



the Spring Flowers
International Conference on Myanmar
February 5-12, 2022

In conjunction with
a celebration of Myanmar Union Day
February 12, 2022

Conference Program

In an effort to support peace and democracy in Myanmar (Burma), the Burmese American Community Institute (BACI) and the National University of the Union of Myanmar - Global Campus (NUUM), in partnership with co-hosts and collaborators, are hosting the **Spring Flowers International Conference on Myanmar** from February 5 to 12, 2022. The conference will bring together local, national, and international actors from diverse backgrounds. Its outcome will play a critical role in shaping the strategic direction and vision of the Myanmar democracy movement and the future of Myanmar as we contribute to building a democratic and federal Union of Myanmar. The conference objectives are:

1. Promoting critical analysis and deeper understanding of the challenges Myanmar is currently facing,
2. Achieving common understanding of the challenges and opportunities in forging a strong and unified response to help resolve the conflict in Myanmar and in developing strategies and approaches to building a new Myanmar, and
3. Bringing together stakeholders from diverse backgrounds, including elected representatives, government officials, international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), civil society organizations (CSOs), rights groups, media, academics, etc. to achieve a unified vision and strategy through substantive policy discussions, expert panels, and debates.

Note: The following program agenda is subject to change based on the availability of speakers and other unforeseeable circumstances.

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Burmese American Community Institute

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Spring Flowers International Conference on Myanmar

February 5-12, 2022

In conjunction with

A Celebration of Myanmar Union Day

in person and by Zoom



JST: 7:30 AM to 12:30 PM (Feb 6)

Myanmar Time: 5:00 to 10:00 AM (Feb 6)

AEDT: 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM (Feb 6)

CET: 11:30 PM to 4:30 AM

Date	Day	Time	Event	Name
Feb 5	Saturday	EST 5:30 PM-10:30 PM	In-person preliminary session at 5610 Meridian St, Indianapolis, IN 46217 (in person only)	Members of the BACI Board of Directors
		EST 6:30 PM-10:30 PM	SESSION 1: OPENING CEREMONY	
		6:30 PM-6:10 PM	Welcome and Note of Gratitude	Elaisa Vahnne, Executive Director of BACI
		6:10 PM-6:15 PM	Welcome Remarks	Governor Eric Holcomb, Governor of Indiana
		6:15 PM-7:00 PM	Opening Address	President Duwa Lashi La, National Unity Government of Myanmar
		7:00 PM-7:15 PM	Keynote Speech	H.E. Daniel J. Kritenbrink, Assistant Secretary of the U.S. State Department
		7:15 PM-7:45 PM	Keynote Speech	H.E. Dr. Zaw Wai Soe, Union Minister of Health and Education, National Unity Government of Myanmar
		7:45 PM-7:50 PM	Keynote Speech	U.S. Senator Todd Young
		7:50 PM-8:15 PM	Keynote Speech	H.E. Dr. Sa Sa, Union Minister of International Cooperation, National Unity Government of Myanmar
		EST 8:15-8:25 PM	Concluding Remarks	Dr. Ro Ding, Chair of BACI Board
		EST 8:30 PM-10:30 PM	Musical Performance – Fund for Democracy in Myanmar	Local and international artists

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JST: 11:00 PM (Feb 6) to 2:00 AM (Feb 7)

Myanmar Time: 8:30 to 11:30 PM (Feb 6)

AEDT: 1:00 to 4:00 AM (Feb 7)

CET: 3:00 to 6:00 PM (Feb 6)

Date	Day	Time	Event	Name
Feb 6	Sunday	EST 9:00 AM-9:20 AM	Welcome and Introduction	Dr. Chosein Yamahata
		EST 9:20 AM-9:30 AM	Technical Announcement for Panels	BACI Tech Team
		EST 9:30 AM-12:00 PM	SESSION 2: PARALLEL ACADEMIC PANELS	
		EST 9:30 AM-11:50 AM	1. Human Rights, IDPs, and the Humanitarian Crisis in Myanmar's Current Political Landscape	Moderated by Ms. Khin Mai Aung
		EST 9:30 AM-9:50 AM	Panel Keynote 1	H.E. U Aung Myo Min, Minister, Ministry of Human Right, NUG
		EST 9:50 AM-11:50 AM	Four paper presentations	
		EST 9:30 AM-11:50 AM	2. Youth Generations and the Civil Disobedience Movement against Military Rule	Moderated by Ms. Thyn Zar Oo
		EST 9:30 AM-9:50 AM	Panel Keynote 2	H.E. Daw Ei Thinzar Maung, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Women, Youths and Children Affairs, NUG
		EST 9:50 AM-11:50 AM	Five paper presentations	
		EST 9:30 AM-11:50 AM	3. The Burden of the Coup on the Population of Myanmar and Views on Foreign Influence	Moderated by Dr. Michal Lubina
		EST 9:30 AM-9:50 AM	Panel Keynote 3	H.E. U Moe Zaw Oo, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, NUG
		EST 9:50 AM-11:50 AM	Six paper presentations	
		EST 11:50 AM-12:00 PM	Wrap-up Session 2	Conference team

