

### **Supporting Sri Lankan human rights activists through UN processes**

Project Partner: Sri Lanka Campaign for Peace and Justice

#### **Project Overview:**

This is a project which will facilitate the Sri Lanka Campaign in its key role: to say the things that Sri Lankan civil society wish to say but cannot for fear of retaliation. In particular it will facilitate the Sri Lanka Campaign in its role of taking the messages of Sri Lankan civil society to international mechanisms, in particular the Human Rights Council and UN special procedures.

The project will work to collate information from Sri Lankan civil society into submissions to these bodies.

The [Sri Lanka Campaign](#) are a multi-ethnic non-partisan group who campaign for a just and lasting peace in Sri Lanka based upon accountability and respect for human rights. We are not affiliated with any political or ethnic group inside or outside of Sri Lanka

#### **Project Output:**

We will produce a written report to the March session of the Human Rights Council (HRC28) and to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR)'s upcoming review of Sri Lanka.

The submission to the Human Rights Council will involve a specific focus on the status of rehabilitation of former LTTE cadres and will take as its source material a number of civil society reports on the issue which we will receive in December.

The submission to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights will focus on concerns relating to the right to housing and land seizures by the Sri Lankan Army. The output will comprise a document of approximately 10 pages.

#### **Project Outline:**

Phase 1: (November-December)

- Research, understanding the project, developing an outline.
- Students will engage in initial research in order to gain a specific understanding of the human rights situation in Sri Lanka and the international human rights law issues arising in relation to this project.

- Students will develop a draft outline in relation to the major issues to be addressed in:
  - The written submission to the UN Human Rights Council;
  - The submission to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

### Phase 2: (January-February)

- Students will prepare a 2 page submission to the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council collating and summarising civil society research on the ongoing rights situation.
- Concurrently, students will conduct research relating to the submission to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

### Phase 3: (March-June)

- Students will initially develop a detailed outline relating to the proposed submission to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Students will be provided with source material prepared by the Centre for Policy Alternatives in Sri Lanka and the Human Rights Project of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.
- Students will conduct further research and prepare an initial draft.
- Students will then work on this initial draft in conjunction with the Sri Lanka Campaign and finalise the CESCR submission.

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- Centre for Policy Alternatives (CPA), Policy Brief: Politics, Policies and Practices with Land Acquisitions and Related Issues in the North and East of Sri Lanka, November 19 2013, available at <http://www.cpalanka.org/policy-brief-politics-policies-and-practices-with-land-acquisitions-and-related-issues-in-the-north-and-east-of-sri-lanka/> [accessed 24 September 2014]
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- Carver, Frédéric, Losing Battles but Winning Wars: How the Sri Lankan Government is Crushing Dissent, 9 August 2014, available at <http://www.internationalpolicydigest.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/1407532883544.pdf> [accessed 24 September 2014]