

Report on International Virtual Conference

On

# Turning Point: Bangladesh After the July-August Uprising

29 October 2025



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On  
**Turning Point: Bangladesh After the July-August Uprising**  
29 October 2025

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**Prof. Dr. Md. Habibe Millat**

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## Introduction

This report consolidates testimonies from diplomats, scholars, journalists, and human rights advocates on the evolving political and humanitarian crises in Bangladesh following the July–August 2024 upheaval.

The contributors warn of democratic backsliding, militarization of governance, rising religious extremism, and systematic persecution of religious, ethnic, and gender minorities, women, and journalists.

Even though the then-Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina did not resign, Article 106 of the Constitution was misinterpreted. As a result, parliament was dissolved, and an interim government was sworn in beyond the purview of the Constitution.

Together, these perspectives form a comprehensive account of the erosion of Bangladesh’s secular and pluralistic identity and the urgent need for international engagement to restore constitutional order.

The July-August 2024 movement in Bangladesh was initially portrayed as a spontaneous expression of public discontent.

However, international observers increasingly suggest it was a carefully orchestrated campaign aimed at uprooting the country from its history through religious extremism coupled with political manipulation.

This document presents a collection of reflections and testimonies from participants in international policy and human rights forums, offering a multifaceted analysis of Bangladesh’s ongoing crisis.

### **Sessions of the International Virtual Conference:**

1. Rise of Religious Extremism and Regional Instability
2. A Critical Analysis of The Fact-Finding Report of The United Nations Human Rights Office
3. Women and Minority Rights
4. Freedom of Expression and Journalism
5. Rule of Law and Democracy

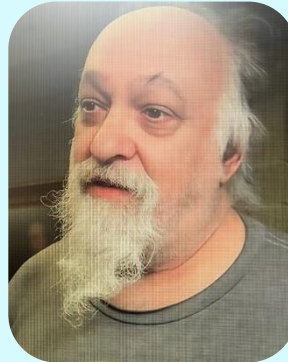
## Speakers



**REV. DR. ROBERT B. LANCIA**  
FORMER LEGISLATOR, RHODE  
ISLAND HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES, USA



**PROF. VEENA SIKRI**  
FORMER HIGH COMMISSIONER  
OF INDIA TO BANGLADESH,  
INDIA



**WILLIAM SLOAN**  
INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS  
LAWYER & CONSTITUTIONAL  
EXPERT, CANADA



**PAULO CASACA**  
FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR, SOUTH ASIA  
DEMOCRATIC FORUM, BELGIUM



**CHRIS BLACKBURN**  
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR,  
EUROPEAN BANGLADESH  
FORUM, UK



**ALAN RIDES**  
DIRECTOR, WEST LONDON  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,  
UK



**SUHAS CHAKMA**  
DIRECTOR, RIGHTS & RISKS  
ANALYSIS GROUP,  
INDIA



**NATALIA SINEAEVA**  
REPRESENTATIVE, NEVER AGAIN  
ASSOCIATION,  
POLAND



**DR. CHONGSI AYEAH JOSEPH**  
PRESIDENT/CEO, CENTRE FOR  
HUMAN RIGHTS AND PEACE  
ADVOCACY, CAMEROON



**PROF. DR. RAFAL PANKOWSKI**  
ROTARY PEACE FELLOW,  
MAKERERE UNIVERSITY,  
UGANDA



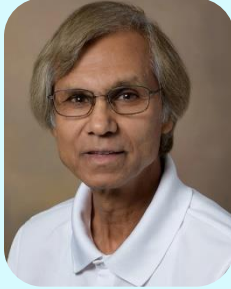
**PUSHPITA GUPTA**  
PRESIDENT, SECULAR  
BANGLADESH MOVEMENT,  
UK



**DR. NURAN NABI**  
HEROIC FREEDOM FIGHTER &  
EKUSHEY AWARD-WINNING  
ACADEMICIAN, USA



**PROF. ENGR. DR. MD. ABDUR RASHID**  
MASSEY UNIVERSITY (RTD.),  
NEW ZEALAND



**PROF. DR. MOHAMMAD SHAHIDULLAH**  
UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA,  
USA



**DR. S. M. MASUM BILLAH**  
HUMAN RIGHTS LAWYER AND  
VISITING PROFESSOR, UNIVERSITY  
OF COTE D'AZUR, FRANCE



**BARRISTER TAPAS KANTI BAUL**  
INTERNATIONAL HUMAN  
RIGHTS LAWYER & DEFENDER,  
GERMANY



**RAHMAN KHALILUR MAMUN**  
PRESIDENT, INTERNATIONAL  
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## Moderators



