

Open Letter to President Macron - do not authorize TotalEnergies' use of exemptions to EU Sanctions

President Emmanuel Macron
President of the Republic of France
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75008 Paris, France

National Assembly
Palais Bourbon, Paris
126 Rue de l'Université,
75355 Paris 07 SP

The French Senate
Palais du Luxembourg
15 Rue de Vaugirard,
75291 Paris, France
6th arrondissement of Paris

June 21, 2022

Re: Worldwide call - do not authorize TotalEnergies' use of exemptions to EU Sanctions on the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE)

Dear President Emmanuel Macron,

We are writing to you on behalf of the Myanmar people who are fighting to defeat the brutal military junta and build a federal democracy. In a statement endorsed by over 459 civil society organizations, we call on you to [refuse to authorize TotalEnergies' use of exemptions to EU Sanctions](#).

We appreciate your support of Myanmar's pro-democracy movement and your refusal to legitimize the junta, after their illegal attempted power grab on 1 February, 2021. This is not enough, however, when French company TotalEnergies is bankrolling this genocidal junta, funding its war crimes and crimes against humanity and [ignoring the demands of Myanmar people](#), the owner of the natural resources.

Since 1 February, 2021, the military junta [has forced almost 700,000](#) from their homes and [killed over 1,900 civilians](#) while the actual number is likely to be much higher. This genocidal junta is burning villages and killing people every day in Myanmar. With the support of TotalEnergies, it has also seized an estimated USD 1.5 billion in gas revenues that it can use to purchase arms and weapons to kill more civilians. This cannot continue - do not grant TotalEnergies' authorizations to use exemptions to EU sanctions on the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE). Not a single cent of gas revenues should reach the genocidal junta.

We call on the French Government to listen to voices from inside Myanmar after [over 230,000 people](#) demanded sanctions on MOGE and ensure that the sanctions are effective.

We urge President Macron and the French Government to:

1. Prevent millions of dollars of gas revenues reaching the junta by refusing to authorize TotalEnergies' use of exemptions to EU sanctions - instead enforce EU sanctions and ensure that TotalEnergies does not hand over

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its share and interests to MOGE, and continue making and facilitating payments to MOGE before it exits or bring in a new operator that will collude with the junta.

2. Continue to support the Myanmar people's efforts to defeat the brutal military junta and build a federal democracy and stop TotalEnergies from funding genocidaires, war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Please stand with justice and humanity!

Your sincerely,

[459 Myanmar, regional & international organizations](#) including Civil Society Organizations, Community Based Organizations, Human Rights Organizations, Humanitarian & Charity Organizations, Non-Governmental Organizations, Strike Committees and Unions from 20 countries.

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