

BURMA COUP WATCH FOR THE MONTH OF July 2023:

Illegal junta violates own constitution and extends state of emergency again

- As of 31 Jul, there were at least 24,586 armed clashes and attacks, displacing 1,599,200 people since Feb 2021. Junta troops continued their violent crimes.
- The junta postpones its illegitimate election at the 11th hour, declares fourth state of emergency illegally.
- Aung San Suu Kyi moved to house arrest and receives “clemency”.
- Junta’s aid blockade persists as IDPs in Rakhine face floods, famine, disease.
- Death without a sentence: junta ramps up summary executions of political prisoners.
- A global threat: Russia found using junta-made weapons in Ukraine.
- EU imposes seventh round of sanctions.
- Six French financial entities still funneling investments to the junta.
- Junta’s Central Bank issues MMK 20,000 note, while NUG launches its Spring Development Bank.
- Junta opens shadow bank accounts in attempt to circumvent international sanctions, then raids MOGE following leaked info of those shadow accounts.
- Junta vies for legitimacy through alleged meeting between Thai FM and Aung San Suu Kyi, further divides ASEAN ahead of its ministerial meeting.
- India escalates persecution of refugees with more raids and refoulement.
- Rohingya refugees continue to face violence at the hands of armed groups and Bangladeshi authorities.
- The illegal junta bombs IDP camp near border, thousands flee into Thailand.
- Regime fires and arrests prison staff accused of aiding political prisoners.

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Illegal junta's quest to cement control

Rakhine parties sold on junta's sham election, UEC chair visits fellow junta. On 3 Jul, the junta's Union Election Commission (UEC) approved registration of the Mro National Democracy Party (MNDP), now the fifth Rakhine party to be registered. As of 3 July the junta had allowed 30 preexisting political parties to continue standing.¹ On 11 Jul, the junta's UEC warned Rakhine political parties to not engage with "armed organizations".² On 15 Jul, it was reported that the Arakan National Party (ANP) had suspended all activities since the junta's UEC had not yet finalized their registration.³ During 21-23 Jul, Thein Soe, the junta's UEC chair visited Phnom Penh to observe Cambodia's elections. On 23 Jul, Hun Sen's Cambodian People's Party (CPP) claimed victory in an election the US State Department said were "neither free nor fair".⁴

Junta extends state of emergency, postpones elections. On 13 Jul, coup leader, Min Aung Hlaing told his cabinet that **his planned election could not take place** and that "much remains to be done to restore stability and rule of law across the union". He claimed that there were 489 explosions from 1 Jan to 11 Jul that resulted in 782 fatalities. Political analysts said his statements **indicated a possible extension of the state of emergency**, set to expire on 31 Jul. However, **a fourth extension would be in further violation of the 2008 constitution** which only allows for two half-year extensions after the initial year-long state of emergency.⁵ On 25 Jul, a Sagaing-based PDF official said he expected the regime to carry out more brutality following the extension. A former lecturer at Yangon University said **the junta's election**, its plan to hold a **peace conference with ethnic groups**, and its possible **reconciliation with Aung San Suu Kyi** were the regime's **strategies to find a political exit** from its current situation.⁶

On 31 Jul, **the junta announced a fourth extension** of the state of emergency after a meeting of the National Defense and Security Council (NDSC) in Naypyidaw, which would delay yet again the junta's illegal elections. NUG justice minister Thein Oo said the extension was a **"blatant violation of their own constitution"**.⁷ Coup leader Min Aung Hlaing had reportedly told the NDSC "[the junta] need... time to continue our duty **for systematic preparation** as we shouldn't hold coming elections in a rush".⁸

The junta fails to instrumentalize Aung San Suu Kyi. On 12 Jul the junta's Supreme Court heard an appeal by Aung San Suu Kyi's lawyers over her conviction for allegedly misusing state funds. A source close to the court said that it will likely hand down its ruling during the next hearing.⁹ On 28 Jul, after several days of speculation from pro-junta media outlets, **an NLD party official confirmed the regime had transferred Aung San Suu Kyi from prison to house arrest on 24 Jul**. The party member also confirmed that Aung San Suu Kyi had **met with the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, T Khun Myat**, and that she would meet with **Deng Xijuan, China's special envoy for Asian Affairs**.¹⁰ On 29 Jul, it was reported that junta spokesman Zaw Min Tun was not aware of Aung San Suu Kyi's transfer.¹¹ On 1 Aug, in an apparent attempt to relieve international pressure, the junta **pardoned five charges against Aung San Suu Kyi and reduced her 33-year sentence to 27 years**. The junta also reduced President Win Myint's sentence by four years to eight. NUG spokesman Kyaw Zaw described the **clemency as "a political trick"**. An anonymous diplomatic source called it a **"cosmetic move"** and **"a signal to the international community without doing anything substantive"**. US State Department Spokesperson Matthew Miller said that the US would not change its posture towards the junta.¹² On 1 Aug, it was reported that 7,749 prisoners received pardons. The junta claimed that the prisoners were released "in consideration of humanitarian concerns" and intended "to bring peace of mind".¹³ The Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP) reported that only around 120 political prisoners were included in the amnesty.¹⁴ The prisoner amnesty and clemency for Aung San Suu Kyi and Win Myint **coincided with the beginning of Buddhist lent and the consecration of a giant Buddha statue in Naypyidaw**.¹⁵

¹ DMG (4 Jul 2023) Junta-appointed UEC approves Mro National Democracy Party's registration

² DMG (12 Jul 2023) UEC warns Arakan State political parties not to engage with armed groups

³ Narinjara (15 Jul 2023) As UEC is yet to register, ANP halts all party activities

⁴ Irrawaddy (24 Jul 2023) Myanmar's Election Czar Visits Cambodia to Observe 'Sham Election'

⁵ Than Lwin Times via BNI (15 Jul 2023) Junta Chief Hints at Extending State of Emergency

⁶ RFA (25 Jul 2023) Junta will extend emergency rule to double down on repression: experts

⁷ Myanmar Now (31 Jul 2023) Myanmar regime extends military rule for the fourth time

⁸ Al-Jazeera (1 Aug 2023) Myanmar military extends emergency, postpones election

⁹ Irrawaddy (13 Jul 2023) Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's Lawyers Appeal for Her Release

¹⁰ Myanmar Now (28 Jul 2023) Myanmar's Aung San Suu Kyi moved from prison: party official

¹¹ Eleven News (29 Jul 2023) SAC spokesman says he was not aware of reports that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi moved to house arrest

¹² Reuters (1 Aug 2023) Myanmar junta grants partial pardon to democracy champion Suu Kyi

¹³ Myanmar Now (1 Aug 2023) Myanmar military announces clemency for Suu Kyi and President Win Myint

¹⁴ AAPP (2 Aug 2023) Press Statement, Junta August 1, 2023, Prisoner Release Announcement

¹⁵ Myanmar Now (31 Jul 2023) Speculations grow as third extension for Myanmar junta rule expires

CRPH, NUG & Other Democratic Forces (more details at [CRPH, NUG & other Democratic forces tracker](#))

On 1 Jul, the National Unity Government (NUG) announced that it had paid for the construction of 1,175 bomb shelters and trenches across Burma.¹⁶ On 5 Jul, on the 74th anniversary of the Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA), the Karen National Union (KNU) chairman, Padoh Saw Kwe Htoo Win, stated that the Karen people must collaborate with all other ethnic groups and organizations in order to achieve their own political goals.¹⁷ On 12 Jul, an NUG spokesperson said that the Thai FM's claimed meeting with Aung San Suu Kyi was an attempt to use her to their advantage before the ASEAN ministerial meeting.¹⁸

On 20 Jul, the NUG announced the soft launch its Spring Development Bank (SDB) on 22 Jul. The SDB, legally registered in a third country, would operate under the oversight of the NUG's Interim Central Bank (ICB), would run on crypto and blockchain, and bypass the junta-controlled banking sector. The bank planned to establish branches in major liberated areas, facilitate transactions in several currencies, support links with international banks and offer loans, currency swaps, fixed deposits, and prize-linked savings accounts. The bank envisioned 100,000 users in six months and 500,000 users after a year. The SDB expected hacking attempts from the junta.¹⁹ On 27 Jul, the ICB declared the junta's new MMK 20,000 banknote to be illegal and stated they would not recognize the new denomination as official money.²⁰

On 28 Jul, the Committee Representing the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (CRPH) announced that it had appointed Khun Saw Hpu as Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation.²¹ The NUG's Union-State/Federal Unit Cooperation Commission met with the Interim Executive Council (IEC) of Karenni State and the Karenni State Consultative Council (KSCC) to discuss cooperation in education, healthcare, humanitarian assistance, women and child affairs, human rights, finances, administration and military operations.²² On 29 Jul, the NUG's Minister of Planning, Finance and Investment declared the purchase of junta treasury bonds illegal and bond holders would be held accountable.²³

Civil disobedience, crackdowns (more details at [protests, CDM, and crackdowns tracker](#))

The Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP) reported that as of 31 Jul the junta had killed 1,334 civilians in custody, and arrested 24,123 people with 19,733 still detained; including 4,801 women (3,712 still detained) and 641 children (522 still detained).²⁴

On 9 Jul, Progressive Voice (PV) highlighted that apart from arrests, sexual harassment, assaults, and torture in junta prisons and detention centers, **Burma's LGBTQIA+ community was also facing colonial-era laws and broader societal issues.** PV listed traditional beliefs around male power ("pone"), the association of LGBTQIA+ members with HIV, public mockery, and reduced access to employment, healthcare, and education. Despite this, the LGBTQIA+ community's active participation in the Spring Revolution changed public attitudes and increased societal tolerance and acceptance.²⁵

Junta ramps up torture and executions under false pretenses

On 11 Jul, the AAPP released a report detailing the lived experiences of political prisoners since the attempted coup. In the report, **AAPP described the "flow of injustice"** which constitutes the junta's **weaponized judicial system from arrest, interrogation, trial, to prison.** It also examined the "aftershock" of challenges faced by released political prisoners as they reintegrate into their communities. In its key recommendations, AAPP called on **ASEAN and the UN to demand the immediate release of all political prisoners** and to provide increased resources for mental health, psychosocial, and material support for former political prisoners and their families. AAPP also called on international actors to apply increased pressure on the regime to **end the torture, abuse, and killings of political prisoners** and for the international community to **facilitate peace talks only after the release of all those arbitrarily detained** by the regime.²⁶

¹⁶ Mizzima (5 Jul 2023) NUG constructs 1,175 bomb shelters

¹⁷ Than Lwin Times (6 Jul 2023) KNU chairman says they will work with every anti-regime organization

¹⁸ Myanmar Now (12 Jul 2023) Thai foreign minister informs ASEAN that he met with Aung San Suu Kyi

¹⁹ Irrawaddy (21 Jul 2023) NUG to Launch Myanmar's First Crypto Bank; RFA (21 Jul 2023) Myanmar's shadow government sets up crypto bank to block money flow to junta; RFA (22 Jul 2023) Springing into action: Myanmar's opposition NUG launches crypto bank

²⁰ Than Lwin Times (28 Jul 2023) NUG announces K20,000 of military council to be illegal tender

²¹ CRPH (28 Jul 2023) Appointment of Deputy Minister

²² Than Lwin Times (29 Jul 2023) NUG, Karenni's executive council discuss formation of federal unit

²³ Mizzima (29 Jul 2023) NUG outlaws government bonds

²⁴ AAPP (31 Jul 2023) Graphs of arrest and death data as of July 31, 2023 collected and compiled by the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP) since the February 1, 2021 military coup

²⁵ Progressive Voice (9 Jul 2023) Myanmar's Pridelful Revolution

²⁶ AAPP (11 Jul 2023) The Flow of Injustice

On 2 Jul, Junta prison officials at Myingyan Prison (Mandalay Region) informed the family of a political prisoner of **his death and claimed that he had died of ruptured blood vessels in his stomach**. It was reported that **he had been tortured since 21 May** along with at least four others.²⁷ On 6 Jul, it was reported that the **junta killed two individuals who allegedly assassinated a pro-junta singer in late May**. The junta claimed in a press handout that the two men were killed in an escape attempt.²⁸ Also on 6 Jul, it was reported that in Daik-U Township, (Bago Region) **37 political prisoners** held at the Kyaiksakaw prison were **reported missing** following a **prison transfer on 27 Jun**. Prison officials did not notify family members of the transfer. A lawyer and former political prisoner said that the transfer was not in line with legal procedure.²⁹ On 6 Jul, a junta **court inside Patheingyi Prison**, in Patheingyi Township (Ayeyarwady Region), sentenced **62 political prisoners to three additional years** for participating in a protest inside the prison on 5 Jan. A former prisoner said that eight individuals were subjected to solitary confinement after the protest. A source said that junta personnel **had extorted money from prisoners' families by threatening to include the prisoners in the prison transfer list**.³⁰

On 10 Jul, in response to the killing and disappearance of political prisoners from Kyaiksakaw prison in Daik-U Township (Bago Region), the AAPP stated that the killing of political prisoners in prison was a violation of both domestic and international law, an overstep of prison procedure, and a violation of the ASEAN Human Rights Convention. The group said that the junta had **voided the rule of law through the weaponization of the judicial system** since the attempted coup. The AAPP condemned the junta's unlawful killing and torture, called for accountability for the perpetrators of such crimes, stated that such crimes were a violation of international human rights law, and urged the international community to take action through international judicial mechanisms.³¹

Unable to keep its wardens in line, the junta replaces heads of police and prisons

On 12 Jul, junta-controlled media outlets announced that the junta had appointed a **military officer, Myo Swe, as director-general of the Prison Department** on a probationary basis. His rank could not be confirmed but it was speculated that he was at least a Colonel. It was reported that this was the first time a military officer had been appointed to the position.³²

On 13 Jul, it was reported that the regime held **16 prison officials** at Kyaiksakaw prison in Daik-U Township (Bago Region) and Myingyan Prison in Myingyan Township (Mandalay Region) **for allegedly allowing political prisoners to contact the outside using mobile phones**. Sources inside said that three out of eight Myingyan prison officials that had been held were still in custody inside.³³ Some sources close to Kyaiksakaw prison alleged that **one of the eight officers held died during interrogation**.³⁴ On 13 Jul, the junta removed from duty and **arrested Insein prison's chief officer for allegedly raising funds for the PDF**. It was reported that the chief officer had collected MMK 1.1 million in donations from prison staff and that the junta had also arrested staff members. It was also reported that the junta appointed a military officer as prison chief. A lawyer for political prisoners said that **guards had cracked down on prisoners after the arrests** and that security had been tightened for visitors.³⁵ 17 Jul, in Taungtha Township (Bago Region), the junta sentenced seven staff members of Taungtha Prison including the warden, to terms of three to six months after 10 prisoners escaped in May. Specific charges were unknown, however a source close to the families of political prisoners in Taungtha Prison said that the junta accused the warden of having links to the PDF. A former political prisoner said that the junta was handing sentences to prison staff to pressure staff in other prisons to further oppress political prisoners.³⁶

