

Banja Luka Model United Nations 2021

# SECURITY COUNCIL THE TIGRAY WAR



Security Council  
United Nations



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Dear delegates of the Security Council,

It is our great pleasure to host you on the 10th Banja Luka Model United Nations. BaLMUN is the biggest MUN in South-East Europe and we look forward to your participation in this unforgettable event. BaLMUN was held for the first time in 2013 and has since grown into one of the most important manifestations in the region. We are honored that this event is supported by the former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon and the former UN Security Council Chair, who was addressing us at the opening ceremonies, adding to the significance of this event. The Security Council, as the committee with the highest power, will allow you to debate one very complex issue in today's world. However, we are sure that you will come up with an amazing solution, you will improve yourself (in the areas of public speaking, debating, problem-solving, and crisis management), and most importantly that you will have a lot of fun. We look forward to your participation and hope that you will have the chance to enjoy this amazing conference.

King Regards,

Security Council Chairs

**T**he armed conflict in Tigray is an armed confrontation between the federal government of Ethiopia and the authorities of the autonomous region of Tigray, which erupted on November 4, 2020.

The reasons for the conflict were the long-standing confrontation between the government of Abiy Ahmed Ali and the authorities of the autonomous region, represented by the Tigray People's Liberation Front (NPLF) party, which is ruling there. Abiy Ahmed Ali, from the very beginning of his prime minister's term, made efforts to reduce the influence of the NPLT. In response, the NFOT ignored certain federal acts and instructions on the territory of the region.

Since the entry into force of the 1994 constitution, Ethiopia has been a federal state divided into regions established on ethnic grounds. Ethiopia was then led for decades by the same coalition, the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF), in which the Tigrayan minority had a very large share of power compared to that of its population, which totals 6% of that of the country. This was particularly marked under the mandates of the Tigrayan Meles Zenawi, Prime Minister from 1995 until his death in 2012.

War crimes were allegedly committed by both sides during the conflict.

On April 2, 2018, the once powerful NPLT was ousted from power in the federal government

due to growing social discontent in response to 27 years of repression. In the closed elections for the EPRDF chairman, members of the executive committee from the Amhara, Oromo and Southern regions voted for Abiy Ahmed, contrary to the NFOT, who hoped to elect Shifero Shigute as chairman. After electoral defeat and expulsion from the federal government, NPLT officials moved to Tigray and continued to govern the region for three years, often in conflict with the federal government. In one case, the Tigray regional administration reportedly challenged the federal government and refused to allow the Ethiopian federal police to arrest Getacheu Assef, a former chief of Ethiopia's National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) and an executive member of the NPLT.

On December 1, 2019, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali united the ethnic and regional parties of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front, which ruled Ethiopia for 27 years, into a new Prosperity Party. The NPLT, the politically powerful organization that dominated Ethiopia's politics during those 27 years, refused to join the new party and claimed that Abiy Ahmed had become an illegal ruler, postponing the general elections scheduled for August 29, 2020 (which Abiy had twice postponed until then from regular election date in May 2020, before COVID-19) until an unspecified date in 2021 due to COVID-19.

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The NPLT, led by chairman Debrezion Gebremikael, held regional elections in Tigray in September 2020, in defiance of the federal government, which declared the elections in Tigray illegal. The federal government (at Addis Ababa airport) has banned several journalists from coming to cover regional elections in Tigray.

Fighting between NPLT and the federal government began with attacks on 4 November on the bases of the Northern Command and the headquarters of the Ethiopian National Defense Forces in the Tigray area by the NPLT security forces and with the Ethiopian army's offensive on Tigray on the same day, which the federal authorities described as a police action. Federal forces captured the capital of Tigray, Mekele, on November 28, after which Prime Minister Abiy declared the operation in Tigray "over." In late November, the NFOT announced that it would continue fighting until the "invaders" leave. Mass extrajudicial executions of civilians took place in November and December 2020 in Adigrat and its surroundings and Hager Selam, in the Hitsats refugee camp and in Humera, Mai Kadra Debre Abbay, and Maryam Zion Church.

