

MYANMAR SECURITY ANALYSIS REPORT

AI-Assisted Open Source Intelligence Assessment

Analysis Period: October 25, 2026 - November 01, 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.

Executive Summary

Myanmar's security landscape from October 25 to November 1, 2026, remained highly volatile, characterized by escalating conflict, severe humanitarian crises, and complex diplomatic shifts. The military junta intensified its aerial bombardments and drone warfare against resistance forces and civilian areas, leading to a significant increase in casualties and displacement, with a UN expert reporting over 100,000 conflict-related deaths since the 2021 coup. Resistance groups, particularly the Arakan Army (AA), continued to make territorial gains, especially in Rakhine State, challenging the junta's control and forcing it into a defensive posture. Concurrently, the United States initiated renewed high-level diplomatic engagement with the junta, while Thailand heightened border security due to cross-border spillover from the conflict, underscoring the regional implications of Myanmar's internal strife. The humanitarian situation deteriorated further, with millions displaced and a widespread need for assistance, exacerbated by the junta's "Four Cuts" doctrine.

Key Security Developments

- Intensified Military Airstrikes and Civilian Casualties

The Myanmar military junta continued its heavy reliance on airstrikes, particularly in Rakhine State, following the reported failure of "Operation 4926" which aimed to regain territory from the Arakan Army (AA). On October 25, 2026, junta airstrikes reportedly hit two Rakhine townships on a sacred Buddhist holiday. This tactic has resulted in numerous civilian deaths and injuries, with a September 28, 2026 airstrike on a crowded market in Kyauktaw Township killing 50 civilians and injuring 58 others. A UN human rights expert, Kelley Anne Eckels-Currie, stated on October 27, 2026, that the conflict-related death toll since the 2021 coup had surpassed 100,000, including civilians, attributing this to the junta's deliberate attacks to terrorize the population.

- Escalation of Drone Warfare by the Junta

Myanmar is currently experiencing the world's second most intense drone war, with the military junta increasingly utilizing drones against resistance forces and civilians. Since June 2025, the Tatmadaw has been responsible for 71% of drone attacks, a significant increase from 5% in 2023. This shift indicates a strategic adaptation by the junta to compensate for ground losses and project power, further endangering civilian populations.

- Arakan Army (AA) Gains and Siege of Sittwe

The Arakan Army (AA) maintained its comprehensive offensive in Rakhine State, making significant territorial gains and intensifying attacks on key urban centers like Sittwe and Kyaukphyu. By early October 2026, the AA had reportedly liberated nine peripheral positions around Sittwe and continued to press its advantage. Reports on October 28, 2026, indicated the AA struck three junta warships near Sittwe, with two reportedly sinking. This sustained pressure has forced the junta into a defensive posture, primarily relying on air superiority to defend its remaining strongholds.

- Extension of Martial Law

On October 25, 2026, the military junta extended martial law for an additional 90 days across 55 townships, transferring executive powers to General Ye Win Oo. This move consolidates military control over a significant portion of the country, indicating the junta's intent to maintain a firm grip amidst widespread resistance and continued territorial losses.

- Forced Recruitment and Military Conscription

The military's conscription program, enforced since February 2024, has seen a dramatic increase in recruitment. By October 2026, over 136,300 individuals had been recruited, nearly an eightfold increase in annual recruitment compared to pre-conscription law levels. This forced recruitment is a desperate measure by the junta to replenish its dwindling forces, with reports of coercion and abduction of civilians.

- Humanitarian Crisis Deepens

The humanitarian situation in Myanmar continued to worsen, with the United Nations estimating that over 16 million people require humanitarian assistance. By September 2026, more than four million people were internally displaced, with many seeking refuge in neighboring countries like Thailand, India, and Bangladesh. The junta's "Four Cuts" doctrine, which aims to sever food, resources, humanitarian access, and support networks from resistance areas, deliberately obstructs aid delivery, exacerbating the crisis.