**PRIYAJIT DEBSARKAR**  
GEOPOLITICAL ANALYST &  
AUTHOR, UK

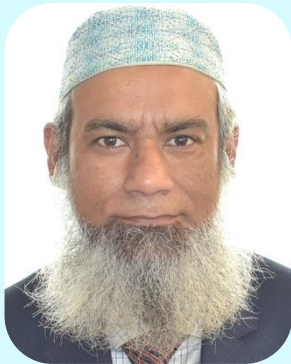


**ENGR. RANA HASSAN MAHMUD**  
POLITICAL ANALYST &  
COLUMNIST, USA



**DEBADYUTI DASGUPTA**  
WAR HISTORIAN & AUTHOR,  
INDIA

## Vote of Thanks



**MD. GOLAM KIBRIA TALUKDER**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, GLOBAL  
CENTER FOR DEMOCRATIC  
GOVERNANCE, CANADA



**PROF. DR. MD. HABIBE MILLAT**  
PRESIDENT, GLOBAL CENTER FOR  
DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE,  
CANADA



## Introductory Speech



**Prof. Dr. Md. Habibe Millat**  
President  
Global Center for Democratic  
Governance, Canada

In his introductory address, Prof. Dr. Md. Habibe Millat presented a comprehensive and evidence-based assessment of human rights violations in Bangladesh, covering the period from August 2024 to July 2025.

His data reflected widespread political repression, the collapse of law enforcement, the destruction of historical memorials, and economic instability under the interim administration of Dr. Yunus.

At least 637 individuals were killed in mob lynching incidents between August 2024 and July 2025.

A total of 64 people died in extrajudicial killings while in the custody of law enforcement, and 23 political detainees affiliated with the Awami League died in the Government prisons.

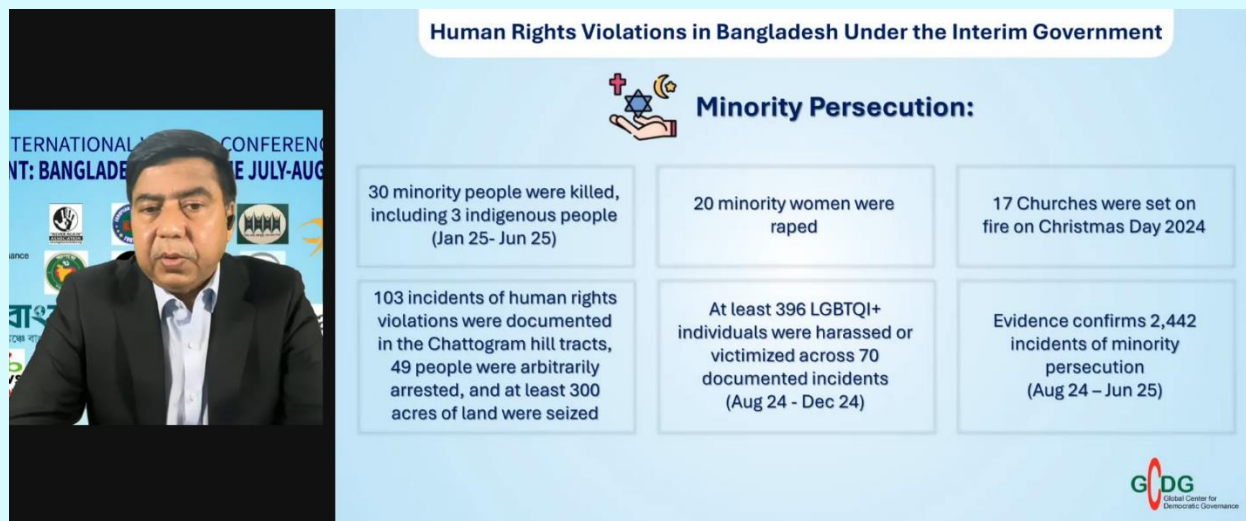
Dr. Millat reported that 230 Awami League leaders and activists were murdered between July 2024 and July 2025, and approximately 3,509,789 individuals, mostly Awami League Leaders, members, and supporters, were arrested between August 2024 and May 2025. Since August 2024, 121 members of Parliament, including 15 women MPs, have been detained with fabricated charges.

