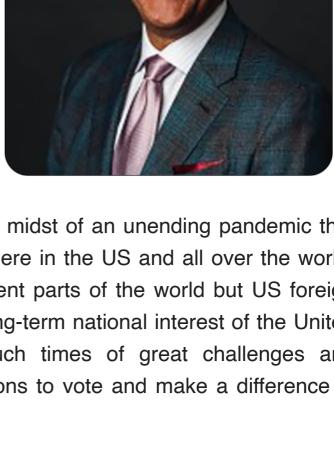


shaping their future.



peace and security in the world. Millions are struggling to cope with the soaring

overwhelming evidence about TPLF plots and intrigues, the

constitutional right of voting for candidates of their choice. Ethiopia, we have been working to stop the two draft sanction bills - known as HR6600 and S3199 – which are now circulating in Congress. AEPAC believes that if these bills become law, it will damage US-Ethiopia relations, and encourage terrorist groups to further threaten peace and security in Ethiopia, the Horn of Africa, and the entire African continent. These bills will also damage US strategic interest in the Horn of Africa.

In order to stop these draft bills from passing and avoid similar attempts in the future, we need more members of Congress who will help promote US/Ethiopia relations and help AEPAC achieve its objectives. So, we urge American supporters of Ethiopia, Eritrean-Americans, and Ethiopian-American voters to vote in the ongoing primary elections in each state and in the upcoming general election in November. In order to vote one has to register ahead of time. You can find registration information and primary and general election information from your State Board of Elections websites. You can also find information on our website www.aepact.org. My fellow Americans: please vote to elect members of Congress who will help promote US-Ethiopia relations. Remember Larry Sabato's advice "Every election is determined by the people who show up." Thank you. May God bless the United States and Ethiopia! Sincerely,

INSIDE THIS ISSUE AEPAC Activity Update 2022 Mid-Term Election Campaign Launched AEPAC Chapters Engage in Campaign Activities AEPAC New Advisory Groups Media Work

Mass Arrests in parts of the Amhara Region

Ethiopia's First Securities/Stock Exchange

Somali Peaceful Transition of Power - 15 May 2022

AEPAC launched its 2022 Mid-term Elections Campaign at its regular NECC

weekly meeting on May 12, 2002, in the presence of the State Chapters. The

focus of the Chapters until the general election on November 8, 2022, will be to

Several State Chapters including Arizona, California, Georgia, Maryland,

Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, succeeded in meeting with

mutually beneficial US-Ethiopia relations and solicit the candidates' support to

counter the unhelpful sanctions on the Ethiopian people. The engagement also

included rallies in front of the candidate's district offices if a candidate is

unresponsive to the chapter's demand to meet or their persistent hostile

May has been a busy month for media pitching. Our work has been centered

around the promotion of Professor Ann Fitz-Gerald's research, based on

interviews with displaced Tigrayans in IDP camps in Northern Ethiopia. Our

press release gained a lot of attention, and our contacts at Reuters spoke to

Professor Fitz-Gerald and published their own investigation into the TPLF's

forced recruitment of Tigrayan fighters. NPR and the UK's Channel 4 news

have also shown interest in visiting the same camps/areas as the Professor to

do their own reporting. We also arranged interviews for the Professor with TBN

and The Root, who will both be using the interview in longer feature pieces on

Following Professor Fitz-Gerald's report, we have been focussing our media

pitching on the issue of child soldiers, and we've received interest from

journalists in covering this topic further. Our letter from the Chairman to the UN

on the issue of child soldiers was sent out widely and published by Borkena.

election/reelection.

The

candidate

for

develop their respective work plans and detailed implementation plans.

UAE Inaugurates New President

Ethiopian Economic Outlook 2022

Mesfin Tegenu, AEPAC Chairman

Digital

How You Can Help

potential

News and Current Affairs

TPLF Drums of War

China-Ethiopia sign MOUs

Africa Day May 25, 2022

2022 Mid-Term Election Campaign Launched

AEPAC Chapters Engage in Campaign Activities

candidates

positions towards Ethiopia.

Media Work

the conflict in Ethiopia.

AEPAC ACTIVITY UPDATE

engagements provided the platform for AEPAC chapters to introduce AEPAC and their state chapters, express their concerns about some of the unwarranted measures that the US is taking on Ethiopia which threaten the century-old

running

AEPAC New Advisory Groups AEPAC/NECC succeeded in establishing two support structures to implement its mission. The Youth Committee is composed of young dynamic volunteers representing several states. The Youth Committee will be key in campaign

activities and voter education using social media.

With the increased demand for information and communication, AEPAC reached a stage where a more robust body needs to be assembled to manage its public relations and communication initiatives. The PR/Communication Board will be responsible for guiding and coordinating all media and media

technology-related platforms for AEPAC and its chapters.

