

ABSTRACT

Burma has been ruled by the authoritarian military junta for more than four decades. Under the rule of SDPC, Burma consistently stands as a subject of international concern as it continues to be the land of widespread crimes committed by the government against its own people. Worries over the negative developments in Burma have heightened globally not only because the country is a nightmare for international human right defenders but also because what used to be internally contained are now increasingly threatening international peace and security. Calls for the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) action on Burma have been made by the international community. Burma has finally arrived on the permanent agenda of UNSC as a threat to international peace and security. This small step creates the hopes for the international community to the human security in Burma.

This paper is aimed at exploring how the world has responded to the humanitarian situation in Burma and what the UNSC can do for Burma after the country is included in its permanent agenda. The paper analyzes future moves on strengthening humanitarian assistance, imposing smart sanctions or authorizing humanitarian military intervention. The discussion on the humanitarian intervention is made, in opposition with the traditional Wesphalian notion of state sovereignty, as the responsibility to protect individual rights in Burma. Any actions to be taken must be based on the real voices of Burmese people. The international community led by the United Nations with a broader approach is an important actor to help pave the way for meaningful and sustainable political change in Burma in the long run.