

MYANMAR SECURITY ANALYSIS REPORT

AI-Assisted Open Source Intelligence Assessment

Analysis Period: October 24, 2026 - October 31, 2026

This report was produced using open-source intelligence analysis. The assessment is grounded in publicly available reporting and should be cross-referenced with primary sources. RSS feed articles are listed in the annex for reference.

Security Analysis Report: Myanmar (October 24-31, 2026)

Executive Summary

Myanmar continued to be engulfed in a severe civil conflict during the period of October 24-31, 2026, marked by intensified military operations and a devastating humanitarian crisis. The military junta escalated its aerial bombardments, resulting in significant civilian casualties and cross-border spillover into Thailand. Diplomatic engagements saw a notable shift with the United States initiating direct talks with the military regime, a move that has drawn criticism for potentially legitimizing the junta. Concurrently, China actively sought to reinforce its influence amidst this evolving geopolitical landscape and growing anti-China sentiment. The ongoing violence, coupled with the obstruction of humanitarian aid, underscores a critical and deteriorating security posture for Myanmar and its immediate region.

Key Security Developments

- Intensified Clashes and Cross-Border Spillover in Karen State

Heavy fighting persisted on the Myanmar side of the border in Myawaddy township, Karen State, particularly in Min La Pan and Pa Lu Noi villages, opposite Thailand's Mae Sot district, on October 30, 2026. The Myanmar military conducted multiple bombing runs targeting Karen forces, leading to residents in Mae Sot being alarmed by bombing sounds and seeking shelter. This escalation prompted Thai authorities to close crossing bridges and suspend goods transportation along the border for seven days or until the fighting subsides.

- Stray Ordnance Impacts Thai Territory

On October 29, 2026, intense clashes between Myanmar military forces and resistance fighters in Min Let Pan village, Myawaddy township, Karen State, resulted in stray bullets and explosive fragments crossing into Thai territory. A 14-year-old boy narrowly escaped injury when a stray bullet pierced his roof, and a 55-year-old woman was injured by shrapnel in Mae Sot district, Tak province. Thai troops tightened security and fired smoke rounds as warning shots, prepared to use live ammunition if further rounds crossed the border.

• Junta Counteroffensives and Resistance Gains in Sagaing Region

Between October 25 and 26, 2026, the Myanmar junta launched an offensive to reclaim territory in Sagaing Region's Indaw Township near the Kachin State border. Resistance forces, including the civilian National Unity Government's People's Defense Force (PDF), the Kachin Independence Army (KIA), and the All Burma Students' Democratic Front (ABSDF), ambushed regime units, inflicting heavy losses. Reports indicated dozens of junta troops were killed, and over 20, including a tactical commander, were captured or surrendered.

• Escalating Civilian Casualties from Aerial Attacks

United Nations experts warned the Third Committee on October 27, 2026, that Myanmar's conflict-related death toll since the 2021 coup had surpassed 100,000, with the military responsible for the vast majority of civilian deaths. DVB Digital, a Burmese-language outlet, reported on October 23, 2026, that over 100 civilians were killed in air attacks by the Myanmar military during October alone, highlighting the sustained use of airpower against resistance-held areas.

• Attacks on Religious Sites

As part of the intensified aerial attacks, UN investigators noted that approximately two weeks prior to October 27, 2026, planes bombed a monastery in Sagaing Region and a church complex in Chin State. These incidents are part of a broader pattern of the military targeting civilian infrastructure, including schools, healthcare facilities, and displacement camps.

• US Diplomatic Engagement with the Military Regime

The United States, under the Trump administration, held a second round of direct talks with Myanmar military regime officials in Tokyo last week (prior to October 16, 2026), following a September meeting in Naypyitaw. This marks a significant policy reversal from Washington's previous stance of isolating the junta. The discussions focused on securing the release of an American businessman, combating cybercrime (specifically scam centers), and potentially gaining access to Myanmar's rare-earth mineral deposits. This engagement has raised concerns among observers and pro-democracy groups about legitimizing the military government.

• China's Efforts to Cement Influence

Amidst renewed US engagement and growing anti-China sentiment in Myanmar, China held talks with nine Myanmar political parties in Yangon on October 13, 2026. Led by Peng Xiubin, director-general of the Chinese Communist Party's International Liaison Department, the meeting aimed to assess public opinion about Beijing and explore ways to strengthen bilateral cooperation. China remains a crucial partner, major investor, and key supplier of arms to the Myanmar military.

• Humanitarian Crisis and Aid Obstruction

The humanitarian situation remains catastrophic, with nearly 3.8 million people internally displaced and 16.2 million needing humanitarian assistance as of July 2026. The military deliberately obstructs humanitarian operations through telecommunications blackouts, movement restrictions, and checkpoints, preventing the delivery of essential supplies to displaced communities.

- Cybersecurity Arrests and Scam Centers

Myanmar authorities announced the arrest of Wai Phyo Aung (also known as Aung Myo) on September 10, 2026, for a string of data-theft and extortion attacks on government and private online services, including a telecom website and a digital payment system. The US engagement with Myanmar's regime also includes efforts to shut down scam centers operating within the country, many of which are reportedly in territories controlled by militias and ethnic armed groups and have targeted American citizens.

