



January 21, 2014

Congresswoman Gwen Moore  
2245 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Moore:

Next Tuesday, January 28, we invite you to meet two distinguished Sri Lankan guests here on Capitol Hill regarding the international significance and importance to America of events in Sri Lanka. Visiting will be:

**Mr. Ajith Nivard Cabraal is Governor of Central Bank of Sri Lanka, their equivalent of our Federal Reserve System**

**Mr. Lalith Weeratunga is Permanent Secretary to the President of Sri Lanka, Mahinda Rajapaksa, their equivalent of Chief of Staff to the President.**

They are here to meet with Members of Congress and others in Washington, to improve the understanding and relations between our countries.

As illustrated on the attached map from Hofstra University, the island nation of Sri Lanka is astride the main maritime trade routes of the Indian Ocean, with fast-growing economic and strategic significance as that area of the world experiences rapid growth. China is making major inroads already in Sri Lanka, but our distinguished visitors wish to make sure that relations with the United States are improved even more strongly.

Next Monday we will deliver to your office a DVD of the 28-minute mini-documentary, "Sri Lanka: Reconciling & Rebuilding" by former CNN Anchor Gene Randall, which is to air immediately following "This Week" on Sunday morning in Washington, DC. It provides an overview of the situation in Sri Lanka, which Mr. Cabraal and Mr. Weeratunga will expand upon during their Capitol Hill visits.

First-hand, they will have information on the remarkable economic progress in Sri Lanka since the 2009 end of the long-term civil war; the successful regional elections that now provide representation in the government for the formerly-insurgent Tamil population; and the progress on reconciliation and human rights issues.

Rep. Robert Aderholt, who chairs the Sri Lanka Caucus, is hosting Mr. Cabraal and Mr. Weeratunga for lunch in the Members' Dining Room from noon to 1:30 pm on Tuesday, January 28. You are invited to come visit them at this lunch. If possible, an RSVP to Diane Prunetti, at (202) 682-0013 would be appreciated. If you are unable to attend but would like to see if some other opportunity could be created, please contact Diane Prunetti about that.

Also accompanying me along with our distinguished visitors will be one of your former House colleagues, former Rep. Ernest Istook of Oklahoma, who sends along a personal note that's included.

We hope to see you next week. Thank you for your time and interest.

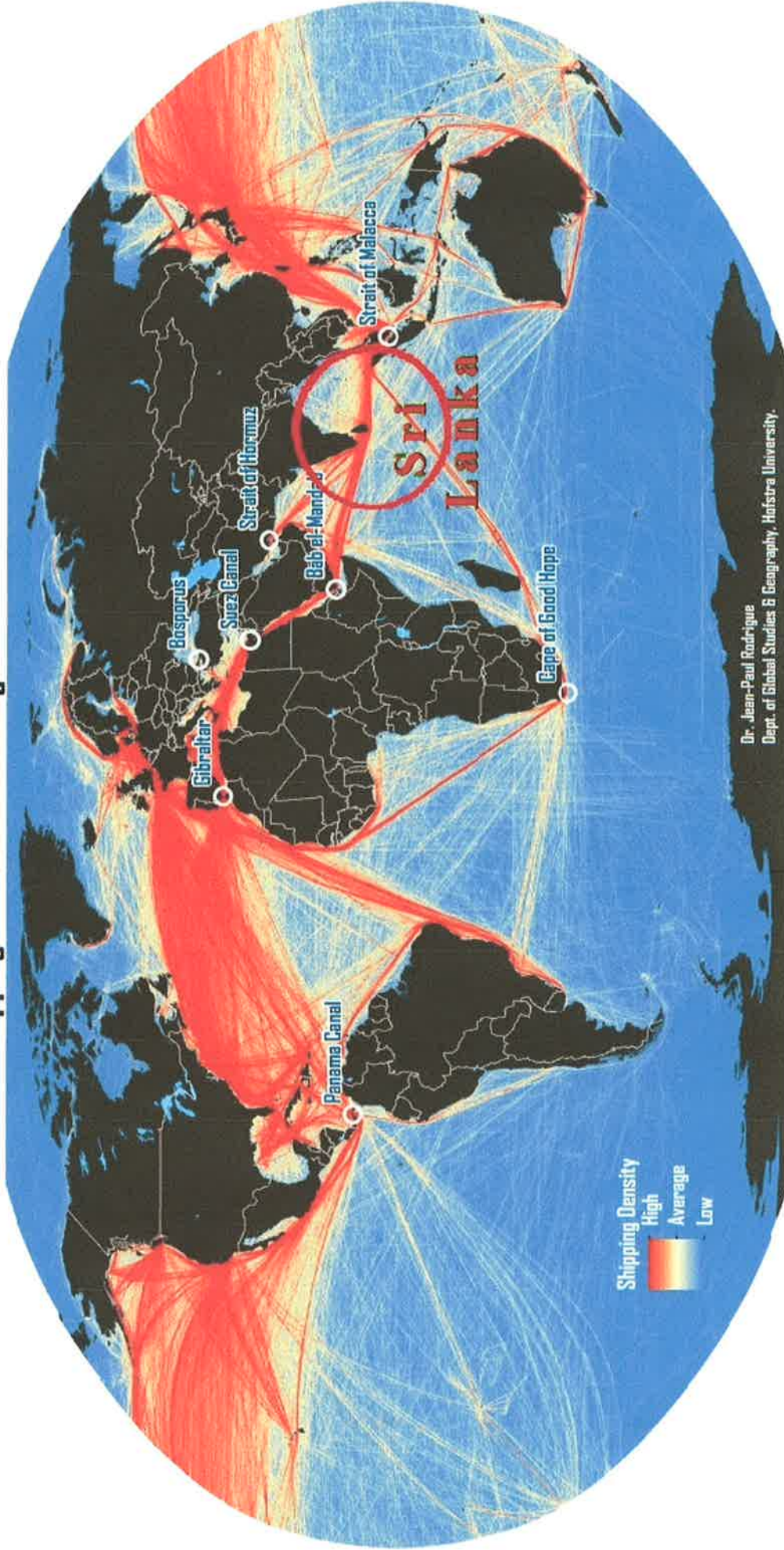
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert J. Thompson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R".

Robert J. Thompson  
Chairman, Thompson Advisory Group

Attachment: Trade Routes Map

## Maritime Shipping Routes and Strategic Locations



Dr. Jean-Paul Rodrigue  
Dept. of Global Studies & Geography, Hofstra University.

Source: Shipping density data adopted from National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis. A Global Map of Human Impacts to Marine Ecosystems.