



109 ORGANIZATIONS CALL ON THE ADMINISTRATION TO EXTEND AND REDESIGNATE TEMPORARY PROTECTED FOR BURMA

The worsening situation in Burma necessitates a redesignation of TPS to safeguard civilian lives.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 18, 2024

CONTACT: Kalyani Menon, kalyanim@masadc.com

Washington, DC—Earlier this month, [109](#) local, state, and national organizations led by the [TPS-DED-AAC](#) in coordination with [AAJC](#), [USCRI](#), [CUSP](#), and [Fortify Rights](#) wrote to Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas, and Secretary of State Antony Blinken to urge for an 18-month extension and redesignation of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Burma.

Burma continues to be under authoritarian military rule since February 2021. Since the coup, the military has engaged in armed conflict with numerous pro-democracy groups throughout the region, plunging the country into conflict and displacing thousands. Burma has been experiencing deteriorating situations, including an increasing rate of poverty, food insecurity, as well as instability caused by the military group's crackdown throughout the country.

The military junta has been accused of committing human rights violations, including killings and sexual violence, against the Rohingya population in Burma. The military junta recently enforced a military conscription law, allowing men aged 18-45 and women aged 18-35 to be drafted into the armed forces for two years, with an additional option to extend in times of national emergencies, to support their campaign against these pro-democracy groups. Burma's political and economic landscape continues to deteriorate as the military continues to punish those who oppose their power, creating a dire humanitarian crisis and human rights situation. These conditions, among others, have worsened, making it impossible for Burmese citizens to safely return to their home country, thereby warranting an extension and redesignation of TPS for Burma.

TPS offers life-saving protection and humanitarian relief to non-citizens in the U.S. who are unable to safely return to their home country due to certain conditions in that country that make it unsafe for their return. Approximately [9000](#) Burmese individuals would benefit from the designation, including those who entered into the United States since March 11, 2021 who are without immigration status.

###

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.