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CET: 1:30 to 4:00 AM (Feb 7)

Date	Day	Time	Event	Name
Feb 6	Sunday	EST 7:30 PM-10:00 PM	SESSION 3: PARALLEL ACADEMIC PANELS	
		EST 7:30 PM-9:50 PM	4. People Power in Myanmar's Political Crisis, Revolution and National Solidarity	Moderated by Dr. Chosein Yamahata
		EST 7:30 PM-7:50 PM	Panel Keynote 1	H.E. U Khu Hte Bu, Deputy Minister of Home Affairs and Immigration, NUG
		EST 7:50 PM-9:50 PM	Five paper presentations	
		EST 7:30 PM-9:50 PM	5. The Health Sector and the Response to Health Insecurity due to COVID-19 and the Coup	Moderated by Dr. Aung Myo
		EST 7:30 PM-7:50 PM	Panel Keynote 2	Prof. Dr. Khin Maung Lwin, Ministry of Health, NUG
		EST 7:50 PM-9:50 PM	Six paper presentations	
		EST 7:30 PM-9:50 PM	6. Towards Myanmar's Democratic Education: Focuses, Approaches and Challenges	Moderated by Ms. Jennifer Otting
		EST 7:30 PM-7:50 PM	Panel Keynote 3	H.E. Dr.Sai Khaing Myo Tun, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Education, NUG
		EST 7:50 PM-9:50 PM	Six paper presentations	
		EST 9:50 PM-10:00 PM	Wrap-up Session 3	Conference team

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Myanmar Time: 9:00 to 11:30 PM (Feb 7)

AEDT: 1:30 to 4:00 AM (Feb 8)

CET: 3:30 to 6:00 PM (Feb 7)

Date	Day	Time	Event	Name
Feb 7	Monday	EST 9:30 AM-12:00 PM	SESSION 4: PARALLEL ACADEMIC PANELS	
		EST 9:30 AM-11:50 AM	7. Minority Rights: Multilingual Dimensions of Language Education	Moderated by Dr. Margaret Sutton
		EST 9:30 AM-9:50 AM	Panel Keynote 1	H.E. Daw Ja Htoi Pan, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Education, NUG
		EST 9:50 AM-11:50 AM	Seven paper presentations	
		EST 9:30 AM-11:50 AM	8. Women's Role in the Myanmar Spring and Gender Equality	Moderated by Dr. Makiko Takeda
		EST 9:30 AM-9:50 AM	Panel Keynote 2	Ms. Tin Tin Nyo, Burmese Women's Union
		EST 9:50 AM-11:50 AM	Four paper presentations	
		EST 9:30 AM-11:50 AM	9. Land, Resources and Ecosystems: Services, Innovation and Sustainable Development	Moderated by Dr. Michael Dwyer
		EST 9:30 AM-9:50 AM	Panel Keynote 3	HE Dr. Tu Hkawng, Minister, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, NUG
		EST 9:50 AM-11:50 AM	Five paper presentations	
		EST 11:50 AM-12:00 PM	Wrap-up Session 4	Conference team

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CET: 1:30 to 4:00 AM (Feb 8)

