

International Truth & Justice Project (ITJP)

Founded 2013 by Yasmin Sooka. UK-based independent accountability project that gathers, archives, and submits witness evidence on alleged Sri Lankan state crimes — particularly enforced disappearance, torture in custody, and conflict-related sexual violence — to UN treaty bodies, special procedures, and universal-jurisdiction prosecutors.

ITJP is the post-OISL evidence repository that the international transitional-justice architecture has not yet produced. It operates under UK charity law, with survivor-centred protocols (informed consent, anonymisation, no on-the-ground intake inside Sri Lanka), and it has been the principal civil-society source for the UN High Commissioner's accountability reports, the OHCHR Sri Lanka Accountability Project's working files, and several universal-jurisdiction investigations in Europe.

§1 What it does

ITJP collects sworn statements from survivors located outside Sri Lanka. Its reports — *Locked Up* (2015), *A Still Unfinished War* (2017), *Unstopped* (2019), and successive *Disappearance and Torture* briefings — pair anonymised survivor testimony with corroborating Tier-A documentation (military deployment maps, official troop rosters, satellite imagery from independent providers, intercept and signals evidence where lawfully obtained).

Its work has provided evidentiary support to: UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances country files, the UN Committee Against Torture's review of Sri Lanka, several confidential universal-jurisdiction investigations in EU jurisdictions, and the OHCHR Sri Lanka Accountability Project's evidence repository.

§2 Why it matters to the Case

ITJP is part of the answer to the most common objection raised against the remedial self-determination argument: 'why have you not exhausted domestic remedy?' Its evidence base demonstrates that survivors located outside Sri Lanka, with no functional access to domestic courts and credible fear of reprisal against family members inside the country, have nonetheless documented a continuing pattern of state crime that the domestic system has not prosecuted.

Under the Quebec Reference (1998) and Kosovo Advisory Opinion (2010) lines of reasoning on remedial self-determination, this pattern — persistent unaddressed grave violations against an identifiable people, with internal remedy structurally blocked — is the factual predicate the law looks for.

§3 Boundary with TLTE

ITJP is the upstream evidence body. TLTE does not duplicate ITJP's intake, does not aggregate ITJP's figures into its own voice, does not name any ITJP witness, and does not republish testimony. The Unmai Disappearances Desk and the Magalir Avai sexual-violence pages route enquirers directly to ITJP. ITJP is the practitioner. TLTE is the structural reading of the cited record.

Sources

- ITJP, *Locked Up: Sri Lanka's Detention System* (2015).
- ITJP, *A Still Unfinished War: Sri Lanka's Survivors of Torture and Sexual Violence* (2017).
- ITJP, *Unstopped: 2020 Torture in Sri Lanka* (2019).
- A/HRC/46/20 (2021) — incorporates ITJP findings.

What this is not

- This article does not name any ITJP witness, complainant, or family member. Where ITJP itself has anonymised, TLTE preserves the anonymisation absolutely.
- This article does not aggregate ITJP's figures into a TLTE-voice number. All counts attributed to ITJP's published reports with date and report title.
- This article is not a fundraising page for ITJP. TLTE accepts no donations and is not a charity.