Dr. Millat condemned the demolition of the Bangabandhu Museum, birthplace of Bangladesh's independence, which was bulldozed in the presence of military and law enforcement personnel. Since August 2024, over 100 historic sites have been destroyed or looted, and more than 1,400 monuments commemorating independence have been damaged or demolished.

He reported that 44 police officers were killed, 182 remain missing, and over 500 police stations were attacked, vandalized, or set ablaze, resulting in the looting of a few thousand firearms, law enforcement gear, communication equipment, and an ample storage of ammunition.

Between January and September 2025, 325 children were murdered, 397 orphaned, and 837 abused. During the same period, 12,726 cases of violence against women and 405 rape cases have been recorded. Dr. Millat stressed that women's and children's rights are being gravely undermined nationwide.

From August 2024 to June 2025, there were 2,442 incidents of minority persecution. At least 13 minority individuals, including three indigenous people, were killed, and 20 minority women were raped. On Christmas Day 2024, 17 churches were set on fire. In the Chittagong Hill Tracts, 103 violations were recorded, including 49 arbitrary arrests and the illegal seizure of 300 acres of indigenous land.



At least 396 LGBTQI+ persons were harassed or assaulted in 70 documented incidents between August and December 2024, reflecting a surge in gender-based hate crimes.

The interim regime failed to publicly produce the resignation letter of the former Prime Minister, which renders its takeover process illegal, as it misuses Article 106 of the Constitution and Supreme Court rulings.

The Awami League, Bangladesh's oldest political party, has been banned by ordinance, and its registration suspended by the Election Commission.

Dr. Millat warned that religious extremism has sharply increased under the interim regime, with over 300 militant suspects granted bail despite facing serious terrorism charges.

Censorship has been imposed across all media platforms. A total of 1,084 journalist accreditation cards were revoked; 216 journalists were charged in fabricated murder cases, and 14 journalists were arrested. Numerous media outlets face threats, vandalism, changes in management, and journalists being forced out, as well as the risk of closure.

In one year, 353 factories closed, resulting in the elimination of 120,000 jobs.

The National Human Rights Commission was dissolved on November 7, 2024, and a new commission has not yet been established.

The education of 200,000 students was disrupted as a victim of political vendetta, and over 8,000 professionals, including 800 lawyers, were harassed through fabricated cases and violent threats.

Dr. Millat alleged that Dr. Muhammad Yunus, head of the interim administration, is using his position to expand his personal business interests. Abrupt dismissal of court fine of 66 billion taka against Grameen Communication; Tax exemption for Grameen Bank until 2029; Reduction of state ownership in Grameen Bank from 25% to 10%; Approvals for a Grameen digital wallet, export licenses, and Grameen University; Creation of Grameen Sterling, a joint venture between Grameen Bank and Sterling Enterprises, etc. are stated by Dr. Millat as serious conflict of interest and abuse of authority.



Dr. Millat criticized the UN Human Rights Commission's report on government excesses in subduing protesters during the July 5 to August 15, 2024, time period, citing editorial defects, methodological limitations, and biased information.

He called for a revised and independently verified UN inquiry into human-rights abuses in Bangladesh.



## Summarized Speech of Speakers

### Rev. Dr. Robert B. Lancia

Former Legislator  
Rhode Island House of Representatives,  
USA



Rev. Dr. Robert B. Lancia recalled Ronald Reagan's declaration that "The United States has no higher mission than to build a lasting peace that ensures liberty, democracy, and

dignity for individuals everywhere."

He argued that the United States must return to its universal mission, rather than selectively applying democratic principles.

He urged the promotion of secular democracy and warned that religious extremism is on the rise in Bangladesh, calling the interim regime "brutal and repressive."

Robert noted a recent bilateral agreement between the U.S. and Bangladesh that benefits Washington more than Dhaka and appealed for Bangladesh to return to its democratic path and original secular vision.

### Prof. Veena Sikri

Former High Commissioner of India to  
Bangladesh,  
India



Former Indian High Commissioner Prof. Veena Sikri stated that the international community has largely accepted the narrative advanced by Dr. Muhammad Yunus and

his associates because the real situation in Bangladesh has not been effectively communicated globally.

She argued that the July-August 2024 movement, portrayed as a spontaneous uprising, was in fact meticulously planned to promote religious extremism and undermine regional stability.

