

Europe External Programme with Africa

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Situation in Tigray (per 14 July)

- A video circulating on Ethiopian social media allegedly shows about 200 Tigrayans and Eritreans being rounded up by government police officers in Lege Tafo, a suburb of Addis Ababa. The Tigrayans and Eritreans were allegedly returning to Addis Ababa after visiting the monastery "Echege Yohannes."
- The video shows women and children weeping, yelling, and calling for help. It shows them being forced into 3 buses. Eritrean news station Asena Tv reported that those detained were taken to a refugee camp in the Dabat area near the city of Gondar in the Amhara region.

Situation in Ethiopia (per 14 July)

- VOA reported on what they refer to as ethnically motivated arrests that occurred in Addis Ababa during the state of emergency that was declared after Tigray forces threatened to attack the city. The government arrested Tigrayans in Addis Ababa, claiming they were 'infiltrators'. More than 15,000 civilians were arrested between November and February.
- VOA spoke to Tigrayans who were released. The Tigrayans stated that they were beaten without reason and that children were also included in the mass detention. They added that some inmates died due to poor prison conditions.
- One of the former detainees detailed the rations that were provided in Mizan Teferi Prison. He told VOA that "5 prisoners had to share one loaf of bread and 2 litres of water for 3 days, that means one glass of water per person per day, all were in terrible condition. They were very hungry and thirsty."
- The Globe and Mail reports that economic growth in Ethiopia has slowed to 3.8%, its lowest in two decades. Investors are also looking elsewhere because of the Tigray War. This comes despite the Abiy administration's promise to improve and liberalise the economy.
- The IMF said that the continued Ethiopian funding of the military in billions of dollars weakens and aggravates the national economy by creating a fiscal deficit.
- Addis Standard reports that the Deputy Commissioner of the Federal Police Department of Criminal Investigations, Tadesse Ayalew, released the list of alleged bribery Commissioner Mitiku Kassa is accused of committing.
- According to the Ethiopian federal police, the amount diverted is 472 million Birrs (around USD 9 million), 512,000 quintals of wheat worth 500,000,000 birrs (USD 8.5 million), 34,000 quintals of corn, 77,000 litres of cooking oil, and 4,000 quintals of rice. The police have also added that his entire family is allegedly involved in the corruption.



Regional Situation (per 14 July)

- Somali President Hassan Mohamud hosted the parents of the Somali National Army cadets, who have been training in Eritrea for three years. He informed the parents of their condition and promised they would soon be repatriated.
- Somali President Hassan Sheikh will have a two-day official visit to Kenya. Mohamud will meet with Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta and senior Kenya officials. The trip is expected to contribute to reviving bilateral relations and reopening Kenya's "Khat" export to Somalia, which has been suspended for the last two years.
- Eritrea has told the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), a UN forum on the sustainable development goals, about Eritrea's accomplishments and experiences in the implementation of SDGs 3 and 13. It claims that the progress is "impressive".
- These claims have been cast into doubt by the most recent Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea, published in May 2022, stating that "persistent human rights crisis in Eritrea deepened during the reporting period".
- The special rapporteur added that while he welcomed the Eritrean adoption of the Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, he also emphasised that "fundamental human rights are a prerequisite for economic and social development".

Situation in Sudan (per 14 July)

- The Sudan Tribune reported that a tribal dispute in the Blue Nile State killed two people. An additional 60 households from Falata village and 25 from Murmuz El Jebel village were displaced.
- The Troika and the European Union released a statement about General al-Burhan's announcement that the military would cease participation in negotiations to form a new government. The statement said that "A transitional government must be civilian-led, and have broad-based, nation-wide support."
- It adds that a dialogue is necessary to establish the role and responsibilities of the military.
- It further calls on the sudanese military to hold to account those responsible for killings that occurred during demonstrations, and to end "violence against civilians".

Links of interest

- Asena Tv: 200 Tigrayans and Eritreans detained
- VOA news:Ethiopia's Arbitrarily Detained Tigrayans Recall Abuse
- Ethiopia's civil war has doused hopes of prosperity under Abiy Ahmed's government
- Addis Standard: Police release corruption list allegedly linked to disaster risk management chief
- President Hassan Mohamud with the parents of Somali National Army cadets
- Somali President to travel to Kenya
- Briefing of Ambassador Sophia Tesfamariam at the High-Level Political Forum
- Two people killed, one injured in Sudan's Blue Nile State
- Joint Statement on Sudan on the Occasion of Eid al-Adha
- <u>A/HRC/50/20</u>: Situation of human rights in Eritrea Report of the Special Rapporteur on the <u>situation of human rights in Eritrea</u>

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