



58th Session of the UN Human Rights Council
Item 5: General Debate
21 March 2025

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Mr President,

The 2019 Easter Sunday attacks in Sri Lanka resulted in significant loss of lives and injuries. The number of people who died still remains uncertainⁱ. The government has not ensured fair, speedy and adequate reparations for all survivors and victim's familiesⁱⁱ.

Despite promises of accountability, critical commission reports regarding these attacks remain undisclosed. Investigations have shown serious deficiencies and the masterminds remain unknown. The former State Intelligence Service director, Nilantha Jayawardena, has not been prosecuted for his serious negligence of duty that led to these bombingsⁱⁱⁱ.

Key issues remain unexplained, such as why protective measures for churches authorized in advance were not implemented and uncovering the circumstances surrounding guests at the Shangri-La hotel (one of hotels bombed) before the attacks.

VIVAT International, Franciscan International together with Centre for Society and Religion (CSR) urge the Sri Lankan government to:

- **Publicize** all Presidential Commission reports on the Easter attacks.
- **Implement** recommendations of the Presidential Commission of Inquiries that will promote accountability and reparations.
- **Facilitate** thorough, independent and speedy, criminal investigations and prosecutions to ensure accountability for all responsible, especially the masterminds and negligence such as of Mr. Jayawardena
- **Cooperate** with international initiatives to ensure accountability, especially of the true masterminds.
- **Provide** adequate, just and speedy reparations to all survivors and victims' families after a comprehensive economic, social, and psychological assessment.

Thank you.

ⁱ CSR report 'Death toll in Sri Lanka Easter Sunday Attacks – contradictions in numbers' 2025 <https://easterattack.info/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/English-Easter-Attack-Death-toll-Report.pdf>

ⁱⁱ CSR report 'The Economic and Social impact of the Easter Sunday attack on Victims' 2025 Families' <https://easterattack.info/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/English-Report-on-the-economic-and-social-impact-of-the-Easter-attack-on-the-victims-Final.pdf>

ⁱⁱⁱ CSR report '6 years since Easter Sunday Attacks: Still awaiting justice' 2025 <https://easterattack.info/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/6-Years-Since-Easter-Attacks-English-Final.pdf>