## Background

On September 9, 2020, the authorities in the Tigray region held a regional general election to the Tigray Council of Representatives,

despite the ban by the federal government, which canceled elections in the regions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Ethiopian Parliament declared the elections unconstitutional. This decision provoked complications in relations between the central government and the authorities of the autonomy. The NFOT won the elections in Tigray.

In October 2020, relations between the Ethiopian government and the Tigray authorities deteriorated significantly. Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali refused to recognize the results of the elections in Tigray, in response, the authorities of the autonomy stated that they did not recognize the federal government as legitimate. On October 8, Ethiopia's parliament severed ties with the Tigraya Council of Representatives and regional executive authorities.

## Timeline

- On November 3, Ethiopian authorities announced that the Tigray Popular Liberation Front had carried out a series of attacks on government army units in Mekela and on the border with the Amhara region. As a result, several Ethiopian soldiers were killed and armored vehicles were damaged. On the same day, the federal parliament proposed to recognize the Tigray People's Liberation Front as a terrorist organization.

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- On November 4, a state of emergency was declared in the Tigray region, and units of the Ethiopian armed forces began to move to its borders. At the same time, the leader of the Tigray region and the chairman of the NFOT, Debrecion Gebremikael, brought the militia, paramilitaries of the autonomy and the People's Liberation Front of Tigray into full combat readiness.
  - The Ethiopian authorities cut off electricity, telephone and internet connections in Tigray. Shooting was heard in Mekel. Ethiopia's federal media reported the first victims of border clashes.
  - On November 5, Ethiopian Air Force aircraft launched an airstrike on Mekela.
  - On November 6, Ethiopian Air Force aircraft launched new airstrikes in the Tigray region. The Ethiopian authorities announced the destruction of anti-aircraft missiles, shells and MANPADS of the NFOT.
  - On November 7, Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali announced that NPF forces attacked 22 federal police and Ethiopian army targets in the Tigray region. The Prime Minister confirmed that the artillery captured by the regional forces had been targeted by the Ethiopian Air Force.
  - On November 7, the Ethiopian parliament adopted a decision to create an interim administration in the Tigray region.
  - On November 8, the Ethiopian Foreign Ministry held a press conference for foreign diplomats in Addis Ababa about the government operation in the Tigray region. The Ethiopian Foreign Ministry emphasized that the objectives of the operation are to protect units of the Ethiopian army and police in Tigray from attacks by the NFLT and the destruction of weapons seized by the NFLT, which can be used against Ethiopian citizens.
  - On November 8, the Prime Minister of Ethiopia announced that the Ethiopian Air Force had used unmanned aerial vehicles in air strikes on NPLF positions.
  - On November 8, the National Bank of Ethiopia decided to close all banks in Tigray in order to put pressure on the NFOT.
  - President of the Tigray region Debrecyon Gebremikael said that Tigray would defend against the Armed Forces of Ethiopia until the Ethiopian government was ready for peace negotiations.
  - Ethiopian Defense Ministry officials said that the leaders of the NPLT are using militias under the age of 18 to participate in battles against the government army.
  - On November 9, Ethiopian federal troops occupied Humera airport in the west of the Tigray region, several settlements and the road linking Tigray and Sudan.
  - On November 9, the NFOT reported on its official website that on November 8, at