- US Diplomatic Re-engagement with the Junta

The United States resumed high-level diplomatic engagement with Myanmar's military leadership in September and October 2026, a significant shift from its post-coup policy of sanctions and isolation. Discussions reportedly focused on securing the release of an American businessman and shutting down scam centers, with potential for broader cooperation including access to Myanmar's rare-earth mineral deposits. This re-engagement has drawn criticism from human rights advocacy groups.

- ASEAN Diplomatic Efforts

On October 29, 2026, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Tin Maung Swe received Ms. Ma. Theresa P. Lazaro, the Special Envoy of the 2026 ASEAN Chair on Myanmar, in

Naypyitaw. Discussions focused on enhancing bilateral cooperation between Myanmar and the Philippines, and ways to restore Myanmar's "original role and rights" within ASEAN, as well as preparations for the upcoming 49th ASEAN Summit.

- Cross-Border Spillover and Thai Border Security

Fighting near the Thai-Myanmar border, particularly in Karen State opposite Mae Sot, led to cross-border incidents. On October 31, 2026, Myanmar military aircraft dropped bombs on a resistance base opposite Mae Sam Laep village, causing explosions that shattered windows and damaged buildings on the Thai side of the Salween River. In response, Thailand tightened border security, suspending unofficial trade routes in high-risk areas from October 30 to November 5, 2026, to prevent supplies from reaching armed groups and protect its citizens.

- Cybersecurity Incident and Arrest

Myanmar authorities announced the arrest of Wai Phyo Aung (also known as Aung Myo) on September 10, 2026, for a series of data-theft and extortion attacks on government and private online services throughout 2026. The attacks allegedly involved threatening to publish users' personal information online and demanding money. This highlights ongoing cybersecurity threats within the country.

Geopolitical Impact and Regional Dynamics

Myanmar's ongoing civil war and the junta's brutal tactics continue to significantly destabilize the region. The intensified conflict, marked by widespread airstrikes and a deepening humanitarian crisis, has led to a surge in refugees seeking asylum in neighboring countries like Thailand, India, and Bangladesh, placing considerable strain on their resources and border security. Thailand's recent actions to suspend unofficial border trade and increase patrols along its border with Myanmar underscore the direct impact of the conflict on regional stability and the potential for cross-border escalation.

The diplomatic landscape surrounding Myanmar remains complex and fragmented. The United States' decision to re-engage directly with the military junta, focusing on specific American interests such as the release of a businessman and combating scam centers, signals a pragmatic shift in its foreign policy. This move, however, has been met with criticism from human rights advocates who fear it may legitimize the junta and undermine efforts to promote democracy and human rights. Meanwhile, China and Russia continue to be key suppliers of arms to the Tatmadaw, fueling the conflict and strengthening the junta's capacity for aerial warfare. This support complicates international efforts to isolate the regime and pressure it towards a peaceful resolution.

ASEAN's role remains crucial, with the Special Envoy of the 2026 ASEAN Chair visiting Naypyitaw to discuss bilateral cooperation and Myanmar's place within the bloc. However, the effectiveness of ASEAN's Five-Point Consensus has been limited, and the bloc remains divided on how to best address the crisis. The potential for Myanmar to fracture into distinct political entities, with ethnic armed organizations establishing quasi-states, poses a long-term threat to regional coherence and could lead to further localized conflicts over borders and resources. The international community's divergent approaches, ranging from engagement to isolation, further complicate the broader strategic landscape, leaving Myanmar in a state of prolonged instability.

Military and Defense Analysis

The Myanmar military, or Tatmadaw, is increasingly relying on air superiority and drone warfare to counter significant territorial losses and a fragmented but effective resistance. Despite having a considerable advantage in arms and manpower, the junta has failed to overcome its opponents on the ground, leading to a desperate reliance on aerial terror tactics. The Tatmadaw is now waging the world's second most intense drone war, with its share of drone attacks rising to 71% since June 2025, primarily targeting civilians. This shift underscores a strategic adaptation to compensate for ground setbacks and maintain a coercive presence.

