



March 20, 2021

JOINT STATEMENT ON MYANMAR VIOLENCE

Recently, the world has witnessed the conflict, atrocities and human rights abuses unfold in Myanmar.

As former heads of state, we each learned the importance and value of harmony between authorities and citizens and the responsibility to protect human rights. While in the Caribbean today we do not face this same sort of violence or imminent threats to human rights in our daily lives, the members of the coalition believe that a threat to or breach of human rights anywhere, is a threat to the protection of human rights and promotion of peace everywhere.

Employing violence to suppress peaceful protests and silence voices for change is contrary to the will of the people of Myanmar and the promotion of democracy. Civil society organizations must continue to speak up about the conflict and violence witnessed in Myanmar and call on all relevant parties in Myanmar to engage in dialogue to seek a peaceful resolution to the ongoing situation.

We also call on Myanmar's authorities to respect human rights and freedom of expression, and call on the United Nations to take active measures to protect the human rights and safety of the people of Myanmar, and implore other organizations, government officials and leaders worldwide to echo the same call.

As a family of peace, from the Caribbean we are one with our fellow brothers and sisters in Myanmar, reiterate the importance of dialogue to find a peaceful resolution to the conflict, and urge the whole international community to become one for the promotion of peace.