

# Event: The Genocide Convention at 70: Where the Promise to “Prevent & Punish” Goes Ignored - TGTE

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LONDON , UK, December 7, 2018 /EINPresswire.com/ -- When: Monday, December 10th.

Time: 6:00 pm

Where: UK Parliament: Westminster Parliament Main Building: Committee Room 10.

## SPEAKERS:

Mr. Peter Haynes, QC - Peter Haynes QC is a British barrister with more than 30 years' experience in domestic and international criminal courts. He currently acts as the Lead Counsel for Jean Pierre Bemba at the International Criminal Court (ICC) and is the Lead Legal Representative of Victims at the Special Tribunal for Lebanon (STL). He is one of the very few practitioners who have led cases before the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (where he appeared for the defence of General Vinko Pandurevic in relation to the Srebrenica massacre), the ICC and the STL. He has appeared in cases involving genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and international terrorism. He has been responsible for development of the jurisprudence, practice and procedure of the representation of victims in international / hybrid courts. Peter regularly lectures on the functioning of international criminal courts and, in particular, victim representation.

Mr. Richard Rogers- Sri Lanka Monitoring & Accountability Panel (MAP); held senior position in UN and OSCE and is currently assisting several victim groups before the International Criminal Court; Founding Partner of Global Diligence LLP.

Mr. Alex Prezanti - Partner at Global Diligence, - has a decade of international criminal law and human rights experience. He advises civil society and represents victims of international crimes in Ukraine, Cambodia, Georgia, Sri Lanka, Myanmar and India. He took part in the first trial at the Khmer Rouge Tribunal (KRT) and currently represents an accused charged with genocide at the KRT.

Mr. Visuvanathan Rudirakumaran, Prime Minister, Transnational Government of Tamil Eelam (TGTE) will join via Skype from New York

## Second Panel:

Mr. MCM IQPAL: Former Secretary - Sri Lanka Presidential Commission of Inquiry on Disappearance of Persons in Sri Lanka.

Dr. Sutha Nadarajah MA, PhD (London) - Department of Politics and International Studies Co-convenor - MSc Politics of Conflict, Rights and Justice.

Ms. Shivani Jegarajah- Human Right Barrister: Called to the UK Bar in 1993, Shivani has been providing cutting edge advice and legal representation to clients in her specialist field of immigration and related human rights ever since.

Ms. Kim Renfrew - Human Right Lawyer

Dr. Paramalingam – Param Solicitors

Mr Arun Gananathan Human Right Barrister

1Ms Ambihai Seevaratnam - ICPPG Director

Vote of Thanks: Mr. Manivannan Pathmanabhan - TGTE Minister for Human Rights and Action against mass atrocities and Genocide.

As UN commemorate 70 years of World Genocide Commemoration Day on 9th December and Human Rights Day on the 10th of December. Tamil Victims of Genocide and Human Rights violations still waiting for Justice and Accountability.

TGTE is campaigning to Refer Sri Lanka to the International Criminal Court (ICC) or setting up an International Criminal Tribunal on Sri Lanka and urging members of UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) to take steps to ensure that Sri Lanka meaningfully fulfils the commitments it made in cosponsoring UNHRC Resolutions 30/1 and 34/1.

Critical parts of the Resolution, especially about establishing a judicial mechanism with the participation of foreign judges, prosecutors and investigators is ignored by Sri Lanka while Senior officers in the Sri Lankan security forces who are credibly accused of committing genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity have been promoted and sent overseas as senior diplomats, with one even made a Cabinet Minister in the current government.

To bring justice to the victims and their loved ones, the TGTE is launching human rights initiatives, including a campaign to “Recognise Tamil Genocide in Sri Lanka” and a website entitled “Genocide in Sri Lanka” with the pictures of the victims and a petition campaign involving global NGOs, other collective entities and people.

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#### ABOUT TRANSNATIONAL GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL EELAM (TGTE):

Transnational Government of Tamil Eelam (TGTE) is a democratically elected Government of a million strong Tamils (from the island of Sri Lanka) living in several countries around the world. TGTE was formed after the mass killing of Tamils by the Sri Lankan Government in 2009.

TGTE twice held internationally supervised elections among Tamils around the world to elect 132 Members of Parliament. It has two chambers of Parliament: The House of Representatives and Senate and a Cabinet.

TGTE is leading a campaign to realize Tamils’ political aspirations through peaceful, democratic and diplomatic means. The Constitution of the TGTE mandates that it should realize its political objective only through peaceful means.

The Prime Minister of TGTE is Mr. Visuvanathan Rudrakumaran, a New York based lawyer.

Twitter: @TGTE\_PMO

For information contact: pmo@tgte.org

## BACKGROUND:

Tamils in the island of Sri Lanka faced repeated mass killings in 1958, 1977, and 1983 and the mass killings in 2009 prompted UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon to appoint a Panel of Experts to report on the scale of the killings.

According to UN internal review report on Sri Lanka, over 70,000 Tamils were killed in six months in early 2009 and Tamil women were sexually assaulted and raped by the Sri Lankan Security forces. There are over 90,000 Tamil war widows and thousands of Tamils disappeared due the conflict.

According to this UN report, the killings and other abuses that took place amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity. Independent experts believe that there are elements of these abuses that constitute an act of genocide.

Members of the Sri Lankan security forces are almost exclusively from the Sinhalese community and the victims are all from the Tamil community. A Buddhist Monk shot and killed a Sri Lankan Prime Minister 1959 for having talks with Tamils.

Tamils overwhelmingly voted in a Parliamentary election in 1977 to establish an independent and sovereign country called Tamil Eelam. This Parliamentary election was conducted by the Sri Lankan Government.

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Transnational Government of Tamil Eelam

TGTE

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