



#### FOUNDERS:

Betty Williams, Ireland - 1976  
Máiread Maguire - Ireland, 1976  
Rigoberta Menchú Tum, Guatemala - 1992  
Prof. Jody Williams, USA - 1997  
Dr. Shirin Ebadi, Iran - 2003  
Prof. Wangari Maathai, Kenya - 2004

united for peace with justice and equality

## TAKE ACTION TODAY

**Be proactive to keep up the momentum for the people of Burma!**

**Urge the Canadian government to follow up on its commitments to:**

- Urge other countries to support the establishment of a United Nations (UN) Commission of Inquiry
- Call on Burma to ensure Aung San Suu Kyi's safety
- Call on Burma to release over 2000 political prisoners
- Engage with Association of South-east Asian Nations (ASEAN) in holding Burma accountable to international human rights standards

**Stand in solidarity with the people of Burma and Aung San Suu Kyi:**

- Send a personalized message to Aung San Suu Kyi at <http://bit.ly/hbiu0Q>
- Visit <http://bit.ly/gHZQQT> and send a message to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon to take the lead on Burma
- Write to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Hon. Lawrence Cannon, to call for an arms embargo: <http://bit.ly/gMLVbE>
- Join Amnesty's campaign for three freedoms for Burma by photographing yourself behind bars with this iPhone app <http://bit.ly/cPwo6b>
- Call on Ivanhoe Mines, a Canadian company, to take responsibility for their past mining operations inside Burma: <http://bit.ly/htitkn>

## BACKGROUND

For over forty years, the Burmese military regime has routinely employed **torture, rape, slavery, murder, and mass imprisonment** in order to silence any dissent within Burma and to maintain its power. The “Road Map to Democracy” is a sham. The new government has not been elected free and fair. Opposition groups have been barred from the elections. There are over 2200 political prisoners. Aung San Suu Kyi is publicly threatened by the military regime. Women and children are systematically raped and abused.

**Crimes of sexual violence** carried out by the military regime are part of a systematic strategy of oppression. UN Security Council Resolutions 1325, 1820 and 1889 mandate **criminal accountability for perpetrators** of gender crimes in conflict situations.

In March 2010, the UN Special Rapporteur on human rights in Burma, Thomas Quintana, urged the UN “to **establish a commission of inquiry** with a specific fact finding mandate to address the question of international crimes” in Burma. He argued that “the possibility exists that some of these human rights violations may entail categories of crimes against humanity or war crimes under the terms of the Statute of the **International Criminal Court (ICC)**.”

**A UN Security Council referral would allow the ICC to investigate and prosecute General Than Shwe, responsible for crimes against humanity.**

Fourteen states, including Canada, are supporting the establishment of a UN Commission of Inquiry that could lead to a referral to the ICC. The momentum is there but more countries are needed to pass a UN resolution establishing the Commission of Inquiry. Canada’s verbal expressions of support must be matched with concrete actions to ensure that a majority of countries support a resolution.

Find out more information about the atrocities and the international campaign for the Commission of Inquiry in Burma. And then tell your MP to urge the Canadian government to solicit more support from other countries for the Commission.

Women’s League of Burma: <http://www.womenofburma.org/>

Canadian Friends of Burma: <http://www.cfob.org/index.html>

US Campaign for Burma: <http://uscampaignforburma.org/>

ALTSEAN Burma: <http://www.altsean.org/>

Burma Campaign UK: <http://www.burmacampaign.org.uk/index.php>

Mining in Burma: <http://bit.ly/hFYIuU>

Democratic Voice of Burma: <http://english.dvb.no/>

Irrawaddy News: <http://www.irrawaddymedia.com/>

Mizzima News: <http://www.mizzima.com/>