On 21 Jul, the junta appointed Lt-Gen. Ni Lin Aung as the new chief of police. It was reported that Ni Lin Aung was sanctioned by the EU after he ordered the killing of at least 35 individuals in Karenni State in Dec 2021.³⁷

²⁷ Mizzima (7 Jul 2023) Political prisoner tortured to death in Myingyan Prison

²⁸ Myanmar Now (10 Jul 2023) Two alleged assassins summarily executed in Myanmar junta custody

²⁹ Kaladan Press via BNI (6 Jul 2023) Thirty-Seven Political Prisoners Vanish Without a Trace During Transfer from Kyaiksakaw Prison

³⁰ NMG via BNI (19 Jul 2023) Prison Protest of Political Prisoners results in extra 3 Years in jail

³¹ AAPP (10 Jul 2023) Urgent Statement: Extrajudicial Murders of Political Prisoners

³² Myanmar Now (13 Jul 2023) Myanmar army officer appointed as the new Prison Department chief

³³ Myanmar Now (13 Jul 2023) Myanmar prison officials interrogated for allegedly helping dissidents; one feared dead

³⁴ RFA (11 Jul 2023) Prison chief 'died during interrogation' in Myanmar's Bago region

³⁵ Thanwin Times (25 Jul 2023) PDF ကို ငွေလှူတယ်ဆိုတဲ့စွပ်စွဲချက်နဲ့ အင်စိန်ထောင်ညွှန်ကြားရေးမှူး ရာထူးကဖြုတ်ချခံရ; Thanwin Times (26 Jul 2023) Insein prison's chief reportedly dismissed from duty

³⁶ RFA (18 Jul 2023) After jailbreak in Myanmar, prison guards sentenced to 3-6 months

³⁷ Myanmar Now (24 Jul 2023) Myanmar army general linked to brutal massacre installed as new head of police

Cyclone Mocha and humanitarian aid

Junta diverts aid, neglects minorities, struggles to manage post-Mocha recovery

On 28 Jul, it was reported locals in Sittwe Township (Rakhine State) had claimed the junta had **redirected to aid military bases meant for Cyclone Mocha victims**. A Rescue Team member also stated that the junta was stealing donations and had **distributed** tarpaulin sheets and rice **meant for locals amongst religious groups and government departments**, including the police.³⁸

On 17 Jul, it was reported that the junta state government had yet to approve repairs to Rohingya IDP camps damaged by Cyclone Mocha and had left **many Rohingya without proper shelter and support**. An aid worker said that rather than provide support to Rohingya IDPs, the regime confiscated aid materials provided to Rohingya IDPs by aid organizations.³⁹ It was reported that 600 ethnic Mro people who had been relocated earlier in the year received food aid for a month after Cyclone Mocha from the World Food Programme (WFP) but had not received any junta food supplies.⁴⁰ On 22 Jul, in Rathedaung Township (Rakhine State), the junta had yet to repair the Cyclone Mocha-damaged Angumaw Jetty.⁴¹

On 1 Jul, junta-aligned media reported the junta's Ministry of Information claim that 49.35% of total power restoration work had been completed in Rakhine State.⁴² On 6 Jul, it was reported that the junta provided paddy seeds to cyclone-affected farmers at below-market rates in seven townships in Rakhine State, but some farmers said they had not received any paddy seed.⁴³

On 14 Jul, the junta **extended its declaration of natural disaster-affected regions** in 17 townships in Rakhine State until 14 Sept.⁴⁴ On the same day, the **United League of Arakan/Arakan Army's (ULA/AA) Cyclone Mocha Emergency Rescue and Relief Committee for Arakan (ERRCA)** issued a statement claiming **over 75% of cyclone-affected people** in Rakhine State had been re-sheltered.⁴⁵

Continued junta aid block freezes cyclone recovery

On 3 Jul, **UNICEF** reported that it had continued delivering nutrition, health, hygiene, education, and child and women protection post-Cyclone Mocha. It said 1,246 schools were heavily damaged and that lack of basic services had led to increased psychosocial distress. Cyclone-affected areas saw 60% of reported **landmine** incidents in the first quarter of 2023 and 300 villages were confirmed or suspected dangerous areas. Only 12.3% of funding for their Humanitarian Action for Children had been secured.⁴⁶

On 29 Jul, the junta's Arakan State Education Director's Office claimed they had repaired 1,267 cyclone-affected schools, 270 schools were being repaired, and one school could not be repaired for security reasons. The regime blamed transportation difficulties for the slow progress of repairs.⁴⁷ On 28 Jul, in Maungdaw Township (Rakhine State), **charity homes for underprivileged children** saw increased enrolment and financial difficulties due to rising commodity prices.⁴⁸

On 3 Jul, the UN Population Fund (**UNFPA**) reported that it was supporting mobile clinics operated by local partners in nine villages in Sittwe Township (Rakhine State) after Cyclone Mocha had destroyed its sexual and reproductive health facilities. It said that 432,000 women and girls of reproductive age, including 29,7000 currently pregnant and 2,3000 that gave birth post-cyclone needed health check-ups, prenatal and postnatal care, family planning, and psychosocial support.⁴⁹

On 5 Jul, the UN Humanitarian Affairs Coordination Office (**OCHA**) Head Danielle Parry met with the junta's Minister of Social Welfare in Naypyidaw to discuss aid delivery for cyclone-affected people in Rakhine State.⁵⁰ On 7 Jul, Parry and UN Humanitarian Coordinator Ramanathan Balakrishnan met with the junta's Minister of International Cooperation.⁵¹ On 15 Jul, OCHA reported that the junta was still blocking distribution, transport, and import requests for cyclone-related humanitarian aid. Despite allowing some humanitarian organizations to restart programs in Rakhine State, the junta's scrutiny had led to

³⁸ DVB (28 Jul 2023) Cyclone survivors accuse military of stealing humanitarian aid

³⁹ Mizzima (17 Jul 2023) Myanmar junta fails to approve Rohingya IDP camp post-cyclone renovations

⁴⁰ DMG (19 Jul 2023) Hundreds of relocated Mro people in Maungdaw Twsp face food shortages

⁴¹ DMG (22 Jul 2023) Cyclone-damaged Angumaw Jetty in urgent need of repair

⁴² Eleven Myanmar (1 Jul 2023) Power supply resumes in some townships in Rakhine after Mocha

⁴³ DMG (6 Jul 2023) Junta provides paddy seeds to some farmers in cyclone-hit Arakan State

⁴⁴ Mizzima (16 Jul 2023) Myanmar junta extends natural disaster-affected regions in Rakhine until mid Sept

⁴⁵ Arakan Army (15 Jul 2023) Cyclone Mocha Emergency Rescue and Relief Committee for Arakan

⁴⁶ UNICEF (3 Jul 2023) UNICEF Myanmar Humanitarian Situation Report No. 4

⁴⁷ DMG (29 Jul 2023) 270 storm-damaged schools in Arakan State still being repaired, education office says

⁴⁸ DMG (28 Jul 2023) Charity homes in Maungdaw Twsp face financial difficulties

⁴⁹ UN Population Fund (3 Jul 2023) "I want my baby safe, this is all I need." Supporting women and girls in Myanmar after Cyclone Mocha tears a path of destruction

⁵⁰ DVB (7 Jul 2023) Another UN official meets with regime to discuss cyclone relief efforts

⁵¹ Eleven Media Group (9 Jul 2023) Myanmar, UN officials discuss smooth access to humanitarian aid for cyclone victims

numerous field mission cancellations. OCHA stated that the junta had **displaced nearly 1.6 million civilians** since Feb 2021, and had **destroyed 70,000 civilian houses and structures**. Moreover, the junta had **detained or arrested 50 humanitarian staff since Jan 2023**, with 15 apprehended in the past month alone. OCHA said they had received only 17% of the funds required for their cyclone response.⁵²

On 11 Jul, the World Food Programme (WFP) said that due to ongoing travel restrictions, it had only been able to provide cyclone aid to 400,000 people per month instead of the expected 800,000.⁵³

On 26 Jul, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) warned that the dire living conditions due to the junta's long-term cyclone aid obstruction was becoming the "new normal". MSF stated that public attention on the crisis must not wane and the junta's demand that aid organizations hand over relief items jeopardized the neutrality of humanitarian aid and affected communities' trust in aid organizations.⁵⁴

Conflict and displacement (more details at [conflict & displacement tracker](#))

General Conflict

Three Brotherhood appeases Beijing, northern groups snub "peace conference". In a statement to his cabinet on 13 Jul, coup leader Min Aung Hlaing announced that the regime was planning to step up its campaign against anti-junta resistance in Chin and Karenni States and Sagaing Region. He called the three resistance strongholds "the places where terrorism is the worst".⁵⁵

On 20 Jul, Burma News International - Myanmar Peace Monitor published a research paper that examined the UN and ASEAN's approach to humanitarian aid delivery in Burma since the attempted coup and their cooperation with the regime. The paper proposed that foreign governments and agencies under ASEAN and the UN reevaluate the purpose of humanitarian aid programs and the accelerated implementation of an Inclusive Humanitarian Forum (IHF) through engagement with the NUG and EROs, the establishment and monitoring of no-fly zones, and the establishment of internationally recognized humanitarian corridors and safe zones. It also called for the establishment of a cross-border aid program and for the UN, ASEAN, and foreign governments to exert pressure on neighboring countries to support it.⁵⁶

On 31 Jul, the NUG's Human Rights Ministry reported that the junta had committed at least 144 mass killings of more than five people since 1 Feb 2021. The report showed that **mass killings were escalating, with 11 massacres committed in 2021, 85 massacres in 2022, and 48 so far this year until July**. Sagaing Region by far experienced the highest death toll: 920 over 90 massacres.⁵⁷

Three Brotherhood Alliance appeases Beijing, northern groups snub "peace conference": On 2 Jul, the Arakan Army (AA), Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA), and Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA), collectively known as the Three Brotherhood Alliance, said that they would work together to "fight against terrorism and criminal activities" and that the groups "would take effective action against those who disrupt or cause harm to international investment projects in [Burma]".⁵⁸ Some observers speculated this was a response to pressure from Beijing which was concerned that potential prolonged conflict in N. Shan State would threaten Chinese investments. An analyst said that the Three Brotherhood Alliance's statement signaled its intention to govern the region and protect China's interests.⁵⁹

During 20-21 Jul, the junta's National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee (NSPNC) met with three ethnic armed groups: United Wa State Party (UWSP), National Democratic Alliance Army (NDAA), and the Shan State Progress Party (SSPP).⁶⁰ On 25 Jul, citing a spokesperson for the Shan State Progress Party (SSPP), it was reported that the SSPP, United Wa State Party (UWSP), and National Democratic Alliance Army (NDAA) would not attend the regime's planned "peace conference".⁶¹

Sagaing Region

Junta forces continued raids with scorched-earth tactics in Sagaing Region amid clashes with local resistance forces. UNHCR reported 804,500 civilians had been displaced in Sagaing as of 24 Jul 2023.

⁵² OCHA (15 Jul 2023) Myanmar Humanitarian Update No. 31

⁵³ DMG (11 Jul 2023) WFP says ability to assist still significantly circumscribed by junta

⁵⁴ Médecins Sans Frontières (26 Jul 2023) Cyclone Mocha: Aid efforts severely hampered by new restrictions

⁵⁵ Myanmar Now (14 Jul 2023) Myanmar junta chief announces plans for stronger push into resistance strongholds

⁵⁶ BNI (22 Jul 2023) Chin State Among Priority Regions Needing and Receiving Minimal Humanitarian Aid

⁵⁷ NUG Ministry of Human (31 Jul 2023) Statement regarding the intensified and widespread mass killings committed by terrorist military group

⁵⁸ DMG (2 Jul 2023) Three Brotherhood Alliance to cooperate on fighting terrorism and other crime

⁵⁹ RFA (17 Jul 2023) Rebels vow to protect Chinese investment in Myanmar; Than Lwin Times (2 Jul 2023) What does the Brotherhood Alliance's joint statement on foreign investments mean?

⁶⁰ Than Lwin Times via BNI (25 Jul 2023) The Three Northern Alliances Refusal Will Not Attend the next

⁶¹ Than Lwin Times via BNI (25 Jul 2023) The Three Northern Alliances Refusal Will Not Attend the next

On 1 Jul, in **Khin-U Township**, regime forces shot dead two local men near Kawt village and injured an elderly man in Chan Thar Kone village.⁶² On 2 Jul, RFA reported that junta troops had raided 15 villages and forced nearly 6,000 locals to flee. A local said that in Ah Lel Sho village, regime troops arrested five people to use them as porters and burned down Yauk Thwar Aing village.⁶³ On 16 Jul, the junta and Pyu Saw Htee militia killed a civilian and injured another in an IDP camp inside the Inn Pat village school.⁶⁴ They raided and torched several villages and forced 8,000 residents of nine villages to flee. On the border of **Ye-U and Khin-U Townships**, another column of junta and Pyu Saw Htee militia shelled several villages and forced 5,000 civilians from six villages to flee.⁶⁵

On 2 Jul, in **Sagaing Township**, junta troops raided and torched a PDF camp near a village and forced locals to flee; they killed four civilians and one PDF member.⁶⁶ The same day, junta troops torched more than 100 houses in Ta Laing village and shelled fleeing civilians after a clash with PDF forces.⁶⁷

On 3 Jul, in **Kanbalu Township**, junta soldiers torched nine houses and five barns in Magyikone village. They also torched 25 IDP shelters in Chaungchar village.⁶⁸ On 4 Jul, junta troops raided Inn Ma village and arrested 13 residents, including three children. The junta later released five of the villagers.⁶⁹ On 5 Jul, junta troops raided Mait Ta Lin Kone village, arrested 48 men and forced other villagers to flee. The junta released 13 of the villagers and detained 35 at a junta camp.⁷⁰

On 5 Jul, in **Ayadaw Township**, junta media claimed that during a clash in Ngwe Twin village, PDF forces shot at a monastery, killed 15 civilians, and injured seven people, including a 12-year-old.⁷¹ An anonymous regional PDF member claimed that all individuals killed in the attack were junta forces. A local stated that his family member was killed in the attack and that, of those killed, four were pro-military militia members or their family members and 11 were villagers sheltering in the monastery.⁷²