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- 5:00 am, Tigray troops shot down an Ethiopian Air Force combat aircraft over Mekele. It was stated that the Ethiopian plane was hit by an anti-aircraft missile of the air defense forces of the NFOT.
- NPLT leader and Tigray region president Debrezion Gebremikael said Eritrea had launched a military invasion of Tigray to attack the NPLT and support Ethiopian federal troops. In Eritrea, they said they did not send troops to Tigray.
  - In the area of the Tekeze Dam, 250-300 NPLF fighters attacked a group of 30 Ethiopian federal police officers guarding the dam, killing and injuring 19 Ethiopian policemen in the attack.
  - On November 10, the Ethiopian authorities announced that peace negotiations with Tigray would be possible only after the disarmament of regional troops, the arrest of the leaders of the Tigray region and the NFOT, and the release of Ethiopian federal officials detained in Tigray.
  - On November 11, the Ethiopian Air Force launched massive attacks on the NFOT weapons and fuel depots.
  - On the evening of November 11, the president of the Tigray region, Debrezion Gebremikael, and the regional government announced in Tigray a general mobilization of the population to confront the Ethiopian army.
  - On November 12, the Ethiopian federal authorities announced that the Ethiopian Armed Forces had occupied West Tigray, defeating the NPLT forces there.
  - Ethiopia's parliament voted to strip 39 NPLT leaders, including President Tigray Debrezion Gebremikael, of parliamentary immunity and to criminalize them for insurrection against federal authorities.
  - The authorities of the Tigray region in connection with the ongoing Ethiopian offensive declared on Thursday a state of emergency throughout the autonomous region.
  - Human rights organizations and authorities in the Amhara region stated that civilians were attacked in the town of Mai-Kadera in the west of the Tigray region. They accused the Tigray special police and the NFOT of killing dozens of Amhara locals with axes and machetes.
  - Police in the city of Addis Ababa said that 242 PNLF supporters and rebel groups from the Oromiya region were arrested in the Ethiopian capital and seized 700 firearms, 18 explosive devices and over 4,600 rounds of ammunition. Attacks in Addis Ababa in support of the NTF.
  - On November 13, the Ethiopian government announced that the president of the Tigray region, Debrezion Gebremikael, was officially dismissed, and Mulu Nega was appointed the new head
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of the region and the head of the Tigray Interim Administration. The NFOT and Debrezion Gebremikael refused to acknowledge the decision by the Ethiopian authorities.

- NPLT blamed Ethiopian federal troops for deliberately targeting the Tekeze Dam and hydraulic structures in the Tigray region, claiming that this caused electricity problems in Tigray.
- Late in the evening of November 13, NFLT forces fired rockets at the cities of Gondar and Bahr Dar in the Amhara region, damaging the Gondar airport.
- On November 14, the Ethiopian authorities announced that 2 Ethiopian soldiers were killed and another 15 Ethiopian soldiers were wounded as a result of rocket attacks on airfields in Gondar and Bahr Dar by the NFOT [50]. At the same time, the leaders of the NPLT threatened to strike at the cities of Massawa and Asmara in the state of Eritrea, re-accusing the Eritrean authorities of supporting the Ethiopian government in the conflict in Tigray.
- The fighting has forced thousands of people to flee their homes. Many of them fled to neighboring Sudan, where temporary detention camps were set up for refugees from Ethiopia.
- On the morning of November 15, it was announced that the NPLT forces had

launched a missile attack on Eritrea, with at least 2 missiles hitting the Asmara airport.

- On November 16, the Ethiopian government announced that the Ethiopian army had occupied the city of Alamata in the southeast of the Tigray region.
- On November 16, the Ethiopian Air Force launched another air strikes on the suburbs of the capital of Tigray, the city of Mekele.
- On November 17, Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali announced that his ultimatum on the surrender of the Tigray troops had expired, so the Ethiopian army was launching a decisive offensive in the region.
- On November 17, Ethiopian government forces occupied the city of Shir and the Chircher and Gagufto-Mehoni areas in Tigray, destroying the concrete fortifications of the NFOT and continuing their offensive on Mekela.
- On November 19, NPLT leader Debrezion Gebremikael announced that a battle for control of the city of Axum was currently underway between Tigray and Ethiopian forces.
- The NFOT on its official page stated that in two weeks of hostilities, Tigray's troops captured many tanks, heavy artillery and MLRS of the Ethiopian army.
- On November 20, Tygrai forces fired 3 rockets at the city of Bahr Dar, 2 rockets fell

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near the local airport, and a third rocket fell into a corn field.

