

## Joint Inter-faith Statement on the Crisis in Myanmar

June 03, 2021

We, Faith-Based communities from around the world, declare our common commitment to stand with the suffering people of Myanmar and call on the country's military to stop the violence, respect the sanctity of all human life, and work towards a just and lasting peace throughout the country based upon the will of the people.

Since the events of February 01, 2021, we have viewed with deepening concern the mounting humanitarian needs and spiraling disregard for human rights that, as always, impact most heavily our most vulnerable sisters and brothers.

As Faith-Based humanitarian actors, we will not be silent while today in Myanmar:

- children, women, and men are [killed and injured](#) due to increasing violence
- food, water, shelter, and access to health care have become [urgent needs](#)
- civilians are reportedly used as [human shields](#) by security forces and sexual violence is [weaponised](#)
- [food insecurity](#) and malnutrition expand exacerbating only further the socioeconomic damage sustained by COVID-19
- tens of thousands of [people are displaced](#) from homes and forced to flee in search of [protection](#) that is [often denied](#) at neighboring borders
- [humanitarian assistance efforts are thwarted](#) due to insecure areas and impassable roads
- [houses of worship](#) are targeted and destroyed while serving as refuge for the elderly and children contrary to international conventions
- health care, education, and supply chains to name a few essential services are [severely disrupted](#)

We add our voices to that of UN Secretary-General António Guterres as he [calls](#) on the country's military to respect the democratic aspirations of the people while appealing to the international community to respond to the continuing humanitarian tragedy.

We join our prayers with those of [Cardinal Archbishop Bo of Yangon](#) when he says: *"This needs to stop. Peace is possible; peace is the only way. We make this urgent appeal as a group of faith leaders—not as politicians. We are praying for Peace in this great land of Myanmar and hoping all of us can live as brothers and sisters"*.

ADF International

Columban Center for Advocacy and Outreach

Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd

Congregation of Sisters of Mercy  
COREIS Islamic Religious Community Italy  
Edmund Rice International  
Fondazione Proclade Internazionale ONLUS  
Franciscans International  
Fundación ALBOAN  
Fundación Entreculturas - Fe y Alegría  
HIAS  
Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea  
International Catholic Migration Commission  
Jesuit Mission Australia  
Jesuit Refugee Service  
JPIC Commission USG-UISG  
Justice Revival  
Mercy Foundation  
Mercy International Association - Global Action  
National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd  
NEW HUMANITY  
Religions for Peace  
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas Justice Team  
SJ Around the Bay  
Social Justice and Ecology Secretariat, Society of Jesus, Rome  
Union for Reform Judaism  
Union of Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
University Institute of Studies on Migration, Comillas Universidad Pontificia