During 6-17 Jul, in **Myinmu and Ayadaw Townships**, a junta column raided and torched around 1,000 houses in more than ten villages, killed ten civilians, and forced over 2,000 residents to flee. On 6 Jul, the column killed three civilians and one resistance fighter while raiding Myinmu Township's Na Be Kyu village. During 7-9 Jul, junta troops torched six villages. On 11 Jul, they killed one civilian before raiding and torching Ayadaw Township's Nyaung Pin and Ma Le Thar villages, where they killed three more civilians. On 13 Jul, the column went back to Myinmu Township where they raided Khwet Kwin village and mutilated and killed three civilians. On 17 Jul, the column torched Mu Mandalay village.⁷³

On 6 Jul, in **Wetlet Township**, regime troops killed seven civilians and injured several others in three attacks in and around Thamayoe village. They also raided several houses and shops.⁷⁴ On 8 Jul, junta troops raided a village, torched another village and killed two civilians.⁷⁵ On 13 Jul, junta troops torched around 100 homes and killed an elderly man in Thone Sint Kan village.⁷⁶

On 11 Jul, in **Monywa Township**, junta forces torched several houses in Ma Au village in retaliation for a landmine attack on a junta convoy on 10 Jul.⁷⁷ On 29 Jul, junta soldiers shelled Ma Au village, killed a teenage girl, and injured three others, including a pregnant woman.⁷⁸ On 12 Jul, in **Shwebo Township**, junta troops bombarded Tet Tu village twice, killed a civilian, and injured 11 others, including a four-year-old child.⁷⁹ On 17 Jul, the junta killed a civilian and destroyed nine houses strafing Ta Kan Thar village in response to a resistance force attack, which forced around 2000 civilians from five villages to flee.⁸⁰

⁶² RFA (3 Jul 2023) Around 6,000 villagers forced to flee township in Myanmar's Sagaing region

⁶³ RFA (3 Jul 2023) Around 6,000 villagers forced to flee township in Myanmar's Sagaing region

⁶⁴ Myanmar Now (18 Jul 2023) Man killed by Myanmar junta shell fired at IDP camp in western Khin-U Township

⁶⁵ Irrawaddy (17 Jul 2023) Civilian Killed, 15,000 Flee as Myanmar Junta Forces Raid Sagaing Villages

⁶⁶ DVB (5 Jul 2023) Singaporean firms allegedly sent 'arms and related goods' to military

⁶⁷ Narinjara (6 Jul 2023) Junta forces burn down more than 100 houses in Talaing village, Sagaing

⁶⁸ Mizzima (6 Jul 2023) Junta soldiers torch houses and barns in Sagaing's Kantbalu Township

⁶⁹ Irrawaddy (6 Jul 2023) Myanmar Junta Detains Over 60 Villagers in Sagaing Region

⁷⁰ Irrawaddy (6 Jul 2023) Myanmar Junta Detains Over 60 Villagers in Sagaing Region

⁷¹ RFA (6 Jul 2023) Myanmar's junta accuses People's Defense Force of killing 15 civilians

⁷² AP News (7 Jul 2023) 15 killed in attack on Myanmar village; military says pro-democracy fighters hit civilians

⁷³ Myanmar Now (19 Jul 2023) Junta kills nearly a dozen in Sagaing Region over span of 11 days; RFA (19 Jul 2023) Myanmar military kills villagers, burns houses in Sagaing region; Irrawaddy (13 Jul 2023) Five Myanmar Junta Troops Killed in Predawn Ambush in Sagaing Region

⁷⁴ Myanmar Now (7 Jul 2023) Myanmar junta forces murder seven civilians in Wetlet village

⁷⁵ Myanmar Now (17 Jul 2023) Two civilians over 60 years old killed by military in Sagaing Region

⁷⁶ RFA (14 Jul 2023) Two days of junta attacks in Myanmar's Sagaing region leave 4 dead

⁷⁷ DVB (12 Jul 2023) Protesters to be targeted on Martyrs' Day; Thailand plans to repatriate 126 students to Burma

⁷⁸ DVB (31 Jul 2023) မုံရွာ၊ မအူရွာကို လက်နက်ကြီးပစ်၍ မိန်းကလေးတဦးသေ၊ ၃ ဦးဒဏ်ရာရ

⁷⁹ RFA (14 Jul 2023) Two days of junta attacks in Myanmar's Sagaing region leave 4 dead

⁸⁰ Irrawaddy (18 Jul 2023) Myanmar Junta Air Strike Injures Civilian, Destroys Nine Homes in Sagaing

During 12-17 Jul, in **Yinmarbin Township**, the junta carried out airstrikes, raided Myogyi village, killed an elderly woman and torched 41 houses during a five-day clash with resistance forces near Ywar Htaung and Myay Kyet Su villages that forced 7,000 residents from five villages to flee.⁸¹ On 21 Jul, junta troops raided Sone Chaung village, killed 11 civilians and three resistance fighters, and detained 30 residents.⁸² Junta troops reportedly tortured and tied the victims in pairs before shooting them. Locals said that the regime had falsely claimed there was a PDF camp in the village.⁸³ On 1 Aug, Myanmar Now reported that the raids on Sone Chaung and nearby forced around 5,000 residents from five villages to flee. Junta soldiers renewed their attacks and forced returning Sone Chaung residents to flee again.⁸⁴

During 22-26 Jul, in **Tamu Township**, intense fighting between regime soldiers and local resistance forces forced over 10,000 people to flee. On 22 Jul, an explosion killed a resident.⁸⁵ On 25-26 Jul, the junta carried out airstrikes and forced around 2,000 villagers to flee to India's Manipur State. Manipur state authorities, however, forced the villagers back into Sagaing Region.⁸⁶

During 21-26 Jul, in **Salingyi Township**, junta forces carried out almost daily raids on villages and forced nearly 5,000 residents from 10 villages to flee. During these, 20 junta soldiers died from mine explosions.⁸⁷ On 28 Jul, in **Budalin Township**, regime forces raided Nyaungkan and Ywar Thar villages, burned down several houses, and tortured and killed at least five people. Three of them were teenaged student union leaders who organized anti-junta protests in the area. The junta carried out raids in the area since 25 Jul.⁸⁸

Magway Region

On 11 Jul, in **Pauk Township**, the junta shelled, burned, and looted several villages in retaliation for a resistance group attack on junta bases in two villages, where they rescued nine civilian detainees.⁸⁹ On 12 Jul, in **Seikphyu Township**, Myanmar Now reported that there was a shortage of rice, cooking oil, medicine, and mobile phone top-up cards after the junta blocked all roads into Seikphyu Town.⁹⁰ On 14 Jul, junta troops raided Taung Twar Ma village and torched at least four houses. On 15 Jul, they raided two more villages and torched at least 20 more houses.⁹¹

During 14-17 Jul, in **Saw Township**, junta troops killed a child and another civilian and shelled and torched Yinke village during a four-day clash with resistance forces. They took 20 villagers hostage, destroyed almost all 300 houses, and forced over 2,000 locals from three villages to flee.⁹² During 26-29 Jul, in **Myaing Township**, junta troops killed at least one civilian and took seven others as human shields. On 29 Jul, Pyu Saw Htee militia destroyed three houses and stole cattle and vehicles.⁹³

Chin State

In **Kanpetlet Township**, an 11-day clash during 14-25 Jul killed 50 junta soldiers, injured others, and displaced over 3,000 locals from Kanpetlet and Magway's Saw Townships.⁹⁴ On 18 Jul, junta airstrikes on Ma Sar Twi village destroyed twenty houses and a church,⁹⁵ and forced around 1,000 residents to flee.⁹⁶ On 24 Jul, a clash between Mawchaung and Hlaing Doke villages forced hundreds of villagers to flee.⁹⁷ During the clash, one civilian was killed by a junta landmine, and another person was reported missing. While a junta column that was already present clashed with Chin Defense Force troops, the conflict intensified after a second junta column arrived to carry out clearance operations.⁹⁸

⁸¹ Kachin News Group via BNI (15 Jul 2023) The battle of Yin Mar Bin Villagers Bombarded by Airstrikes for 5 days

⁸² Irrawaddy (22 Jul 2023) Myanmar Junta Kills 14 in Sagaing Massacre

⁸³ RFA (24 Jul 2023) Village raid by Myanmar forces leaves 14 civilians, resistance fighters dead

⁸⁴ Myanmar Now (1 Aug 2023) Thousands displaced by Myanmar junta raids on Chindwin River villages

⁸⁵ Myanmar Pressphoto Agency (25 Jul 2023) Fighting is fierce in Khampat town and more than ten thousand people are fleeing

⁸⁶ RFA (31 Jul 2023) Hundreds in need of aid at Indian border after junta airstrike in Myanmar

⁸⁷ Irrawaddy (26 Jul 2023) Myanmar Regime Troops Die in Sagaing Resistance Minefield

⁸⁸ Myanmar Now (31 Jul 2023) Three student leaders tortured, killed in Sagaing's Budalin Township

⁸⁹ Irrawaddy (11 Jul 2023) Magwe Civilians Freed in Raid on Myanmar Junta Forces

⁹⁰ Myanmar Now (26 Jul 2023) Seikphyu facing shortages as Magway Region town is cut off by regime forces

⁹¹ Myanmar Now (26 Jul 2023) Seikphyu facing shortages as Magway Region town is cut off by regime forces

⁹² Myanmar Now (18 Jul 2023) 12-year-old girl killed by junta artillery near Magway-Chin border

⁹³ Than Lwin Times (1 Aug 2023) Military kill civilians in Myaing township

⁹⁴ Mizzima (28 Jul 2023) ကန်ပက်လက်မြို့နယ် ၁၀ရက်ကြာ တိုက်ပွဲအတွင်း စစ်ကောင်စီတပ်သား ၅၀ ကျော်သေဆုံး ဟုဆို

⁹⁵ DVB (19 Jul 2023) Airstrikes destroy 20 homes and a church in Chin State; UN Refugee Agency meets with regime

⁹⁶ RFA (18 Jul 2023) ကန်ပက်လက် မဆာတို့ရွာ လေကြောင်းနဲ့အပစ်ခံရလို့ ဒေသခံတစ်ထောင်ခန့် ထွက်ပြေးရ

⁹⁷ Irrawaddy (26 Jul 2023) Chin Resistance Announced Heavy Myanmar Junta Losses

⁹⁸ VOA (25 Jul 2023) ကန်ပက်လက်မြို့နယ်တွင်း ၁၀ရက် ဆက်တိုက် တိုက်ပွဲဖြစ်ပွားနေ

In **Hakha Township**, on 3 Jul, the junta carried out airstrikes, shelled Chin resistance groups, killed two resistance fighters, and injured seven others in Thee Mit Valley.⁹⁹ During 7-8 Jul, the junta fired at least 10 artillery shells in the valley, reportedly even when there were no clashes.¹⁰⁰

On 8 Jul, in **Mindat Township**, the junta carried out an airstrike on Wumkhum village, killed three people, and injured another. It destroyed several houses and a school and forced all 70 resident families to flee.¹⁰¹

On 10 Jul, junta forces shelled Vung Khung village and killed three civilians including a nine-year-old child.¹⁰² On 16 Jul, junta troops abducted a pastor and three church elders from a church. Locals believed that the junta tortured and killed the four.¹⁰³

On 3 Jul, in **Paletwa Township**, the Chin National Army (CNA) attacked a junta outpost near Khon village and killed several junta soldiers. This was the first time the CNA had attacked junta troops in Paletwa.¹⁰⁴

On 8 Jul, in **Matupi Township**, junta soldiers threatened and shot at civilians, clashed with local resistance forces, fired shells, and killed one 17-year-old girl.¹⁰⁵

Rakhine State

In Rakhine State, tensions between the junta and the Arakan Army (AA) continued to rise as both groups shifted focus away from their post-cyclone response while clashes between the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) and the AA broke out.

On 2 Jul, in **Sittwe Township**, unidentified gunmen killed three senior Arakan Liberation Party (ALP/ALA) officials and injured three others after meeting the ALP Chair. The ALP accused the AA of the shooting, which the AA denied.¹⁰⁶ Locals said that the junta began patrolling the ward where the shooting took place¹⁰⁷ and placed guards around the ALP Chair's house.¹⁰⁸

On 11 Jul, in **Toungup Township**, a junta court sentenced six locals to four years in prison on charges of terrorism for alleged connections to the AA, despite having delisted the AA as a "terrorist organization".¹⁰⁹

On 14 Jul, in **Rathedaung Township**, junta forces attempted to enter the AA-controlled U Ga village to search for missing soldiers. The AA rejected their request and strengthened its presence in the village.¹¹⁰

During 18-19 Jul, in **Buthidaung Township**, the AA clashed with the ARSA after ARSA troops entered an AA-controlled area in the Mayu mountains. At least one AA fighter and five ARSA members were killed.¹¹¹ On 21 Jul, Narinjara reported that the junta deployed hundreds of soldiers to the AA/ARSA clash area and delivered four military vehicles and more than 100 soldiers to Buthidaung Port.¹¹²

On 21 Jul, the AA claimed that the junta's violation of their ceasefire agreement and arrests of civilians for alleged ties to the AA risked restarting armed conflict in Rakhine State.¹¹³ The same day, in **Kyauktaw Township**, the junta increased weapons tests near residential areas.¹¹⁴ On 25 Jul, DMG reported that junta forces conducted nighttime reconnaissance using drones in AA-controlled areas, including **Mrauk U**, **Rathedaung**, and **Buthidaung** Townships.¹¹⁵ On 26 Jul, in **Minbya Township**, the junta issued warnings to several villages about unspecified artillery testing over the next few days.¹¹⁶

Kachin State

On 3 Jul, the junta shelled Kachin Independence Army (KIA) bases in **Waingmaw Township**'s Nam San Yang village and forced over 1,000 villagers to flee.¹¹⁷ The KIA stated that junta soldiers had tried to establish a new base nearby. Tension had grown since the KIA blocked regime soldiers from traveling to

⁹⁹ Khonumthung (5 Jul 2023) Resistance Fighters Killed In Timit Valley

¹⁰⁰ Khonumthung (12 Jul 2023) Chin Resistance Faces Daily Shelling In Timit Valley

¹⁰¹ DVB (10 Jul 2023) Three killed in airstrike on Chin State's Mindat Township

¹⁰² RFA (10 Jul 2023) Jet attack kills 3 civilians in Myanmar's Chin state

¹⁰³ Irrawaddy (28 Jul 2023) Four Myanmar Christian Leaders Feared Killed in Junta Detention

¹⁰⁴ Irrawaddy (7 Jul 2023) Chin Rebels Open New Front with Myanmar Junta on Rakhine Border