- On November 20, the Ethiopian government announced the capture by the Ethiopian federal army of the cities of Adua and Aksum in the Tigray region and an offensive on the city of Addi Grat.
- NPLT officials said that as a result of fierce fighting for the town of Addi Grat, 9 civilians were killed.
- On November 21, the Armed Forces of Ethiopia announced full control over the city of Addi Grat and an offensive on Mekela.
- On November 22, the Ethiopian Ministry of Defense announced that federal forces had taken the city of Idaga-Hamus, 97 km from Mekele.
- On the evening of November 22, Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali gave Tigray forces 72 hours to surrender the city of Mekele. In case the city is not surrendered, Abiy Ahmed Ali promised an assault.
- Ethiopian Air Force helicopters flew over Mekele and dropped leaflets urging local residents not to leave their homes in the near future.
- On November 23, media and social media reported that Tigray forces fired several rockets at the city of Bahr Dar [66], but this information has not been confirmed or denied by the Ethiopian government. A few hours later, the Ethiopian government

group on Tigray officially confirmed that on the morning of November 23, the NFOT forces had released on Bahr Dar

- On November 23, media and social media reported that Tigray forces fired several rockets at the city of Bahr Dar [66], but this information has not been confirmed or denied by the Ethiopian government. A few hours later, the Ethiopian government group on Tigray officially confirmed that on the morning of November 23, the NFLT forces fired rockets at Bahr Dar, with no casualties or destruction.
- NPLT leader Debrecion Gebremikael rejected the ultimatum to surrender Mekela and declared that "his people are ready to die defending their homeland".
- During the clashes on November 23, Tigray troops shot down 1 Ethiopian Air Force helicopter and destroyed 2 government army tanks.
- On November 24, the Ethiopian Air Force destroyed Tigray troops' rocket launchers in Mi-Meden, near Mekele.
- Ethiopian authorities said that the NPLT has deployed its best military units in Mekela and is preparing an armed attack on the cities of Asmara and Addis Ababa.
- On November 26, Ethiopian government forces began an assault on the vicinity of Mekele.



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- NPLT leader Debreccion Gebremikael has stated that his forces are ready to fight to the death to protect Mekele.
  - On the evening of November 27, NPLT forces fired at least 4 rockets at the city of Asmara, Eritrea, all of which fell near residential areas.
  - On November 28, representatives of the NFOT announced that the city of Mekele had been subjected to intense bombing by the federal forces.
  - On November 28, the command of the Armed Forces of Ethiopia announced that Mekele was under the full control of the government army.
  - On November 28, Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali announced the end of the military operation in Tigray and the victory of the government forces.
  - The leader of the NPLT, Debreccion Gebremikael, announced that the armed struggle against the Ethiopian federal forces would continue.
  - On the evening of November 28, NPLT forces fired at least 6 rockets at the city of Asmara in Eritrea.
  - On November 29, NFOT forces shot down an Ethiopian Air Force combat aircraft. [15] According to Tigray leader Debreccion Gebremikael, the fighter pilot was captured by Tigray forces.
  - On the evening of November 29, NPLT forces announced that they had regained control of the city of Axum.
  - On December 1, 47-year-old Keriya Ibrahim, a member of the NPLT Central Committee, head of the NPLT women's organization and a former press secretary of the federal parliament, surrendered to the federal authorities of Ethiopia.
  - On December 3, Ethiopian federal forces blocked refugees from the Tigray region at the border with Sudan while trying to cross into Sudanese territory.
  - On December 4, Ethiopian federal authorities announced that many of the Tigray militia commanders and Ethiopian officers who sided with the NFOT at the outbreak of the conflict had been arrested or killed. [82] In response to this statement, NPLT leader Debreccion Gebremikael accused the Ethiopian army and the Eritrean armed forces of massive looting in the Tigray region.
  - On December 6, the Sudanese armed forces occupied the disputed territories between the Tigray region and Sudan.
  - On December 7, in the north of the Tigray region, while trying to visit a refugee camp from Eritrea, a group of UN employees was blocked and fired upon.
  - On December 8, Ethiopian authorities issued arrest warrants for 10 Ethiopian federal police officers who sided with the