Date	Day	Time	Event	Name
Feb 7	Monday	EST 7:30 PM-10:00 PM	SESSION 5: PARALLEL ACADEMIC PANELS	
		EST 7:30 PM-9:50 PM	10. The Struggles for Ethnic Equality, Press Freedom, and Human Security	Moderated by Dr. Khen Suan Khai
		EST 7:30 PM-7:50 PM	Panel Keynote 1	H.E. U Chit Htun, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Federal Union Affairs, NUG
		EST 7:50 PM-9:50 PM	Five paper presentations	
		EST 7:30 PM-9:50 PM	11. Building Federalism and Achieving Transitional Justice: From the Center, the Peripheries, and the Diaspora	Moderated by Dr. Catherine Renshaw
		EST 7:30 PM-7:50 PM	Panel Keynote 2	H.E. U Thein Oo, Minister, Ministry of Justice, NUG
		EST 7:50 PM-9:50 PM	Five paper presentations	
		EST 7:30 PM-9:50 PM	12. Responsibility to Protect Lives in Borderlands: An Unarmed Civilian Frontier	Moderated by Dr. Terese Gagnon
		EST 7:30 PM-7:50 PM	Panel Keynote 3	TBA
		EST 7:50 PM-9:50 PM	Four paper presentations	
		EST 9:50 PM-10:00 PM	Wrap-up Session 5	Conference team

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Myanmar Time: 7:00 to 11:30 PM (Feb 8)

AEDT: 12:00 to 4:00 AM (Feb 9)

CET: 2:00 to 6:00 PM (Feb 8)

Date	Day	Time	Event	Name
Feb 8	Tuesday	EST 7:30 AM-12:00 PM	SESSION 6: SEQUENTIAL PRESENTATIONS FROM THE PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT	Keynote: Daw Khin Ma Ma Myo, Minister, Ministry of Commerce, NUG
		EST 8:00 AM-9:00 AM	1. Research Highlights and Report on NUG Administration and Delivery of Public Services	Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration
		EST 9:00 AM-10:00 AM	2. Research Highlights and Report on CDM Activities and Support	CDM Committee Secretary Team
		EST 10:00 AM-11:00 AM	3. Research highlights and report on CDM Policy	Ministry of Education
		EST 11:00 AM-12:00 PM	4. Research Highlights and Report on the Federal Democracy Charter and a New Constitution	Ministry of Federal Union Affairs

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Myanmar Time: 6:30 to 10:30 AM (Feb 9)

AEDT: 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM (Feb 9)

CET: 1:00 to 5:00 AM (Feb 9)

Date	Day	Time	Event	Name
Feb 8	Tuesday	EST 7:00 PM-7:05 PM	Introduction	Ella & Thu Thu, NUUM and BACI
		EST 7:05 PM-7:30 PM	KEYNOTE ADDRESS	Ambassador Scott Marciel
		EST 7:30 PM-11:05 PM	SESSION 7: SEQUENTIAL EXPERT PANELS	
		EST 7:30 PM-9:10 PM	1. Security Sector Reform, Creating a Federal Army and Civil-Military Relations	Moderated by Dr. Donald M. Seekins
		EST 7:30 PM-7:50 PM	Panel Keynote 1	TBA
		EST 7:50 PM-9:10 PM	Panel: Mr. Kim Jolliffe; Mr. Ne Lynn Aung; Mr. Saw Chit Thet Tun; TBA	
		EST 9:10 PM-10:50 PM	2. The Power of PDF-EAO-Community Collaboration	Moderated by Dr. Chosein Yamahata
		EST 9:10 PM-9:30 PM	Panel Keynote 2	H.E. U Yee Mon, Minister, Ministry of Defense, NUG
		EST 9:30 PM-10:50 PM	Panel: Ms. Mon Mon Myat; Mr. Anyar Thiyan; Mr. Saw Chit Thet Tun; Ms. Win Lwin Htoo Chun	
EST 10:50 PM-11:00 PM	Closing	Conference team		

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CET: 2:00 to 5:30 PM (Feb 9)

Date	Day	Time	Event	Name
Feb 9	Wednesday	EST 8:00 AM-11:35 AM	SESSION 8: SEQUENTIAL EXPERT PANELS	
		EST 8:00 AM-9:40 AM	3. Humanitarian Emergencies, Protection of Refugees/IDPs and Voices of the Margins	Moderated by Ms. Debbie Stothard
		EST 8:00 AM-8:20 AM	Panel Keynote 1	H.E. Dr. Win Myat Aye, Minister, Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management
		EST 8:20 AM-9:40 AM	Ms. Debbie Stothard; Ms. Moon Nay Li; Ms. Tin Tin Nyo; Nay Thwin Nyein	
		EST 9:40 AM-11:20 AM	4. Institution Building, Public Finance and Provision of Public Goods	Moderated by Dr. Ashley South
		EST 9:40 AM-10:00 AM	Panel Keynote 2	TBA
		EST 10:00 AM-11:20 AM	Mr. Khine Win; Mr. Issac Khen; Dr. Ashley South	
		EST 11:20 AM-11:30 AM	Closing	Conference team

