analytical
28. Pace on Peaceful Pluralism
29. Women's Peace Network
30. Justice Base