¹⁰⁵ Khonumthung (12 Jul 2023) CDF Attacks Regime Camp In Matupi Township

¹⁰⁶ Irrawaddy (3 Jul 2023) Myanmar's Arakan Army Denies Carrying Out Deadly Attack on Rival Rakhine Group

¹⁰⁷ DMG (5 Jul 2023) ALP questions people regarding assassination of three of its members

¹⁰⁸ DMG (4 Jul 2023) Junta tightens security in Sittwe following assassination of three ALP officials

¹⁰⁹ DMG (11 Jul 2023) Six Taungup residents sentenced to four years in prison on AA-related terrorism charges

¹¹⁰ Narinjara (17 Jul 2023) Tensions rise as junta forces search for missing soldiers in AA-controlled regions

¹¹¹ DMG (19 Jul 2023) Casualties reported during AA-ARSA clashes in Buthidaung Twsp; DMG (20 Jul 2023) Buthidaung locals spooked by fighting between ARSA, AA

¹¹² Narinjara (24 Jul 2023) Hundreds of junta soldiers reinforced near the place where AA and ARSA fought

¹¹³ Irrawaddy (21 Jul 2023) Myanmar Junta Ceasefire Deal Violations Could Restart Conflict: AA

¹¹⁴ Narinjara (24 Jul 2023) Junta conducts more weapon-tests in Rakhine

¹¹⁵ Narinjara (28 Jul 2023) Junta conducts reconnaissance in AA controlled areas during night hours

¹¹⁶ DMG (28 Jul 2023) Military notifies Minbya Twsp villages about planned weapons testing

¹¹⁷ Irrawaddy (4 Jul 2023) Fighting in Myanmar's Kachin State Displaces Over 1,000 Villagers

the village on 16 Jun.¹¹⁸ On 10 Jul, the KIA temporarily closed the Myitkyina-Bhamo road due to clashes.¹¹⁹ On 13 Jul, the KIA said that the junta had sent around 1,000 troops from Myitkyina and Bhamo to Nam San Yang.¹²⁰ On 21 Jul, the junta bombed Nam Sang Yang village in retaliation for the KIA's 20 Jul attacks on junta reinforcements at La Gyar Yang village in **Momauk Township**.¹²¹

During 4-5 Jul, in **Shwegu Township**, regime troops cut off telecommunications and raided and torched 100 houses in three villages and forced more than 2,000 residents to flee.¹²² On 8 Jul, in **Hpakant Township**, clashes between the KIA and the junta-aligned Warazup People's Militia Force (PMF) killed one civilian, injured three women, and damaged at least seven houses, including a church.¹²³ Warazup abducted five civilians and, on 9 Jul, charged them with sedition for informing for the KIA and posting resistance-sympathetic posts on social media.¹²⁴

On 19 Jul, in **Bhamo Township**, hostilities between junta troops and the KIA near Lajaryang forced locals to flee. Fifty residents from Dung Hkung village reportedly sought shelter in a church near Bhamo, while 132 people from Loi Mawk Yang took refuge in a monastery and a school in Manhseung village. Others remained trapped in areas amid fighting.¹²⁵

Northern Shan State

On 10 Jul, it was reported that in N. Shan State, the attempted coup **increased criminal activity** and provided space for EROs to expand their **administrative and judicial authority** in certain regions. The Ta'ang National Liberation Army's (TNLA) civilian wing Palaung State Liberation Front stated that the group was "mainly working on the **fight against drugs**", that drug dealers were sent to prison, and that drug users were sent to detention camps and subjected to forced labor. Locals in Laukkai in the Kokang Self-Administered Zone said that **crime had become more violent** since the attempted coup. One local said that there were frequent shootings, kidnappings, and robberies and that cyber scams were booming.¹²⁶

On 12 Jul it was reported that **human rights violations had increased** due to clashes and territorial disputes between EROs since the attempted coup. A Kyaukme Township resident said that the human rights violations carried out by "their own armed resistance groups" were "disheartening" and marked a "concerning shift". A Hsipaw resident said that a failure to "hold each other accountable" would make addressing the junta's human rights violations hard.¹²⁷

On 2 Jul, in **Hseni Township**, a pro-junta ward clerk shot dead a teenager and injured another near Kone Nyaung village.¹²⁸ On 9 Jul, clashes between the junta and the KIA broke out near Hseni town in **Kutkai Township**.¹²⁹ On 15 Jul, a bomb explosion at a gold shop in Lashio town injured 12 employees, with two in critical condition.¹³⁰ On 18 Jul, the junta shelled Nam Hpat Kar village tract, killed a teenager, injured two women and a child, and displaced 150 villagers amid clashes with the KIA.¹³¹

On 25 Jul, the junta shelled and carried out airstrikes on villages near the Muse-Lashio road in **Muse Township**. They destroyed several houses, killed a civilian, detained several others, and forced many villagers to flee.¹³² On 27 Jul, it was reported that Chinese army officers had been training pro-junta militia in **Muse Township** and that 35 trained militia commandos had been sent to Sagaing Region in June.¹³³

Karenni State

On 1 Jul, the Karenni Nationalities People's Liberation Front (KNPLF) announced that some of its battalions would **join the resistance** against the junta and **work with the NUG**. KNPLF battalions 1004

¹¹⁸ Kachin News Group via BNI (5 Jul 2023) Military Tensions Escalate near Kachin Independence Organization (KIO) HQ headquarters-Locals preparing to evacuate from their village of Nam San Yang

¹¹⁹ SHAN Herald Agency (10 Jul 2023) Fighting Closes Myitkyina – Bhamo Road

¹²⁰ Myanmar Now (13 Jul 2023) Massive military build-up reported near KIA headquarters

¹²¹ Irrawaddy (22 Jul 2023) Myanmar Junta Airstrike Hits Kachin Village

¹²² RFA (6 Jul 2023) ရွှေကူမြို့နယ် ရွာသုံးရွာက နေအိမ် တစ်ရာနီးပါး မီးရှို့ဖျက်ဆီးခံရ

¹²³ Kachin News Group (10 Jul 2023) KIA Attacks Warazup PMF In Hpakant Township

¹²⁴ NMG (13 Jul 2023) Warazup PMF Abducts Civilians After Fighting KIA

¹²⁵ Kachin News Group via BNI (19 Jul 2023) Junta clashes with KIA near Bhamo Leaves Many Locals Trapped; Kachin News Group (19 Jul 2023) ဗန်းမော်မြို့နဲ့ လဂျားယန်ကြား စစ်ရေးတင်းမာနေပြီး ဒေသခံပြည်သူအချို့ ပိတ်မိနေ

¹²⁶ Frontier Myanmar (10 Jul 2023) Law and order, or frontier justice? Shan's armed group judiciaries

¹²⁷ SHAN Herald Agency (12 Jul 2023) Concerns Mount Over Alleged Human Rights Violations within the Shan Community

¹²⁸ SHAN Herald Agency via BNI (6 Jul 2023) Teenager Shot Dead by Ward Clerk in Hsenwi Township

¹²⁹ SHAN (10 Jul 2023) ကွတ်ခိုင်မြို့နယ် တစ်နေ့တည်း စစ်ကောင်စီ နှင့် KIA တိုက်ပွဲ နှစ်ကြိမ်ဖြစ်ပွား

¹³⁰ VOA (15 Jul 2023) လားရှိုးခွဲထက်ရွှေဆိုင်ရှေ့ ဗုံးကွဲမှု ၁၀ ဦးကျော်ဒဏ်ရာရ

¹³¹ Myanmar Now (20 Jul 2023) Teenager killed, several civilians injured as KIA seizes junta base in northern Shan State

¹³² Myanmar Now (26 Jul 2023) Military shelling kills villager in Muse Township

¹³³ DVB (27 Jul 2023) Aung San Suu Kyi may be transferred from prison to house arrest

and 1005 reportedly participated in anti-junta raids in June.¹³⁴ The Karenni State Interim Executive Council (IEC), the Karenni Nationalities Defence Force (KNDF), the Demoso PDF, and the Karenni Revolution Union issued statements welcoming armed groups opposing the junta.¹³⁵

The junta trapped 600 Ywathit town residents in **Bawlake Township** amid clashes with resistance forces during 27 Jun-18 Jul. On 27 Jun, the junta killed six civilians that attempted to flee to the Thai border but were turned back.¹³⁶ On 7 Jul, junta soldiers looted houses, forced locals to stay at a monastery, and removed the Facebook app from people's phones to limit communication.¹³⁷ On 11 Jul, the junta arrested six women.¹³⁸ On 18 Jul, it was reported that the junta had taken control of Bawlake town, restricted movement, and limited access to health care services, which reportedly caused the death of a child.¹³⁹

On 4 Jul, the junta launched four airstrikes on an IDP camp in **Demoso Township**, injured three residents including one child, destroyed several shelters and a school, and forced IDPs to flee.¹⁴⁰ On 10-11 Jul, junta troops fired at villages in **Loikaw Township**, killed four civilians, and wounded others after a resistance ambush on the Moby-Loikaw road.¹⁴¹ On 20-21 Jul, junta forces clashed with the KNDF, indiscriminately shelled a village, killed a civilian, and injured four others.¹⁴²

On 3 Jul, UNHCR reported that 4,892 refugees had fled from conflict in **Mese Township** to four temporary safety areas in Thailand's Mae Hong Son Province by 3 Jul.¹⁴³ On 11 Jul, a junta jet strafed and bombed Kyauk Su village three times, killed a child, injured two residents, and destroyed six buildings and a church.¹⁴⁴ On 12 Jul, the Karenni National Women's Organization (KNWO) stated that over 5,000 locals from **Mese Township** had been displaced internally or sought refuge in Thailand after recent clashes, 1,000 of which in the forests near Mese. KNWO said the IDPs, 65% of whom were children and women, lacked temporary shelters and had poor health.¹⁴⁵

On 12 Jul, the junta bombed Daw Noe Khu IDP camp in **Shadaw Township** four times, killed one civilian, injured two, destroyed a school, and damaged a clinic and houses. Camp residents reported that junta aircraft had **used Thai airspace to scout the area prior to the airstrike**.¹⁴⁶ On 14 Jul, the Karenni Emergency Rescue Committee said 5,027 people had fled to Thailand after junta airstrikes in **Mese and Shadaw Townships**.¹⁴⁷ On 19-22 Jul, junta forces attacked and carried out airstrikes on resistance-controlled villages in **Mese Township**, killed a civilian, took hostages, torched nearly all houses.¹⁴⁸

Southern Shan State

On 18 Jul, it was reported that in **Moby, Pekon and Pin Laung Townships**, the threat of airstrikes had forced many IDPs to flee repeatedly and caused severe mental distress for many. Some IDPs sought shelter in the forest, whereas others had no choice but to return to previously bombed camps.¹⁴⁹

Karen State

In July, UNHCR reported that junta attacks led to 9,500 new IDPs in **Karen State**.¹⁵⁰ The KNU reported that since the attempted coup, fighting with the junta had displaced 599,400 people in **KNU-defined Karen State** and that, during 1 Jan 2022 - 30 Jun 2023, KNLA/KNDO forces clashed with junta forces 2,495 times.¹⁵¹

¹³⁴ Myanmar Now (3 Jul 2023) Karenni ceasefire group announces defection to anti-junta resistance

¹³⁵ Kantarawaddy Times via BNI (5 Jul 2023) KNPLF Faction defects from Junta side -Launches attacks on Military Council

¹³⁶ RFA (18 Jul 2023) Conflict in Myanmar's Kayah state traps hundreds in town

¹³⁷ Kantarawaddy Times (7 Jul 2023) Soldiers Pillage Homes In Ywarhit

¹³⁸ Kantarawaddy Times via BNI (15 Jul 2023) Junta troops Have Trapped 500 villagers inside Ywar Thit Town Soldiers open fire on anyone entering or leaving

¹³⁹ Kantarawaddy Times (18 Jul 2023) ဘောလခဲမှာ အချိန်မီ ဆေးဝါးကုသခွင့်မရတာကြောင့် ၅ နှစ်အောက်ကလေးငယ်တစ်ဦး သေဆုံး၊ မြို့ခံများ စစ်ကောင်စီတပ်က ခွင့်ပြုမှသာ မြို့ပြင်ထွက်ခွင့်ရ

¹⁴⁰ Kantarawaddy Times via BNI (6 Jul 2023) Aerial Bombardment on Demoso Refugee Camp Leaves Family Injured, 3-Year-Old Child in Critical Condition

¹⁴¹ Myanmar Now (13 Jul 2023) Three civilians shot dead by Myanmar military in Karenni State

¹⁴² Kantarawaddy Times via BNI (23 Jul 2023) Battle Erupts in Loikaw Township, Civilian Killed by Military Artillery Shelling

¹⁴³ UNHCR (3 Jul 2023) Myanmar Emergency - UNHCR Regional Update - 3 July 2023

¹⁴⁴ RFA (12 Jul 2023) Junta airstrikes kill 2, injure 4 in Myanmar's Kayah state

¹⁴⁵ Kantarawaddy Times via BNI (12 Jul 2023) Rising War Refugees in Mese Struggle with Lack of Access to Healthcare says KNWO

¹⁴⁶ RFA (12 Jul 2023) Junta airstrikes kill 2, injure 4 in Myanmar's Kayah state; ALTSEAN (14 Jul 2023) Video <https://twitter.com/Altsean/status/1679794044950712320>

¹⁴⁷ Kantarawaddy Times (14 Jul 2023) Airstrikes Force Civilians To Flee To Thailand

¹⁴⁸ Myanmar Now (25 Jul 2023) Myanmar military's air, ground assaults drive resistance forces out of two Karenni villages

¹⁴⁹ Shan Herald Agency (18 Jul 2023) "Mom, I Am Scared of the Planes": A Heartbreaking Reflection of Families Fleeing Conflict

¹⁵⁰ UNHCR (20 Jul 2023) South East Myanmar UNHCR Displacement Overview 17 July 2023

¹⁵¹ KNU via Facebook (9 Jul 2023) <https://tinyurl.com/53wbw4bk>

In **Kyainseikgyi Township**, junta forces shelled Kha Lel and Ta Khun Taing village tracts from 28 Jun-Jul 5 and forced up to 5,300 villagers to flee.¹⁵² On 30 Jun, junta troops shelled nearby Me Ka Nei village and injured two people.¹⁵³ On 14 Jul, the junta killed two civilians, injured 17 others, and took 20 villagers as human shields in Ta Khun Taing village.¹⁵⁴ They also ransomed several villagers for food.¹⁵⁵

