



Advocacy Workshop and Book Launch

Rule of Law and Independent Judiciary Sector Reform in Myanmar: The Way Forward

Dates: 4–6 December 2025

IPJS, in partnership with the Burma Lawyers' Council (BLC), organized a three-day advocacy workshop that brought together legal professionals, researchers, civil society representatives, and justice-sector actors.

The workshop formally opened with a Book Launch Session, during which research works by Dr. Su Yin Htun and Dr. Nan Kham Mai were introduced. UUSC's support was explicitly acknowledged as the enabling contribution that made both the research and dissemination possible.

A total of 58 participants attended the workshop in person. Representatives from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) accounted for approximately 24%, those from the Burma Lawyers' Council (BLC) for about 13%, and elected Members of Parliament from the 2020 elections for approximately 42%. The remaining participants comprised CDM judges, CDM lawyers, and other civil society leaders. In addition, 17 participants joined the workshop online. Notably, women represented approximately 54% of in-person participants (over 30 women).

The 3-day workshop schedule proceeded as follow:

Day 1: Research Dissemination and Contextual Analysis

- Opening remarks by H.E. U Thein Oo, Dr. Thaug Tun, and the Chairperson of BLC
- Formal book launch
- Research presentations by Dr. Su Yin Htun and Dr. Ying on rule-of-law obstacles, judicial independence, and security challenges
- Expert discussions on jurisprudence and judicial federalism

Day 2: Participatory Dialogue and Problem-Solving

- Group discussions involving representatives from the Ministry of Justice (MOJ), BLC, and civil society organizations
- Key themes included:
 - Judicial independence under conflict conditions
 - Protection of women in armed conflict
 - Legal ethics and professional integrity



Day 3: Human Rights Alignment and Synthesis

- Discussions on aligning domestic legal frameworks with international human rights standards
- Examination of transitional justice and protection of legal professionals
- Final synthesis and recap session facilitated by U Khin Maung Win, consolidating key recommendations and next steps

Results and Outcomes

With UUSC's support, the project delivered two published research books and a complementary advocacy workshop that together strengthened rule-of-law and judicial reform efforts.

The bilingual book publications enhanced access to legal analysis and technical language for local actors, supporting informed engagement in judicial reform discussions. Collaboration with the Burma Lawyers' Council (BLC) and workshop participants expanded networks committed to judicial independence and long-term institutional reform. The workshop further contributed to shifting discourse from short-term crisis response toward federal judicial design and systemic reform.

Overall, the project produced concrete, policy-relevant recommendations for national and international advocacy, while reinforcing the connection between academic legal analysis and practical reform initiatives.

Conclusion and Future Outlook

This project demonstrated strong demand for rigorous yet accessible frameworks addressing rule of law and judicial reform in Myanmar. As the publications continue to circulate within legal and civil society networks, IPSJ will monitor their uptake and integration into ongoing advocacy, policy dialogue, and reform initiatives related to Myanmar's path toward federalism and democratic governance