- Myanmar Military Regaining Control of Key Roads

Reports indicate that Myanmar's military is regaining control of key roads across the country, disrupting connections between resistance-held territories. These gains include sections of highways leading towards the borders with China, India, and Thailand, making it harder for anti-junta forces to move fighters, weapons, and supplies. This marks a reversal of some territorial advances made by ethnic armed organizations and allied resistance forces in previous years.

Geopolitical Impact and Regional Dynamics

Myanmar's internal conflict continues to exert significant geopolitical pressure and reshape regional dynamics. The United States' recent shift from isolating the military junta to direct engagement, as evidenced by the talks in September and October 2026, represents a major policy pivot. This transactional approach, driven by US interests in combating cybercrime, securing rare-earth minerals, and releasing detained citizens, risks undermining international efforts to pressure the junta and could be perceived as legitimizing the regime. Critics, including the UN Special Envoy on Myanmar, argue that normalizing relations without demanding an end to violence and the release of political prisoners is a "grave, wasted opportunity."

This US policy shift has prompted China to intensify its own diplomatic efforts to cement influence in Myanmar. Beijing held talks with various Myanmar political parties in October 2026, aiming to gauge public opinion and strengthen bilateral ties. China views Myanmar as a crucial partner due to their shared border and economic interconnectivity projects, and it remains a significant supplier of arms to the Tatmadaw. The competition between the US and China for influence in Myanmar, particularly over critical resources like rare-earth minerals, adds another layer of

complexity to the country's already volatile strategic landscape.

Regionally, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) continues to grapple with Myanmar's crisis. While ASEAN initially excluded Myanmar's military leaders from high-level meetings, some member states, notably Thailand, are showing growing frustration with the lack of progress and have renewed direct diplomatic contacts. The spillover of violence into Thailand, with stray ordnance injuring civilians and disrupting border trade in late October 2026, directly impacts regional stability and necessitates a more robust response from neighboring countries. The ongoing humanitarian crisis, with millions displaced and a continuous flow of refugees into Bangladesh and India, further strains regional resources and security.

Military and Defense Analysis

The Myanmar military, or Tatmadaw, continues to rely heavily on air superiority and "scorched earth" tactics to counter widespread armed resistance. Despite significant territorial losses in previous months, particularly in northern, western, and eastern corridors, the junta has intensified its aerial bombardments, causing a high number of civilian casualties. The military's capacity to retake territory through ground offensives has diminished, forcing it into a more defensive posture centered on fortified urban enclaves, while using air power to strike opposition-controlled areas.

Recent reports indicate the Tatmadaw is attempting to regain control of key roads and supply lines across the country, disrupting connections between resistance-held territories and making it harder for anti-junta forces to move fighters, weapons, and supplies. This suggests a strategic shift to consolidate control over vital infrastructure, even as it faces heavy losses in specific engagements, such as the ambushes in Sagaing Region in late October 2026. The military's force posture is characterized by a combination of defensive consolidation in major cities like Yangon and Naypyitaw, and offensive operations, particularly through air power, in rural and contested areas.

In terms of modernization and defense spending, the military-backed government is reportedly increasing its weapons purchases from China, Russia, and other sources, fueling the ongoing conflict. This continued acquisition of arms, despite a collapsing legal economy and growing illicit activities, underscores the junta's commitment to a military solution. The UN Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar has noted the regime's deployment of new technologies of coercion and surveillance, supplied by its Chinese and Russian allies, to suppress dissent. However, the effectiveness of these acquisitions is challenged by the widespread and fragmented nature of the resistance, which continues to inflict significant casualties on regime troops.

Outlook and Forecast

Short-term trends (1-3 months): The immediate future for Myanmar is expected to remain highly volatile, characterized by continued intense conflict. The military junta will likely maintain its strategy of aerial bombardments and "scorched earth" tactics, leading to persistently high civilian casualties and further internal displacement. Resistance forces are expected to continue their coordinated offensives, particularly in ethnic minority regions and along key transportation routes, aiming to disrupt the junta's logistical capabilities. Cross-border spillover, especially into Thailand, is highly probable, necessitating continued vigilance and humanitarian responses from neighboring countries. Diplomatic maneuvering by major powers, particularly the US and China, will intensify as they seek to protect their interests, potentially leading to further shifts in international policy towards Myanmar.

Critical flashpoints and risk areas: Key flashpoints will include the border regions, particularly Karen State (Myawaddy township) due to ongoing clashes and the direct impact on Thailand, and Rakhine State, where the Arakan Army maintains significant control and the Rohingya population remains highly vulnerable. Sagaing Region will also remain a critical area due to active resistance operations and junta counteroffensives. The humanitarian crisis, exacerbated by deliberate aid obstruction, poses a severe risk of increased suffering and mortality among the civilian population. The potential for further attacks on civilian infrastructure, including religious sites, remains high. The porous India-Myanmar border (Manipur) also presents a risk area due to refugee inflows and escalating ethnic conflicts.

