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Prospects of a constitutional settlement of ethnic conflict in post-war Sri Lanka

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Sparke Helmore ANU College of Law, Building 5, Fellows Road,
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Dr. Jayampathy Wickramaratne counts over 34 years as a legal practitioner in Sri Lanka and specializes in constitutional law, human rights, administrative law and criminal law. In 2001, he was appointed President's Counsel, equivalent to Queen's Counsel in England. He holds a Master's degree in Public Administration and was awarded the Ph. D. degree for his thesis titled "Fundamental Rights in Sri Lanka". The thesis was published in 1996 with a second edition in 2006.

He served as Consultant, Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs and also as Senior Advisor, Ministry of Constitutional Affairs in Sri Lanka. Dr. Wickramaratne was a member of the Government's Constitution Drafting Team that drafted the Constitution Bill of 2000. He was also a member of the panel of experts appointed by the President to service the All Party

Representative Committee (APRC) and was a signatory to the "majority report" which proposed a strong power-sharing arrangement as a solution to Sri Lanka's ethnic crisis. He chaired a committee appointed by the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Human Rights to draft a new constitutional Bill of Rights.

Dr. Wickramaratne has done several assignments for UNDP, UNODC, EU and Sida in the Lao PDR relating to law reform, human rights, criminal justice, human trafficking, international law, capacity building etc. He is a Director of the Institute for Constitutional Studies, a non-governmental organization working on constitutional issues including constitutionalism, devolution, power-sharing and human rights.

Dr. Wickramaratne has written extensively on issues relating to power-sharing, human rights and other constitutional issues and presented numerous papers at international and local events.

The views expressed in this seminar are those of the presenter and do not necessarily represent the views of The Australian National University

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