

Wai Wai Nu is a former political prisoner and the founder and Executive Director of the Women Peace Network in Myanmar. She spent seven years as a political prisoner in Burma. Since her release from prison in 2012, Nu has dedicated herself to working for democracy and human rights, particularly on behalf of marginalised women and members of her ethnic group, the Rohingya.

Through the Women Peace Network, Nu works to build peace and mutual understanding between Myanmar's ethnic communities and to empower and advocate for the rights of marginalised women throughout Myanmar, and particularly in Rakhine State. Her work also aims to reduce discrimination and hatred among Buddhist and Muslim communities and to improve the human rights of the Rohingya people through documentation, convenings and policy advocacy among key leaders in Myanmar and high-level international fora.

To engage youth in the peacebuilding process, Nu founded the Yangon Youth Center – a space where young people from diverse backgrounds can come together to learn, share, and explore their ideas and promote leadership in social, political, and peace-building. Nu organised the My Friend Campaign with youth from different communities to promote tolerance and to reduce discrimination among diverse groups. Through her work, she has been recognised as a Champion of Prevention by the United Nation's Office of the Prevention of Genocide and Responsibility to Protect. In 2014, Nu Co-Founded Justice for Women in Yangon, a legal and advocacy organization that worked with victims of gender-based violence and providing pro-bono legal consultation.

Nu is the recipient of N-Peace Wards (2014),; Democracy Courage Tributes (2015), World Movement for Democracy; Hillary Rodham Clinton award in (2018), Impact Hero (2019). Nu was named among "100 Top Women", BBC (2014); among 100 inspiring women (2016), Salt Magazine; among 100 World Thinkers (2015), Foreign Policy Magazine; Next Generation Leader, Time Magazine (2017).; Women of the Year, Financial Times (2018); One of the 16 Women Fighting For Fairness in Asia (2020).

Nu received her bachelor's degree in law from the University of Yangon in Myanmar and her master's degree in law from the University of Berkeley. She previously served as a visiting scholar with the Human Rights Centre at the University of Berkeley, the University of Michigan's Center for the Education of Women and Obama Foundation Scholar at Columbia University of New York. Nu was also a Scholar at the Bush Institute, Liberty and Leadership Forum and Draper Hills Summer Fellow at Stanford University's Center on Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law. Currently, Nu is serving as a fellow at the Simon-Skjoldt Center for the Prevention of Genocide, U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.