



Milk Tea Alliance - Friends for Myanmar

Statement on the 100th day of the ASEAN's Five Point Consensus on Myanmar

We, activists, organizers, and allied organizations of the Milk Tea Alliance — who have kindled, supported, and mobilized recent and emergent protest movements against authoritarian rule and oppression across Asia and beyond – releases this statement to strongly condemn ASEAN for its utter incompetence in responding to the current humanitarian and political crisis in Myanmar.

ASEAN's Five Point Consensus, which was announced exactly 100 days ago, has proven to be futile. The consensus was weak in addressing issues critical to de-escalating the crisis – such as release of the political prisoners. Yet, despite the low bar it set, not a single point on the consensus has been implemented thus far. Myanmar military has continued to repress, threaten, and murder innocent civilians with impunity and is now weaponizing the pandemic against its own people. Overall, the consensus only undermined the struggle of the people of Myanmar, rather than deliver the promises it claimed it would serve.

Moreover, it is obvious that the bloc itself is disinclined to take any tangible and effective measure to deter the military in Myanmar. Not only has the ASEAN been unhelpful in resolving the crisis, it has been an obstacle. It has shielded the Myanmar military from a more comprehensive international response, even giving a veil of international legitimacy by engaging with them.

In this regard, we urge the wider international community to stop centering ASEAN for a resolution of the crisis in Myanmar and instead to step up with stronger, more effective measures against the military themselves.

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