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### Women in the Frontlines of Revolution in Myanmar

Dr. Miemie Wynn Byrd

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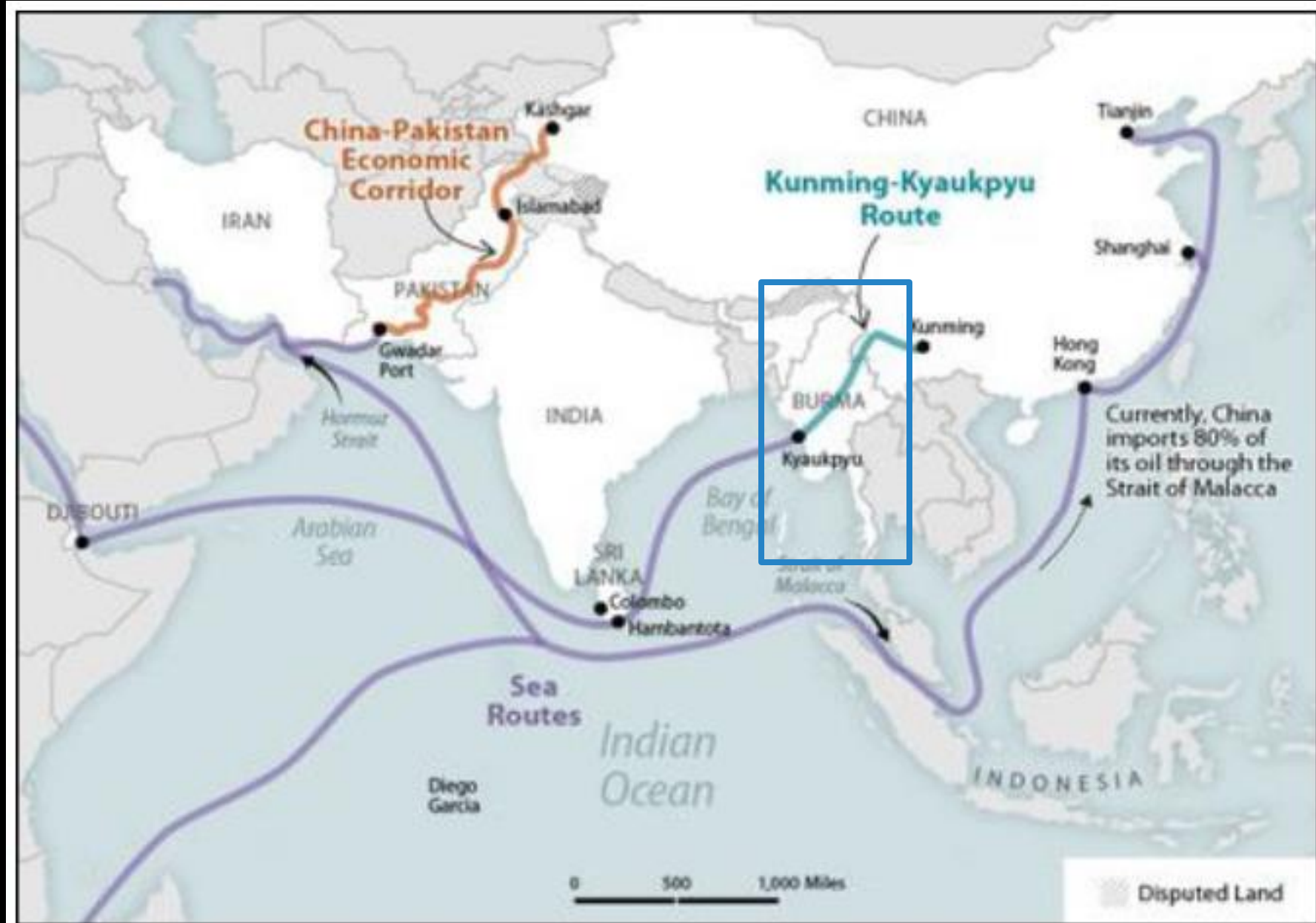
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# WOMEN IN THE FRONTLINE FIGHTING FOR DEMOCRACY IN MYANMAR

