



# MYANMAR: UNTANGLING THE COUP

Rally in Yangon in February, 2021. Photo: Reuters

# Who Is Behind Myanmar's Coup?

General Min Aung Hlaing is the commander in chief of the Burmese military, or Tatmadaw, and by extension the Myanmar Police Force. Since the coup on February 1st, 2021, he has acted as the de-facto leader of the military junta, known as the State Administration Council (SAC).

The Tatmadaw is made up of over half a million servicemen and is notoriously insular and socialized apart from the rest of society. The Myanmar Police Force is considered an auxiliary force of the ministry of the Tatmadaw. Armed forces in Myanmar have long used violence on civilians with impunity, particularly against ethnic and religious minorities.

Photo: Getty Images



# Who Is Funding Myanmar's Coup?

From Justice For Myanmar:

The Myanmar military operates like a massive, institutionalised cartel, using a network of dark money to fund violence and crimes against humanity, without any democratic oversight.

Following the 1988 Uprising, the military set up companies to exploit the country's gas and other resources and became a close business partner of an international corporation called POSCO.

As the military tightens its grip on the country, they are relying on international business to bankroll their regime and provide it with legitimacy. In order to dismantle the military cartel, its global financial network must be exposed.

Learn more at:

[JusticeForMyanmar.org](http://JusticeForMyanmar.org)



# Why Does What's Happening In Myanmar Matter?

We should all pay attention to the destruction of Myanmar's democracy because:

1

The rise of fascism in Myanmar is a dangerous precedent for the region and the rest of the world.

2

Military violence does not happen in a vacuum; it relies on international funding and a compliant work force.

3

These webs of power can be dismantled by people reclaiming collective power. Strikes, boycotts, and revolts can return Myanmar to the people.

# DEFUND THE

# BURMESE MILITARY

- Visit [JusticeForMyanmar.org](https://JusticeForMyanmar.org) to learn more about the economic and political forces behind the Tatmadaw.
- Check out the Cartel Finance Map to find the companies and governments you can target with social media campaigns, letters, boycotts, and rallies.
- Stay up to date by signing up at [JusticeForMyanmar.org/about](https://JusticeForMyanmar.org/about) or following [@justicemyanmar](https://twitter.com/justicemyanmar) on Twitter

