

MAP Calls on UN Member States and the UN Secretary General to Condemn Murder Plot Against Myanmar's UN Ambassador

(Press release for immediate publication)

London 8 August 2021: A London-based NGO, the Myanmar Accountability Project, has demanded that UN member states and the UN Secretary General, Antonio Guterres, condemn the plot to murder the Myanmar UN Ambassador, U Kyaw Moe Tun, in New York.

"This is Putin-esque gangster foreign policy of the worst sort and the world community must condemn it in the strongest possible terms", said MAP Director, Chris Gunness.

The New York Police Department revealed in a press release on Friday that it had arrested two Myanmar citizens in a plot to "make a violent attack upon" or "to kill" U Kyaw Moe Tun, whose security has been enhanced due to the murder threats. [Two Myanmar Citizens Arrested In Plot To Injure Or Kill Myanmar's Ambassador To The United Nations | USAO-SDNY | Department of Justice](#). According to the NYPD press release, the two men were being paid by an arms dealer in Thailand "who sells weapons to the Burmese (Myanmar) military."

"UN ambassadors are due to meet in New York in a few weeks to discuss the credentials of the Myanmar military government and this is yet another reason why they must reject the attempt by the coup leaders to take over the UN seat. How can the UN give credentials to a junta suspected of masterminding a murder plot against a UN Ambassador?"

"When the Russian government attempted to kill two Russian nationals, Sergei Skripal and his daughter, Yulia, in March 2018, in the south of England using chemical agents, there was robust international condemnation, followed by diplomatic reprisals including sanctions and the expulsion of Russian diplomats," said Gunness, "the New York murder plot must be thoroughly investigated and similar measures must be considered by UN member states."

The Myanmar junta wrote to the UN Secretary General on 12 May informing him that U Kyaw Moe Tun had been "terminated" "due to abuses of his duty and mandate". [UNSG-Letter-dated-12-May-2021.pdf \(passblue.com\)](#). However, the Ambassador has remained in his post, attending meetings and writing regularly to the UN Secretary General about the situation in Myanmar.

According to the NYPD press release the plan was "to hurt the Ambassador in an attempt to force the Ambassador to step down from his post. If the Ambassador did not step down, then the Arms Dealer proposed that the attackers would kill the Ambassador."

"It is very clear who is behind this murder plot and UN member states must do everything in their powers not to grant any form of recognition to the Myanmar junta", said Gunness. "Beyond that, there must be a thorough investigation and accountability against those responsible.

Ends

The Myanmar Accountability Project [Home - Myanmar Accountability Project \(the-world-is-watching.org\)](#) works with civil society in Myanmar to fight for justice by bringing cases in national courts against member of the Myanmar security forces. For interview requests of more information, please contact Chris Gunness at cgunness@outlook.com or via twitter

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