

Media Release



International Human Rights Day - call for immediate Future Fund divestments

To: Australian media (for immediate release)

Date: Friday 10th December 2021

On this day, International Human Rights Day, we urge the Australian Government to finally do something tangible to help the people of Myanmar, who have been crying out for help for so long.

Today we hear the tragic news of a [massacre](#) perpetrated in Don Taw village in Sagaing Province, in which it was widely reported by media both home and abroad, that Myanmar's military junta brutally murdered and burned 11 villagers alive, including five children. This is but the latest of the horrific brutalities perpetrated upon innocent Myanmar civilians since the military coup on February 1.

The Australian government must finally take immediate action by divesting all equity holdings that its sovereign wealth fund, the Future Fund has in companies with business connections to Myanmar's military. Australia's Future Fund [currently invests](#) \$157m of Australian tax-payers money in 14 public companies that maintain connections to the Myanmar military and supply them with weapons, equipment, and profits to prop up their regime and to wage war against the Myanmar people. These include five subsidiaries of the Chinese arms conglomerate Aviation Industry Corporation of China (AVIC), Adani Ports, Bharat Electronic, Daiwa House Industry, Tokyo Tatemono, Hilton Worldwide Holdings, Kirin Holdings, POSCO, Sinotruk Hong Kong and PPT Oil & Retail.

In the light of over 1300 civilian deaths* and 7880 arbitrary arrests* occurring in Myanmar since the military takeover of 1 February 2021, there is absolutely no justification for our government to allow these 14 companies with financial connections to Myanmar's military to remain in our Future Fund.

We call on the government to take immediate action to divest our Future Fund from these companies.

** As reported by the [Assistance Association for Political Prisoners \(Burma\)](#)*

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