

President Maithripala Sirisena
Presidential Secretariat
Colombo 1, Sri Lanka

Amsterdam/ Amstelveen November 2018

Dear President Sirisena,

I am deeply concerned about Sri Lankan journalist and political analyst Prageeth Ekmaligoda who disappeared on January 24, 2010. His wife, Sandya Ekmaligoda, has since then campaigned to get the government to account for his whereabouts, including filing a habeas corpus case in court. She was threatened outside the court in January 2016. The person who threatened her was convicted of contempt of court in May this year. Following his conviction, Sandya Ekmaligoda was subjected to harassment and death threats on social media.

I call on you to investigate the disappearance of Prageeth Ekmaligoda, make the results public and hold those responsible for his disappearance accountable. I also urge you to investigate the threats against Sandya Ekmaligoda and take appropriate action to protect her.

Finally, I call on you to end the climate of impunity that has allowed a long campaign of intimidation and violence against independent journalists in Sri Lanka.

Thank you for your consideration. I am kindly awaiting your reply.

Yours sincerely,