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NFOT during a military operation in the Tigray region.

- The Ethiopian authorities stated that the remnants of the Tigray special forces and militia continued to resist on the territory of the Tigray region.
- On December 10, an international refugee group in the Tigray region reported that one of its employees had been killed in the city of Shir.
- Information appeared in the Tygrai media and Ethiopian social networks that the NFOT forces shot down a MiG-23 fighter of the Ethiopian Air Force, but this information was not officially confirmed.
- On December 10, Addis Balema, a member of the NFOT Central Committee and ex-deputy president of the Tigray region Debrezion Gebremikael, who was arrested in Addis Ababa a few days after the start of the armed conflict, appeared before an Ethiopian court.
- On December 11, representatives of the US State Department demanded the immediate withdrawal of Eritrean troops from the Tigray region, stressing that the information about the presence of the Eritrean army in Tigray is reliable.
- On December 12, the State of Emergency Commission of Inquiry and the federal parliament accused the Sudanese army of attacks on civilians in the Tigray region as a result of collusion with the NFOT.
- On December 13, the Ethiopian authorities issued arrest warrants for 40 army officers who defected to the NFOT at the beginning of the military .
- On December 16, with reference to high-ranking South Sudanese officials, information appeared that Debreycyon Gebremikael requested political asylum in the state of South Sudan.
- On December 16, while patrolling the border between Sudan and the Tigray region, the Sudanese military was attacked by Ethiopian Armed Forces and the Amhara regional militia, killing and injuring several Sudanese officers.
- On December 20, it became known that most of the leaders of the NFOT, according to some sources - more than 70 people, managed to leave for the mountainous regions of the Tygrai region.
- On December 27, in a number of social networks in Ethiopia, information appeared about the death of 14 Eritrean soldiers in Tygra.
- On December 30, Ethiopian military forces seized MLRS, rockets and tactical missiles of the NPLT forces, allegedly used in rocket attacks on Bahr Dar, Gondar and Asmara.
- On December 31, NPLT forces stated that more than 120 Ethiopian soldiers were killed in an ambush by NPLT forces on a brigade of the Ethiopian armed forces in the Zungi area.

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- On January 7, the Ethiopian army command announced that an operation by the Ethiopian armed forces and security agencies had killed four high-ranking members of the NPLT: the head of the NPLT PR Bureau Sekoture Getachyu, the former director of the Ethiopian Broadcasting Agency Zerai Asgedom, the head of the financial bureau of the Tigray region Daniel Assefa and the head of the Tigray media outlet "Dimtsi Woyane" Abebe Asged.
  - On January 7, the Armed Forces of Ethiopia arrested 9 high-ranking members of the NPLT, including the ex-speaker of the Tygrai Regional Council Kidusan Nega and the ex-head of the Tigray region trade bureau Gebremedhin Tevolde.
  - On January 8, the Ethiopian army carried out a special operation in the Kola Tembein area in the Tigray region, as a result of which Sebhat Nega, one of the founders of the NFOT and the main ideologist of the organization, was arrested. [99] During the operation, two colonels of the Tigray troops and the wife of Sebhat Nega were also arrested, several bodyguards of Sebhat Nega and a woman activist of the NFOT were killed in a shootout with the government army.
  - On January 10, as a result of a special operation in the mountainous regions of the Tigray region, the Ethiopian armed forces arrested 7 high-ranking members of the NFOT, including Abay Veldu, the former chairman of the NFOT (2012-2017) and the former president of the Tigray region (2010-2018), and Abraham Tekeze, the former vice president of the Tigray region and former finance minister of Ethiopia [101]. In the course of the special operation, 15 members of the NFOT were killed, including Major General Ibrahim Abduljelil, who previously headed the logistics department of the Ethiopian army and went over to the side of the NFOT during the conflict.
  - On January 13, during a special operation of the Ethiopian armed forces, 3 high-ranking members of the NPLT were killed: the former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia (1991-2010) Seyum Mesfin, a member of the NPLT executive committee Asmelash Voldeselassie and one of the founders of the NPLT, a former member of the Central Committee of the NPLT (2001-2018) and former Minister of Federal Affairs of Ethiopia Abai Tsehaye. During the special operation, 3 colonels of the Tygrai forces and the commander of the Tygrai special forces Gebrekidan Asged were also arrested.
  - On 15 February, clashes between NFLT forces and the Ethiopian federal army took place in the area of the cities of Guyet and Samre in the southeast of the Tigray region.