Indicators to monitor: Key indicators to monitor include the frequency and intensity of military airstrikes and ground offensives, particularly in civilian areas and along border regions. The number of internally displaced persons and refugees, as well as humanitarian access, will be crucial indicators of the crisis's severity. Shifts in diplomatic engagement from major powers, especially any further normalization of relations with the junta or significant arms deals, should be closely watched. The unity and effectiveness of resistance forces, including their ability to maintain control over key territories and supply lines, will also be important. Furthermore, any signs of increased transnational crime, particularly scam centers, and their links to the military or ethnic armed groups, will be relevant.

Strategic recommendations: The international community should prioritize a unified approach to condemn and mitigate the military junta's violence against civilians, moving beyond transactional engagements that risk legitimizing the regime. Increased pressure, including targeted sanctions on military leaders and entities, should be considered. Humanitarian aid must be scaled up and delivered through all available channels, including cross-border routes, with international bodies demanding unfettered access. Neighboring countries, particularly Thailand and India,

require enhanced support to manage the humanitarian and security implications of border spillover. Diplomatic efforts should focus on fostering inclusive dialogue between all stakeholders in Myanmar, including the National Unity Government and ethnic armed organizations, to find a sustainable political solution. Finally, continued monitoring and documentation of human rights abuses are essential for future accountability.

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ANNEX: COLLECTED ARTICLES BY SOURCE

Source: Democratic Voice of Burma

• UN investigator: Myanmar junta attacks civilians to terrorize them (2026-10-30 23:20)

The military-backed administration in Myanmar, led by regime leader Min Aung Hlaing, is intentionally attacking civilians to terrorize them and force them into submission, and its increasing weapons purchases from China, Russia and elsewhere are fueling the conflict and the “catastrophic” human rights situation in the war-torn Southeast Asian nation, a U.N. rights investigator said. [⋯] The post UN investigator: Myanmar junta attacks civilians to terrorize them appeared first on DVB.

• Japan pushes to remove Myanmar from global financial watchdog’s blacklist (2026-10-30 23:14)

Japan is pushing a global financial crimes watchdog to remove Myanmar from its blacklist to make it easier to do business there, the latest sign that some major countries are looking to bring the pariah state’s military-backed administration in from the cold. Japan wants the Financial Action Task Force to drop requirements that its members [⋯] The post Japan pushes to remove Myanmar from global financial watchdog’s blacklist appeared first on DVB.

• Myanmar military and Arakan Army forcing Rohingya to fight (2026-10-30 23:07)

In the Rakhine State capital Sittwe, military commanders have ordered the arrest of men in Rohingya communities and internally displaced persons (IDP) camps if local leaders fail to hand over a designated quota of new recruits. Elsewhere, the Arakan Army is forcibly recruiting Rohingya to fight in the battle for Sittwe. Read more The post Myanmar military and Arakan Army forcing Rohingya to fight appeared first on DVB.

• Mae Tao Clinic fits 300 Myanmar landmine survivors with free prosthetics amid war (2026-10-30 09:11)

After losing his leg to a landmine blast in Myanmar, Ko Paing undertook an arduous cross-border journey from his home in Bago Region, evading checkpoints and conflict zones to reach the Mae Tao Clinic on the Thai-Myanmar border. His goal was straightforward: regain the ability to walk. Fitted with an artificial limb, Ko Paing described [⋯] The post Mae Tao Clinic fits 300 Myanmar landmine survivors with free prosthetics amid war appeared first on DVB.

• Ethnic Rakhine returnees from Malaysia released from military custody in Yangon (2026-10-30 06:43)

More than 400 ethnic Rakhine deported from Malaysia have begun returning home since Tuesday after being held in military custody since arriving back to Myanmar on Oct. 4, according to family members. “Everyone has been allowed to go home, but if there is no one to come and collect them, they are not permitted to […] The post Ethnic Rakhine returnees from Malaysia released from military custody in Yangon appeared first on DVB.

- ASEAN envoy denied access to Aung San Suu Kyi during humanitarian mission to Myanmar (2026-10-30 03:30)

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Special Envoy on Myanmar, Philippine Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Maria Theresa Lazaro, concluded a high-stakes mission to Naypyidaw where she held direct talks with regime Foreign Minister Tin Maung Swe on the ongoing civil war and expanding cross-border humanitarian access. The diplomatic mission—conducted amid deep regional divisions over re-engaging […] The post ASEAN envoy denied access to Aung San Suu Kyi during humanitarian mission to Myanmar appeared first on DVB.

- Myanmar’s Chin National Front on forming a new Chin National Council (2026-10-30 02:54)

In an exclusive interview with DVB, Chin National Front (CNF) executive committee member and veteran leader of the 1988 generation Salai Khua Uk Lian revealed that rival Chin resistance factions have agreed to draft a new joint constitution and transition toward a unified Chin State government under a single body called the Chin National Council. […] The post Myanmar’s Chin National Front on forming a new Chin National Council appeared first on DVB.

- Myanmar’s illicit economy fuels escalating violence, with civilians bearing the brunt (2026-10-30 02:31)

Myanmar’s human rights situation is “catastrophic”, a U.N. independent expert on the country warned at a press briefing Thursday, as the war spirals with no end in sight. Myanmar has been engulfed in civil war since the military overthrew the democratically elected government in February 2021, triggering widespread armed resistance across the country. The U.N. […] The post Myanmar’s illicit economy fuels escalating violence, with civilians bearing the brunt appeared first on DVB.

