



How to contact the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar

What is the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar?

The Mechanism was created by the United Nations Human Rights Council in 2018 to collect and analyse evidence of the most serious international crimes, and other violations of international law, committed in Myanmar since 2011. The Mechanism is charged with sharing this information with national, regional or international authorities that may have jurisdiction, now or in the future, over these crimes. Gathering and recording information while it is still “fresh” – ie. as soon as possible after the event – increases its evidential value in proceedings that may occur many years after the event. The Mechanism’s goal is to facilitate justice and accountability by preserving and organizing evidence for use in future prosecutions of those responsible, whether that be in a national or an international court.

The Mechanism does not issue indictments or arrest warrants, nor does it conduct trials; rather, the Mechanism shares information with jurisdictions that may do so. Such sharing is always conditional on the consent of the person from whom the information is obtained.

How is the Mechanism different from other international entities working on Myanmar?

Several UN entities, including the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar and the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), examine human rights violations in Myanmar more broadly. These entities prepare reports for States and, often, for the public at large. By contrast, the Mechanism’s function is to prepare confidential case files for use in subsequent criminal proceedings.

The International Criminal Court (ICC) is investigating crimes related to the deportation of Rohingya from Myanmar to neighbouring Bangladesh, but does not have jurisdiction over other crimes committed in Myanmar. The International Court of Justice (ICJ) is also hearing a case concerning Myanmar’s alleged violation of the Genocide Convention in respect of its treatment of the Rohingya people. The Mechanism, within the scope of its mandate and subject to consent, shares information with both the ICC and the ICJ; however, it also investigates evidence of any other international crimes that may have been committed on the territory of Myanmar since 2011.

How can I provide information about crimes to the Myanmar Mechanism?

The Mechanism seeks information from any source and in any form, including from witnesses of events, or digital or documentary evidence. The Mechanism can be contacted securely via Signal message at **+41 76 691 12 08 (you must use the Signal app to set up a Signal account to send a message via Signal)**. Emails can also be directed to the Mechanism’s secure Protonmail email account: contact@myanmar-mechanism.org.

It is advisable, to ensure maximum information security, that after sending a message to the Mechanism, you fully delete it from the devices from which they are sent (including from the Trash folder), and that you do not save the Signal number or email address in your contacts. The Mechanism will not share the information you provide, or your identity, without your consent. **All messages will be read, but for security reasons the Mechanism will not routinely acknowledge receipt.**

For more information, please visit iimm.un.org or facebook.com/MyanmarMechanism