On 7 Jul, in **Thandaunggyi Township**, the junta clashed with local resistance forces, shot dead three people, and torched four houses near Thandaung Town. On 8 Jul, junta troops shot dead another civilian.¹⁵⁶ During clashes with joint KNLA/PDF forces from 11 to 23 Jul in **Thandaunggyi Township**, the junta **conducted around 50 airstrikes**, destroyed 20 buildings, including places of worship, and forced more than 2,000 residents near Leik Tho Town to flee.¹⁵⁷ A KNU statement confirmed that the junta conducted two airstrikes on 12 Jul, seven on 18 Jul, 13 on 22 Jul, and 11 on 23 Jul in Yardo and nearby villages.¹⁵⁸

On 10 Jul, in **Hpa-An Township**, an explosion on Hpa-an-Thaton highway's longest bridge stopped traffic.¹⁵⁹ On 30 Jul, an explosion at a junta checkpoint on the Than Lwin Bridge outside of Hpa-An killed one civilian, injured 12 people, and caused significant damage to the checkpoint and several vehicles.¹⁶⁰ On 14 Jul, in **Hpapun Township**, junta forces closed all roads and waterways into the township. The junta also cut off electricity and communications and planted mines along Hpapun-Kamarmaung road.¹⁶¹ On 19 Jul, in **Kawkareik Township**, junta forces shelled Kawkareik Town and injured seven civilians.¹⁶²

Bago Region

In July, UNHCR reported that junta attacks led to 6,400 new IDPs in East Bago Region.¹⁶³ In **Kyaukkyi Township**, nine clashes between the junta and joint KNLA-PDF forces took place during 1-5 Jul. The KNU reported that the junta killed two locals, injured six others, damaged 13 houses, and forced 4,672 residents from several villages to flee during that period.¹⁶⁴ On 2 Jul, the junta shelled Yae Twin Kone Gyi village and injured two locals. On 3 Jul, the junta shelled Ohn Pin Su village and injured one local.¹⁶⁵ The junta arrested and extorted MMK 2.5 million from 50 villagers and burned their belongings.¹⁶⁶ On 27 Jul, the Karen National Defense Organization (KNDO) set a curfew and shut down roads between Kyaukkyi and Nat Than Kwin village in response to the junta's use of civilians as human shields in the area.¹⁶⁷

In **Kyauktaga Township**, during 18-19 Jul joint resistance forces attacked junta positions and killed at least eight junta troops.¹⁶⁸ On 20 Jul, regime troops torched Nan Za village, burned to death two civilians, injured 48 others, and destroyed seven houses. On 20-21 Jul, PDF forces killed 20 junta troops during a clash.¹⁶⁹ On 23 Jul, the junta shelled Tha Min Inn Kone village and killed four civilians. A local PDF reported that more than 5,000 locals had been forced to flee as a result.¹⁷⁰ During 14-19 Jul, in KNU-defined **Shwegyin Township**, junta troops shelled several villages and torched four houses.¹⁷¹ In **Daik-U Township**, local PDF shot dead a Pyu Saw Htee militia member and junta informant on 26 Jul. A civilian was injured while trying to prevent the killing.¹⁷²

¹⁵² Than Lwin Times (5 Jul 2023) Over a thousand of residents fleeing junta shelling in KNU's Win Ye Township

¹⁵³ Myanmar PressPhoto Agency (1 Jul 2023) SAC fired a 120mm mortar heavy weapon into Mekanei village, injuring one elderly woman and one child

¹⁵⁴ HURFOM (19 Jul 2023) Two killed and nearly twenty arrested in Kha Lae – Da Gon Die armed clash; Than Lwin Times (18 Jul 2023) Two civilians shot dead, nearly 20 others arrested as human shield in Kyainseikgyi

¹⁵⁵ Independent Mon News Agency (17 Jul 2023) Fighting rages around the village of Kale-Tagundaing; Karen News (27 Jul 2023) Military Council Arrests Civilians, Demands Rice as Ransom for Release in Kale-Tagundaing

¹⁵⁶ KIC (12 Jul 2023) Junta Troops again burn houses in Karen village in their hunt from PDF and KNU supporters

¹⁵⁷ Than Lwin Times (26 Jul 2023) Junta conducts a barrage of airstrikes in Yardo village of Karen State

¹⁵⁸ KIC (31 Jul 2023) ယာဒိုတွင် လေကြောင်းတိုက်ခိုက်ခံရမှု (၃၃) ကြိမ်အထိရှိလာကြောင်း ကေအဲန်ယူ ထုတ်ပြန်

¹⁵⁹ NMG (13 Jul 2023) Hpa-an To Thathon Bridge Attacked With Explosives; Eleven Media Group (10 Jul 2023) Traffic halts after mine explosion at a bridge on Hpa-an-Thaton Road

¹⁶⁰ Myanmar Now (31 Jul 2023) One dead, 10 injured in explosion at junta bridge checkpoint in Karen State capital; RFA (31 Jul 2023) Explosion kills 1, injures 12 in Myanmar's Kayin state

¹⁶¹ Karen News (30 Jul 2023) Military Council and BGF Block Land and Waterways, Halting Food Transport in Hpapun Township

¹⁶² HURFOM (21 Jul 2023) Seven civilians injured by artillery attack in Kaw Ka Rate

¹⁶³ UNHCR (20 Jul 2023) South East Myanmar UNHCR Displacement Overview 17 July 2023

¹⁶⁴ Myanmar Peace Monitor (10 Jul 2023) Residents in Nyaunglebin remain displaced as junta continues artillery shelling

¹⁶⁵ Karen News (5 Jul 2023) Regime troops Injure 3 Civilians during combat operations; Than Lwin Times (9 Jul 2023) Nearly 5,000 residents flee junta invasion in Nyaunglebin; Than Lwin Times (6 Jul 2023) 10 soldiers killed during armed clashes in KNU's Brigade 3 area

¹⁶⁶ Than Lwin Times (6 Jul 2023) 10 soldiers killed during armed clashes in KNU's Brigade 3 area

¹⁶⁷ Karen National Union (27 Jul 2023) ကရင်အမျိုးသားကာကွယ်ရေးအဖွဲ့ (K.N.D.O) အမှတ် (၃) တပ်ရင်းမှ အများပြည်သူများသိစေရန်ညွှန်ကြားခြင်း

¹⁶⁸ Than Lwin Times (23 Jul 2023) Three residents killed, more than 5,000 people fleeing in Kyauktaga

¹⁶⁹ Mizzima (23 Jul 2023) Myanmar junta troops burn three civilians alive in Bago village

¹⁷⁰ Than Lwin Times (27 Jul 2023) At least 7 local people killed by junta invasion in Kyauk Ta Ga

¹⁷¹ Than Lwin Times (22 Jul 2023) 13 junta soldiers reportedly killed in Nyaunlaybin battle, KNU says

¹⁷² Than Lwin Times (29 Jul 2023) Pro-military Pyusawhtee member shot in Daik-U

Mon State

In July, UNHCR reported that junta attacks led to 8,500 new IDPs in **Mon State**.¹⁷³ During 26 Jun-5 Jul, in **Ye Township**, the junta arrested 15 locals in Hnit Kayin village on suspicion of having ties to the PDF.¹⁷⁴ On 2 Jul, in **Kyaikmaraw Township**, the junta shot dead one civilian near Chaung Hnit Khwa village after a KNLA-PDF drone attack on a nearby police outpost.¹⁷⁵

On 2 Jul, in **Kyaikto Township**, junta troops shelled Saung Naing Gyi village and injured a monk in retaliation for a KNLA-PDF drone attack on a junta checkpoint.¹⁷⁶ On 17 Jul, junta soldiers arrested a civilian in Thein Za Yat Village Tract and beat him to death.¹⁷⁷ During 9-10 Jul, in **Mudon Township**, junta soldiers detained eight civilians as porters.¹⁷⁸ On 20 Jul, in KNU-defined **Kyondoe Township**, junta forces shelled Shwe War Chaung Village and injured two children.¹⁷⁹

On 8 Jul, in **Bilin Township**, junta troops shelled Shwe Yaung Pya village and injured six locals, including two children, in retaliation for a resistance forces drone attack.¹⁸⁰ On 14 Jul, junta troops shelled Ah Lu and Hngat Pyaw Taw villages. On 16 Jul, junta troops clashed with joint KNLA-PDF forces nearby, shot dead three civilians, and forced more than 3,000 people to flee.¹⁸¹

In **Thaton Township**, the junta shelled Ka Zaing village during 21-23 Jul, injured a local, and forced 3,000 others from three villages to flee.¹⁸² On 25 Jul, the junta abducted two civilians as human shields. On 27 Jul, the junta killed three civilians, injured six others, and destroyed 15 houses during a clash with KNLA-PDF.¹⁸³ More fighting erupted on 29-31 Jul and displace thousands of residents from seven villages.¹⁸⁴

Tanintharyi Region

In July, UNHCR reported that junta attacks led to 8,600 new IDPs in **Tanintharyi Region**.¹⁸⁵ On 12 Jul, Independent Mon News reported that, in **Tanintharyi Region**, in June, junta clashes with resistance forces and artillery fire from land and sea killed 23 civilians and forced thousands of locals to flee.¹⁸⁶

During 30 Jun-1 Jul, in **Tanintharyi Township**, junta troops clashed with local resistance fighters, torched three houses in a village, shelled another village, and drove more than 3,000 locals from five villages to flee.¹⁸⁷ On 15 Jul, the junta declared martial law in **Tanintharyi Township**. During 15-18 Jul, they clashed with resistance forces at least ten times, shelled several villages, and forced more than 1,000 civilians to flee. It was reported that the offensive was a response to weakening junta control.¹⁸⁸ On 19 Jul, joint Kawthoolei Army (KTLA)/PDF forces blocked two Thai-Burma border trade routes and the Dawei-Htee Khee and Hton Kha-Maw Tone roads, reportedly because junta troops had hijacked civilian cars to travel along the road.¹⁸⁹ On 26 Jul, junta forces shelled Ban Law Village and injured two women.¹⁹⁰

On 6 Jul, in **Dawei Township**, the junta killed a Myin Mattat villager. On 7 Jul, they took at least five villagers as human shields.¹⁹¹ On 8 Jul, an explosion at the Dawei immigration office injured one civilian.¹⁹² On 11 Jul, in **Yebyu Township**, a junta column began advancing through villages in the Dawei Special Economic Zone towards Na Bu Lei village, clashed with resistance forces, and forced more than

¹⁷³ UNHCR (20 Jul 2023) South East Myanmar UNHCR Displacement Overview 17 July 2023

¹⁷⁴ Than Lwin Times (5 Jul 2023) 15 residents in Hnit Karen village arrested for allegedly being involved with PDFs

¹⁷⁵ Than Lwin Times (4 Jul 2023) One civilian shot dead near police outpost in Kyaikmaraw

¹⁷⁶ Than Lwin Times (4 Jul 2023) Some junta troops suffer casualties in Kyaikto attack

¹⁷⁷ HURFOM (24 Jul 2023) Junta arrests and kills Kyike Hto resident

¹⁷⁸ Independent Mon News Agency via BNI (14 Jul 2023) Military Council Artillery Battalion in Abit Village Accused of Coercing Civilians into Forced Labor

¹⁷⁹ Than Lwin Times (22 Jul 2023) Two children injured by artillery strike in Kyondoe

¹⁸⁰ Than Lwin Times (9 Jul 2023) Artillery shelling in Belin injures 6 local residents

¹⁸¹ Independent Mon News Agency (24 Jul 2023) 3 Locals Killed, Over 3,000 Flee in Kyaik Hto

¹⁸² Than Lwin Times (23 Jul 2023) Nearly 3,000 locals forcibly displaced by junta shelling in Belin; Independent Mon News Agency (27 Jul 2023) About 3,000 Residents Flee as Military Junta Fires Mortar Shells in Thaton Township

¹⁸³ Myanmar Pressphoto Agency (28 Jul 2023) Three civilians including two children killed due to the heavy weapon fire by the SAC troops in Thaton

¹⁸⁴ Than Lwin Times (29 Jul 2023) One civilian killed, four injured by junta artillery fire in Thaton

¹⁸⁵ UNHCR (20 Jul 2023) South East Myanmar UNHCR Displacement Overview 17 July 2023

¹⁸⁶ Mon News (12 Jul 2023) 23 civilians killed in one month in Tanintharyi Region

¹⁸⁷ Than Lwin Times (2 Jul 2023) 200-strong military unit advances towards Tanintharyi

¹⁸⁸ Karen News (24 Jul 2023) Almost Daily battles and local resistance causes major increases in IDPs in Tanintharyi Township

¹⁸⁹ KIC via BNI (19 Jul 2023) Key road from Thai- Myanmar border closed by Revolutionary Forces has reduced trade, increased prices and caused hardship

¹⁹⁰ Than Lwin Times (28 Jul 2023) Two women injured by junta shelling in Tanintharyi

¹⁹¹ Than Lwin Times (8 Jul 2023) One resident shot dead, five others arrested in Dawei

¹⁹² Than Lwin Times (9 Jul 2023) Explosion near Dawei immigration office leaves one man injured

1,000 villagers to flee.¹⁹³ On 15 Jul, junta forces arrested 15 plantation workers as human shields, arrested seven other civilians, and forced villagers from three villages to flee.¹⁹⁴

On 12 Jul, the junta looted houses in Na Khan Taw village tract in **Launglon Township**.¹⁹⁵ On 14 Jul, the junta clashed with resistance forces, shelled several villages, killed one civilian, injured another, and forced 3,000 villagers to flee.¹⁹⁶ On 16 Jul, junta forces killed a civilian from Kha Maung Taung Village.¹⁹⁷ On 20 Jul, the Launglon People's Defence Team (PDT) arrested five employees and the principal of the Dawei Agricultural Institute (DAI) for running the university.¹⁹⁸ On 21 Jul, a local PDF abducted and killed a staff officer in the local agricultural department for collaborating with the junta.¹⁹⁹ On Jul 26, the PDT announced that the arrested DAI employees were being held in a "liberated area".²⁰⁰

Naypyidaw Union Territory

On 7 Jul, Taungoo District PDF ambushed a military convoy near **Naypyidaw**, destroyed two vehicles and injured junta troops after being tipped off that the convoy was carrying the junta's Quartermaster General.²⁰¹

Ayeyarwady Region

On 2 Jul, in **Pathein Township**, the junta arrested and beat a local to death after another local lodged a complaint with the ward administration about a vehicle collision between the two individuals.²⁰²

Mandalay Region

Up to 20 bodies found dumped by the roadside across **Mandalay Region** during 1 Jun-3 Jul were reportedly people killed by the pro-junta Thwe Thout militia. Thwe Thout symbols and lanyards were left at some of the crime scenes and a former political prisoner said that many of the victims were NLD members or supporters. A source from the Mandalay District administration said that most victims could not be identified and that the administration had not received any missing persons reports.²⁰³

On 5 Jul, in **Madaya Township**, resistance forces killed three junta troops patrolling the township in an ambush.²⁰⁴ During 14-17 Jul, junta soldiers raided Nyaung Oke village, detained around 20 villagers, and tortured and killed four civilians.²⁰⁵ On 15 Jul, junta forces torched around 200 houses in five villages after resistance forces attacked a junta air force base.²⁰⁶ On 23 Jul, a junta column escorting a junta flotilla sailing down the Irrawaddy River killed one civilian and injured another in Nyaung Oke village. On 25 Jul, the flotilla arrived with reinforcements and injured two civilians in Sein Pan Kone village, including a child. On 26 Jul, junta troops on the flotilla shelled riverside sites and killed two civilians.²⁰⁷

On 8 Jul, in **Chanayethazan Township**, the junta arrested the leader of an urban guerilla group and a woman in his company.²⁰⁸ On 26 Jul, in **Thabeikkyin Township**, junta troops took 100 civilians hostage in a monastery, reportedly to deter resistance forces from attacking their soldiers.²⁰⁹

Yangon Region

On 4 Jul, urban guerilla groups detonated 12 bombs at a public relations office, an immigration office, a police station, a township court, and a checkpoint in four townships in **Yangon**. The four resistance forces involved claimed that the attacks injured three junta personnel.