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Professor, DKI APCSS

# STRATEGIC LOCATION OF MYANMAR

- Only mainland Southeast Asian Country that has a direct border with China on the West side of Malacca Strait
- Myanmar has over 2000km of coastline along the Bay of Bengal with direct access “landbridge”\* to the Indian Ocean



[Map courtesy: CRS]

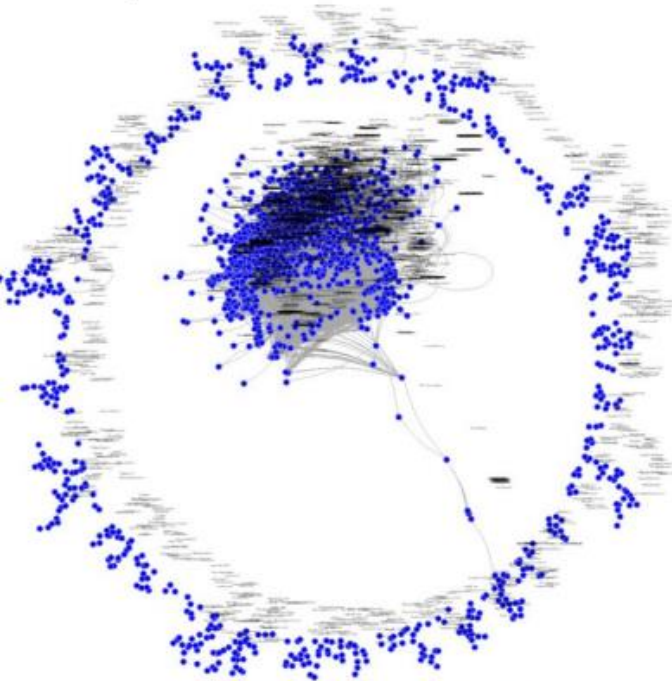


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# #WhatsHappeningInMyanmar

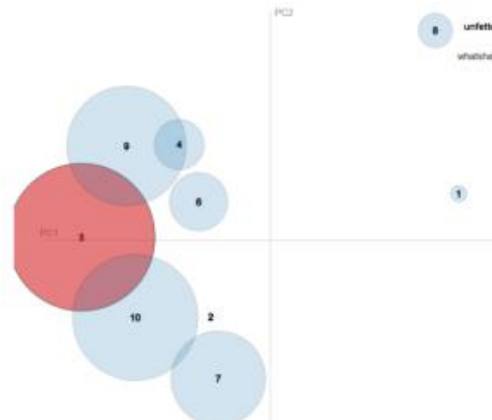
ENSURING A FREE AND OPEN INDO-PACIFIC

On-line efforts to counter the military junta



Selected Topic: 3 Previous Topic Next Topic Clear Topic

Intertopic Distance Map (via multidimensional scaling)

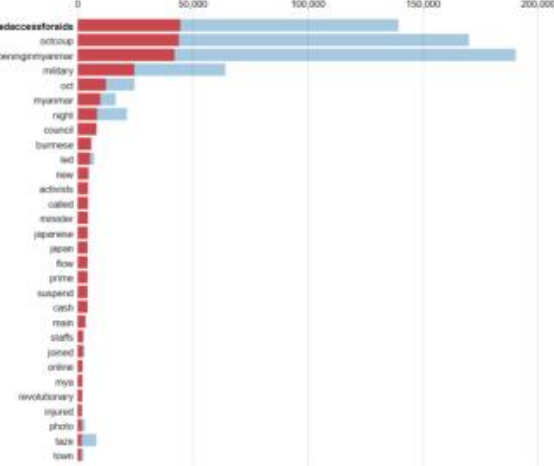


Conditional topic distribution given term = 'unfetteredaccessforaids'



Slide to adjust relevance metric:  $\lambda = 1$  0.0 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1.0

Top-30 Most Relevant Terms for Topic 3 (10.1% of tokens)



