



TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS FOR BURMA EXTENDED AND REDESIGNATED, AS COUNTRY NEARS ITS THIRD YEAR UNDER MILITARY COUP

The Biden administration protects Burmese nationals in the U.S. in need of safety

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WASHINGTON, D.C.— Today, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the Biden administration announced their decision to extend and redesignate Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Burmese nationals living in the United States for 18 months. The Temporary Protected Status and Deferred Enforced Departure Administrative Advocacy Coalition ([TPS-DED AAC](#)) is thrilled by this decision as an estimated 970 current beneficiaries and 2,290 Burmese individuals who fled after the prior expiration date are directly impacted. TPS allows its beneficiaries to stay in the United States during the designation period and receive work permits.

The designation comes as the nation's elected leaders are spending their 22nd month under house arrest after the military coup in February 2021, and more incidents of [violence against civilians](#) were reported in Burma this year than in any other country in the world. The Biden administration acknowledged the conflict and crisis in Burma and committed to supporting democracy, human rights, and rule of law in the country using sanctions, diplomacy, and life-saving humanitarian aid. This decision is in line with the commitments made. We encourage the administration to continue to use TPS boldly, broadly, and equitably for individuals facing hardship as a result of conflict, crisis, and extraordinary conditions in their countries.

On behalf of the 89 organizations that [wrote](#) to the Biden administration to request an extension and redesignation of TPS for Burma, we express our deep gratitude for the prompt humanitarian and immigration response to an escalating crisis.

Martin Kim, Associate Director of Immigration Advocacy at Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC stated: “This extension and redesignation of TPS for Burma for 18 months is necessary considering the ongoing violence caused by the military coup in the region. Given the escalation of indiscriminate attacks on civilians, and the ongoing reports of arbitrary detention, torture, and killings, there is no doubt that it is unsafe for Burmese nationals currently in the U.S. to return to Burma. We thank the Biden Administration and Department of Homeland Security for doing the right thing and protecting the lives of thousands of Burmese nationals who qualify for TPS.”

Carolyn Tran & Krystina Francois, Co-Directors of Communities United for Status & Protection (CUSP) stated: “Communities United for Status and Protection, a national collaborative of grassroots immigrant community organizations, commend DHS Secretary Mayorkas’ recent decision to extend and redesignate Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Burma and to expand protections to the growing number of Burmese nationals fleeing violence.

Since the military seized power in 2021, human rights conditions have only worsened for millions of refugees from Burma including the mainly Muslim Rohingya refugees – nearly a million of whom now languish in sprawling refugee camps in Bangladesh. As we have watched the silencing response from the international community to the continuing political crisis in Burma, it is our administration’s responsibility to provide refuge and safety to Burmese nationals living in the United States.”

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The [TPS-DED AAC](#) is a national coalition of more than 100 organizations with deep expertise in law and policy surrounding TPS and DED. Member organizations range from community-based organizations directly serving impacted communities in the United States to international NGOs, working in and providing insight from affected countries.