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**தேசிய கூட்டுக் குழு**  
**NATIONAL JOINT COMMITTEE**

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08<sup>th</sup> September 2025

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His Excellency Anura Kumara Dissanayake  
President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka  
Presidential Secretariat  
Colombo.

Your Excellency,

**Subject: Urgent and Immediate Rejection of UNHRC Resolution A/HRC/60/21 – Safeguarding Sri Lanka's Sovereignty**

On behalf of the National Justice Collective (NJC), we respectfully but emphatically urge Your Excellency to categorically reject UNHRC Resolution 60/21.

Resolution 60/21 is not a mere recommendation—it constitutes an existential threat to Sri Lanka's sovereignty, Constitution, judicial independence, national security, and the integrity of the Armed Forces. Compliance would irreversibly compromise national unity, governance, and the authority of elected representatives.

The demands outlined in 60/21 exceed the UNHRC mandate (Resolution 60/251), violate Article 2(7) of the UN Charter, contravene international law, and represent unprecedented foreign intrusion into domestic governance. Immediate and unequivocal rejection is essential to prevent irreversible damage to our nation.

**UNHRC Demands – Threats & Charter Violations**

**1. Repeal or Amend the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA)**

- a. Weakening the PTA would directly compromise counter-terrorism operations and national security, threatening the unity of Sri Lanka at a time when separatist agendas persist.
- b. Charter Violation: Exceeds UNHRC mandate; violates Article 2(7) of the UN Charter; constitutes illegal foreign interference in domestic law.

**2. Sign & Ratify OPCAT**

- a. Would place detention facilities and sensitive security operations under foreign oversight, exposing classified intelligence, compromising military strategy, and undermining sovereignty.



- b. Charter Violation: Exceeds UNHRC authority; violates Article 2(7) of the UN Charter.
- 3. **Ratify Rome Statute (ICC)**
  - a. Subjects Sri Lankan citizens and officials to foreign judicial authority, undermining judicial independence and national sovereignty.
  - b. Charter Violation: Exceeds mandate; violates Article 2(7) of the UN Charter.
- 4. **Fully Implement the 13th Amendment**
  - a. External enforcement risks internal division, political instability, and fragmentation of national authority.
  - b. Charter Violation: Beyond UNHRC authority; violates Article 2(7) of the UN Charter.
- 5. **Establish Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) with International Experts**
  - a. Cedes control of reconciliation and investigative processes to foreign actors, undermining sovereignty and credibility of domestic justice.
  - b. Charter Violation: Exceeds mandate; violates Article 2(7) of the UN Charter.
- 6. **Establish Hybrid Court with Foreign Judges**
  - a. Threatens judicial independence and military credibility through direct foreign intervention in domestic justice.
  - b. Charter Violation: Exceeds UNHRC authority; violates Article 2(7) of the UN Charter.
- 7. **Implement a National Action Plan on Human Rights**
  - a. Imposes foreign priorities on Sri Lanka's domestic policies, weakening sovereign decision-making.
  - b. Charter Violation: Exceeds UNHRC mandate; violates Article 2(7) of the UN Charter.
- 8. **Ensure Accountability for Past Human Rights Violations**
  - a. Would enforce external investigative frameworks over domestic legal mechanisms, compromising sovereignty.
  - b. Charter Violation: Exceeds UNHRC mandate; violates Article 2(7) of the UN Charter.
- 9. **Enhance Cooperation with International Human Rights Mechanisms**
  - a. Risks foreign scrutiny and influence over internal institutions, weakening national control over governance.
  - b. Charter Violation: Exceeds UNHRC mandate; violates Article 2(7) of the UN Charter.

**Cumulative Threat:**

Points 5 and 6—the TRC and Hybrid Court—represent the final steps that would permanently place Sri Lanka under international oversight, eliminating the authority of Sri Lanka's elected representatives. Combined with the 7 prior demands already embedded via Resolution 30/1 (2015), full compliance would lock Sri Lanka into a system of foreign control with no room for sovereign decision-making



### Background – Contextualizing the Threat

- **30 years of LTTE terrorism** went unaddressed by the UNHRC; after the LTTE was defeated in 2009, 11 successive resolutions targeted only Sri Lankan forces, ignoring LTTE atrocities.
- **Military-cum-humanitarian operations from 2006–2009** saved approximately 300,000 Tamil civilians, exposing unverified casualty claims of 40,000 with no evidence after 16 years.
- **One-sided accountability:** only select armed forces personnel targeted; Tri-Forces Commander omitted, despite Tamil community support for him in 2010 Presidential elections.
- **US funding withdrawn on Sri Lanka mechanisms**, confirming the geopolitical nature of these claims.
- **Core Group nations (UK & Canada)** have historical human rights violations; other members lack contextual knowledge of Sri Lanka's conflict.
- **Today, Tamils, Sinhalese, and Muslims live peacefully** and seek peace of mind & closure, while overseas LTTE-linked lobbyists attempt to revive unrest, ignoring local reconciliation.

### Key Concerns

- **Illegal Mandate Expansion:** UNHRC acting as quasi-judicial body without UNGA/UNSC authorization.
- **Violation of Constitution & Sovereignty:** Recommendations infringe judiciary, national security, and domestic investigative powers.
- **One-Sided Accountability:** Ignores LTTE crimes; unfairly targets armed forces.
- **Funding & Political Bias:** Mechanisms lack transparency; influenced by diaspora lobbying.
- **National Security Threat:** Foreign investigators, databases, and surveillance **directly** endanger intelligence and counter-terrorism operations.

### Sri Lanka test case for UNHRC overreach:

Using a handful of UNHRC member states, the Council has passed intrusive resolutions and secured illegal mandate overreach, which is then effectively legalized as national law by appeasing domestic governments, undermining national sovereignty.

The remaining two demands — **establishment of a Truth and Reconciliation Commission with international experts and a Hybrid Court with foreign judges** — would permanently lock Sri Lanka under international oversight, a fate the current government must not commit to.

### Recommendations / Alternatives for Sri Lanka

- **Reaffirm Domestic Mechanisms:** Strengthen commissions of inquiry, courts, and Attorney General's Department for **transparent, home-grown accountability**.
- **Engage Bilaterally & Regionally:** Partner with friendly nations (Global South, BRICS, NAM) to **reject intrusive UN mandates**.
- **Audit UNHRC Legality:** Request UN Internal Oversight Services & 5th Committee to review 11 resolutions, their **mandate, legality, and funding** of unauthorized investigations.
- **Highlight LTTE Terrorism:** Demand recognition of **30 years of LTTE crimes, including 5,000 missing soldiers**, omitted by UNHRC.

- **Promote Local Reconciliation:** Invest in education, livelihood, and cultural programs that **heal divisions without surrendering sovereignty.**

**Immediate Action Required**

Resolution 60/21 represents a direct, existential threat to Sri Lanka's sovereignty, Constitution, governance, and Armed Forces.

Immediate, categorical rejection is essential. Partial compliance, delay, or co-sponsorship risks irreversible damage to national unity, the integrity of the military, and the independence of Sri Lanka's institutions.

Respectfully,



**Jagath Dias**

Co-President - National Joint Committee



**Anula Wijesundara**