That outlet also published the letter sent to the WHO Director by nine organizations on behalf of health professionals in Afar and Amhara criticizing his approach to the conflict and his political bias, urging him to stop using his influence to further the aims of the TPLF. This month has also seen a promising increase in reporting on TPLF aggression in the Afar and Amhara regions with articles from Bloomberg, Le monde, and Voice of America. Toward the end of the month, we issued a statement from AEPAC and partner organizations to all media on the concerning actions by the Ethiopian government to arrest thousands in Amhara. The statement called for the government to reverse course. It was also published by AFP and Borkena, and we have a number of ongoing conversations with journalists about this. Going

forward, there are several hot topics that the media team will be highlighting,

including our ongoing work to promote the issue of child soldiers and a

The digital channels this month saw one of the most engaged-with pieces of

content, based around a subject that is important to many diaspora

members: the history of Welkait region. This post reached over 100k people

across channels and has helped spread the message about what happened in

the region when it was under TPLF rule. In addition to this highly successful

piece of content, digital efforts across channels saw multiple posts prepared

and released that drove the conversation around our concern that the TPLF

intends to restart the conflict, and challenged the two bills (HR6600 & S.3199)

revamped campaign to reinstate AGOA.

Digital

that would seriously damage US-Ethiopian relations were they to pass. The American-Ethiopian Public Affairs C... @AmericaEth... · May 17 #Welkait is an Ethiopian region illegally annexed by the TPLF over their 27year rule, with the indigenous Amhara forcibly displaced. The area now has a chance to rebuild & for the people there to live in peace without fear from the TPLF. Learn more 👇 🃽 AEPAC **WHAT IS**

WELKAIT?

Promote

₾

527

NEWS AND CURRENT AFFAIRS

AEPAC and other diaspora partners expressed concern on the report by the

head of the Amhara region peace and security bureau, that 4, 552 individuals

have so far been arrested in connection with the ongoing "rule of law operation"

in the region during the week of May 16, 2022. More than 1,780 of them,

including members of the regional security forces, are suspected of failing to

perform their public obligations, according to the bureau, which also added,

"The detainees include those suspected of attempting to further destabilize the

region by exploiting social media." The arrest, according to the regional

government is part of law enforcement operations. The Ethiopian Human

Rights Commission (EHRC) in its daily briefs cautioned against unlawful

detentions and said, "Such arrests are not in line with the principles of human

rights and are not appropriate." In a statement released by EHRC, the

activists. Daniel Bekele, Chief Commissioner of EHRC said "In particular,

arrests

of journalists

and

social media

0:03 / 1:17 🖒× 🛂

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15.8K views

1 413

Q 82

Mass Arrests in parts of the Amhara Region

highlighted the

commission

federal, and state security forces should refrain from arresting suspects before criminal investigations [are held], arresting journalists for their work, and detaining people without a court order." Daniel called for the whereabouts of all detainees to be immediately communicated to families and to be brought to justice. https://addisstandard.com/analysis-mass-arrests-unknown-number-ofcasualties-reported-in-amhara-state-as-law-enforcement-operations-by-govt-<u>lead-to-confrontation-with-local-armed-group/</u> **UAE Inaugurates New President** With the passing away on May 13, 2022, of President Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, 73, following a stroke in 2014, his half-brother and crown prince Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed, 61, has become the new seven sheikhdom's UAE president. Several world leaders including Oman's France's President Macron, and British PM Boris Johnson paid their respect by coming to the burial service. Since the crown prince was the de-facto president during the ailing days of his brother, UAE is expected to see no change in policy. The relationship between UAE and Ethiopia has been very close since the coming to power of Dr. Abiy Ahmed and is likely to continue. UAE is laying a 50-year strategic foundation focusing more on diplomatic solutions and soft power to consolidate its economic interests and trade partnerships globally. https://time.com/6176883/uae-president-mohammed-bin-

zayed/#:~:text=DUBAI%2C%20United%20Arab%20Emirates%20—

Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, 66, becomes the new president of Somalia after a

poll involving 38 candidates. Hassan, who comes the second time as president

Abdullahi Mohamed (Faarmajo) by 214-110 votes. Faarmajo gracefully

conceded and congratulated the incoming president with a promise to work with

the new administration. The United Nations welcomed the conclusion of the

election, praising the "positive" nature of the electoral process and peaceful

transfer of power. The United States also congratulated the people of Somalia

on the conclusion of their national electoral process. That same week,

President Joe Biden signed an order to redeploy hundreds of U.S. troops

to Somalia to counter the Islamic extremist rebel group al-Shabab, which is said

https://www.france24.com/en/africa/20220516-hassan-sheikh-mohamud-

https://www.politico.com/news/2022/05/16/trump-biden-deploy-us-troops-

The government-led humanitarian truce is still holding and humanitarian aid

access to the North, especially to Tigray has been increasing by the week.

