

STATSMINISTERENS KONTOR

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Norwegian Premier:

DETENTION OF SUU KYI WILL NOT STAND

"The detention of this year's Nobel Peace prize winner, Aung San Suu Kyi, will not stand", Norway's Prime Minister, Ms Gro Harlem Brundtland, said in Oslo on Monday evening. Ms Brundtland spoke at a dinner for former Nobel Peace Prize laureates, given by the Speaker of the Norwegian Parliament.

"What we are facing is not only oppression against a single individual who dared to speak her mind and struggle for what she believes in. We are facing a defiance of the idea of democracy itself", the Prime Minister said.

Ms Brundtland said Suu Kyi's name is now added to those of other laureates who were prevented to go to Oslo to receive the Nobel Peace Prize; Carl von Ossietzky, Andrey Sacharev and Lech Walesa. "Those who prevented them have been proven wrong. The same historic judgement will be coming to the government of Myanmar", the Norwegian Premier said.

Ms Brundtland said modern mass communications assure that the government of Myanmar "will know that it faces a formidable international opposition".