

AFTER THE COUP: WHAT'S NEXT FOR MYANMAR

February 23, 2021 at 5:00PM-6:30PM Hawaii
February 24, 2021 at 9:30AM-11:00AM Yangon

Speaker Biographies



Soe Myint

Editor-in-chief, Mizzima News, Yangon, Myanmar, [@sm_mizzima](#)

Soe Myint has been working in the media field since 1992 in different capacities from reporting, managing and training. He was in exile for 24 years while the country was under military dictatorship. Together with Thin Thin Aung, he established Mizzima (derived from the Pali word for “middle” or “moderate”) in New Delhi, India in 1998. In January 2012, Mizzima was the first exile media to move back inside Myanmar, after the country opened up to democratic change.

Today, Mizzima Group includes Mizzima Media Co. Ltd., Mizzima Trading and Mizzima Media Publishing and Mizzima Foundation (a non-profit of Mizzima Group). Mizzima Media Co. Ltd. broadcasts Free-To-Air Digital Mizzima TV Channel, produces daily digital newspaper in Myanmar, a Mizzima Weekly in English, Mizzima websites in both Myanmar ([www.mizzimaburmese.com](#)) and English ([www.mizzima.com](#)) and Mizzima Application. Additionally, Mizzima media products such as SMS, Radio News, Video News and Images are also available on various digital platforms and mobile phones (OTT) in Myanmar. Mizzima maintains active cooperation with other national and international stakeholders in the media reform process in Myanmar.

Soe Myint’s publications include the 2003 release “Burma File: A Question of Democracy”, as well as numerous articles in various newspapers and magazines. He is a regular speaker and invited guest at national and international forums on media in Myanmar. **Soe Myint spoke at the EWC's 2014 International Media Conference in Yangon.**



Aung Zaw

Editor-in-chief, The Irrawaddy, Yangon, Myanmar, [@IrrawaddyNews](#)

Aung Zaw is founder and Editor in Chief of the Irrawaddy online news publication. A former activist in the 1988 uprising, Aung Zaw founded The Irrawaddy in 1993 in Thailand in exile and he and his team covered Myanmar affairs for almost 30 years. The publication provided continuous coverage of events in Myanmar. Aung Zaw returned to Burma/Myanmar in 2012 and set up an office in Yangon. His articles appeared in New York Times, Foreign Policy, Asian Wall Street Journal, Time, Bangkok Post, and The Guardian. **Aung Zaw spoke at the EWC's 2014 International Media Conference in Yangon.**



Kavi Chongkittavorn

Senior Columnist, Bangkok Post and former Editor, Myanmar Times, Bangkok, Thailand

Kavi Chongkittavorn is a Senior Fellow at Institute of Security and International Studies, Chulalongkorn University. His research interests include US foreign policy toward Southeast Asia, specifically with Thailand, and the future of Indo-Pacific and regional security architecture. He was a former editor in chief of Myanmar Times from February to December 2017. He has been a journalist for the past three decades with the English daily, The Nation, from 1984-2013 as reporter, editor, managing editor and editorial writer. From 1994-1995, he served as a special assistant to ASEAN Secretary General based in Jakarta. He is now a columnist for The Bangkok Post. **Kavi Chongkittavorn is an alumnus of the East-West Center's Jefferson Fellowships, has spoken at past EWC International Media Conferences, and was an Asia Studies Visiting Fellow at the East-West Center in Washington.**



Christina Fink

Professor and Myanmar Expert, Elliott School of International Affairs, The George Washington University, Washington, DC, USA [@ElliottSchoolGW](#)

Christina Fink is a professor of International Affairs at George Washington University's Elliott School of International Affairs. She is a cultural anthropologist who has combined teaching, research, and development work throughout her career, much of which has focused on Myanmar and Thailand. She received her B.A. in International Relations from Stanford University and her M.A. and Ph.D. in Social/Cultural Anthropology from the University of California at Berkeley. She is the author of *Living Silence in Burma: Surviving Under Military Rule* (2009) and of more recent journal articles and chapters on political reform, state-society relations, and land rights in Myanmar.



Ramy Inocencio (Moderator)

Asia Correspondent, CBS News, Beijing, China [@RamyInocencio](#)

Ramy Inocencio is the Asia correspondent for CBS News, based in Beijing. He joined CBS News in April 2019 and contributes to all broadcasts and platforms. He has covered COVID-19 in many Asian hot spots including Wuhan, Beijing, Hong Kong, Daegu, Seoul, and Tokyo. Mr. Inocencio has two decades of experience reporting across Asia, America and Europe covering numerous international news stories of our era with live coverage and original reporting of major geopolitical events, natural disasters and emerging technology trends around the globe. Before joining CBS News, Mr. Inocencio was a New York-based anchor and correspondent for "Bloomberg Daybreak: Asia." At Bloomberg Television, he covered the first face-to-face summit between President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping from Mar-a-Lago and traveled across the United States in 2015 for "Wiring the World," his technology innovation series. He also anchored for Bloomberg Radio and launched two daily podcasts on U.S.-Asia Pacific economic and financial ties. Prior to Bloomberg, Mr. Inocencio was *The Wall Street Journal's* deputy Asia-Pacific editor for video streaming operations and host of the *WSJ's* weekly technology show "Digits" in Hong Kong. Previously, he was CNN International's Asia business correspondent based in Hong Kong and CNN's NASDAQ reporter in New York City.

A champion of newsroom diversity, internationalism and volunteerism, Mr. Inocencio has served as national senior vice president for the Asian American Journalists Association (AAJA) and as global co-lead of Bloomberg's Pan-Asian Community (BPAC). In 2016, he was named one of the "50 Best Asian

Americans in Business" by the New York-based Asian American Business Development Center. **He is a 2009 fellowship recipient of the East-West Center's Asia-Pacific Leadership Program and a 2019 fellow in the EWC's Asia-Pacific Journalism Fellows program to Taiwan.**