

# A PETITION TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

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## HALT THE VIOLENCE AND BEGIN THE PEACE PROCESS IN SRI LANKA

**We, the undersigned citizens of Canada, draw the attention of the House of Commons to the following:**

**WHEREAS**, recent developments in the war between the government of Sri Lanka and Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) have continued to intensify and are seriously threatening the lives and well being of countless civilians;

**WHEREAS**, between 200,000 and 250,000 people are currently trapped in the combat affected regions of Sri Lanka and are in immediate and urgent need of food, medicine and care, including the protection of civilians subject to detention in government camps;

**WHEREAS**, extremely serious allegations indicate that the Sri Lankan government is deliberately inflicting violence and other human rights abuses on the Tamil minority;

**THEREFORE, your petitioners call on the Government of Canada** to use every diplomatic means at its disposal to seek an immediate ceasefire, work with the international community to pressure the government to Sri Lanka and its military to respect the human rights of the civilian Tamil population, end the embargo on food, medicine and other essential items to the combat zone, restore the unequivocal freedom of the press and freedom of movement for the UN and the international aid organizations throughout the whole of Sri Lanka, and negotiations for a political solution to the war must begin immediately between the two parties after the ceasefire, based on the principle of self determination of the Tamil people

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