According to OCHA, 319 trucks of humanitarian cargo entered Tigray during

the reporting week, the highest number of trucks entering the region in a single

week since June 2021. Between the 1st of April and the 16th of May, around

15,500 metric tons (MT) of food were brought into Tigray. Humanitarian

partners continue to move additional humanitarian supplies into Tigray via the

Semera-Abala-Mekelle road. The UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

continues to operate two passenger flights per week as well as cargo flights

between Addis Ababa and Mekelle in Tigray. Despite such government and

donors' response, TPLF is reported to publicly be preparing for another round

of war in the region which will close the window of opportunity for peace and

China and Ethiopia held a forum on May 12, 2022, aimed primarily at further

augmenting trade and economic ties. The forum was co-hosted by the Chinese

Embassy in Ethiopia, the Ethiopian Investment Commission (EIC), and the

Investment Promotion Agency of the Ministry of Commerce of China. Senior

Ethiopian government officials, the business community from the two countries,

as well as the Chinese diplomatic community in Addis Ababa, were in

attendance in addition to senior Chinese government officials who took part in

the high-level investment and trade forum virtually from China. During the

forum, six Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Investment Cooperation

was signed between the two countries, which will serve as a new cooperation

mechanism to promote investment cooperation and inject new impetus into the

"Chinese investment in communication technologies, large-scale infrastructure,

industrial parks, and manufacturing sectors have certainly increased," the

Deputy Prime Minister said, adding, "China has proven to be our most-trusted

economic and political partner, and its support continues to reinforce the

https://www.capitalethiopia.com/feature/ethiopia-china-ink-six-mous-at-

Economist Intelligence reports Ethiopia's economy has stuttered since the

onset of civil war in the country in November 2020. Previously the leading

economic power in the Horn of Africa, Ethiopia's growth slowed to the lowest

rate in nearly two decades in 2021. Looking into 2022, our analysts forecast

that Ethiopia's growth will accelerate again after losing momentum in 2021, but

this recovery will be fragile. At Fitch Solutions, the 2022 real GDP growth

forecast for Ethiopia was revised from 3.6% to 5.6% to take account of the

According to the Ethiopian Investment Commission in the past nine months of

stability for the people of Tigray and adjoining regions.

China-Ethiopia sign MOUs

collaboration of the two countries.

impressive growth trajectory of Ethiopia."

investment-and-trade-forum/

Ethiopia Economic Outlook 2022

to have increased in strength and poses a heightened threat.

<u>elected-president-of-somali-for-second-time</u>

somalia-00032782

TPLF Drums of War

%20Rulers,country%20that%20hosts%20Western%20militaries.

(2012-2017), comfortably defeated the incumbent President

Somali Peaceful Transition of Power - 15 May 2022

the budget year, Ethiopia has attracted 2.43 billion USD worth of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) from 118 investors. However, the stated figure is only 67 percent of the targeted 3.63 billion dollars. Out of the total investments attracted, 65 engage in manufacturing, 50 in services, and 3 in agriculture. New investors are mainly from China, France, the U.S., Israel, and Italy. Challenges

country's improving security situation as of January 2022.

include security issues in some parts of the country and foreign currency shortage, suspension from AGOA, COVID-19 pandemic, and the Russia-Ukraine conflict was indicated to have affected the investment performance. Minister Ahmed Shide and PMO economic Advisor Eyob Tekalign A delegation led by Ahmed Shide, the Minister of Finance, attended the 2022 Spring Meetings of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which took place from April 18 to 24, 2022 in Washington, D.C. The

officials met executives of the two Bretton Woods institutions, including

Kristalina Georgieva, managing director of the IMF. Ahmed called the meeting a

success. "It was a fruitful meeting where we met our national objectives and

explained the reality on the ground to the leaders of the IMF and the World

Bank. Understanding the change, IMF pledged to continue its financial support

for the success of the Ethiopian homegrown economic reform agenda, while

the World Bank, through IDA, promised to provide six billion dollars in financial

support to Ethiopia to launch two new projects," said Ahmed, while explaining

In 2021, the Ethiopian Council of Ministers approved a draft proclamation that

allows the establishment of a capital market. Being a part of the home-grown

economic reform agenda, the bill is expected to ease raising capital, enhance

the liquidity of assets and boost the confidence of investors by establishing a

market where securities such as shares or equities, bonds, and derivatives are

bought and sold. While its objective is to support the development of the

national economy through mobilizing capital, promoting financial innovation,

and sharing investment risks, it is expected to play a big role in protecting

investors. For assisting, regulating, and controlling the business of buying,

selling, and dealing in both markets, the Ethiopian Securities Exchange (ESX),

which is the financial market version of the Ethiopian Commodity Exchange

(ECX) is to be the dominant player. In the case of ESX, the traded item is

security, while it is an agricultural commodity for ECX. The Security Exchange

will be regulated by the Ethiopian Capital Market Authority, an autonomous

government regulatory Authority which will be accountable to the parliament.

