

BRIEF PROFILE – YASMIN SOOKA



Ms Yasmin Sooka is the Executive Director of the Foundation for Human Rights in South Africa, an independent non-profit Foundation established in 1996 by President Mandela's government and the European Union, to address the legacy of apartheid and to support the building of a human rights culture in South Africa.

Ms Sooka currently chairs the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan for the Human Rights Council in Geneva, since June 2016. In 2015 Ms Sooka served as a Member of the Independent Review Panel for Central African Republic (CAR) appointed by the UN Secretary General in June 2015, which investigated Allegations of Sexual Abuse by Foreign Military Forces in the Central African Republic as well as the UN Response to the Allegations.

In July 2010, Ms Sooka was appointed by the Secretary-General to serve as a member of the Panel of Experts advising the Secretary-General on Accountability for War Crimes in Sri Lanka.

She also served as a Commissioner on the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission from 1996 to March 2003. She was also appointed by Mary Robinson as one of three independent UN Commissioners on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Sierra Leone between 2002 and 2004.

She also held the post of the Inaugural Soros Chair at School of Public Policy-Budapest in the fall of 2015 where she lectured on transitional justice. Ms Sooka also served as an advisory member of the UN Global Study on Resolution 1325 in 2015.