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Date	Day	Time	Event	Name
Feb 9	Wednesday	EST 7:30 PM-11:05 PM	SESSION 9: SEQUENTIAL EXPERT PANELS	
		EST 7:30 PM-9:10 PM	5. Inclusive Democracy, Press Freedom and Open Society	Moderated by Catherine Renshaw
		EST 7:30 PM-7:50 PM	Panel Keynote 1	Dr. Larry Diamond
		EST 7:50 PM-9:10 PM	Mr. Aung Zaw; Ma Thida; Ms. Ester Ze Naw; Mr. Anyar Thiyan	
		EST 9:10 PM-10:50 PM	6. The Roles and Conflicting Interests of the UN, Regional Powers and ASEAN	Moderated by Dr. Jittipat Poonkham
		EST 9:10 PM-9:30 PM	Panel Keynote 2	TBA
		EST 9:30 PM-10:50 PM	Ms. Khin Ohmar; Mr. Phil Robertson; Mr. Kyi Sin; Dr. Michal Lubina	
		EST 10:50 PM-11:00 PM	Closing	Conference team

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Myanmar Time: 7:30 to 11:00 PM (Feb 10)

AEDT: 12:00 to 3:30 AM (Feb 11)

CET: 2:00 to 5:30 PM (Feb 10)

Date	Day	Time	Event	Name
Feb 10	Thursday	EST 8:00 AM-11:35 AM	SESSION 10: SEQUENTIAL EXPERT PANELS	
		EST 8:00 AM-9:40 AM	7. Federal Democratic Constitution-Making and Durable Peace	Moderated by Ms. Elizabeth Adams
		EST 8:00 AM-8:20 AM	Panel Keynote 1	H.E. Mai Win Htoo, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Federal Union Affairs, NUG
		EST 8:20 AM-9:40 AM	Dr. David Williams; Dr. Kimana Zulueta-Fulscher; Mr. Win Min; Thawng Za Pum, Dr. Marcus Brand	
		EST 9:40 AM-11:20 AM	8. International Instruments and Responses to Ongoing Atrocities	Moderated by Mr. Aung Htoo
		EST 9:40 AM-10:00 AM	Panel Keynote 2	Mr. Benedict Rogers
		EST 10:00 AM-11:20 AM	Mr. Simon Billenness; Ms. Ester Ze Naw; Mr. Aung Htoo	
		EST 11:20 AM-11:30 AM	Closing	Conference team

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Myanmar Time: 6:30 to 9:30 AM (Feb 11)

AEDT: 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM (Feb 11)

CET: 1:00 to 4:00 AM (Feb 11)

Date	Day	Time	Event	Name
Feb 10	Thursday	EST 7:00 PM-7:05 PM	Introduction	
		EST 7:05 PM-7:30 PM	KEYNOTE ADDRESS	U Min Ko Naing
		EST 7:30 PM-10:00 PM	SESSION 11: PARALLEL ROUNDTABLES	
		EST 7:30 PM-9:10 PM	1. Guaranteeing Ethnic Rights, Social Inclusion, Gender Equality and Religious Freedom	Chair: Rev. Dr. A. Roy Medley Discussant: Ms. Ester Ze Naw
		EST 7:30 PM-9:10 PM	2. Building Democratic Institutions and Ensuring Good Governance	Chair: Dr. Donald M. Seekins Discussant: Ms. Jennifer Otting
		EST 7:30 PM-9:10 PM	3. Strengthening the CRPH, NUG and NUCC: Towards a Federal Democratic Union	Chair: Ms. Mon Mon Myat Discussant: Dr. Khen Suan Khai
		EST 7:30 PM-9:10 PM	4. Empowering PDFs, Local Community Groups and EAOs: Reclamation of Freedom	Chair: Dr. Chosein Yamahata Discussant: EAO Member
		EST 9:10 PM-10:00 PM	Discussion with chairs & discussants for collective outcomes of Session 11	Conference team

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Myanmar Time: 8:30 to 11:00 PM (Feb 11)

