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Signs, Zeal, Delivered: Mass Protests in Myanmar and Thailand

The 1 February coup d'état in Myanmar has stunned the world, occurring amidst waves of reforms led by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy government. Despite massive crackdowns on a daily basis, protesters across Myanmar have taken to the streets to express their determination to take down the military junta and to re-establish law and order under the civilian government. Signs, symbols and anti-military messages have been used throughout the protests to reflect the partially successful democratization and urbanization of Myanmar. Young people, known as Generation Z, can be seen at the forefront of the protest, hoping to voice their grievances and dismay to the world. In Thailand, massive rallies led by many activist groups have sprung up since 2020. These protests are no longer an anti-government outcry, but they have touched the nexus of Thailand's political problem: the monarchy and its far-flung network. This talk argues that both protests in Myanmar and Thailand share similarities; that they are led by younger generations which are most affected by democratization and, in reverse, the military coup. It will also compare the two movements which are in reality interconnected through popular symbols and the deconstruction of traditional beliefs.



Online-Lecture *via Zoom & in English*

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Monday, 29 March 2021

via Zoom:

(copy the link into your webbrowser to join, you might be asked to download the software)

14h-16h *(CEST)*

https://uni-hamburg.zoom.us/j/99234618746



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