¹⁹³ Than Lwin Times (12 Jul 2023) Battle ragging in Nabule village tract

¹⁹⁴ HURFOM (19 Jul 2023) Junta arrests 15 villagers and uses them as human shields

¹⁹⁵ Than Lwin Times (14 Jul 2023) Nearly a thousand local residents flee junta invasion in Launglon

¹⁹⁶ Than Lwin Times (16 Jul 2023) Thousands flee junta shelling in Launglon

¹⁹⁷ Than Lwin Times (18 Jul 2023) 7 junta soldiers injured in Thayetchaung ambush attack

¹⁹⁸ DVB (25 Jul 2023) Online businesses in Burma ordered to register; NUG Spring Development Bank begins

¹⁹⁹ Than Lwin Times (23 Jul 2023) Agricultural officer shot dead in Launglon

²⁰⁰ Myanmar Now (25 Jul 2023) Resistance group says civilians taken from Tanintharyi agricultural school are safe

²⁰¹ Irrawaddy (10 Jul 2023) Nearly 20 Myanmar Regime Forces Killed in Four Days of Resistance Attacks

²⁰² RFA (4 Jul 2023) ပုသိမ်မှာ အရပ်သားတစ်ဦး အဖမ်းခံရပြီး နာရီပိုင်းအတွင်း သေဆုံး

²⁰³ Irrawaddy (6 Jul 2023) Killings by Pro-Myanmar Junta Militia Surge in Mandalay; Myanmar Now (11 Jul 2023) Series of murders in Mandalay suspected of links to military, vigilante group

²⁰⁴ Irrawaddy (7 Jul 2023) At Least Eight Myanmar Junta Forces Killed in Four Days of Resistance Attacks

²⁰⁵ Irrawaddy (20 Jul 2023) Four Detainees Killed by Myanmar Junta in Mandalay Region; Irrawaddy (25 Jul 2023) Myanmar Junta Seizes 20 Mandalay Villagers

²⁰⁶ Myanmar Now (18 Jul 2023) PDF launches attack on strategic junta air force base in Mandalay Region; Irrawaddy (25 Jul 2023) Myanmar Junta Seizes 20 Mandalay Villagers

²⁰⁷ Myanmar Now (27 Jul 2023) Military shoots civilians while moving supplies, reinforcements through Mandalay Region; Irrawaddy (31 Jul 2023) PDFs Attack Regime Flotilla From Both Sides of Myanmar's Great River

²⁰⁸ Myanmar Now (14 Jul 2023) Urban resistance leader detained in Mandalay

²⁰⁹ Myanmar Now (31 Jul 2023) Some 100 civilians held hostage by Myanmar military for days in Mandalay Region monastery

Rohingya

Bangladesh authorities' active neglect driving violence in Cox's Bazar, report reveals

On Jul 13, Human Rights Watch (HRW) released a report that stated Bangladeshi authorities had not only **failed to protect Rohingya from violence** in refugee camps but also forced **Rohingya to serve as informants without protection**. While the Bangladesh Defense Ministry reported at least 11 armed groups were competing for control of drug and human trafficking in the camps, victims blamed authorities for driving the violence. Many victims had been targeted because they were seen as informants for Bangladeshi authorities by Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA). Victims said they **faced obstacles to police, legal, and medical assistance** and that authorities repeatedly **failed to provide protection, improve security, or prosecute those responsible**. Activists, educated residents and religious leaders were common targets for **murder, kidnapping, torture, and rape**: 16 of 48 refugees killed in the first half of 2023 were Majhis (community leaders). HRW called on governments to create a **rights-respecting security policy** in consultation with refugees and the UN and to press Bangladesh to establish **accessible reporting, investigation and prosecution systems**.²¹⁰

The report followed the 6 Jul **murder of a junior Rohingya refugee camp warden** who had helped gathered people to testify for ICC prosecutors. On 7 Jul, Rohingya Solidarity Organisation (RSO) members killed five ARSA members in the camp during an ambush. ARSA members later allegedly killed an RSO supporter.²¹¹ Afterwards, the ICC chief prosecutor claimed the attacks were not linked to the ICC's work.²¹² On 26 Jul, ARSA took another refugee out of the camp and shot him dead.²¹³

In response to the report, the Bangladesh Home Minister and the Armed Police Battalion Superintendent denied allegations of corruption, using Rohingya informants and denying them access to the police or courts.²¹⁴ The Cox's Bazar Police's Deputy Inspector General said that police were facing logistical issues and a lack of communications technology to stop conflict between armed groups. On 18 Jul, Bangladesh Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan said that Bangladesh's government would **deploy its military** in Cox's Bazar **if killings continued** after the UN Resident Coordinator raised further concerns about violence in the camps.²¹⁵ An internal police report said that 4,755 Rohingya were charged between 2020 and May 2023, whereas 96 Rohingya had been killed between 2019 and May 2023.²¹⁶ On 22 Jul, the Bangladeshi Rapid Action Battalion captured an ARSA commander during a raid for allegedly helping kill a Bangladeshi military officer in Nov 2022. Five other ARSA members were detained during a later raid.²¹⁷

Persecution, domestic restrictions on Rohingya freedom of movement remain severe

It was reported that, from Jan to Jun 2023, **the junta had arrested 457 Rohingya civilians in Ayeyarwady Region** and 325 were given to two to five-year prison sentences. Earlier in the year, in Kyangin Township, regime troops had shot to death several Rohingya civilians.²¹⁸ On 17 Jul, in Ngape Township (Magway Region) regime forces arrested six Rohingya men.²¹⁹ On 19 Jul, in Pauktaw Township (Rakhine State), a human trafficking group abducted three young Rohingya students from the Kyin Ni Byint camp. The abductors planned to send them to Malaysia and demanded MMK 10 million per person as ransom.²²⁰

Support for Rohingya shrinks as funding continues to fall

On 20 Jul, the UN World Food Programme (WFP) **reduced the value of food vouchers** for over 950,000 Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar **from USD 12 to USD 8 per person per month** due to falling donor funding. The WFP country director said that 8 USD was "**simply not enough**" and that the number of children in malnutrition treatment programs had already increased as a result.²²¹ During 7-10 Jul, on a four-day visit to gather testimony for the ICC, chief prosecutor Karim Ahmad Khan urged the international community to provide more humanitarian support because "**food should not be taken off the plates of children and diverted elsewhere**."²²² On 28 Jul, the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) released a report

²¹⁰ HRW (13 Jul 2023) Bangladesh: Spiraling Violence Against Rohingya Refugees

²¹¹ VOA (8 Jul 2023) Seven Rohingya Refugees Killed in Violence in Bangladesh

²¹² Mizzima (10 Jul 2023) ICC prosecutor promises 'speeding things up' after Bangladesh Rohingya camps killings

²¹³ Arakan Express News (27 Jul 2023) ဘင်္ဂလားဒေ့ရှ်နိုင်ငံတော်တွင် ရိုဟင်ဂျာတစ်ဦးအား အာဘလက်နက်ကိုင်အဖွဲ့မှ ပစ်ခတ်ဖျက်ဆီးခဲ့

²¹⁴ RFA (14 Jul 2023) Rights group: Bangladesh failing to protect Rohingya against rising violence in camps

²¹⁵ BD News (18 Jul 2023) Bangladesh ponders army deployment in Rohingya camps after spiral of violence, says home minister

²¹⁶ Irrawaddy (13 Jul 2023) Protect Rohingya From Armed Gangs: HRW

²¹⁷ Irrawaddy (25 Jul 2023) Bangladesh Police Arrest Rohingya Militant Leader

²¹⁸ BNI (19 Jul 2023) Over 300 Arrested Rohingya Sentenced to Prison Terms others were shot dead by the Junta

²¹⁹ DVB (19 Jul 2023) Airstrikes destroy 20 homes and a church in Chin State; UN Refugee Agency meets with regime

²²⁰ Narinjara (31 Jul 2023) 3 Muslim students abducted from Pauk Taw refugee camp

²²¹ United Nations (20 Jul 2023) Funding 'simply not enough' for Rohingya refugees, UN agencies report

²²² CNN (7 Jul 2023) Efforts to bring justice to Rohingya must be accelerated, ICC chief prosecutor says; ICC (10 Jul 2023) ICC Prosecutor Karim A. A. Khan KC concludes second visit to Bangladesh: "The Rohingya must not be forgotten. Together, we can deliver on their legitimate expectations of justice."

which found that camp youth had limited mobility and few formal education and employment options. They called for organizations and donors to **advocate for youth to learn and work outside camps**.²²³

On 21 Jul, it was reported that Bangladesh's government froze the UNHCR's import license and demanded payment of USD 7 million in fines and interest for alleged irregularities in transferring duty-free vehicles. Experts said the move could disrupt humanitarian aid to Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar.²²⁴ On 13 Jul, the US State Department announced the release of USD 61 million in additional humanitarian assistance to support Rohingya internally displaced in Burma and refugees in Bangladesh while South Korea announced plans to provide USD 3 million in humanitarian aid to Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh.²²⁵

On 23 Jul, UNICEF announced that it had appealed for USD 33 million to support education for Rohingya refugee children during the 2023/24 academic year. UNICEF reported that over **300,000 students from refugee camps in Cox's Bazar** were enrolled in school and would be taught up to **Grade 10 using the pre-coup Burmese Curriculum** for the 2023–24 school year.²²⁶

Women remain defiant despite regime crackdown (more details at [women tracker](#))

On 6 Jul, the UN Secretary-General (UNSG) in his 2023 report on conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) said the UN received reports of **sexual violence committed against women, girls, men, boys, LGBTQIA+ people and Rohingya** during junta attacks and arbitrary detention. It also received CRSV reports committed by Pyu Saw Htee militia and resistance forces. The UNSG called on the junta to implement the Security Council resolution 2669 (2002) to **protect the rights of women and children** and ensure safe and **unhindered humanitarian access**. He urged the junta to release all arbitrarily detained prisoners, hold sexual violence **perpetrators accountable**, and give UN-mandated bodies unconstrained access.²²⁷

On 12 Jul, Mon State aid workers reported that the junta had been extorting, arresting, and committing **sexual violence against female sex workers**. The junta provided little protection to sex workers and they sometimes disappeared after junta abductions. On 22 Jul, Irrawaddy reported that girls as young as 14 were being **forced into prostitution** or sold as sex slaves in Wa State.²²⁸

On 14 Jul, Burma Ambassador to the UN Kyaw Moe Tun and Naw Hser Hser of the Women's League of Burma spoke at the UN Security Council's (UNSC) open debate on conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV). Kyaw Moe Tun stated that the **junta was the main sexual violence perpetrator** in Burma and that female human rights defenders were **risking their lives to document and report atrocities**. He called on the UNSC to take concrete actions to end military impunity and adopt a timely and enforceable resolution on Burma. Naw Hser Hser added that women accounted for **60% of pro-democracy human rights defenders** and provided essential services to **victims of displacement and sexual violence**.²²⁹

On 20 Jul, the junta reportedly arrested two women for sending **four young women** from Rakhine State to the Middle East for work. The President of the Arakan National Network said he was pushing for them to be charged for human trafficking rather than charged under the foreign employment law.²³⁰

On 26 Jul, the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP) reported that from Jan to 26 Jul, **junta forces had killed 237 women**, 130 in Sagaing alone. Of the 237 women killed by the junta, 91 were killed in regime airstrikes and 69 were killed by shelling. AAPP also reported that the regime had **arrested 394 women** in the same period, with 365 still in detention.²³¹

On 27 Jul, the Karen Women's Organization (KWO) reported that **food insecurity** due to conflict in Karen National Union (KNU)-controlled areas and worsened by the **rainy season** had hurt the **health of pregnant women, nursing mothers, and children**. The KWO faced challenges implementing a vaccination program for children that would cover all IDP camps.²³²

On 27 Jul, the International Labour Organization reported that the **employment rate decreased by 10.9% for women** compared to 5.3% for men. Sectors with high female employment such as garment

²²³ Norwegian Refugee Council (28 Jul 2023) Ready to learn, eager to learn: a youth-led market and wellbeing assessment in Rohingya camps

²²⁴ RFA (31 Jul 2023) Bangladesh wants UNHCR to pay \$7M for transfers of imported vehicles

²²⁵ Arakan Express News (26 Jul 2023) ရိုဟင်ဂျာဒုက္ခသည်တွေအတွက် တောင်ကိုးရီးယားအစိုးရမှ ဒေါ်လာ ၃ သန်းပံ့ပိုးပေးသွားမည်ဟုဆို; US State Department (13 Jul 2023) United States to Provide Additional Humanitarian Assistance to People in Burma, Bangladesh, and the Region

²²⁶ Unicef (23 Jul 2023) Unicef: Against The Odds, Children Begin The New School Year In Rohingya Refugee Camps

²²⁷ UN Secretary General (6 Jul 2023) Conflict-related sexual violence

²²⁸ Whither Wa State? Myanmar's Criminal Hub Spreads Wings Under Junta

²²⁹ UN (14 Jul 2023) Strongly Condemning Rise in Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, Speakers Urge Security Council to Better Prevent, Enforce Accountability for Such Crimes; Than Lwin Times (18 Jul 2023) Ambassador U Kyaw Moe Tun asks UNSC to end sexual violence of Myanmar junta

