

PETITION

To The Honourable Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives:

This petition of certain citizens and residents of Australia brings to your attention that Sri Lanka is now a nation at peace, after the defeat in May 2009 of the Tamil Tigers (LTTE) who waged a three decade long campaign of terror to carve out a mono-ethnic separate state from the island.

This was achieved by decisive leadership, the bravery and sacrifices of its Defence Forces and most importantly the determination of its people to defend the unity and territorial integrity of the country.

Accelerated infrastructure restoration, de-mining, rehabilitation of LTTE cadres, IDP resettlement and the work of the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC) have promoted ethnic harmony within an economically strong Sri Lanka.

Those vilifying Sri Lanka using falsified claims of human rights violations include the LTTE network and other apologists who remained silent when numerous atrocities were committed by both the Tamil Tigers and the Indian Peace Keeping force which occupied North & East Sri Lanka.

We therefore request the House to:

- Reject any resolutions that would unfairly target Sri Lanka at the UN Human Rights Council in March 2014. Any such action would not only destabilise an emerging nation but also undermine reconciliation within the Sri Lankan community, including that in Australia.
- Strengthen links between Australia and Sri Lanka, particularly in trade, education and sport as well as in the strategic areas of maritime security and the crackdown on global terror networks.

Thanking You