

Sender:

S.E. U Soe Nwe  
Ambassador of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

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Thielallee 19  
**14195 Berlin**  
Germany

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Excellency,

Government forces and the 'Kachin Independence Army' (KIA) have been fighting each other for years in the Kachin state in northern Myanmar. During these conflicts, it is primarily civilians who suffer.

Currently, more than 100,000 Kachin who were displaced due to the civil war that erupted in 2011 live in refugee camps. Approximately 90 percent of the Kachin are committed to Christianity, and are considered an ethnic minority. They were forced to flee their homes, as their houses were bombed and churches and religious buildings were destroyed. For many years, representatives of Kachin and the government of Myanmar lead peace negotiations, but thus far all truces have been broken and the struggles continue.

The International Society for Human Rights has followed the conflict in the state of Kachin with tremendous concern. This letter is an urgent appeal to end the violence in Kachin and to make protecting and assisting the victims a top priority in your policy. The resumption of fundamental peace talks with the leaders in Kachin is an important first step.

Moreover, we appeal to you to ensure the protection of minority groups in Myanmar and to recognize the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights. As a member state of the UN, Myanmar has accepted this declaration as a basis for action, and as such must comply with it by guaranteeing these basic rights for all ethnic groups.

In order to secure long-term peace, genuine participation and integration of all political, ethnic, and religious groups must be ensured in the future development of the country. We are convinced that the people of Myanmar can and should be able to live in a multi-ethnic nation that accepts and protects all religious and ethnic groups.

Sincerely,