²³⁰ Narinjara (22 Jul 2023) 2 women brokers involved with Rakhine women trafficking arrested

²³¹ AAPP (26 Jul 2023) Daily Briefing in Relation to the Military Coup

²³² Karen News (27 Jul 2023) Pregnant Women and children suffer from poor nutrition and lack of medicine in IDP camps

manufacturing, tourism, and hospitality had been most adversely affected by the attempted coup-driven economic downturn. **Women also received 42% less severance pay** on average than men.²³³

COVID-19, Health, Education (more at [COVID-19, healthcare, and education tracker](#))

School enrolment tumbles, junta cracks down on educators

On 1 Jul, the **World Bank** published a report on **Burma's educational system** which highlighted a decline in enrollment rates by over 12% between 2017 and 2023 and underscored "**a crisis in educational access**". The report stated that **only 22% of eligible students** had enrolled at high schools since the attempted coup in February 2023.²³⁴ On 27 Jul, Myanmar Now reported that **a combination of limited alternatives**, pressure from the junta, and **financial constraints** had driven many families to re-enroll students in junta schools, despite many parents' objections to the regime.²³⁵

On 12 Jul, it was reported that, since 1 Jul, in Bilin Township (Mon State) clashes between the regime and resistance forces forced over 70 schools to close.²³⁶ On 17 Jul, a regime court handed **a 20-year sentence for terrorism** to Ei Shwe Zin Myint, the founder of an NUG-affiliated online school. The junta had arrested her and 14 others in March for "**teaching illegally**".²³⁷

Dengue fever and malaria on the rise

In Mon State, **600 cases of Dengue fever** were reported during Jan-Jun 2023. On 15 Jul, according to the state attorney, **426 cases of dengue** had been identified in Rakhine State in the first week of July and that five children had died of dengue fever in Rakhine State between 1 and 15 Jul.²³⁸ On 26 Jul, DMG reported that **97% of the 963 cases of dengue fever** recorded by the regime's Rakhine State Department of Public Health (DPH) in 2023 had occurred after Cyclone Mocha.²³⁹ On 27 Jul, it was reported that there was **a shortage of blood donors** in Rakhine State and climbing rates of dengue fever had increased the need for blood transfusions.²⁴⁰

On 17 Jul, it was reported that **junta blockages of medicine and pharmaceuticals**, the breakdown of health services, and displacement had driven up **malaria** rates in **Karen and Karenni States** following the attempted coup. The Burma Medical Association reported that malaria cases in Karen State rose from 8,707 in 2020 to **36,691 cases in 2022**. BMA had recorded **20,547 cases** so far in 2023 and predicted more than 50,000 cases by the year end.²⁴¹ On 7 Jul, the KWO said that women and children in **IDP camps in KNU** territory lacked food, healthcare, and mosquito nets.²⁴² On 25 Jul, it was reported that in **Karenni State**, the junta had reportedly detained relief workers who had attempted to provide medicine to IDPs and that roughly 50% of IDPs in the state had malaria.²⁴³

Business and economics (more details at [business & economic responses tracker](#))

Junta raids MOGE after leaked evidence of US sanctions circumvention

On 6 Jul, Myanmar Now reported that the **junta opened new foreign currency accounts** at the Myanma Economic Bank (MEB) to bypass Western sanctions. In a leaked letter to the Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) dated 19 Apr, the junta's Energy Ministry requested the creation of USD, CNY and THB accounts. With the new accounts at the unsanctioned MEB, the junta was reportedly attempting to **access more than USD 504.3 million** of revenue generated from the Shwe Gas Project, Myanmar-China Oil & Gas Pipelines, and Yadana Gas Projects **held in foreign banks**. A retired CBM officer said that due to sanctions on MOGE and on Myanma Foreign Trade Bank (MFTB), the **MEB had become the junta's last option** to receive foreign currency. He added that Burma's blacklisting by the Financial Action Task Force, an intergovernmental money-laundering watchdog, would make major international transactions challenging for private banks and urged its member countries to exercise due diligence with Burma.²⁴⁴ On the same day, the **junta raided MOGE headquarters** in Naypyidaw and arrested over 20 employees for interrogation after the junta's secret MEB accounts were revealed.²⁴⁵ Since the raid, family members had

²³³ International Labour Organization (27 Jul 2023) Myanmar: Labour market update 2023

²³⁴ World Bank (1 Jul 2023) Education in Myanmar: Where are we now?

²³⁵ Myanmar Now (27 Jul 2023) The reluctant return of Myanmar's students

²³⁶ DMG (12 Jul 2023) Fighting prompts closure of dozens of schools in Mon State's Bilin Twsp

²³⁷ Myanmar Now (20 Jul 2023) Junta court hits National Unity Government school founder with 20-year prison term

²³⁸ Narinjara (15 Jul 2023) Dengue fever outbreak in Arakan: 5 children die so far

²³⁹ DMG (26 Jul 2023) Arakan State authorities urged to undertake comprehensive mosquito mitigation measures

²⁴⁰ DMG (27 Jul 2023) Demand for blood rises in Arakan State with dengue fever outbreak

²⁴¹ Frontier Myanmar (17 Jul 2023) Conflict shoots up malaria cases on the Thai-Myanmar border

²⁴² Than Lwin Times (7 Jul 2023) Displaced women, children suffer from malaria in KNU territory

²⁴³ ThanLwin Times (25 Jul 2023) Malaria cases rise alarmingly in Kayah IDPs

²⁴⁴ Myanmar Now (6 Jul 2023) Myanmar regime opens bogus bank accounts to bypass Western sanctions on MOGE; Financial Action Task Force (23 Jun 2023) High-Risk Jurisdictions subject to a Call for Action

²⁴⁵ Myanmar Now (7 Jul 2023) Myanmar junta raids MOGE office over leak; more than a dozen detained

reportedly lost contact with those arrested.²⁴⁶ On 14 Jul, the junta released several deputy directors and other staff but kept a director, an administrator, and a supervisor in custody. A source close to one of the arrested staff said that the **three were directly involved** with opening the MEB accounts.²⁴⁷ On 18 Jul, the junta released the remaining three, reportedly **without having identified the leak**. It was reported that junta officers had been sent to oversee staff in other administrative departments.²⁴⁸

On 18 Jul, it was reported that the Junta-owned timber giant **Myanmar Timber Enterprise (MTE)** was planning to **open bank accounts at the MEB** to bypass US sanctions on MFTB and MICB. A source close to the MTE claimed that MTE was planning on making transactions via links through 15 foreign banks in Singapore, Thailand, Japan, India and China as well as several domestic banks. The source added that, if successful, **other government departments would likely follow suit**.²⁴⁹

On 13 Jul, it was reported that the **MMK depreciated by 12.5% against the USD** after US sanctions hit two junta-controlled banks on 21 Jun. It was reported that, in Yangon, the price of all types of **medicine** had increased by between MMK 500 and 1,000; **fuel** prices had increased to MMK 2,100 per liter; and **gold** prices had increased to MMK 3 million per tical. It was also reported that the junta had detained gold and currency traders and restricted fuel importers from buying USD.²⁵⁰ Despite **Russia and China** being the junta's largest arms trade partners, using **either country's currency had major disadvantages**. The Russian ruble was not a major reserve currency, and the Bank of China's presence in the US made it reluctant to risk sanctions. Moreover, the junta evaded sanctions by **exploiting lax international enforcement**. Despite overseas revenue being frozen after EU sanctions, domestic consumption, exports to Thailand and China, and low operational cost allowed **continued junta gas production**. Experts claimed this demonstrated that US sanctions would not affect the wider economy.²⁵¹

Singaporean, Japanese, French companies continue funding atrocities

On 1 Jul, Justice for Myanmar (JfM) reported that Singapore Exchange-listed real estate developer **Emerging Towns & Cities (ETC)** sold its **controlling stake** in the Golden City complex, which was its sole development project and was built on land leased by the junta in Yangon. ETC sold the stake to Grand Ally Pte Ltd, a private Singapore company **owned by three ETC shareholders** for SGD 4 million, at a loss of SGD 80.2 million. JfM warned that **Singapore would still be exposed** to the junta since ETC's sale involved related parties and Grand Ally was registered in Singapore.²⁵²

On 3 Jul, Myanmar Now reported that **Myanmar Agro Exchange (MAEX)** became the eighth company to be **listed on the Yangon Stock Exchange (YSX)**, a joint venture between **Japan Exchange Group, Daiwa Institute of Research**, and the MEB. MAEX was formed in 2015 as a public-private partnership between the Yangon Region government, the junta-controlled Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC), and the Dagon Group. **MAEX's head**, Win Aung, was the Dagon Group chairperson and had **formerly been sanctioned** by the US and EU. **MAEX's development agreement** would ensure that **25% of its profits would go to YCDC**, which had been involved in **junta land confiscation** in Yangon. In the year leading up to Sep 2022, MAEX provided YCDC MMK 953 million (USD 454,000) in profits. JfM said that MAEX should not have been listed on the YSX due to YCDC's involvement.²⁵³

On 6 Jul, Info Birmanie, BankTrack, and JfM reported that **five major French banks** and a **state owned-pension fund** had continued to invest over USD 6 billion in **22 companies** that are directly or indirectly **linked to the junta**. They had invested in companies that **supplied arms to the junta**, in telecoms firms that facilitated the **junta's surveillance**, and over 75% of them were invested in the **junta's fossil fuel** sector. **Crédit Agricole** was the largest investor, with **USD 4 billion invested**. They were also an investor in Bharat Electronics Ltd. (**BEL**), **an Indian state-owned company** implicated in the sale of military equipment to the junta. The human rights groups called on these French entities to fulfill their obligations under France's 2017 Duty of Care Law and to respect UNGP and OECD guidelines.²⁵⁴

On 10 Jul, JfM urged **French President Emmanuel Macron** take action against the **Indian re-export of French arms** and technology to the junta in an open letter. JfM said that France risked indirectly supporting the Indian government's export of arms and dual-use goods and technologies to the junta through their

²⁴⁶ Irrawaddy (7 Jul 2023) Myanmar Junta Forces Raid State-Owned Oil, Gas Company

²⁴⁷ Myanmar Now (17 Jul 2023) At least three MOGE personnel still detained by junta after document leak

²⁴⁸ Myanmar Now (21 Jul 2023) Detained MOGE employees released after nearly two weeks of questioning

²⁴⁹ Irrawaddy (18 Jul 2023) Myanmar Junta's Timber Enterprise Eyeing Secret Bank Accounts to Bypass Sanctions

²⁵⁰ Irrawaddy (13 Jul 2023) US Sanctions Spark Myanmar's Fuel and Drug Price Rises

²⁵¹ Frontier Myanmar (13 Jul 2023) No 'silver bullet': Experts weigh in on America's latest Myanmar sanctions

²⁵² Justice for Myanmar (11 Jul 2023) ETC Singapore's Myanmar divestment raises more questions for Singapore; Irrawaddy (11 Jul 2023) Singapore Firm 'Still Tied to Myanmar Junta-Linked Project Despite Stake Sale'

²⁵³ Myanmar Now (3 Jul 2023) Danyingone Market developer lists on Yangon Stock Exchange

²⁵⁴ Justice for Myanmar (6 Jul 2023) Investing in Myanmar's Military Cartel

strategic ties and **bilateral defense cooperation with India**. JfM said that India was the **third-largest arms supplier** to the junta and had disregarded its obligations under international human rights and humanitarian law as well as its commitments under the Wassenaar Arrangement.²⁵⁵

On 25 Jul, JfM sent an open letter urging the **Japanese government** to immediately withdraw its public **funding of the Y Complex Project**, a massive real estate complex on Yangon's former military museum site. Funding for the project came through the Y Complex Company Ltd, which was set up by Japan's Joint Special Purpose Company (J-SPC) and the junta crony-owned Yangon Technical and Trading Company Limited (YTT). In partnership with two Japanese real estate firms, the government-funded **Japan Overseas Infrastructure Investment Corporation for Transport and Urban Development (JOIN)** established J-SPC. J-SPC then received a loan financed by two private Japanese banks and Japan's public export credit agency, **Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC)**. While **JOIN and JBIC denied responsibility**, their land lease payments **go to the Defence Ministry**, which the US recently sanctioned. JfM pointed out that regardless of where land lease payments go, the funds indirectly facilitated the junta's atrocities and Japan and Japanese companies had responsibilities under the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises.²⁵⁶

Singapore and Germany investigate arms trade funding

On 3 Jul, Singaporean Foreign Minister Vivian Balakrishnan said he was **investigating** UN Rapporteur Tom Andrew's May report allegations that **138 Singapore-based entities** supplied USD 254 million worth of arms to the junta. Singapore was seeking details on how particular **dual-use products** might be linked with arms manufacturing. Additionally, 47 identified entities in Andrews' report **no longer had business facilities** with Singapore banks and nine were **no longer operating** in Singapore. He said banks would apply **enhanced due diligence** for Burma-linked customers, as recommended by the Financial Action Task Force, and that he would work with Andrews to advance investigations.²⁵⁷ On 10 Jul, Myanmar Now reported that **Singapore's United Overseas Bank (UOB)** was **closing five accounts** of junta-aligned **Myanmar Airways International (MAI)** by 15 Aug. It was suggested that findings that account holders were in **violation of bank policy** triggered the closure. MAI was reportedly exploring opening alternative accounts with Thai, Emirati, or other Singaporean banks.²⁵⁸

On 31 Jul, JfM reported that the **German state prosecutor** in Augsburg started investigating **MAN Energy Solutions (MAN)** for supplying key components to the **junta's UMS Moattama warship** after Greenpeace Germany filed a criminal complaint. MAN, **a subsidiary of the Volkswagen Group**, allegedly violated Germany's Foreign Trade Law and EU Dual-Use Regulations by supplying equipment and technology and providing training to the junta navy. MAN had conducted trainings in South Korea, where police investigations into the illegal transfer of the Moattama had been undergoing since 2021.²⁵⁹

The junta introduces new MMK 20,000 banknote

On 23 Jul, the junta-controlled **Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM)** announced it would issue a **new MMK 20,000 banknote** (USD 9.50) in an apparent attempt to address inflation. Junta media stated that a limited number of notes could be exchanged at CBM for damaged lower denomination notes starting 31 Jul, the birthday of a "white elephant" the **junta hailed as a sign of its right to rule**.²⁶⁰ The banknotes reportedly commemorated the completion of the giant Buddha statue in Naypyidaw, a reflection of the junta's attempts to impose **Buddhist nationalism on Burma**.²⁶¹ Despite the CBM's assurances the new banknote **would not cause inflation** and existing banknotes would not be demonetized, the **MMK dropped to an unprecedented low** on the black market at MMK 3,500 per USD following the announcement.²⁶² It reportedly caused prices of gold, basic commodities, fuel, vehicles, real estate, and medicine to jump.²⁶³ Exchange and gold shops reportedly suspended operations while some locals rushed to withdraw their savings from banks.²⁶⁴

