



Statement of Ireland

52nd session of the Human Rights Council

Interactive Dialogue with the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on Myanmar

6 March 2023

Ireland aligns with the statement of the EU and thanks the High Commissioner for his report.

Two years have now passed since the Myanmar Military's illegal and unjustified coup. Its impact on human rights has been devastating.

The Military continues to commit grave human rights violations against civilians including the widespread use of torture, sexual and gender-based violence, extrajudicial executions, forcible displacement and arbitrary detention. Thousands of civilians have been murdered. The number of people in need of humanitarian assistance has risen to over 17 million and ongoing violence has resulted in the mass displacement of over 1 million people. Facilitating safe humanitarian access is paramount.

Impunity is a principle root cause of the present crisis in Myanmar. It is imperative therefore, that those responsible for perpetrating serious human rights violations are brought to justice. Ireland strongly supports the work of the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar and other international efforts to ensure accountability. We reiterate previous calls for the Military to fully cooperate with the important work of the Mechanism and support evidence-gathering processes on crimes committed against the civilian population.

Ireland calls on the Military to immediately cease all violence and attacks directed against the people of Myanmar and to implement ASEAN's Five Point Consensus as a matter of urgency.

What leverage can Member States exert to push for greater cooperation with the Mechanism?