

Constitutional Reform Draft 2000

The 2000 constitutional reform draft by the Chandrika Kumaratunga government, proposing devolution and abolition of the executive presidency; withdrawn before vote.

The 2000 draft was the most substantive domestic constitutional reform proposal between the 1978 constitution and the 2015 reform process. It proposed asymmetric devolution to a merged North-East unit, abolition of the executive presidency, and entrenched fundamental-rights guarantees. The draft was withdrawn in August 2000 after UNP opposition and Buddhist clergy protest, and never reached a parliamentary vote.

§1 What it offered

The draft would have made Sri Lanka a 'union of regions' with a re-merged North-East regional council, transferred land and police powers to the region, and abolished the executive presidency. It was endorsed by Tamil parliamentary parties (TULF, TELO, EPRLF) but opposed by the UNP and most Buddhist clergy.

§2 Where it sits

The 2000 withdrawal completes the post-1984 ledger of domestic constitutional-reform attempts that exhausted before reaching legislation. The Norwegian-facilitated peace process and the 2002 Ceasefire Agreement opened the next channel.

Sources

- welikala-cpa-2012
- icg-srilanka

What this is not

- This page does not endorse or oppose the substantive content of the draft.
- This page does not name individual ministers, clergy or party leaders.