

Europe External Programme with Africa

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Peace negotiations (per 01 December)

- According to the Ethiopian Government Communication Service (GCS), the Technical Planning Joint Committee of Ethiopian and Tigray military leaders met on 30 November in Shire.
- The Committee will prepare a detailed plan on disarmament of Tigrayan forces and other issues based on the Pretoria Cessation of Hostilities (CoH) Agreement.
- GCS also mentioned that technical factors have delayed the planning.
- Tigrayan government broadcaster Dimtsi Weyane said that Tigrayan troops have started to withdraw from lines they were holding when the CoH Agreement was signed in November.
- Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Virginia Gamba, called for all parties of the CoH Agreement to keep in mind the needs of children affected by the conflict. She asked that they keep to the "practical guidance for mediators to protect children in situations of armed conflict" developed by her office.

Situation in Tigray (per 01 December)

- Unconfirmed reports state that Eritrean Defense Forces (EDF) prevented humanitarian staff from reaching Mekelle, Adwa, Axum and Shire on 29 or 30 November in the Maykinetal area.
- The Tigray Emergency Coordination Center states that 111 people were killed between 17 and 23 November by EDF. A further 103 were severely injured and 241 houses destroyed. "There are reports of extra-judicial killing of civilians, injuries, kidnapping, disappearances, destruction of houses and widespread looting by the occupying forces."
- An unconfirmed report on atrocities committed by the EDF in Tigray found that 600 people were killed in May Abay Tabia village in the Lower Adiyabo district; 1.300 were killed in central Adiyabo district; 1.080 animals were stolen in Asgede Tsimbla district and 2.515 houses were burned in Adi Daero.
- The Ethiopian Minister for Innovation and Technology said that no timeline exists to restore internet connectivity to Tigray. The CoH that was agreed in November requires a restoration of Tigrayan connectivity. The lack of connectivity makes providing aid to the region harder, aid workers said.
- A digital policy researcher attending the Internet Governance Forum in Addis Ababa, Rosanna Fanni, stated that "more attention needs to be paid to ending the humanitarian crisis (in Tigray) and to the responsibility of international actors in implementing swift action against internet shutdowns".
- The Ethiopian Government provided an update on humanitarian aid being provided to Tigray. It said on Tuesday that between 26 and 29 November, 82 trucks passed through the Gondar corridor towards Shire and May Tsebri, 65 trucks arrived in Tigray through the Kombolcha corridor to Alamata and Southern Tigray, and 209 trucks arrived in Mekelle with another 140 trucks on their way from Semera.

- William Davison, senior analyst on Ethiopia for Crisis Group, states that a source indicates “Tigray forces redeployed from Adigrat and Tigray police now in charge of security there. Another source in Mekelle says federal military moved into Adigrat after Tigray forces left”.

Situation in Ethiopia (per 01 December)

- Ethiopian PM Abiy Ahmed met with UNSG Antonio Guterres and AU Commission chairperson Musa Faki Mehmet on 1 December in Addis Ababa.
- Belete Molla, Ethiopia's Innovation and Technology Minister, and Maxut Shadayev, Russian Deputy Minister of Digital Development, Communication and Media, discussed collaboration on strengthening Cyber security in Ethiopia, says *Fana Broadcasting Corporation*.
- The Deputy Minister of Russia said that his country will share its experiences on electronic government service, digital skills and other areas with Ethiopia.

Regional Situation (per 01 December)

- The head of the United Nations mission in South Sudan, Nicholas Haysom, called on the government and armed and unarmed political dissidents to embrace dialogue.
- Reem Abbas, women's rights activist and researcher from Sudan, states that violence in Sudan is inherently linked to urban planning which segregates along ethnic lines. This aggravates violence in communities.
- She calls for a different model which allows “different backgrounds to co-exist in the same realm and share economic interests.”
- *Anadolu Agency* reports that protests continue in Sudan against the deal between military authorities and the civilian pro-democracy coalition, expected to be concluded soon. The protesters reject compromise with the military administration.
- Somali defense officials state that the Somali military has been making progress towards a viable security force. *Voice of America* reports that Turkey has provided training and drones to Somalia.
- Pope Francis has rescheduled his planned visits to South Sudan and DRC, which were cancelled earlier this year. The Pope will visit DRC between Jan. 31-Feb. 2 and South Sudan from 3 to 5 February.

Links of interest

[Peace agreement's opportunity must be seized to include rights and needs of children](#)

[Update on current issues](#)

[Dimtsi Weyane The Tigray army has begun to withdraw from the battle lines it has been holding.](#)

[Ethiopia Peace Process Undermined as Eritrea Forces Continue Attacking Civilians](#)

[Report on Eritrean army violence in Tigray](#)

[Ethiopia offers no date for end to blackout in Tigray region](#)

[Twitter: William Davison on Tigray](#)

[Twitter: Abiy Ahmed Ali: I warmly welcome to #Ethiopia UNSG @antonioguterres.](#)

[Russia and Ethiopia to collaborate on cyber security](#)

[Twitter: A digital policy researcher attended the Internet governance forum in Addis](#)

[UNMISS chief urges peaceful dialogue with hold-out group](#)

[Pope reschedules Congo, South Sudan trip for Jan. 31-Feb. 5](#)

[A city divided](#)

[Sudan sees protests against deal between army, civilians](#)

[Somalia Military Rebuilding Shows Signs of Improvement](#)

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