



Advocacy Charter Lawyers for Lawyers & Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada – UPR MYANMAR –37th Session – 25 January 2021

Lawyers for Lawyers (L4L) is an independent and non-political foundation which seeks to promote the proper functioning of the rule of law by pursuing freedom and independence of the legal profession. We support lawyers worldwide who face reprisals, improper interferences or unreasonable restrictions in the execution of their profession. Lawyers for Lawyers was granted Special Consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council in July 2013.

Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada (LRWC) is a committee of lawyers and other human rights defenders who promote international human rights law and the rule of law through advocacy, legal research and education. LRWC is a volunteer-run non-governmental organization in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the UN Economic and Social Council since 2005.

Stakeholders' submission	Suggested Questions	Suggested Recommendations
<p>Lawyers in Myanmar have been subjected to improper interference and harassment by members of the law enforcement agencies and investigative bodies and others (submission § 11).</p> <p>They have also been subjected to threats including death threats, surveillance, and physical attacks, on one occasion leading to the death of a lawyer (submission § 11).</p> <p>Moreover, some lawyers working on sensitive cases have been subjected to, or threatened with prosecution. Their prosecution is believed to be connected to their legitimate professional activities (submission § 12).</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How does Myanmar ensure the full independence and safety of lawyers and their effective protection against any form of reprisals in connection with their professional duties? 2. What does Myanmar do to ensure that crimes, harassment, and other violations against lawyers such as unlawful deaths are promptly, impartially, independently, and effectively investigated, publicly condemned, and prosecuted? 3. How does Myanmar prevent lawyers from being subject to harassment, persecution, and undue interference in the legitimate exercise of their profession? 	<p>Myanmar should take immediate measures to ensure sufficient safeguards in law and in practice to guarantee the full independence and effective protection against any form of reprisals against lawyers for conducting their professional duties in accordance with the UN Declaration on the Human Rights Defenders. It is recommended that Myanmar adopt legislation and practices based on the Model National Law on the Recognition and Protection of Human Rights Defenders</p> <p>Myanmar should immediately take effective measures to ensure that crimes, harassment, and other violations against lawyers are and publicly condemned at all levels and that all potentially unlawful deaths are promptly, impartially, independently, and effectively investigated, and that all the perpetrators of such acts are prosecuted, in accordance with the Minnesota Protocol on the Investigation of Potentially Unlawful Death.</p> <p>Myanmar should refrain from any actions that may constitute harassment, persecution, or interference in the legitimate work of lawyers, including criminal prosecution on improper grounds such as the expression of critical views on the nature of cases in which lawyers are discharging their professional functions.</p> <p>Immediately sign and ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and all other core UN human rights treaties.</p>