



AUSTRALIAN GREENS RESOLUTION

Sri Lanka

Adopted November 2012

Principles

The Australian Greens believe that:

1. Sri Lanka is a country suffering from the brutal effects of almost three decades of war and deeply entrenched ethnic hostilities.
2. The serious violations of humanitarian and human rights law that occurred on all sides during this conflict have both damaged Sri Lankan civil society and undermined and breached international law designed to protect individual dignity during times of war and peace.
3. Tamils in Sri Lanka have suffered immensely under the rule of the successive Sinhalese majority governments, experiencing terrible loss of life, land, property, cultural history and identity.
4. Australia should seek a peaceful solution to the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Sri Lanka whereby all ethnic groups living in Sri Lanka can enjoy political, economic, social and cultural freedom.
5. The re-establishment of comprehensively representative democracy, good governance and adherence to the rule of law should be supported to ensure fundamental human rights and self-determination for all citizens of Sri Lanka.

Goals

The Australian Greens will work for:

6. An independent and impartial investigation into allegations of war crimes and crimes against humanity under the auspices of the United Nations.
7. Restoration of democracy in all aspects of life, including freedom of assembly, freedom of expression including through new political parties, freedom of the press and freedom of movement.
8. An end to the incarceration of political prisoners.
9. The guarantee of human rights and freedom from persecution and harassment of returned asylum seekers.

Short-Term Targets

The Australian Greens call for:

10. Safe resettlement of the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) to their original communities with adequate support for rebuilding of infrastructure.
11. Removal of measures which impact on individual freedoms caused by the high security zones.
12. Cessation of military intervention in the affairs of civil administration and law.
13. Immediate termination of Sri Lankan Government aided internal colonisation in the North and East of Sri Lanka.

Ecological Sustainability Social Justice Peace and Non Violence Grassroots Democracy

AUSTRALIAN GREENS RESOLUTION: Sri Lanka (cont'd)

14. Cessation of the destruction of historic monuments significant to all sides of the conflicts, including signs depicting Tamil cultural heritage and the history of their struggle.
15. Disarmament and disbanding of Sri Lankan government backed paramilitaries.
16. Assurance that all combatants who surrendered to the Sri Lankan armed forces are treated in accordance with international law under the appropriate UN conventions and under UN supervision.
17. Release of all who are detained without charge, provision of proper legal representation for those who have been charged, and respect for their human rights.
18. Immediate access for human rights organisations and journalists to all areas of Sri Lanka.

Authorised and printed by Ben Spies-Butcher and Christine Cunningham, 8-10 Hobart Place Canberra 2601