- Malaysia to proceed with Myanmar repatriation after court rejects stay order (2026-10-29 22:45)

Malaysia will continue with the repatriation of 3,500 Myanmar refugees and asylum seekers through established diplomatic channels with the regime in Naypyidaw, Malaysian Home Minister Saifuddin Nasution Ismail announced on Thursday. The decision follows a High Court ruling dismissing an application by the Malaysian Bar for an interim stay to halt the deportations pending judicial […] The post Malaysia to proceed with Myanmar repatriation after court rejects stay order appeared first on DVB.

• Myanmar’s Nuclear Ambitions – Episode 3 (2026-10-29 22:07)

In this six-part series: Myanmar’s Nuclear Ambitions – Episode 3 outlines the nuclear fuel cycle and examines the potential for nuclear development in Myanmar in the context of an agreement with Russia. The nuclear fuel cycle begins with mining uranium and preparing it for use as reactor fuel. Once used, the fuel becomes highly radioactive […] The post Myanmar’s Nuclear Ambitions – Episode 3 appeared first on DVB.

• Letters to a young activist: Intergenerational Movement Building (2026-10-29 22:04)

Guest contributor Khin Ohmar Dear young activist, As an activist from the ’88 generation, I have experienced movement activism as both the younger generation in relation to the ethnic resistance movements and now as an elder to the Spring Revolution. I deeply believe that the success of our movements, and social transformation more broadly, is […] The post Letters to a young activist: Intergenerational Movement Building appeared first on DVB.

• ASEAN envoy leads mission to Myanmar; UN envoy rejects regime claim of governance and stability (2026-10-29 22:03)

ASEAN Envoy leads humanitarian mission to Myanmar The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) 2026 Chair, the Philippines, Special Envoy on Myanmar Theresa Lazaro arrived in the country on Wednesday for a three-day visit to oversee the distribution of humanitarian aid after the regime in Naypyidaw has been accused of weaponizing aid deliveries by not […] The post ASEAN envoy leads mission to Myanmar; UN envoy rejects regime claim of governance and stability appeared first on DVB.

• KIA renews assault on Military Operations Command in Kachin State as regime counterattacks (2026-10-29 09:31)

The Kachin Independence Army (KIA) has resumed attacks on regime positions around the Military Operations Command 21 in Bhamo Township earlier this month, while the military counterattacks KIA positions in Bhamo, Mansi and Momauk townships. Naw Bu, the KIA spokesperson, told DVB that fighting over control of the regime’s Light Infantry Battalion (LIB) 47 has […] The post KIA renews assault on Military Operations Command in Kachin State as regime counterattacks appeared first on DVB.

• Thai Army fires warning shots into Myanmar after artillery shell wounds woman in Mae Sot (2026-10-29 08:19)

The Royal Thai Army stated on Thursday that it fired “warning shots” across the border into Myanmar after a Thai woman was injured by artillery and hospitalized in Thailand’s Mae Sot District one day after 200 Mae Sot residents demanded protection from the government after an unknown number of them had been injured by stray […] The post Thai Army fires warning shots into Myanmar after artillery shell wounds woman in Mae Sot appeared first on DVB.

• UN Special Rapporteur warns diplomatic engagement legitimizing Myanmar regime (2026-10-29 06:59)

The United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, Kelley E. Currie, has warned the international community that pursuing unconditional diplomatic engagement with the regime in Naypyidaw risks legitimizing military rule while civilian bloodshed and systemic abuses continue unabated. Addressing the 81st session of the U.N. General Assembly Third Committee Interactive [⋯] The post UN Special Rapporteur warns diplomatic engagement legitimizing Myanmar regime appeared first on DVB.

• Arakan Army accuses Myanmar military of using civilians as human shields in Sittwe (2026-10-29 06:49)

The Arakan Army (AA) has accused the Myanmar military of deploying local residents as "human shields" and ordering civilians to dismantle their makeshift bomb shelters as heavy fighting intensifies for control of the Arakan State capital Sittwe. Khaing Thukha, the AA spokesperson, announced on Wednesday that regime forces stationed inside the besieged state capital are [⋯] The post Arakan Army accuses Myanmar military of using civilians as human shields in Sittwe appeared first on DVB.

• Myanmar's UN Ambassador honours 'fallen heroes'; IIMM warns about escalating war crimes (2026-10-28 22:32)

Myanmar's UN Ambassador honours 'fallen heroes' since 2021 Burma's Permanent Representative to the U.N., Ambassador Kyaw Moe Tun, made an emotional and solemn appeal to U.N. member states to help end the crisis in Burma since the 2021 military coup during an address to the 81st session of the U.N. General Assembly Third Committee Interactive [⋯] The post Myanmar's UN Ambassador honours 'fallen heroes'; IIMM warns about escalating war crimes appeared first on DVB.

