

## **From Dictatorship to Democratic transitions: Challenges and Opportunities for women and men in Troubled Transition of Myanmar**

Myanmar has been devastated by decades of conflict and social unrest. Now the nation is at a critical juncture that could lead to an opportunity to end crises, to ensure long-lasting peace and democracy.

Transition era has inevitably led to opening up for opportunities for women, yet there are many obstacles and emerging challenges that they experience as gender roles are going through major changes. Changes of gender-role attitudes and behaviour across the time of transition, is one of the most salient markers in Myanmar, creating turmoil at the national, societal and individual level even with some form of political and personal violence. It profoundly underpins multidimensional ways to peace processes and processes of democratisation.

This panel will discuss opportunities and challenges that resist transition in Myanmar for democracy and peace building in general and gender relations in particular. And also we will seek factors resisting change and factors producing and driving change.

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