

Norway-Facilitated Peace Talks (2002–2003)

Six rounds of Tamil–Sinhala peace talks, hosted in Thailand, Norway, Germany and Japan, conducted within the Ceasefire Agreement of February 2002. Suspended in April 2003 over implementation of the Sub-Committee on Immediate Humanitarian and Rehabilitation Needs (SIHRN).

The Norway-facilitated process produced the most detailed bilateral negotiation record between the Government of Sri Lanka and the LTTE — including the Oslo Declaration (December 2002), which explored a federal solution within a united Sri Lanka. Talks collapsed over the non-implementation of agreed humanitarian and rehabilitation mechanisms in the North-East. The record is preserved by the SLMM archive and Norway's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

§1 What was on the table

Across six formal rounds, the parties agreed working groups on humanitarian and rehabilitation needs, security and de-escalation, political affairs, gender, and human rights. The Oslo Declaration recorded a shared willingness to explore a federal structure within a united Sri Lanka — a constitutional formulation never since matched by either party.

Sources

- International Crisis Group — peace-process reporting (2003–2009).
- Sri Lanka Monitoring Mission archive (Norway MFA).

What this is not

- This article does not attribute responsibility for collapse to any single party.
- This article does not name individual negotiators beyond their official roles.