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- On February 18, NPLF forces continued their offensive in the area of Tembane, Addi Hillo and Juwamare, launched on 8 February. As a result of the hostilities, Tigray troops seized 5 tanks, 22 military vehicles, 177 MLRS missiles and several artillery pieces of the Ethiopian federal army, according to statements by representatives of the NFOT. [13] According to Gebre Gebrezadik, a spokesman for the Tigray troops, the Ethiopian army lost more than 500 people killed and more than 200 wounded in week-long battles with the NPLF military forces.
  - On February 19, the NFOT, calling itself the government of Tigray, declared its commitment to peace negotiations with eight preconditions.
  - EEPA reports that there was a massacre of 100 civilians in the village of Hisret near Gidjet around February 19, following a military attack by NPLT forces.
  - On February 20, the National Congress of the Great Tigray (Baytona), the Tigray Independence Party (TIP) and Salsai Veyane Tigray (SAWET) issued six peace demands to the international community.
  - On February 26, Fitzum Berhane, a translator for The Financial Times (FT), was arrested at his home in Mekela for reasons unknown to the FT.
  - On February 27, fighting intensified throughout the Tigray region, especially in the Central Zone.
  - On March 1, BBC News journalist Girmay Gebru was detained by the armed forces in Mekela along with four other people for reasons unknown to the BBC. Translators accompanying international journalists said they were threatened with arrest or death if they showed their guests mass graves or other "sensitive" places.
  - On March 1, CNN reporters interviewed Debrezion Gebremikael.
  - On March 23, Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali confirmed that Eritrean troops entered Tigray during the military conflict.

### **Internal reactions**

- The Ogaden National Liberation Front (ONLF) condemned "President Mustafa's decision to portray the Somalis in Ethiopia as supporters of the war against Tigray."
- On November 12, 2020, NPLT chairman Debrezion Gebremikael denied allegations of the NPLT surrender, stating that "we are still holding on. These people cannot defeat us. We cannot be defeated."
- On November 27, Ethiopia's Attorney General Gedion Timotevos, who was insisted by the BBC Stephen Sakur to clarify "whether his country is plunging into a civil war," replied: they did, if he allowed them to

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acquire the heavy weapons that they wanted to get by attacking the Northern Command, yes, we would be in such a situation; but by taking the measures we are taking right now, we will be able to prevent that possibility. "

- When the Prime Minister of Ethiopia, Lt. Col. Abiy Ahmed Ali, came to power in 2018, he carried out significant reforms in the country's judicial system, economy and foreign policy. According to an article by Hailemariam Desalen, former Prime Minister of Ethiopia, NPLT officials were worried that these actions could jeopardize their political and economic position in the country. Thus, NPLT officials began to ignore orders from the federal government and took explicit and covert action to undermine and invalidate the Ethiopian parliament, defense forces, and federal government.

