



President Joseph R. Biden Jr.
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

September 6, 2022

The ERITREAN PEOPLE deeply appreciate your commitment for global peace and security

Dear Mr. President:

The tragedy that is taking place in Eritrea and in the Horn of Africa is a matter of grave concern to all of us. The dictator in Eritrea, Isaias Afwerki, has committed every crime you can think of against the Eritrean people. Although every sector of the Eritrean society has suffered under the brutal dictatorship, the Eritrean Youth, who are the future of the country, have suffered the most. The successive wars waged by the dictator against neighboring countries, the endless involuntary military service, the extra-judicial killings, detention and disappearance of citizens without due process of law are a few of the many examples of the misery that the people of Eritrea are enduring. Because of the endless involuntary military service, the Eritrean youth are fleeing the country in masse despite the immense danger posed by the shoot to kill policy of the government.

The dreams of these youngsters for normal lives have been dashed. Access to higher education is nonexistent, because the only university, The University of Asmara, has been closed since 1994. Most of these young boys and girls are in refugee camps, and many of those that were able to reach the United States or Europe as refugees have signs of torture, posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression and other social problems as a result of the treacherous journey they had to take to escape the country.

The Eritrean regime has been organizing political events disguised as cultural festivals in Europe and the United States. These so-called festivals are being used to extort and collect funds for the regime, disseminate hate propaganda, intimidate those who fled the country and remind them of the misery they thought they left behind. Tired of being intimidated by the Eritrean regime in their adopted countries, young Eritrean refugees recently stood up and challenged the regime's illegal activities and stopped many of the so-called festivals that were planned to take place in Europe. This is a sign that the Eritrean youth is saying, "Enough is Enough" to the dictator.

Dear Mr. President:

The tragedy that is unfolding in Ethiopia and more specifically in the Tigray region is the making of dictator, Isaias Afwerki. The Eritrean people want Ethiopians to settle their differences through negotiations and peaceful means. We are against this senseless war. Instead of acting as a mediator to help resolve the Ethiopian civil war, the Eritrean dictator has now involved the Eritrean defense forces in the internal affairs of a neighboring country and has endangered the lives of thousands of Eritreans. This was done against the wishes of the Eritrean people and is unacceptable.





Furthermore, as you well know dictator Isaias Afwerki has a track record of siding with aggressors. The fact that Eritrea was the only African country that supported Russian invasion of Ukraine through its vote in the United Nations is a perfect example.

In conclusion, we welcome and commend the recent announcement of your government that urged Eritrea to withdraw its troops from Tigray unconditionally. We call upon the international community in general and the United States in particular to put pressure on all parties to agree to an immediate secession of hostilities and a negotiated settlement to the conflict that is costing the lives of thousands of people every day.

Sincerely,

Awet Tsehaye, Head
Global Diplomacy Dept.
Global Yiakl Eritrean Movement

CC.

- **Antony Blinken**, United States Secretary of State
- **António Guterres**, Secretary-General of the United Nations

*** Global Yiakl Eritrean Movement, a worldwide umbrella association of eleven national member organizations, is a socio-political Eritrean advocacy group for human rights, freedom, justice, and democracy in Eritrea.*