• The Philippines' top diplomat leads a humanitarian mission to Myanmar (2026-10-28 22:01)

The Philippines' top diplomat arrived in Myanmar on Wednesday to oversee the distribution of humanitarian aid, as Myanmar's military-backed government seeks to improve strained relations with its neighbors and other countries. Philippine Foreign Secretary Theresa Lazaro is making the two-day visit in her capacity as Special Envoy on Myanmar for ASEAN, the Association of Southeast [⋯] The post The Philippines' top diplomat leads a humanitarian mission to Myanmar appeared first on DVB.

• UN Special Envoy rejects military solution in Myanmar, warns against normalization (2026-10-28 21:59)

The United Nations Special Envoy on Myanmar, Julie Bishop, briefed the 81st session of the U.N. General Assembly's Third Committee meeting on Tuesday, laying bare the deeply contested reality of what Myanmar's regime states and the facts on-the-ground. Challenging what she

called the “myth” that the crisis in Myanmar since the 2021 military coup can [⋯] The post UN Special Envoy rejects military solution in Myanmar, warns against normalization appeared first on DVB.

• NUG broadcaster to launch ‘PVTV International’ in English language (2026-10-28 09:54)

Public Voice Television (PVTV), the broadcast wing of Myanmar’s National Unity Government (NUG), has announced it will soon launch an English-language news service named “PVTV International” to expand coverage of Myanmar to an international audience. PVTV said the service would provide news, analysis and video reports on Myanmar’s political and military developments, including “the Spring [⋯] The post NUG broadcaster to launch ‘PVTV International’ in English language appeared first on DVB.

• Myanmar military accused of targeting food supplies in Karenni and Shan states (2026-10-28 08:37)

The Karenni Interim Executive Council (IEC) told DVB that regime forces have deliberately targeted Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps, where farmers are harvesting their crops this season, with aerial and artillery attacks since September. “The military instills fear among residents to drive them into regime-controlled areas,” Banyar Khun Aung, Secretary 2 of the IEC—a provisional [⋯] The post Myanmar military accused of targeting food supplies in Karenni and Shan states appeared first on DVB.

• Land of collapsed Mandalay Sky Villa condo to be auctioned in November (2026-10-28 08:32)

The land and property rights for the collapsed Sky Villa Condominium site in Mandalay’s Aungmyaythazan Township—where more than 200 bodies were recovered following the catastrophic March 28, 2025 earthquake—are scheduled to be auctioned off in November. Regime authorities announced that surviving unit owners or their legal representatives have a seven-day window to file formal objections [⋯] The post Land of collapsed Mandalay Sky Villa condo to be auctioned in November appeared first on DVB.

• Myanmar Ambassador holds up scarf bearing victims’ names in tearful address at UN (2026-10-28 05:07)

Myanmar’s Permanent Representative to the U.N., Ambassador Kyaw Moe Tun, made an emotional and solemn appeal to U.N. member states to help end the crisis in Myanmar since the 2021 military coup during an address to the 81st U.N. General Assembly Third Committee Interactive Dialogue on Tuesday. “I hold in my hand a scarf, a [⋯] The post Myanmar Ambassador holds up scarf bearing victims’ names in tearful address at UN appeared first on DVB.

• Aung San Suu Kyi talks to son for first time in 5 years (2026-10-28 04:25)

Myanmar’s military regime allowed jailed leader Aung San Suu Kyi a 20-minute phone call with her son, Kim Aris, on Oct. 22—the first time she was granted family access since being detained during the military coup on Feb. 1, 2021. Aris spoke to DVB following the call. Read more The post Aung San Suu Kyi talks to son for first time in 5 years appeared first on DVB.

- ASEAN Special Envoy leads humanitarian mission to Myanmar (2026-10-28 03:25)

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Special Envoy on Myanmar and Philippine Foreign Affairs Secretary, Maria Theresa Lazaro, will lead a two-day humanitarian mission to Myanmar starting Wednesday, ASEAN chair the Philippines announced. The itinerary includes a trip to conflict-affected Shan State alongside high-level diplomatic engagements with senior regime officials in Naypyidaw. While the […] The post ASEAN Special Envoy leads humanitarian mission to Myanmar appeared first on DVB.

- Myanmar military and Arakan Army forcibly recruiting Rohingya to fight in battle for Rakhine State capital (2026-10-28 03:17)

The Myanmar military and the ethnic Rakhine armed group, the Arakan Army (AA), have been forcibly conscripting and recruiting Rohingya and other Muslim youth in Arakan State to deploy them to active frontlines surrounding the state capital of Sittwe, according to accounts from local residents and diaspora networks. In regime-controlled territory, military commanders have ordered […] The post Myanmar military and Arakan Army forcibly recruiting Rohingya to fight in battle for Rakhine State capital appeared first on DVB.

- With Myanmar, the media can raise the cost of normalization (2026-10-28 03:04)

Guest contributor James Shwe An assurance of safety is not proof of safety. For governments seeking closer relations with Myanmar’s military, that distinction should be a test of policy, not an inconvenience to be managed. Two recent reports about Malaysia’s refugee repatriation program bring that test into focus. On October 26, AFP reported that Malaysian […] The post With Myanmar, the media can raise the cost of normalization appeared first on DVB.

