

Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC), 2010–2011

The Sri Lankan government-appointed LLRC reported in November 2011. Its 285 recommendations included credible investigation of alleged violations during the final stages of the war, demilitarisation of the North-East, and resolution of the land question. UN, OHCHR, ICG, and Amnesty assessments concluded that the LLRC fell short of international standards on accountability for the final-stages allegations. As of the current era, the core accountability recommendations remain unimplemented.

The LLRC is the most-cited domestic transitional-justice instrument in the Sri Lankan post-2009 record. It is the empirical anchor for the case file's claim that successive domestic mechanisms have produced detailed recommendations on accountability and demilitarisation without producing implementation. The narrowing timeline records LLRC as the post-war confirmation of the asymmetry-of-implementation pattern already established by Thimpu, Indo-Lanka, and the 2002 ceasefire.

§1 What LLRC recommended

Independent investigation into credible allegations of violations during the final stages of the war. Demilitarisation of the North-East. Resolution of the land question and return of private land held by the security forces. Constitutional accommodation of devolution. Implementation of the official-languages policy. The LLRC report runs to over 400 pages and contains 285 numbered recommendations.

§2 Why it sits at narrowing step 16

The case file does not litigate whether LLRC met international standards (the OHCHR OISL 2015 report did that). It uses LLRC as the empirical anchor for the pattern: a domestic mechanism, appointed by the state, recommended specific actions; the state did not implement them. UNHRC Resolution 30/1 (2015) was co-sponsored by the Sri Lankan state and committed to implementing LLRC alongside hybrid mechanisms; in 2020 the state withdrew co-sponsorship.

Sources

- Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission, Final Report (November 2011).
- OHCHR OISL, A/HRC/30/CRP.2 (2015).
- UNHRC Resolution 30/1 (2015).
- ICG, Sri Lanka's Authoritarian Turn (2013, updated).

What this is not

- This article does not name LLRC commissioners.
- This article does not litigate findings of fact; it documents the implementation gap.