



# Tom Lantos

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  
RANKING DEMOCRATIC MEMBER**

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**FOR INFORMATION CALL:**  
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## **Lantos: U.S. Policy on Labeling Darfur Genocide Should Galvanize International Action**

**Washington, DC** – Congressman Tom Lantos (D-CA), the ranking Democrat on the House International Relations Committee, today welcomed the news that the U.S. government officially has recognized the situation in the Darfur region of Sudan as a genocide.

“After more than a year of conflict, the unspeakable violence in Darfur has led to the deaths of over 50,000 people, the displacement of more than a million people within Darfur, and an additional 200,000 refugees in Chad,” Lantos said. “Despite international condemnation of the Sudanese government, war crimes and crimes against humanity continue unabated.”

Lantos, the only Holocaust survivor ever elected to the U.S. Congress, noted that official recognition of a genocide further denotes its urgency to the international community.

“The House of Representatives recognized this situation as a genocide in July, and urged immediate action,” he said. “It is my hope that by calling the genocide by its real name, the Administration will galvanize an international civilian protection effort for those who are being persecuted in Darfur,”

“The U.S. government must do everything in its power to push the United Nations Security Council to show its resolve in taking meaningful steps to put an immediate end to the genocide and ongoing human rights violations in Darfur,” Lantos added. “It is painfully obvious, with Janjaweed militia camps operating in full sight, that Sudan has failed in its commitments. If the world community values its credibility in matters of human rights, we need to hold the Sudanese government accountable.”

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