- IIMM investigating escalating war crimes in Myanmar as military attacks intensify (2026-10-28 01:32)

The human rights situation in Myanmar has deteriorated significantly as the military sharply escalates its reliance on aerial strikes, torture, and sexual violence, the head of the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar (IIMM) told the 81st Session of the U.N. General Assembly’s Third Committee on Tuesday. “Since I last appeared before you, the situation in […] The post IIMM investigating escalating war crimes in Myanmar as military attacks intensify appeared first on DVB.

- ASEAN Special Envoy arrives in Myanmar; Aung San Suu Kyi requests clothes from her home (2026-10-27 23:02)

ASEAN Special Envoy arrives in Myanmar The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) 2026 Chair, the Philippines, Special Envoy on Myanmar and Philippine Foreign Secretary Maria Theresa Lazaro will lead a humanitarian delegation to Burma on Wednesday to discuss efforts to expand humanitarian access across the conflict-hit country, anonymous diplomatic sources told ThaiPBS. The sources [⋯] The post ASEAN Special Envoy arrives in Myanmar; Aung San Suu Kyi requests clothes from her home appeared first on DVB.

- Historian cautions against weaponizing ‘Scarlet Heart Thailand’ controversy (2026-10-27 22:56)

A Thai academic has warned that toxic social media rhetoric risks damaging ties between Thailand and Myanmar due to an online dispute surrounding the upcoming television series Scarlet Heart Thailand. The controversy erupted after Thai entertainment company GMMTV released promotional material for its adaptation of the historical fantasy franchise, prompting observers and netizens in Myanmar [⋯] The post Historian cautions against weaponizing ‘Scarlet Heart Thailand’ controversy appeared first on DVB.

- GSCB calls out Myanmar military ‘war crimes’ on anniversary of Thadingyut attack (2026-10-27 08:37)

The General Strike Coordination Body (GSCB), which is a coalition of anti-2021 coup strike committees, marked the first anniversary of a paramotor attack that killed at least 24 people attending the Full Moon Day of Thadingyut in Sagaing Region on Oct. 6, 2025. The GSCB, which was honoured on Oct. 11 with the 6th Forum [⋯] The post GSCB calls out Myanmar military ‘war crimes’ on anniversary of Thadingyut attack appeared first on DVB.

- Aung San Suu Kyi requests clothes from Yangon home ahead of ASEAN envoy visit to Myanmar (2026-10-27 05:41)

The ousted National League for Democracy (NLD) party told DVB that its co-founder and leader Aung San Suu Kyi, who has been detained by the regime in Naypyidaw since the military coup on Feb. 1, 2021, has instructed staff at her Yangon residence to send clothing to her in Naypyidaw, where’s she been held for [⋯] The post Aung San Suu Kyi requests clothes from Yangon home ahead of ASEAN envoy visit to Myanmar appeared first on DVB.

- ASEAN Special Envoy Maria Theresa Lazaro to visit Myanmar this week (2026-10-27 02:28)

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) 2026 Chair, the Philippines, Special Envoy on Myanmar and Philippine Foreign Secretary Maria Theresa Lazaro will lead a humanitarian delegation to the country on Wednesday to discuss efforts to expand humanitarian access across the conflict-hit country, according to diplomatic sources. The sources, who requested anonymity, said Lazaro will [⋯] The post ASEAN Special Envoy Maria Theresa Lazaro to visit Myanmar this week appeared first on DVB.

• Malaysia seeks answers from Myanmar over continued detention of returnees (2026-10-26 23:22)

Malaysia will formally seek clarification from Myanmar's military authorities following reports that hundreds of recently repatriated migrants were transferred directly into military custody upon arrival in Yangon, Malaysian Foreign Minister Mohamad Hasan announced in parliament on Monday. The diplomatic pushback comes after Kuala Lumpur deported 1,476 Myanmar nationals via three naval vessels on Sept. 29 […] The post Malaysia seeks answers from Myanmar over continued detention of returnees appeared first on DVB.

• Myanmar diaspora in Chiang Mai marks Thadingyut with traditional charity fair (2026-10-26 22:48)

Members of the Myanmar diaspora in northern Thailand gathered at Memories of Chiang Mai on Oct. 26 to celebrate the Full Moon Day of Thadingyut by hosting a traditional Nibban Zay charity market. The event recreated one of Myanmar's most cherished cultural traditions, blending festive community gatherings with Buddhist merit-making and charitable giving. Under the […] The post Myanmar diaspora in Chiang Mai marks Thadingyut with traditional charity fair appeared first on DVB.

• Myanmar war crimes survivors look to Denmark for justice (2026-10-26 22:22)

Guest contributor Chris Gunness Forty homes. That is how many a woman, now living in Denmark, watched burn in her village in Chin State, western Myanmar. Family members and friends were killed or left permanently disabled by landmines planted by the junta. Like tens of thousands of others from Chin State, she was driven across […] The post Myanmar war crimes survivors look to Denmark for justice appeared first on DVB.

• Iran sends jet fuel to Myanmar despite sanctions; War crimes survivor from Chin State files case (2026-10-26 21:58)

Iran sends jet fuel to Myanmar despite sanctions In December 2025, the U.S.-sanctioned tanker Reef arrived in Burma's waters with some 113,000 barrels of fuel backed by sham paperwork. Burma-based energy broker Dynamic Wave ordered the shipment, agreeing in a sales contract inked with Thailand's Tawan-Oil Trading to supposedly take delivery of a similar amount […] The post Iran sends jet fuel to Myanmar despite sanctions; War crimes survivor from Chin State files case appeared first on DVB.