The Authority will have the mandate to grant a license to any person willing to

operate as a securities exchange, derivatives exchange, securities depository

and clearing company, capital markets services provider, and over-the-counter

https://financialperspective.net/business-law/ethiopias-new-stock-market-

the outcome of the meeting to state media outlets.

Ethiopia's First Securities/Stock Exchange

trading facility. (Source: Financial Perspectives)

Africa Day May 25, 2022

Africa, and Southern Rhodesia.

African Renaissance.

Nkrumah

OAU.

regular updates.

2002 and currently has 55 member states.

law-explained/ https://ethiopianmonitor.com/2022/05/18/new-agreement-paves-way-toestablish-capital-market-in-ethiopia/amp/ https://finbold.com/ethiopia-is-finally-launching-a-stock-exchange-withthe-first-50-firms-already-on-the-list/ https://www.busiweek.com/ethiopian-securities-exchange-creation-movecloser/

Africa Day is commemorated every year on 25 May to honor the day Africa

Union's forerunner, the Organization of African Unity (OAU), was founded on 25

By then more than two-thirds of the continent had achieved independence. The

initial aim was to encourage the decolonization of Angola, Mozambique, South

The OAU was transformed and remodeled into the African Union on 9 July

Going forward, the AU has set AGENDA 2063 as Africa's blueprint and master

plan for transforming Africa into the global powerhouse of the future and

concrete manifestation of the pan-African drive for unity, self-determination,

freedom, progress, and collective prosperity pursued under Pan-Africanism and

The First Congress of Independent African States was held in Accra, Ghana on

15 April 1958. It was convened by the Prime Minister of Ghana Dr. Kwame

from Egypt, Ethiopia, Liberia, Libya, Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia, Cameroon, and

the host country Ghana. The conference was notable in that it laid the basis for

the subsequent meetings of African heads of state and government during

the Casablanca Group and the Monrovia Group era, until the formation of the

Africa Day continues to be celebrated both in Africa and around the world.

To keep up to date with AEPAC's work, please follow us on Twitter, and Facebook for

comprised

representatives

May 1963 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, hosted by Emperor Haile Selassie.

The year 2022 also signifies the 20th anniversary of the African Union. The theme of the Africa day celebration for 2022 is Nutrition.

HOW YOU CAN HELP Follow

and

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Check out our website - <u>www.aepact.org</u>

Want to help push the voice of American-Ethiopians to the audiences who matter? Then please share these Tweets so that AEPAC's message is seen by more people across social media: **AEPAC Mission Video** Contact

P.O.Box 636 Kenneth Square, PA 19348 info@aepact.org | www.aepact.org DONATE TO AEPAC

There is no better example than Ethiopia, where US Foreign policy has miserably failed. Since November 2020 our country of origin, Ethiopia has been attacked by a ruthless group called the TPLF which vowed to dismantle the oldest nation in Africa. The TPLF used loot money from its 27 years of tyrannical rule in Ethiopia. It employed disinformation and misinformation campaigns and succeeded in misleading the international community about the crisis in Northern Ethiopia. It has manipulated and used the unlimited support of a handful of powerful members of Congress to achieve its criminal intent. TPLF even used humanitarian suffering to advance its political objectives. Despite Administration chose to look the other way. Many Ethiopian American citizens believe that US foreign policy towards Ethiopia is in favor of the TPLF. They further believe their country of origin is denied justice. That is why the midterm election is crucial for most of them. We hope the one million Ethiopian-American citizens will vote this time around. AEPAC has created an enabling atmosphere in more than twenty states to mobilize voters to exercise their Recently, supporters of the TPLF in Congress have introduced crippling sanctions against Ethiopia. AEPAC rejects such an unhelpful attempt by some to damage US/Ethiopia relations. In collaboration with American friends of

inflation here at home. We are still in the midst of an unending pandemic that has continued disrupting people's lives, here in the US and all over the world. We all observe crisis after crisis in different parts of the world but US foreign policy so far has failed to advance the long-term national interest of the United States in some sensitive areas. In such times of great challenges and uncertainty, Americans have all the reasons to vote and make a difference in

United States and the entire world. The

Election of 2022 will take place on November 8, 2022. It is incumbent upon all citizens to go to the polling stations to cast your vote to make your voice heard during this crucial year for the ravaging war in Europe has threatened

Dear Friends, As you are well aware, the US Midterm