She emphasized that the interim government's mandate is limited to conducting a free, fair, and inclusive election, and it does not have the authority to make major political or constitutional decisions.

## William Sloan

International Human Rights Lawyer &  
Constitutional Expert,  
Canada



Mr. William Sloan quoted former Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau: “The army is not a good school for democracy.”

He asserted that the August 2024 military intervention was effectively a coup, and that the army now controls the government, using the Magistrate Act to grant itself judicial powers.

He cited international human-rights reports documenting mass detentions without habeas corpus and re-arrests of political prisoners.

He described Dr. Yunus as a military-installed puppet, comparing Bangladesh’s situation to Bolivia’s military-backed transitional regime, warning that constitutional rewriting without parliamentary oversight marks a de facto military rule.

## Paulo Casaca

Founder and Executive Director, South  
Asia Democratic Forum,  
Belgium



Mr. Paulo Casaca criticized the European Union for failing to acknowledge the scale of human-rights abuses in Bangladesh.

He asked: “How can a democratic institution like the EU accept a charter dictated by an unelected interim government replacing a constitutional one? How can it ignore mass detentions and fabricated cases used to jail thousands?”

He accused the EU of betraying its own democratic foundations and the UN Charter, urging international actors to recognize the absence of governance, democracy, and economic prospects in Bangladesh.

He concluded, “The people of Bangladesh deserve freedom, human rights, and dignity, not silence from the international community.”

## Chris Blackburn

Communications Director, European  
Bangladesh Forum,  
UK



British political analyst Chris Blackburn observed that the promise of democratic renewal has devolved into fear and factionalism.

He noted that promised reforms had not materialized and expressed concern about the reemergence of radical Islamist groups, including factions linked to Jamaat-e-Islami.

## Alan Rides

Director, West London Chamber of  
Commerce,  
UK



Alan Rides condemned the ongoing human rights violations in Bangladesh and criticized the global media's silence.

He noted that while attention is focused on Gaza, Israel, Syria, and Ukraine, Bangladesh's suffering remains invisible.

He stated, "The people of Bangladesh are enduring repression more severe than many conflict zones, yet their pain is missing from international headlines."

## Suhas Chakma

Director  
Rights & Risks Analysis Group,  
India



Suhas Chakma, a prominent advocate of the rights of Indigenous people in India and Director of the 'Rights and Risks Analysis Group', accused the interim government of becoming "the owner of the truth", systematically spreading falsehoods through state-controlled fact-checking mechanisms.

He alleged that these programs are run by the Press Wing of the Chief Advisor's Office and funded through a British capacity-building program, designed to control narratives and suppress dissent.

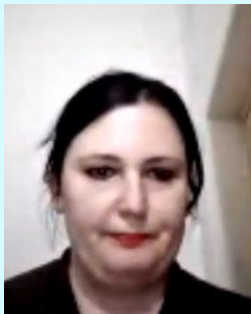
He warned that the administration is promoting Islamization narratives while the native inhabitants of the Chittagong Hill Tracts continue to face extrajudicial deaths, torture, arbitrary arrest, and sexual violence.



### **Natalia Sineaeva**

Representative  
NEVER AGAIN Association,  
Poland

said his persecution represents a dangerous distortion of historical truth.



Human-rights researcher Natalia Sineaeva expressed solidarity with minorities, indigenous groups, and journalists, citing numerous attacks on religious sites and sexual violence against minority women.

While acknowledging Bangladesh's earlier achievements through the International Crimes Tribunal, she warned of revisionist attempts to distort the history of 1971 through changes in education and museum narratives.

She described Shahriar Kabir as a symbol of resistance against political silencing and

### **Dr. Chongsi Ayeah Joseph**

President/CEO  
Centre for Human Rights and Peace  
Advocacy, Cameroon



Dr. Chongsi Ayeah Joseph emphasized women's rights and the moral obligation to resist injustice, stating that "if injustice becomes the rule, injustice becomes the law; therefore, resistance must become a duty."

He urged the global community to stand against gender-based violence and systemic oppression.



## Prof. Dr. Rafal Pankowski

Rotary Peace Fellow  
Makerere University,  
Uganda



A Polish Human-rights advocate and political scientist, Prof. Dr. Rafal Pankowski, described the situation in Bangladesh as “deeply ironic and unfortunate”, pointing out that persecution of human-rights defenders, political opponents, and minorities is taking place under the leadership of a Nobel Peace Prize laureate.