• Thousands visit Bagan for first-ever Sky Lantern Festival over Thadingyut holiday (2026-10-26 10:07)

Thousands of domestic visitors traveled to the ancient city of Bagan in Mandalay Region for the inaugural Sky Lantern Festival, held from Oct. 25-27 across the UNESCO World Heritage site. Organized by the regime's Directorate of Hotels and Tourism to promote travel in the historic zone, the three-day event coincided with Thadingyut—Myanmar's traditional Festival of […] The post Thousands visit Bagan for first-ever Sky Lantern Festival over Thadingyut holiday

appeared first on DVB.

• Myanmar regime accused of multimillion-dollar trade fraud to smuggle banned jet fuel (2026-10-26 08:41)

Activist whistleblower group Justice for Myanmar on Monday accused the regime in Naypyidaw of bypassing international sanctions and “misdescribing and misclassifying” jet fuel as high-speed diesel to conceal the import of U.S.-sanctioned vessels from Iran transporting over 843,000 barrels—worth an estimated $109.5 million USD—between December 2024 and November 2025. “Aviation fuel is a deadly weapon [⋯] The post Myanmar regime accused of multimillion-dollar trade fraud to smuggle banned jet fuel appeared first on DVB.

• Myanmar war crimes survivor files precedent-setting case against military in Denmark (2026-10-26 06:54)

An unnamed war crimes survivor from Myanmar’s Chin State filed an unprecedented criminal complaint with authorities in Denmark today against members of the Myanmar military, leveraging recently enacted Danish legislation that specifically criminalizes war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide under universal jurisdiction principles. Now a Danish resident, the complainant witnessed regime forces torch 40 [⋯] The post Myanmar war crimes survivor files precedent-setting case against military in Denmark appeared first on DVB.

• KIO marks 66th anniversary by accusing military of sabotaging resistance goal of federal union (2026-10-26 05:27)

The Kachin Independence Organization (KIO) stated that the regime in Naypyidaw is sabotaging “union-building efforts” made by ethnic armed resistance forces during a speech to mark the 66th anniversary of the KIO on Sunday. “The military regime does not want a strong federal union to emerge or the people to prosper and develop. It carries [⋯] The post KIO marks 66th anniversary by accusing military of sabotaging resistance goal of federal union appeared first on DVB.

• How purchases of sanctioned Iranian jet fuel were disguised by Myanmar (2026-10-26 05:05)

In December 2025, the U.S.-sanctioned tanker Reef arrived in Myanmar waters with some 113,000 barrels of fuel backed by sham paperwork. Myanmar-based energy broker Dynamic Wave ordered the shipment, agreeing in a sales contract inked with Thailand’s Tawan-Oil Trading to supposedly take delivery of a similar amount of South African diesel. But the $15.8 million [⋯] The post How purchases of sanctioned Iranian jet fuel were disguised by Myanmar appeared first on DVB.

• Aung San Suu Kyi and the courage to lead beyond domination (2026-10-26 02:42)

Guest contributor Alan Clements Myanmar’s detained Nobel Peace laureate and former State Counsellor, Aung San Suu Kyi, led the country’s democratically elected civilian government

before the military seized power in February 2021. Her captivity belongs to a longer history: the tens of thousands jailed across decades for challenging military rule, and the thousands of political [⋯] The post Aung San Suu Kyi and the courage to lead beyond domination appeared first on DVB.

- Hundreds of troops advance across Magway Region to recapture resistance-held oilfields (2026-10-26 02:22)

Around 400 regime troops have advanced from Magway Region's Pakkoku Township into Myaing Township since Oct. 18 to retake control of oilfields seized by resistance forces in 2024. Residents told DVB that at least 800 regime troops have been documented in Myaing since May. A Myaing resident told DVB on the condition of anonymity that [⋯] The post Hundreds of troops advance across Magway Region to recapture resistance-held oilfields appeared first on DVB.

- Myanmar's UN Ambassador on critical credentials vote [AUDIO] (2026-10-25 23:39)

As the U.N. General Assembly began its 81st session, Myanmar's Permanent Representative to the U.N. Ambassador Kyaw Moe Tun has affirmed his commitment to retain the country's seat at the headquarters in New York, dismissing ongoing efforts by the regime in Naypyidaw to unseat him and charge him with treason and financial impropriety. Watch the [⋯] The post Myanmar's UN Ambassador on critical credentials vote [AUDIO] appeared first on DVB.

- Myanmar's UN Ambassador on critical credentials vote (2026-10-25 22:51)

As the U.N. General Assembly began its 81st session, Myanmar's Permanent Representative to the U.N. Ambassador Kyaw Moe Tun has affirmed his commitment to retain the country's seat at the headquarters in New York, dismissing ongoing efforts by the regime in Naypyidaw to unseat him and charge him with treason and financial impropriety. Read more The post Myanmar's UN Ambassador on critical credentials vote appeared first on DVB.

