



## What can individuals do?

Democratic change in Burma must also be supported by individuals and international solidarity movements. Individuals can show their support for the people of Burma and their struggle for democracy.

- Join campaigns that support human rights, democracy and justice in Burma
- Support Burma organizations in your country and in Burma's border areas
- Participate in Burma-solidarity actions
- Learn more about the oppressive regime in Burma and its allies
- Learn more about what happened in Burma in 1988 and what has happened since
- Sign petitions, write letters to newspapers and politicians, and raise awareness about how your country supports the regime in Burma, and what it should be doing to support democracy.

## Appendix: Key unity statements

Over the past twenty years, pro-democracy and ethnic parties and other stakeholders have built alliances to strengthened unity across groups, and offered consistent and practical strategies to address the problems affecting Burma:

Title/Date	Signatories	Key points
Bo Aung Kyaw Street Declaration 1990	NLD and UNLD (representing ethnic pro-democracy parties that won the 1990 elections)	Committed to federalism. Called for a National Consultation Convention to establish the principles for a new constitution which would recognize the rights of all ethnic nationalities.
Mannerplaw Agreement July 31, 1992 <sup>1</sup>	National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma (NCGUB), National League for Democracy, Liberated Area (NLD-LA), Democratic Alliance of Burma(DAB), and National Democratic Front (NDF).	Committed to a true Federal Union where equality, rights of self-determination, democracy and basic human rights are guaranteed.
Mae Tha Raw Tha Agreement January 14, 1997 <sup>2</sup>	Karen National Progressive Party, Pa-O People's Liberation Organization, Wa National Organization, United Wa State Party, Palaung State Liberation Front, Kachin Independent Organization, All Araken Students and youth congress, Lahu Democratic Front, New Mon State Party, Arakan Liberation Party, Kayan New Land Party, Shan United Revolutionary Army, Chin National Front, Shan Democratic Union, Karen National Union and individual delegates	Agreed on common principles to establish a genuine, democratic federal union based on the equality and self-determination of nationalities. Rejected junta's National Convention. Called for Tripartite Dialogue to resolve problems by political means. Called for immediate cessation of military attacks against ethnic communities.
Thoo Mweh Klo Declaration 14 December, 1998 <sup>3</sup>	Elected MPs & ethnic groups: All Burma Muslim Union, All Burma Students' Democratic Front, All Burma Students' League, All Burma Young Monk's Union, Arakan League for Democracy, Arakan Liberation Party, Chin National Front, Chin National League for Democracy, Communist Party of Burma, Democratic	Unanimously declared that the conflict in Burma stems from junta's oppression of ethnic nationalities. Reiterated commitment to tripartite dialogue. Rejected the SPDC's National Convention. Reiterated commitment to a genuine

1 <http://www.ncub.org/PoliticalAgreement/MannerplawAgreement.pdf>

2 Ethnic Nationalities Seminar (Jan 1997) Mae Tha Raw Hta Agreement  
[http://www.enburma.org/Agreements/Eng/Mae\\_Tha\\_Raw\\_Hta\\_Eng.pdf](http://www.enburma.org/Agreements/Eng/Mae_Tha_Raw_Hta_Eng.pdf)

3 Seminar on National Solidarity (14 Dec 98)Thoo Mweh klo Agreement  
[http://www.enburma.org/Agreements/Eng/Thoo\\_Mweh\\_klo\\_Agreement\\_Eng.pdf](http://www.enburma.org/Agreements/Eng/Thoo_Mweh_klo_Agreement_Eng.pdf)

	Party for a New Society, Karen National Union, Lahu Democratic Front, Myeik-Dewai United Front, Muslim Liberation Organization, Members of Parliament Union, National League for Democracy-Liberated Area, People Defense Force, People's Liberation Front, Pa-O People's Liberation Organization, People's Patriotic Party, Palaung State Liberation Front, Shan Democratic Union, Wa National Organization	federal union that recognized ethnics' right to self determination.
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## Key alliances

Name	Members	Function/role
Ethnic Nationalities Council (ENC)	National Democratic Front (ethnic alliance of 8 key armed groups) and the UNLD-LA (see below)	Entrusted with the task of fostering unity and cooperation between all ethnic nationalities in preparation for a Tripartite Dialogue, transition to democracy and the establishment of a genuine Federal Union of Burma.
National Council of the Union of Burma (NCUB)	National Democratic Front, Democratic Alliance of Burma, National League for Democracy - Liberated and Members of Parliamentary Union - a total of 28 key organizations representing pro-democracy and ethnic nationality stakeholders.	Works on democratic principles to achieve a democratic federal system in Burma. Equality for all can be achieved only through transparent and inclusive participation. formed on September 22, 1992
National Reconciliation Program	Initiated by the UNLD and the NDF. Has the participation of seven state constitution drafting committees and a Burman study group.	Established in 1998 with the aim of the establishment of a Federal Union of Burma by assisting ethnic nationalities in preparing for a tripartite dialogue.
NCGUB	MPs-elect from the Party for National Democracy, National League for Democracy, Chin National League for Democracy, Democratic Organization for Kayan National Unity, Arakan League for Democracy, and Independents	Formed in December 1990 from MPs-elect who left Burma. Is the government-in-exile of the Union of Burma
United Nationalities League for Democracy (UNLD)	Alliance of 21 political parties representing non-Burman ethnic nationalities that contested the 1990 general elections under the slogan "democracy and equality".	Established in 1988. Won 35% of the popular vote and 16% of parliamentary seats (67 seats). The UNLD was banned and declared illegal in 1992. The UNLD in exile was officially re-established in the liberated areas on the Thai-Burma border in 1998 as UNLD-LA.
WLB	Burmese Women's Union, Kachin Women's Association-Thailand, Karen Women's Organization, Karenni National Women's Organization, Kuki Women's Human Rights Organization, Lahu Women's Organization, Palaung Women's Organization, Pa-O Women's Union, Rakhaing Women's Union, Shan Women's Action Network, Tavoy Women's Union, Women's Rights and Welfare Association of Burma	Umbrella organization comprising women's organizations of different ethnic backgrounds from Burma. Founded in December 1999 to work for women's empowerment and advancement of the status of women, and to work for the increased participation of women in all spheres of society in the democracy movement, and in peace and national reconciliation processes.