AEDT: 1:00 to 3:30 AM (Feb 12)

CET: 3:00 to 5:30 PM (Feb 11)

Date	Day	Time	Event	Name
Feb 11	Friday	EST 9:00 AM-11:30 AM	SESSION 12: PARALLEL ROUNDTABLES	
		EST 9:00 AM-10:40 AM	5. Key Elements of a New Constitution	Chair: TBA Discussant: TBA
		EST 9:00 AM-10:40 AM	6. Building a Federal Army: Security Sector Reform and Military Professionalization	Chair: TBA Discussant: TBA
		EST 9:00 AM-10:40 AM	7. Calling on the US: The NDAA and the BURMA Bill	Chair: member of US Advocacy Coalition for Myanmar Discussant: TBA
		EST 9:00 AM-10:40 AM	8. Calling on the UN and Wider Global Society: the Responsibility to Protect	Chair: Dr. Michal Lubina Discussant: TBA
		EST 10:40 AM-11:30 AM	Discussion with chairs & discussants for collective outcomes of Session 12	Conference team

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Myanmar Time: 7:00 to 9:30 AM (Feb 12)

AEDT: 11:30 AM to 2:00 PM (Feb 12)

CET: 1:30 to 4:00 AM (Feb 12)

Date	Day	Time	Event	Name
Feb 11	Friday	EST 7:30 PM-10:00 PM	SESSION 13: PARALLEL ROUNDTABLES	
		EST 7:30 PM-9:10 PM	9. Calling on ASEAN and other Regional Actors: Towards Working with NUG	Chair: Ms. Debbie Stothard Discussant: Ms. Thyn Zar Oo
		EST 7:30 PM-9:10 PM	10. Delivering Humanitarian Assistance and Protecting Rights	Chair: U Aung Htoo Discussant: Ms. Moon Nay Li
		EST 7:30 PM-9:10 PM	11. Promoting Transitional Justice, Accountability and Human Rights	Chair: Dr. Catherine Renshaw Discussant: TBA
		EST 7:30 PM-9:10 PM	12. Constructing an Open Society: Rule of Law and Democratic Consolidation	Chair: Ma Thida Discussant: Dr. Ashley South
		EST 9:10 PM-10:00 PM	Discussion with chairs & discussants for collective outcomes of Session 13	Conference team

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JST:8:30 PM -12:30 PM (Feb 13)

Myanmar Time:6:00 AM to 10 AM (Feb 13)

AEDT:10:30 AM – 2:30 PM (Feb13)

CET: - 00:30 AM -4:30AM (Feb 13)

Date	Day	Time	Event	Name
Feb 12	Saturday	EST 6:30 PM-10:30 PM	SESSION 14: CLOSING CEREMONY WITH A CELEBRATION OF THE 75th MYANMAR UNION DAY	
		EST	Closing ceremony at Ransburg Auditorium at the University of Indianapolis, 1400 E Hanna Av., Indianapolis, IN 46227 (in-person and Zoom)	
		EST	Welcoming and note of gratitude	BACI
		EST	Unity dance cultural performance	Youth and students
		EST	Welcoming remarks	Mayor Joe Hogsett, Mayor of Indianapolis
		EST	Union Day Message	H.E. Mahn Win Khaing Than, Prime Minister, National Unity Government
		EST	Keynote speech	Congressman Andre Carson, U.S. House of Representatives
		EST	Union Day address	H.E. U Aung Kyi Nyunt, Chairman of the Committee Representing Pyithu Hluttaw (CRPH)
		EST	Keynote speech	TBA
		EST	Cultural performances	
		EST	Closing speech	H.E. Dr. Lian Sakhong, Union Minister of the Ministry of Federal Affairs, National Unity Government
		EST	Closing remarks by co-hosts and BACI	BACI and Co-hosts

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Registration

Registration is now **FREE**. *We have made this change to make the conference more accessible to all, especially for college students across the United States and around the world and for participants from inside Myanmar.*

You can register [here](#) for the entire conference or parts of it, including the celebration of the 75th Myanmar Union Day.

Registration with donation options:

- To donate \$40 and register for the entire conference or parts of it, register [here](#).
- To donate \$25 and register for the entire conference or parts of it, register [here](#).
- For other donation options, see [here](#).

If you have any questions regarding registration, please contact us at: info@baci-indy.org

You can find our press release [here](#).