Overall term frequency  
Estimated term frequency within the selected topic  
1. saliency(term w) = frequency(w) \* (norm\_p0 / w) \* log(p0 / w) \* p0 for topics 1, see Chuang et. al (2012)  
2. relevance(term w | topic t) = A \* p(w | t) \* (1 - A) \* p(w) for topics 2, see Siser & Shirley (2014)



### Demographics Summary #whatshappeninginmyanmar

#### Gender split



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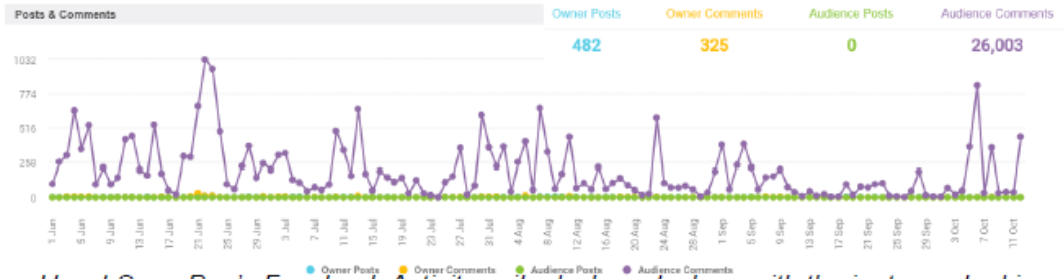
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# Section 3: Pro-Democracy Influencers

## Role of Women

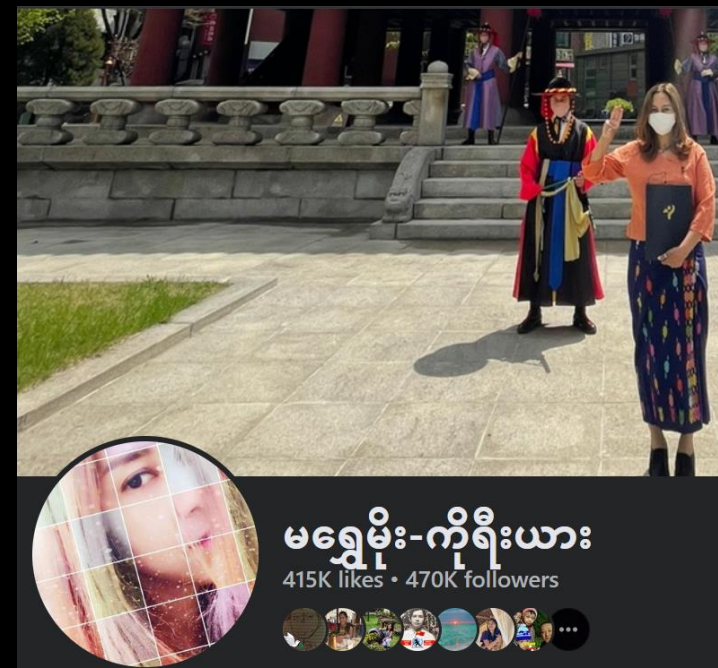
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- Key female influencers to watch:
- **Ei Pencilo** – exiled after being targeted by Tatmadaw – currently in U.S. – most social media pages deactivated – *previously 1.6m followers on facebook; currently 89.5k followers on [Twitter](#)*
- **Hazel Sang Pan** (“[Mommy Pan](#)”) – living in Korea – mommy blogger/influencer highly engaged with NST/NUG support from abroad – *413,832 followers*
- CDM PDFs People’s Embrace/People’s Soldiers actively engage with women activists, acknowledging the impact they can bring to the table



Hazel Sang Pan's Facebook Activity spiked when clashes with the junta peaked in Myanmar.

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မရွှေမိုး-ကိုရီးယား  
415K likes • 470K followers

ဆောင်းပါး

# အာဏာရှင်ကို အမြစ်ဖြတ်ချင်တဲ့ အမျိုးသမီး PDF ကွန်မန်ဒိုများ



# Women Commando of People Defense Force



Myaung Women Warriors (M2W), famous for its landmine attacks against junta troops in Sagaing Region,



KNDF Battalion

<https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/war-against-the-junta/myanmars-women-warriors-fight-for-democracy.html>