

Europe External Programme with Africa

SITUATION REPORT - HORN OF AFRICA

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Europe External Programme with Africa is a Belgium-based Centre of Expertise with in-depth knowledge, publications, and networks, specialised in issues of peacebuilding, refugee protection, and resilience in the Horn of Africa. EEPA has published extensively on issues related to the movement and/or human trafficking of refugees in the Horn of Africa and on the Central Mediterranean Route. It cooperates with a wide network of universities, research organisations, civil society, and experts from Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Djibouti, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda, and across Africa. The Situation Reports can be found [here](#). To receive the situation report in your e-mail, [click here](#). You can unsubscribe at any moment through the link at the bottom of each e-mail.

Peace negotiations (per 05 April)

- An Eritrean delegation of army generals and high-level commanders led by Eritrea's security head General Abraha Kassa visited the Oromia Region and the Ethiopian Air Force Base, states the Eritrean Ministry of Information.
- The delegation was briefed by General Yilma Medrassa, Commander of the Ethiopian Air Force.
- The delegation also visited the new building of the Ethiopian Broadcasting Corporation (EBC), located in the Shegola area of Addis Ababa. The delegation was briefed by the EBC's CEO Fisseha Yitagesu.
- The delegation also visited the office of the mayor of Addis Ababa.
- Adanech Abebie, the mayor of Addis Ababa, Tweeted: "Eritrea army generals, I am pleased to welcome you to your second home."
- Witnesses told *Tigray TV* that Eritrean and Amhara forces continue to commit atrocities against Tigrayans in western Tigray.
- The former government of Tigray formally handed over its authority to the new interim administration of the region on 5 April.
- During the handover ceremony, former regional president Dr Debretsion Gebremichael said that Tigray is in transition to a peaceful struggle after the Pretoria Cessation of Hostilities (CoH) Agreement.
- He also said he believed the people of Tigray will fully back the interim government.
- Getachew Reda, president of the interim government, said his cabinet will use the full capacity of Tigray to ensure the survival and security of the people of Tigray.

Regional Situation (per 05 April)

- Naval forces from Egypt and Sudan have reportedly finalised a joint naval training at the naval base of Port Sudan on the Red Sea, according to *Al-Monitor*.
 - The training comes amid increasing fears of military escalation in light of the diplomatic row regarding the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam on the Nile river.
 - The Egyptian army's statement says: "The training falls in the framework of the joint training plan of the armed forces with friendly countries to boost partnerships and military cooperation in various fields."
 - Kenyan President Ruto said that he created an environment for his opposition to check his government without being violent - "without throwing stones" - in a joint press conference with Rwandan President Paul Kagame.
 - Ruto said, "As president, I owe it to the people of Kenya to provide leadership".
 - He also said "I want to tell you, there will be no handshake [with Odinga]. But there will be an engagement in parliament on the issues that have been raised in parliament."
 - He added "The protests and demonstrations were acquiring an ugly and violent turn...It was time for them to reconsider those demonstrations."
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- Opposition leader Raila Odinga called for parties outside the parliament to also be involved in talks about electoral reforms and the high cost of living. He warned of new protests if the government does not listen to the demands of the opposition.
- Parties in Sudan have agreed to form a transitional Presidency consisting of a Sovereignty Council with seven to nine members, including leaders of armed movements, states *Sudan Tribune*.
- The signing of the final agreement on a transitional government in Sudan may be delayed again. It is officially scheduled for tomorrow, 6 April, delayed from 1 April.
- An Ethiopian delegation led by Adam Farah, the ruling Prosperity Party (PP) vice president, met with Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud to discuss bilateral and regional issues.
- At least three civilians were killed during an attack with a landmine on an African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS) convoy in Mogadishu, Somalia, on Monday.
- The UN states that 1200 Somali civilians were killed or injured by explosive ordnance in 2022 and this problem is hindering economic recovery as well as delivery of humanitarian aid.

International Situation (per 05 April)

- EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs Josep Borrell and US Secretary of State Antony Blinken met and reportedly discussed various global issues including Ethiopia.
- Borrell Tweeted "Happy to welcome Secretary Blinken in Brussels today. We had an important bilateral discussion on our joint resolve to continue supporting Ukraine, on Ethiopia, CAR, MEPP, and China ahead of my trip next week. Our transatlantic partnership is stronger than ever."
- Borrell further said in the press briefing: "The message to both, the Government of Ethiopia and Tigrayans, is to make them understand that we are watching the settling of the conflict and we only normalise our relations in a gradual way, step-by-step".
- The Tripoli-based government of Libya rejected a UN report on the alleged violations of refugee and migrant rights in the country, which the UN investigators say amount to crimes against humanity.
- The UN mission gathered "overwhelming" evidence of systematic torture and sexual slavery, among other crimes, and implicated Libyan authorities, including the Directorate for Combating Illegal Migration and the Libyan Coast Guard.
- In a statement, the Libyan Foreign Ministry said: "The situation in the detention centers where migrants are held requires international support, and not to leave the Libyan government alone on this issue."

Links of interest

[Eritrean Senior Military Delegation Visited Oromia Region](#)

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[Twitter: Adanech Abebie. mayor of Addis Ababa. on Eritrean officials visiting the city](#)

[Tigray TV](#)

[Egypt, Sudan hold joint military drills as Nile dispute with Ethiopia drags on](#)

[President Ruto: There will be no handshake with Raila Odinga](#)

[Kenyan opposition leader presents new demand for electoral reform talks](#)

[Sudanese parties opt for collegiate transitional presidency](#)

[Ethiopia ruling party deputy meets Somalia president](#)

[Over 1,200 civilians killed or hurt by explosive ordnance in Somalia last year: UN](#)

[AU peacekeepers convoy hit by explosion in Somalia](#)

[Libya rejects UN report on violations of migrant rights](#)

[Twitter: Joseph Borrell on his meeting with US Secretary Antony Binken](#)

[EU and US monitoring implementation of peace in Ethiopia's Tigray](#)

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