²⁵⁵ Justice for Myanmar (10 Jul 2023) Open Letter: Seeking French Support to Stop Indian Arms Sales to Myanmar Junta

²⁵⁶ Justice for Myanmar (25 Jul 2023) Open Letter: Japanese Government should immediately and completely withdraw from the Y Complex Project

²⁵⁷ Mizzima (4 Jul 2023) Singaporean government investigating shipment of supplies to Myanmar military

²⁵⁸ Myanmar Now (10 Jul 2023) Major Singapore bank halts financial services for Myanmar airline

²⁵⁹ Justice for Myanmar (31 Jul 2023) JfM welcomes German criminal investigation into MAN links to Myanmar navy warship after complaint

²⁶⁰ AP News (23 Jul 2023) Myanmar Central Bank will issue its highest denomination banknote as the economy suffers

²⁶¹ Jurist (24 Jul 2023) Myanmar dispatch: military junta's announcement of new currency printing celebrates Buddhism but reflects and promotes instability

²⁶² Myanmar Now (24 Jul 2023) Myanmar regime issues new kyat denomination amid general economic malaise

²⁶³ DVB (31 Jul 2023) New 20,000 Kyat banknote in circulation

²⁶⁴ Irrawaddy (25 Jul 2023) Junta's New Banknote Sparks Inflation Panic in Myanmar, Again: Than Lwin Times (25 Jul 2023) Issuance of 20,000-kyat banknotes continues to depreciate Myanmar currency

Junta affiliates threaten to take farmers' lands

On 1 Jul, DMG reported that **South Korean firm POSCO demanded farmers** in Kyaukpyu Township (Rakhine State) pay over MMK 43.6 million **in legal fees** in a land grabbing lawsuit. The farmers sued POSCO in a South Korean court in 2016 to get **fair compensation** for land used in the **Shwe gas project**. In Dec 2022, the South Korean court ruled in favor of POSCO and stated that the then Burma government's **MOGE had carried out the land grabbing**, leading POSCO to demand farmers pay as a result.²⁶⁵

On 11 Jul, Frontier Myanmar reported that junta-controlled **Myanma Agricultural Development Bank (MADB)** was **threatening farmers with land seizures and imprisonment** if they failed to repay loans taken out before the attempted coup, despite a 2013 law that outlawed land confiscation from farmers who default on loans. MADB reportedly had also failed to approve new loans to farmers who paid back the outstanding loans. In Rathedaung Township (Rakhine State), a member of the local farmers' union said that up to 80% of farmers were **unable to repay their loans**. In Bogale Township (Ayeyarwady Region), a local farmer estimated 75% of farmers could not repay loans. MADB had also failed to provide loans at a rate in line with rising agricultural input costs. As a result, many farmers had to **take out private high-interest loans** and use MADB loans to pay them back.²⁶⁶

International responses (more details at [international responses tracker](#))

ASEAN continues disagreeing on Burma

On 3 Jul, Ngurah Swajaya, **Indonesia's de facto Head of ASEAN Special Envoy (SE) Office** on Myanmar met with representatives of EROs, student unions, human rights groups, and ethnic youth organizations to discuss ongoing human rights violations in Burma. Participants said that the Five Point consensus (**5PC**) **was a failure** and presented a **"Five-Point Political Roadmap"** to build a federal democratic union, end dictatorship and chauvinism, replace the 2008 constitution, release political prisoners, and ensure equal rights for women, LGBTQIA+ and ethnic peoples, including the Rohingya.²⁶⁷

On 7 Jul, **Indonesian Foreign Minister** Retno Marsudi once again said that **inclusive dialogue** was the only way to stop the violence if parties wanted lasting peace in Burma. She said that Indonesia carried out **110 "intensive and inclusive" engagements** in the last seven months. She **dismissed Thailand's Track 1.5 meeting** on 19 Jun as informal and reiterated that **"the 5PC [was] the main track"**.²⁶⁸

On 12 Jul, ASEAN chair **Indonesia's Foreign Minister** Retno Marsudi said that **humanitarian assistance should not be politicized** and that the AHA Center aid distribution was a manifestation of the no one left behind policy. **Malaysian Foreign Minister** Zambry Abdul Kadir insisted that **ASEAN condemn the junta** as it was worsening the situation and causing **"the problem of IDPs"**.²⁶⁹ Zambry said that ASEAN had agreed to adhere to the 5PC and should refer issues to ASEAN's chair.²⁷⁰

On 12 Jul, **Thailand's outgoing Foreign Minister** Don Pramudwinai said that he **met with Aung San Suu Kyi** during in Naypyidaw on 9 Jul. He said at the ministerial meeting that she "encouraged dialogue", but gave no details. This was the **first time the junta had allowed a meeting** with a high-ranking foreign official since detaining her on 1 Feb 2021.²⁷¹

On 13 Jul, the ASEAN **joint communiqué, published after the ministerial meeting** on 11-12 Jul, "urged all parties involved to take concrete action to immediately halt indiscriminate violence, denounce any escalation, and create a conducive environment for the delivery of humanitarian assistance and inclusive national dialogue". It backed **the junta-Bangladesh Rohingya refugee "repatriation"** project and hailed **"[Burma]'s efforts to bring peace, stability, the rule of law, and promote reconciliation."** It praised the AHA Centre's role in post-Mocha recovery efforts; acknowledged many member states viewed Thai Foreign Minister Don Pramudwinai's "recent activities" positively and stated it was an **attempt to explore other approaches** in line with the 5PC. **Disagreements on Burma** reportedly delayed the communiqué.²⁷²

On 13 Jul, the **EU's Foreign Affairs** Representative Josep Borrell objected to Burma's upcoming coordination role of **ASEAN-EU relations as the EU did not recognize the junta**. ASEAN was

²⁶⁵ DMG (1 Jul 2023) South Korean firm asks Kyaukpyu farmers to pay legal costs for land confiscation lawsuit

²⁶⁶ Frontier Myanmar (11 Jul 2023) Junta banks on threats to save state agricultural bank; DMG (28 Jul 2023) Authorities asking Arakan farmers to repay agricultural loans; Irrawaddy (19 Jul 2023) Farmers in Myanmar Are Being Threatened With Prison to Repay Loans

²⁶⁷ DVB (3 Jul 2023) ASEAN Special Envoy Office meets with resistance groups

²⁶⁸ The Straits Times (7 Jul 2023) Indonesia's Foreign Minister calls for inclusive dialogue on Myanmar to resolve crisis; RFA (7 Jul 2023) Indonesia pushes to implement failed Myanmar peace plan ahead of ASEAN meetings

²⁶⁹ Bernama (12 Jul 2023) Malaysia urges ASEAN to strongly condemn the actions of the Myanmar junta

²⁷⁰ Kompas (13 Jul 2023) ASEAN Rejects Politicization of Aid for Myanmar

²⁷¹ RFA (12 Jul 2023) Thai top diplomat says he met with Myanmar's Aung San Suu Kyi

²⁷² Myanmar Now (14 Jul 2023) Divided ASEAN condemns Myanmar violence again, supports five-point plan

reportedly considering assigning Laos instead.²⁷³ On 14 Jul, **US State Secretary** Antony Blinken urged ASEAN to **press the junta to stop the violence**, implement the 5PC, and support a return to democratic governance at the ASEAN post-ministerial conference with numerous dialogue partners in attendance.²⁷⁴ On 26 Jul, **Malaysia's Prime Minister** Anwar Ibrahim and the **Philippines' President** Ferdinand Marcos Jr. discussed strengthening the 5PC on an **informal basis with "some flexibility"**. Anwar said such approaches must not be at the expense of human rights issues and minority rights. Marcos said countries should be able to use bilateral mechanisms to resolve issues that ASEAN and its member states faced.²⁷⁵

EU imposes more sanctions while UK cuts funds

On 19 Jul, the **UK cut aid to Burma** to GBP 30.1 million in 2023-24. This was a **51% decrease on last year** and a **70% decrease on 2020-21**. Burma Campaign UK urged the UK to **increase aid to local civil society to reach areas outside of junta control** and to **sanction the junta's aviation fuel supply**.²⁷⁶

On 20 Jul, the European Union imposed a seventh round of sanctions on the regime that targeted an additional six individuals and one entity. In total, the EU had sanctioned 99 individuals and 19 entities.²⁷⁷ Despite Germany's announced intentions to impose targeted fuel sanctions, only one newly sanctioned individual had reportedly ever held a role associated with fuel oil importation.²⁷⁸ Kyaw Swar Lin, the Quartermaster General of Myanmar Economic Corporation (MEC), was sanctioned for weapons procurement. The EU targeted Mining Enterprise 2 (ME 2), the fourth of five revenue-generating junta-controlled enterprises under its Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation (MONREC). JfM called for more effective sanctions coordination among governments.²⁷⁹

On 21 Jul, Burma Campaign UK stated that the international community had been **too slow to sanction** obvious sources of junta revenue. Executive Director Anna Roberts said slow, uncoordinated sanctions allowed the **junta to find workarounds**.²⁸⁰

Statements at the UN Human Rights Council

On 6 Jul, the **UN Human Rights Commissioner** Volker Turk addressed the UN Human Rights Council and said that the junta was **"systematically denying" life-saving humanitarian aid** while Burma was in "deadly freefall into even deeper violence". He said that there was a **33% increase in indiscriminate airstrikes** from 2022 and that artillery attacks in 2023 were already 80% of attacks in 2022. Turk condemned the junta for blocking aid and emphasized that the Cyclone Mocha death count of **Rohingya** was unconfirmed. Turk called on the junta to release all political prisoners, for the UN Security Council to hold the junta accountable at the International

The India crackdown

The Home Affairs Ministry instructed the Manipur and Mizoram state governments to collect biometric data of "illegal immigrants" i.e. refugees from Burma.

The Manipur Chief Minister blamed Burmese "illegal migrants" for the ongoing inter-ethnic Meitei-Kuki violence.¹ The Manipur government ordered the Assam Rifles to "push back" 718 Burma refugees, including 301 newly-arrived children.²

The ruling Hindu-nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) continued its campaign of hate speech and harassment against approx. 40,000 Rohingya refugees in India.³

Police units and the Anti-Terrorism Squad raided Rohingya refugee camps in Uttar Pradesh State and Haryana State - around 200 refugees, many long term residents of India, were detained. Camp shelters were bulldozed.⁴

Indian forces fired teargas at 270 Rohingya refugees attempting to escape a detention center and killed a five-month-old girl in Jammu and Kashmir.⁵

¹ Mizzima (12 Jul 2023) *Indian ministry pushes Manipur, Mizoram to record data of 'illegal migrants' by September*

² United News of India (25 Jul 2023) *Manipur govt directs security agencies to push back Myanmar immigrants; Indian Express (25 Jul 2023) Push back 718 Myanmar nationals who entered during unrest: Manipur govt to Assam Rifles*

³ Two Circles (31 Jul 2023) *'We Are Hiding in Forests': Fear in Uttar Pradesh's Rohingya Camps After Anti-Terrorism Squad Arrests 74*

⁴ Reuters (24 Jul 2023) *Indian police arrest 74 Rohingya refugees in north; Shafiur Rahman via Twitter (2 Aug 2023) <https://tinyurl.com/5aas4z5n>*

⁵ Guardian (25 Jul 2023) *Baby dies after teargas fired at Rohingya trying to escape Indian detention centre*

²⁷³ AP News (13 Jul 2023) *EU rejects Myanmar's diplomatic role and says it still doesn't recognize generals*

²⁷⁴ RFA (14 Jul 2023) *US again touts importance of Myanmar peace plan despite divisions within ASEAN; ASEAN (15 Jul 2023) Chairman's Statement of The ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference (PMC) 10+1 Sessions with The Dialogue Partners and Trilateral Meetings*

²⁷⁵ AP News (26 Jul 2023) *ASEAN states should engage bilaterally with Myanmar to resolve crisis, Malaysian leader says*

²⁷⁶ Burma Campaign UK (19 Jul 2023) *British government cuts aid to Burma by 70% since coup; UK Government (17 Jul 2023) UK-Myanmar development partnership summary, July 2023*

²⁷⁷ European Council (20 Jul 2023) *Myanmar/Burma: EU imposes seventh round of sanctions against six individuals and one entity*

²⁷⁸ Myanmar Now (21 Jul 2023) *EU expands sanctions targeting Myanmar regime*

²⁷⁹ Justice for Myanmar (21 Jul 2023) *JfM welcomes EU sanctions on Myanmar junta mining enterprise, individuals*

²⁸⁰ Mizzima (24 Jul 2023) *NGO says UK must follow EU and sanction Burmese mining enterprise*

Criminal Court (ICC), and for the international community to prevent the junta's **access to foreign currency, aviation fuel, and weapons**.²⁸¹

On 6 Jul, International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) called on neighboring countries to prevent the human rights and humanitarian crises in Burma from threatening **regional peace and security**. They called for neighboring states to recognize the NUG, **protect refugees fleeing the junta**, halt Rohingya repatriation without citizenship, and stop political, economic, and military support for the junta.²⁸²

On 6 Jul, Article 19 warned that the junta intended to **outlaw the usage** of VPNs, begin **collecting biometric information** in Yangon Region, and expand use of **CCTV** cameras with **facial recognition**. Article 19 called for the international community to stop digital dictatorship, halt trade of surveillance goods and technologies with the junta, and provide support to civil society and those forced to flee.²⁸³

Evidence found of Russia using junta-manufactured arms in Ukraine

On 26 Jul, the Ukrainian military analyst Militaryni stated that 120mm **mortar rounds manufactured in Burma were being used by Russia in Ukraine**. Junta sources confirmed they were manufactured by the **junta's Directorate of Defence Industries** but suggested they were possibly **produced specifically for or in collaboration with Russia**.²⁸⁴

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²⁸¹ UN (6 Jul 2023) Myanmar in “deadly freefall” into even deeper violence, says Türk

²⁸² FIDH (6 Jul 2023) Myanmar: Oral statement at the UN Human Rights Council

²⁸³ Article 19 (6 Jul 2023) UN: Myanmar junta tightens its grasp on online spaces

²⁸⁴ Militaryni (26 Jul 2023) Russia received ammunition manufactured by Myanmar; Irrawaddy (28 Jul 2023) Myanmar Junta Mortar Rounds Fired by Russia in Ukraine