- Thailand welcomes US-Myanmar engagement; UK facing backlash over diplomatic outreach to regime (2026-10-25 22:46)

Thailand welcomes US-Myanmar engagement Thailand welcomes U.S. engagement with Burma and expects discussions at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) summit in Manila next month on how to proceed with the member state that has been barred from high-level summits and meetings after the 2021 military coup, Thai Foreign Minister Sihasak Phuangketkeow told Reuters [⋯] The post Thailand welcomes US-Myanmar engagement; UK facing backlash over diplomatic outreach to regime appeared first on DVB.

- Chin resistance factions take major step toward reunification after renewed talks in India (2026-10-25 06:36)

The Chin National Front (CNF) stated that it met with the Interim Chin National Consultative Council (ICNCC) for further discussions on reunification of the two factions of the Chin resistance in India's Mizoram State capital Aizawl on Oct. 16-17. "We saw favorable prospects

for reunification," Salai Khua Uk Lian, a CNF executive committee member, told [⋯] The post Chin resistance factions take major step toward reunification after renewed talks in India appeared first on DVB.

- Philippines announces bounty on senator wanted by the ICC for crime against humanity (2026-10-24 23:00)

Philippine officials announced a bounty Friday for the capture of a senator who has been ordered arrested by the International Criminal Court (ICC) for an alleged crime against humanity in connection with deadly anti-drugs crackdowns. The court alleges that Senator Ronald dela Rosa, 64, was an "indirect co-conspirator" of former President Rodrigo Duterte, who was [⋯] The post Philippines announces bounty on senator wanted by the ICC for crime against humanity appeared first on DVB.

- Thailand welcomes US-Myanmar engagement, expects ASEAN talks on country's future (2026-10-24 01:34)

Thailand welcomes U.S. engagement with Myanmar and expects discussions at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) summit in Manila next month on how to proceed with the member state that has been barred since the 2021 coup, Thai Foreign Minister Sihasak Phuangketkeow told Reuters on Friday. The United States and Myanmar's regime held talks [⋯] The post Thailand welcomes US-Myanmar engagement, expects ASEAN talks on country's future appeared first on DVB.

Source: Myanmar Now

- 'Be back by 7': For Yangon's young, a life ruled by a self-enforced curfew (2026-10-30 11:31)

A first-time visitor to Myanmar's commercial capital finds a city drained of much of its vitality, as conflict takes its invisible toll

- Myanmar junta bombs religious ceremony; kills own POWs in Chin State (2026-10-30 11:22)

The regime's airstrike in Sagaing Region injured a monk and forced the cancellation of a Pa hāna scripture recitation in what locals say was a targeted attack

- ASEAN envoy ends Myanmar trip with no public Suu Kyi meeting (2026-10-30 04:52)

The Philippines, the regional bloc's current chair, has repeatedly requested access to the detained leader of the country's deposed government

- Myanmar's military is regaining ground, costing the resistance key connections (2026-10-29 10:52)

Myanmar's military is regaining control of key roads across the country, disrupting connections between resistance-held territories and making it harder for anti-junta forces to move fighters, weapons, and supplies, according to resistance officials and sources interviewed by Myanmar Now. The gains include sections of highways leading towards the borders with China, India, and Thailand, as ⋯

• Myanmar junta launches arson spree in Sagaing after colonel's killing (2026-10-29 09:18)

More than 10,000 locals from 19 villages have fled the junta column's attacks, which have now been ongoing for almost 10 days

• Myanmar junta columns suffer heavy losses in Sagaing as resistance attacks intensify (2026-10-29 08:13)

Two columns, with a total of around 500 troops, have been almost completely wiped out since the start of a junta offensive earlier this month, resistance sources claim

• Myanmar regime imprisons two Islamic teachers and seizes mosque (2026-10-28 10:10)

The junta arrested the religious leaders and sealed off the mosque after it retook Nawnghkio from the TNLA last year

• ASEAN envoy visits Myanmar as junta seeks return to summits (2026-10-28 05:10)

ASEAN envoy Maria Theresa Lazaro's Myanmar visit comes as military authorities seek a return to regional summits and speculation grows over a possible meeting with detained leader Aung San Suu Kyi

• Chin forces resist Myanmar junta's offensive in southern Chin (2026-10-27 08:33)

Resistance forces say BNRA troops who defected to the junta earlier this year were among prisoners captured during recent clashes

• Malaysia to seek clarification over reports of detained Myanmar returnees (2026-10-27 04:59)

Malaysia will seek clarification from Myanmar over reports that hundreds of migrants recently returned to the country are being held in military detention, Foreign Minister Mohamad Hasan said on Monday. Malaysia in late September sent back around 1,500 Myanmar nationals as it launched a scheme that rights groups say may endanger migrants by returning them ⋯

• Sagaing resistance group surrenders weapons to NUG, dissolves after leader's killing (2026-10-26 11:05)

The Sadaung Moe Kyoe PDF, a group operating outside the NUG's command structure, cited safety concerns in its decision to disband

• Myanmar war crimes survivors look to Denmark for justice (2026-10-26 09:09)

A change in Danish law opens a new door for victims of atrocities in Myanmar to seek accountability from the country’s military rulers