

Myanmar urged to free political prisoners

by UPI

BRUSSELS -- The Geneva-based Inter Parliamentary Union on Friday demanded the release of detained members of Myanmar's parliament as the U.N. demanded similar measures. The IPU noted that while attention focuses on the detention of pro-democracy advocate, Aung San Suu Kyi, 26 members of the parliament in Myanmar, formerly Burma, are incarcerated. The IPU represents 143 parliaments worldwide whose objective is the arbitration of conflict. Voice of America reported that half of the 26 MPs were arrested in connection with the recent political protests. The U.N. Security Council unanimously issued a statement admonishing Myanmar for its violent repression of peaceful protests and called for the immediate release of all political prisoners, including Suu Kyi, the Guardian said. The resolution also advocates for including Suu Kyi, who won the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize for non-violent protests of military dictatorship, in diplomatic negotiations. Officials in Myanmar are debating a resolution to Suu Kyi.

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