

Cebu Declaration

9 May 2026

We condemn the Myanmar military junta's unlawful, violent, fraudulent, and oppressive 2025-2026 elections, who launched 1,288 attacks against civilians including 308 airstrikes, that killed 281 civilians during their sham exercise. We express solidarity for the 11 million voters that resisted junta intimidation to boycott the election, the 10.5 million voters excluded from their illegitimate election, and those who were coerced to vote.

We condemn the junta's prosecution of 404 people under its repressive Election Protection Law, including the civilians that received lengthy jail sentences of up to 49 years.

We condemn the ongoing arrests of activists, the 22,000 political prisoners in jail, and the junta's use of biometric technology to target another 50,000 people for arrest.

ASEAN and the Philippines as its Chair, must reject the institutions and representatives emerging from the sham election, which is the junta's attempt to gain legitimacy. The evidence is clear - the military has not changed its violent and criminal behavior in any way:

- In March 2026, i.e. the month the junta's "parliament" was convened, was also the deadliest month for civilians and non-combatants in the country's modern history – 518 men, women and children were killed by military attacks.
- The peoples of Myanmar continue to face 29 military attacks including 8 airstrikes **every day**. During January to April this year, 1,117 men, women and children were killed by military violence.
- The junta continues to forcibly recruit young people into the military. 100,000 young people have been forced to join this brutal army in the past two years, and forced conscription continues.
- Junta-controlled areas are still hubs for transnational criminal activities, including human trafficking and online scam operations, posing direct threats to ASEAN citizens and undermining regional stability.

ASEAN and the Philippines as Chair should not allow themselves to be scammed by General Min Aung Hlaing and his rebranded junta. Even now, while ASEAN grapples with the rising price of fuel, the junta continues to prioritize fuel for 8 airstrikes a day to kill civilians!

ASEAN must take concrete actions NOW to stop the flow of weapons, aviation fuel and resources that are used by Min Aung Hlaing's junta to commit atrocity crimes.

Last October, ASEAN adopted the decision to advance the safe, effective, and transparent delivery of ASEAN humanitarian assistance without discrimination, including through cross-border efforts to directly reach IDPs affected by the ongoing armed conflicts. We demand

that Philippines prove its leadership to operationalize this decision to address this humanitarian crisis of 3.7 million IDPs and over 12 million people (22% of population) facing acute food insecurity caused by military violence. President Marcos' statement at the ASEAN summit in Cebu expressing frustration over the lack of progress in the situation of Myanmar must be followed through with bolder and more concrete actions supporting a Myanmar people's led and owned resolution.

We demand that ASEAN exclude the representatives of the murderous junta and instead engage with the legitimate representatives of Myanmar i.e. the National Unity Government, and civil society and affected communities of Myanmar who have the sustainable solutions to this regional problem.

ASEAN must not be complicit in the junta's atrocity crimes. ASEAN must stand with the peoples of Myanmar in their quest for an equitable federal democracy based on human rights and accountability.