He cited Shahriar Kabir, a global hero of human rights and minority protection, who was harassed, criminalized, and imprisoned indefinitely on sketchy charges for his lifelong activism.

Pankowski warned that the empowerment of extremist forces represents a serious reversal of Bangladesh’s secular and democratic trajectory.

## Dr. Nuran Nabi

Heroic Freedom Fighter & Ekushey Award-winning academician,  
USA



Dr. Nuran Nabi, a Freedom Fighter of the Liberation War of Bangladesh in 1971, leader of Bangladeshi diaspora in the USA, and a Democratic Party leader of Plainsboro township, argued that the interim government is promoting radicalization of Islamist militants and inviting a global proxy conflict within Bangladesh.

He described the July–August 2024 events as an orchestrated campaign of terrorism and militancy, allegedly financed by both national and international actors, and rejected the characterization of those events as a popular uprising.





## Pushpita Gupta

President  
Secular Bangladesh Movement,  
UK



Pushpita Gupta, a Labour Party Councillor for the London Borough of Redbridge, a Human Rights activist and founder of Secular Bangladesh Movement UK, described the

widespread sufferings of religious minorities – dispossession of properties and business, internal displacement of families, children living in fear, and women enduring systemic violence.

Between August 2024 and August 2025, she documented 2,442 incidents of violence, including rape, land seizures, and attacks on temples.

She reported 50 minority deaths, including women and minors, and condemned the extremist social media campaign #TMD (Total ‘Malawon’ Death) — a vicious call for “Total Hindu Death.”

She demanded the release of Chinmoy Krishnadas Prabhu, spokesperson of Sanatani Jagran, and criticized the government’s slow and dismissive response.

## Prof. Dr. Mohammad Shahidullah

University of Arizona,  
USA



Prof. Dr. Mohammad Shahidullah described current events as “only the tip of the iceberg,” citing severe media repression and intimidation of journalists.

He provided alarming statistics: 637 lynchings, 1,221 disappearances, 64 extrajudicial killings, 23 custodial deaths, 400 political murders, over 12,000 violent attacks, 4,000 rapes, and 360,000 arrests within ten months — primarily targeting opposition and civil society.

He linked the crisis to the longstanding rivalry between Dr. Yunus and Sheikh Hasina, claiming that Yunus’s alliance with the BNP and Jamaat-e-Islami has emboldened extremist forces and compromised the International Crimes Tribunal.

He warned that Islamist extremists are exploiting this vacuum to persecute minorities, seize property, and silence secular voices, resulting in a collapse of law and order, rising unemployment, and economic stagnation.

## Dr. S. M. Masum Billah

Human Rights Lawyer and Visiting  
Professor, University of Cote D'Azur,  
France



Dr. S. M. Masum Billah asserted that freedom of speech is foundational to all civil liberties - encompassing the rights to life, liberty, association,

conscience, and belief as enshrined in Article 39 of the Constitution.

He documented the severe suppression of media freedom, listing journalists and activists Farzana Rupa, Shahriar Kabir, Manjurul Alam Panna, Abdul Latif Siddique, and Professor Hafizur Rahman Karzon, all detained without bail for over a year.

He reported that 187 journalists lost accreditation, 266 face criminal cases, 25 were falsely accused of crimes against humanity, and 640 have been attacked while performing their duties.

Masum appealed to the international community to uphold its legal and moral commitments to press freedom, rule of law, and democracy in Bangladesh.

## Barrister Tapas Kanti Baul

International Human Rights  
Lawyer & defender,  
Germany



Human-rights advocate Barrister Tapas Kanti Baul, a lawyer of the Appellate Division of the Bangladesh Supreme Court, reported a surge in violence against religious and ethnic minorities after the overthrow of the legitimate government on August 5, 2024.

According to the Bangladesh Hindu Buddhist Christian Unity Council, between 5 and 20 August, there were over 2,000 incidents of murder, rape, forced conversion, and destruction of temples and homes.

He noted that secular voices such as Shahriar Kabir have been detained on fabricated charges and urged the international community to defend the secular and pluralistic character of Bangladesh.

## Rahman Khalilur Mamun

President, International Forum  
for Secular Bangladesh,  
Switzerland



Rahman Khalilur Mamun reported an alarming increase in violence against women and children.

Between January and September 2025, police recorded 12,769 cases under the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act.

He condemned the lack of timely intervention by authorities, calling it a painful reflection of institutional neglect.