The junta's force posture is becoming increasingly defensive, centered on fortified urban enclaves, as resistance forces, including the Arakan Army (AA), Kachin Independence Army (KIA), Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA), and Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA), coordinate offensives that have fragmented the central command structure. The military has lost control of key northern, western, and eastern corridors, with reports suggesting a downgrade or relocation of command units to consolidate remaining strength. The forced conscription program, which has recruited over 136,300 individuals by October 2026, is a critical component of the junta's efforts to rebuild its forces amidst heavy casualties and declining morale. However, this coercive recruitment is unlikely to address the fundamental issues of legitimacy and widespread resistance.

Defense spending trends are not explicitly detailed in the provided news, but the increasing weapons purchases from China, Russia, and other sources are fueling the conflict and the "catastrophic" human rights situation. The Tatmadaw's continued ability to acquire advanced military hardware, including Russian-made Yak-130 combat aircraft, despite international sanctions, highlights the challenges in limiting its destructive capabilities. The resistance forces, while lacking the same level of sophisticated weaponry, have demonstrated growing capability developments in drone technology and coordinated ground offensives, successfully targeting junta assets like the Tada-U air base near Mandalay and sinking supply convoys on the

Irrawaddy River. This asymmetric warfare continues to evolve, with the junta's air power being a major factor in civilian harm, while resistance gains on the ground indicate a gradual erosion of the Tatmadaw's overall control.

Outlook and Forecast

Short-term trends (1-3 months): The immediate future for Myanmar is expected to see a continuation of intense conflict and humanitarian suffering. The military junta will likely maintain its reliance on aerial bombardments and drone strikes as its primary means of projecting power and terrorizing civilian populations, especially in areas where resistance forces are making gains, such as Rakhine and Shan States. Resistance groups, particularly the Arakan Army and other Ethnic Armed Organizations (EAOs), are anticipated to press their offensives, potentially leading to further territorial losses for the junta and increased fragmentation of the country. The forced conscription program will likely intensify as the junta attempts to replenish its forces, leading to more human rights abuses and internal displacement. Cross-border tensions, particularly with Thailand, are expected to remain high due to the spillover of fighting and refugee flows.

Critical flashpoints and risk areas: Rakhine State, particularly around Sittwe and Kyaukphyu, will remain a critical flashpoint due to the ongoing Arakan Army offensive and the junta's retaliatory airstrikes. Northern Shan State and Chin State are also high-risk areas, experiencing heavy fighting and civilian casualties from airstrikes. The border regions with Thailand, especially near Mae Sot and Mae Sam Laep, will continue to be volatile, with a high risk of cross-border incidents and disruptions to local communities. The humanitarian crisis, particularly the plight of internally displaced persons and the Rohingya, will worsen, with access to aid remaining severely restricted by the junta's "Four Cuts" doctrine. The potential for further attacks on critical infrastructure and cyberattacks also remains a concern.

Indicators to monitor: Key indicators to monitor include the intensity and frequency of junta airstrikes and drone attacks, particularly their impact on civilian populations and infrastructure. The territorial gains and strategic coordination of resistance forces, especially the AA, KIA, and TNLA, will be crucial in assessing the junta's weakening control. Diplomatic engagements, such as those by the US and ASEAN, should be monitored for any shifts in policy or effectiveness in de-escalating the conflict or addressing the humanitarian crisis. The scale and impact of the forced conscription program, as well as the flow of arms from external actors, will also provide insights into the sustainability of the conflict. Finally, the humanitarian situation, including displacement figures and access to aid, will be a critical measure of the conflict's human cost.

Strategic recommendations: International actors should increase pressure on the junta to cease attacks on civilians and allow unhindered humanitarian access, potentially through targeted sanctions on aviation fuel and arms supplies. Diplomatic efforts should be coordinated to present a unified front, emphasizing human rights and a peaceful resolution, rather than fragmented engagements that may inadvertently legitimize the regime. Neighboring countries, particularly Thailand, require enhanced international support to manage refugee flows and secure their borders from conflict spillover. Furthermore, increased support for local humanitarian organizations and civil society groups operating in resistance-controlled areas is vital, as they are often the primary responders to the crisis. Long-term strategies should focus on supporting a federal democratic future for Myanmar, engaging with the National Unity Government (NUG) and Ethnic Armed Organizations (EAOs) as legitimate stakeholders in a future political settlement.

Structured Assessment

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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.

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