

The 46th UNHRC Session

The importance of Tamil-American Advocacy now than ever before.



Dear <<First Name>>,

Thank you thus far for your continued support of USTAG's work and mission. It is with your valuable support that we are able to continue our important advocacy work as the 46th UNHRC session approaches.

This session is extremely important as it will shed a spotlight on the allegations of human rights abuses and war crimes by Sri Lanka. We are making preparations to influence the course of the upcoming UNHRC session. The upcoming month will be a crucial time period for USTAG, as we will be working hard to further exert our influence and be a voice for the Tamil people.

To help us with the work we continue to do for our brothers and sisters in the homeland, please consider [donating today](#) for our work during this essential time frame.

Donate Now

Here is what we have been doing this month to make a difference.

February Accomplishments:

Our advocacy focus this month has been reaching out to country missions, other non-profits, and political figures to influence a stronger resolution at the 46th UNHRC session.

Joint Letter to the Ambassadors at the UNHRC

In January, we advocated for a new, stronger resolution against Sri Lanka via a joint letter to the UNHRC ambassadors. The statement called for independent investigative and international criminal justice mechanisms to be pursued, a lasting political solution, and OHCHR field offices to be established to report ongoing violations.

[Joint Letter PDF](#)

Influencing the Upcoming UNHRC Session



This month we have been meeting with various country missions at the UNHRC, including the United States, Republic of Marshall Islands, Uruguay, Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, Canada, Denmark and Switzerland, to advocate for a stronger resolution resulting from the 46th UNHRC session that will

protect the Tamil people and hold the Sri Lankan government accountable for past atrocities. In addition to this, we have been cooperating with fellow diaspora organization to push for international justice mechanisms and a political solution for the new resolution.

Below, you will be able to read the written statement we signed onto by Pasumai Thaayagam Foundation, an NGO in special consultative status.

This year, the UNHRC will be convening virtually so we will not be sending a team of volunteers to Geneva as we have regularly done in the past. Our volunteers this year will be attending the session online.

[Pasumai Thaayagam Foundation's Written Statement](#)

Important Progress: Draft Resolution acknowledges justice has not been served by Domestic Mechanisms

We'd like to inform you of important progress that has been made in a recent [Draft Resolution](#) for the upcoming UNHRC. Under OP5, The UNHRC "Notes the persistent lack of accountability through domestic mechanisms and regrets that the domestic Commission of Inquiry announced on 22 January 2021 lacks independence and does not include a mandate to pursue accountability for past gross violations of human rights, or for serious violations of international humanitarian law." For the full text, see the PDF below.

Canada, Germany, Malawi, Montenegro, North Macedonia, UK, and Northern Ireland Draft Resolution PDF

March 9th: Caucus Briefing for the Congressional Caucus on Ethnic and Religious Freedoms in Sri Lanka

In order to keep Sri Lanka on Congress's watch, USTAG has pushed for a Congressional Caucus briefing on March 9th, 2021. Chaired by Congressman Danny Davis, the Caucus's Democratic Chair, the upcoming briefing will update Congresspersons on Sri Lanka's economic crisis and the impact it has on marginalized Tamil citizens. It is by keeping Sri

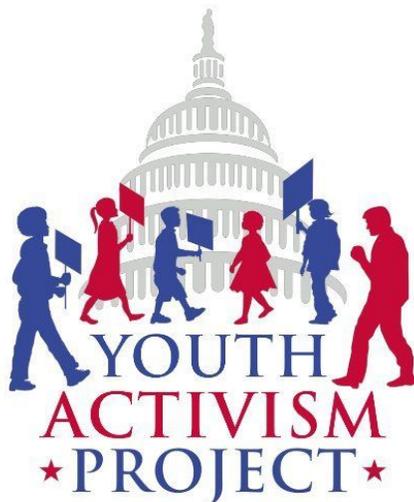


Lanka as an item of interest in Congress that we can update the government about ongoing abuses in the homeland and the different ways in which the United States can get involved.

Continued Projects

Congressional Advocacy Internship

The USTAG strongly values the involvement of young people in our cause. For this reason, we work



every week with young people across the country on Zoom and help them become better advocates for justice and peace for Tamils in Sri Lanka. We are always welcoming passionate, young individuals to join us in our mission. **If you know a young person who is passionate about justice and human rights, please consider sharing [this flyer](#) with them or email outreach@theustag.org for more details.**

Announcements

Our New Committees

This month, we created seven new committees to serve and work together towards a stronger political voice for the Tamil people here in the United States. Here is the list of our new committees:

1. Outreach
2. Strategic Planning
3. Advocacy
4. Finance and Membership
5. Communications
6. Global Affairs
7. Grievance

We'd like to thank our new committee members and chairs for their dedication and hard work to carry out the mission and vision of USTAG. For more information, please email info@theustag.org

Let's Text!

Want to hear about our upcoming events and advocacy efforts? Text USTAG to **8554992301** get our latest updates.

Call for Volunteers!

Are you- or someone you know- interested in creating social media posts,

blogs, and video content for a great cause? If so, you're in luck!

USTAG is looking for volunteers to help us with content creation for our organization.

Volunteers will be given the necessary training and will be awarded with hours for school or any other requirement. To sign up today, click [here](#). For more information, please email outreach@theustag.org

REMINDER: PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES!

If you have not done so already, please stay current with your involvement with USTAG by paying your dues this year. Being a member is the best way you can continue to stay in the loop on what's happening in the United States on Eelam Tamil issues and the best way to serve the Tamil people from here in the US. Remember to pay your dues before the year is over through our [website](#).

To **renew your membership**, please click [here](#).

To **start a new membership**, please click [here](#).

Show your Support for Tamils in Sri Lanka

To continue doing the valuable work we do, we need support from people like you now more than ever. YOU can deliver hope not only to our cause but also directly to Tamils in Sri Lanka by supporting our work.

Donate Now

Join Us Today

Become a Volunteer

Visit our Website for More Information



Be sure to add outreach@theustag.org to your email contacts list for our newest updates!
Doing this protects against overzealous spam filters.

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