## Priyajit Debsarkar

Geopolitical analyst & Author,  
UK



Priyajit Debsarkar reminded that Bangladesh was founded on Bengali cultural identity and pluralism, not religion.

He warned that

Mobocracy has become rampant, with 637 people lynched between August 2024 and July 2025.

He compared the current wave of sexual violence to the atrocities of 1971, when over 200,000 women and children were violated. He called this a betrayal of the ideals of justice, equality, and humanity that the Liberation War stood for.



## Vote of thanks



**Md. Golam Kibria Talukder**  
Executive Director  
Global Center for Democratic  
Governance, Canada

Dear Distinguished guests, speakers, colleagues, partners, and participants,

On behalf of the Global Centre for Democratic Governance (GCDG) and all co-organizers, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated in our day-long virtual conference on Bangladesh following the July–August Uprising.

Your engagement, insights, and dedication made this gathering an inspiring space for dialogue, reflection, and collective vision. The thoughtful discussions and critical perspectives shared throughout the day reaffirmed our shared commitment to justice, democratic renewal, and inclusive governance in Bangladesh. I am deeply grateful to our panellists, moderators, and organizing team for their tireless efforts in making this conference possible.

Most importantly, thank you to all participants who contributed their voices and ideas to this vital conversation.

We extend our sincere gratitude to all the co-organizers and media partners whose efforts made the GCDG Day-long Virtual Conference a resounding success.



As we move forward, GCDG remains committed to fostering informed analysis and constructive dialogue on Bangladesh's democratic future. Together, we can help shape a more just and accountable society.

Thank you all.



## Presentation on A Critical Analysis of The Fact-Finding Report of The United Nations Human Rights Office



**Prof. Engr. Dr. Md. Abdur Rashid**  
Massey University (Rtd.),  
New Zealand

Dr. Mohammad Abdur Rashid, publication director of GCDG, a retired faculty member of Massey University of New Zealand, gave a talk on “Critical Analysis of the Fact-Finding Report of the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights (OHCHR) on Human Rights Violations and Abuses Related to the Protests of July and August 2024 in Bangladesh”. In his talk Dr Rashid sharply criticized the report for its failure to follow UN editorial guidelines. He claimed that report failed to contextualise how the quota movement (or anti-discrimination Student Movement) was hijacked by opposition political parties, the Islamists and extreme leftist groups to destabilise an elected popular government to capture power through looting, burning, destroying KPI institutes and killing police, pro-government political supporters and innocent people. His conclusion was that the OHCHR report, suffer from methodological opacity, contextual imbalance, lack of rigorous analysis, lack of impartiality. The report’s excessive emphasis on revenge violence, a narrative created by Prof. Yunus himself to justify violence and atrocities against Awami League, their supporters and the police, without examining the reasons behind the unprecedented atrocities and human rights violations, creates a distorted perception of blaming the victims while sparing the perpetrators. For a more credible and balanced human rights narrative, OHCHR should have integrated historical context, structural analysis, and verified evidence standards, ensuring that its reporting strengthens not obscures the pursuit of truth and justice in Bangladesh, facilitating a transition from the undemocratic Yunus Government to a democratic order. Finally, the report holds little to no substantive value for either the people of Bangladesh or the international community. Instead, it appears primarily aimed at serving the interests of Professor Yunus and his domestic and foreign allies, helping them consolidate power during the formative phase of the Interim Government.



## Declaration of the International Virtual Conference On “Turning Point: Bangladesh After the July-August

We, the participants of the Conference, reaffirm our unwavering commitment to the universal principles of democracy, human rights, and the rule of law as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

We recognize the rights of the people of Bangladesh to enjoy freedom, justice, equality, and meaningful participation in governance. We emphasize that accountability, transparency, and fairness are crucial for achieving and sustaining lasting peace and democracy.



We express grave concern over continuing reports of human rights abuses, oppression of women, children, and minorities, the alarming rise of religious extremism, and restrictions on civil liberties and press freedom.

**In solidarity with the people of Bangladesh, we declare:**

### **1. Restoration of Civil Rights and Judicial Independence**

We call for the full restoration of civil, political, and religious rights, as well as the protection of fundamental freedoms. The judiciary must be independent and free from political interference to ensure equal justice for all.

## **2. Accountability for Human Rights Violations**

All reports of killings, detentions, torture, and violence against women, children, minorities, and political opponents must be investigated fairly and transparently. Every victim deserves justice.

