



**Permanent Mission of Sweden
to the United Nations**



**Permanent Mission of Iceland
to the United Nations**



**PERMANENT MISSION
OF NORWAY
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**



**PERMANENT MISSION
OF DENMARK TO THE UN**



**Permanent Mission of Finland
to the United Nations**

JOINT NORDIC STATEMENT

by Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden

Informal meeting of the General Assembly

Briefing by Special Envoy of the UN Secretary-General on Myanmar

18 June 2021

Thank you, Mr. President,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the Nordic countries Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and my own country Denmark.

We thank the Special Envoy, Ms. Christine Schraner Burgener, for her important work. We reiterate our firm support for her mandate and stress the importance of UN-ASEAN collaboration.

We continue to condemn in the strongest terms the military coup carried out in Myanmar on 1 February 2021 and the ensuing use of violence by the military and police against peaceful demonstrators.

We are deeply concerned about reports of escalating violence unfolding across Myanmar and a deepening humanitarian emergency. We are worried about the particular impact on women and girls and their protection needs, especially against sexual and gender-based violence. We urge the military to fully cooperate with all relevant UN mechanisms and mandates and to immediately grant them full and safe humanitarian access to the entire country, in particular to areas with internally displaced persons.

We call for an immediate end to all acts of violence, to exercise utmost restraint and respect international law, including human rights, and to return peacefully to Myanmar's democratic path.

We urge the military to release immediately and without preconditions, all those arbitrarily detained in connection with the coup, including President U Win Myint and State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

We, the Nordic countries, continue to strive for and support affirmative action in the Security Council, the UN General Assembly, the Human Rights Council and other relevant fora, and we will continue to engage with relevant organisations, such as the ASEAN, to exercise influence on the military.

We reiterate the importance of creating safe spaces where pro-democracy groups, such as the National Unity Government, can speak up and be heard. We strongly believe that the only way forward is for all stakeholders to engage in a peaceful and inclusive dialogue to get Myanmar back on the path to democracy. The international community at large must refrain from any measures or actions that risk lending legitimacy to the military regime.

The Nordic countries will continue to stand in solidarity with the people of Myanmar and support a peaceful transition to respect for human rights, democratic governance and rule of law.

Thank you.