



Statement of Ireland

49th session of the Human Rights Council

Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on Myanmar

18 March 2022

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU, and thanks the Special Rapporteur for his report.

Ireland condemns the coup in Myanmar in the strongest terms. We call for full accountability for the perpetrators of continued violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, and the deplorable violence targeted against civilians, including women and children.

The situation in Myanmar continues to deteriorate. The number of fatalities since the coup is shocking, particularly reports that over 100 children have been killed by security forces. Evidence indicating that a high number of children have been detained as political prisoners is deeply concerning. Inhumane prison conditions, including alarming reports of torture and death in detention and the abhorrent use of sexual and gender-based violence, are also a cause for grave concern.

We call for the immediate release of all those arbitrarily detained, including the State Counsellor and President, as well as protesters, political leaders, human rights defenders, journalists, medical staff, teachers and activists.

Ireland deeply regrets the worsening humanitarian situation and is alarmed by reports of humanitarian aid being intentionally blocked by the military. It is imperative that the Tatmadaw allow full, safe and unhindered humanitarian access, free from political interference.

Special Rapporteur, how can States best support civil society in addressing the human rights situation in Myanmar?

Thank you.