## **3. Freedom of the Press and Protection of Journalists**

We strongly condemn media censorship and attacks on journalists. We call for an immediate end to intimidation, imprisonment, and censorship, and demand full freedom of expression and protection for all journalists.

## **4. Combating Extremism and Safeguarding Regional Stability**

Participants emphasize the need for united action against extremism, promoting inclusive governance, human rights, and regional cooperation to ensure lasting peace and stability in Bangladesh and the broader South Asian region.

## **5. Free, Fair, and Inclusive Elections**

We emphasize the urgent need for an inclusive, free, fair, and transparent national election under a neutral and credible caretaker government, ensuring the participation of all political parties and restoring public confidence in democratic institutions.

### **Final Commitment:**

We stand in firm solidarity with the people of Bangladesh in their pursuit of democracy, justice, and human rights. We call upon national, regional, and international actors—governments, civil society, and global institutions—to support a peaceful and democratic transition and to help rebuild faith in Bangladesh’s democratic future.

## Organizers



### Global Center for Democratic Governance

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### South Asia Democratic Forum

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## Co-Organizers



## Media Partners



# TURNING POINT: BANGLADESH AFTER THE JULY-AUGUST UPRISING

29 OCTOBER 2025  
WEDNESDAY

NEW YORK TIME  
09:00 AM

UK TIME  
01:00 PM

BANGLADESH TIME  
07:00 PM

CET  
02:00 PM



INTERNATIONAL  
VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

## CONFERENCE THEMES & SESSIONS

1. Rise of Religious Extremism and Regional Instability
2. Women and Minority Rights
3. Freedom of Expression and Journalism
4. Rule of Law and Democracy

For Registration:



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## Speakers



**Mr. Robert Bob Lancia**  
Former Legislator, Rhode Island  
House of Representatives, USA



**Prof. Veena Sikri**  
Former High Commissioner  
of India to Bangladesh, India



**Mr. William Sloan**  
International Human Rights Lawyer &  
Constitutional expert, Canada



**Mr. Paulo Casaca**  
Founder and Executive Director,  
South Asia Democratic Forum, Belgium



**Ms. Charlotte Jacquemart**  
Senior Editor, Schweizer Radio  
und Fernsehen (SRF), Switzerland



**Mr. Chris Blackburn**  
Communications Director,  
European Bangladesh Forum, UK



**Mr. Alan Rides**  
Director, West London  
Chamber of Commerce, UK



**Mr. Suhas Chakma**  
Director, Rights & Risks  
Analysis Group, India



**Ms. Natalia Sinecova**  
Representative, NEVER AGAIN  
Association, Poland



**Dr. Chongai Ayiah Joseph**  
President, Centre for Human Rights  
and Peace Advocacy, Cameroon



**Mr. Shun-ichi FUJIKI**  
MD, International Cancer  
Support Association, Japan



**Ms. Pushpita Gupta**  
President,  
Secular Bangladesh Movement, UK



**Prof. Dr. Rafal Pankowski**  
Rotary Peace Fellow,  
Makerere University, Uganda



**Dr. Nuran Nabi**  
Heroic Freedom Fighter & Dushanbe  
Award-winning academician, USA



**Prof. Eng. Dr. M.A. Rashid**  
Massey University (Ltd.),  
New Zealand



**Prof. Dr. Mohd. Shahidullah**  
University of Arizona  
USA



**Dr. S. M. Masum Billah**  
Human Rights Lawyer & Visiting Prof.,  
University of Cote d'Ivoire, France



**Dr. Md. Abu Naser**  
Executive Director, Chair, Dept. of Communications,  
California State University, USA



**Barrister Tapas Kanti Baul**  
International Human Rights  
Lawyer & defender, Germany



**Mr. Rahman Khalilur Mamun**  
President, International Forum  
for Secular Bangladesh, Switzerland

## Moderators



**Mr. Priyank Debbarbar**  
Geopolitical analyst & Author,  
UK



**Engr. Rana Hassan Mahmud**  
Political Analyst & Columnist  
USA



**Mr. Debadyuti Dasgupta**  
War Historian & Author  
India

## Vote of Thanks



**Engr. Md. Gelam Kibria Talukder**  
Executive Director, Global Center for  
Democratic Governance, Canada

## Presided by



**Prof. Dr. Md. Habiba Millat**  
President, Global Center for  
Democratic Governance, Canada

## Organizers



## Co-Organizers



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