### **International reactions**

- Canadian Foreign Minister François-Philippe Champagne called on all parties to show restraint. Champagne also calls for a peaceful solution and the protection of civilians.
- Djibouti President Ismail Omar Gelle expressed strong support for Abiy, stating that he decided to "restore law and order at the federal level and punish those who try to destroy the country" and rejected the prospect of negotiations, saying that the

NFOT "was structured to put a central government on your knees "and these negotiations could" only lead to the partition of Ethiopia ", setting a precedent for the secession of other groups in the region.

- British Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab said he spoke to Abiy and called for a "de-escalation of the Tigray conflict" and said that "the civilian population and humanitarian access must be protected."
- UK House of Lords David Alton has called on the British government to investigate reports of massacres and attacks on refugee camps in Tigray.
- US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo called for de-escalation of the conflict and immediate action to restore peace, and stressed the importance of protecting civilians. Anthony Blinken, Foreign Policy Advisor to President-elect Joe Biden, expressed deep concern over the humanitarian crisis in Ethiopia, ethnic violence and threats to peace and security in the area. He called on the NFLT to protect civilians and take action to end the conflict.
- US Assistant Secretary of State for Africa Tibor Nagy condemned NPLT for its rocket attacks on Asmara, Eritrea, calling them "unjustified attacks on Eritrea ... his efforts to internationalize the Tigray conflict."
- Eritrean President Isayas Afeverki politically supports the actions taken by the Ethiopian

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national government against the Popular Front for the Liberation of Tigray.

- Norway stated that it is “deeply concerned about reports of the use of SGBV in Tigray. Norway joins UN Special Rapporteur Pramilla Patten in calling on all parties to maintain a zero-tolerance policy for SGBV. Obligations under international humanitarian and human rights law must be respected. ”
- Russia and China, as well as India, objected interfering in Ethiopia's internal affairs.

### **International and humanitarian organizations**

- The United Nations (UN) has warned of a major humanitarian crisis if a full-blown conflict breaks out.
- The European Commission said it will mobilize an initial € 4 million in emergency aid to help displaced Ethiopian refugees who fled to Sudan. The EU plans to cut aid and impose sanctions on other regions of Ethiopia due to the conflict.
- The African Union (AU) has called for an end to hostilities and the protection of civilians. The African Union also said that the European Union and the United Nations Security Council should not intervene until an African Union envoy is sent to Ethiopia.
- Around the world, humanitarian organizations and the scientific community demanded an early ceasefire and the delivery of humanitarian aid to the residents of Tigray.

- International petitions for humanitarian aid to Tigray have been filed, for example, by interested scientists (Professors Jan Nissen, Eloi Fikke, Volbert Schmidt, Josef Dekkers, Istvan Tarrosi, Paolo Billy, Sil Lancriet, Kjetil Tronvoll and others) and others at Avaaz.

### **Useful Links**

<https://news.un.org/en/tags/tigray>

<https://www.crisisgroup.org/africa/horn-africa/ethiopiaeritrea/b171-ethiopias-tigray-war-deadly-dangerous-stalemate>

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/349824181\\_Tigray\\_Atlas\\_of\\_the\\_humanitarian\\_situation](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/349824181_Tigray_Atlas_of_the_humanitarian_situation)

<https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/>

<https://www.dw.com/en/ethiopia-un-officials-allege-war-crimes-in-tigray/a-56777495>

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/3/5/un-alleges-war-crimes-in-ethiopias-tigray-urges-eritrea-pullout>

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-ethiopia-conflict-un-idUSKBN2AW0Z7>

<https://www.crisisgroup.org/africa/horn-africa/ethiopiaeritrea/b171-ethiopias-tigray-war-deadly-dangerous-stalemate>

<https://www.ft.com/content/4f377353-b69a-41af-8e65-ddca918f599d>