

Dear Friend, I write to you this month as peace talks in South Africa are underway and as the Ethiopian National Defense Force makes significant progress liberating cities and towns in Tigray and

corrupt and tragic neutralizing the terrorist activity in Ethiopian history. It does feel like the beginning of the end. However, I am conscious we have

and challenge the TPLF's propaganda.

been here before and events can change quickly. That is why it is so important, all of us in the diaspora, we continue to advocate for peace, support the Ethiopian Government in its efforts to defend the country's territorial integrity

Over the coming days and weeks, AEPAC will be talking to representatives and officials to encourage the United States to play a positive role as Ethiopia finds peace and starts its recovery. One critical step must be for the rebels to lay down their arms and to dissolve. It is the only way to stabilise and rebuild impacted areas and the entire nation. We will also be holding the Ethiopian government to its commitment to rapidly upscale humanitarian aid to the liberated areas.

As we know, anti-American sentiment has risen dramatically in the Horn of Africa over the US' perceived support for the TPLF. This can be changed, but only if decision makers in Washington DC recognise the Ethiopian people want this war to end and the only way to achieve it is for the TPLF to end its violence. It is time for the US government to change its strategy and start implementing new policy considering African countries as partners. **Midterms** I am pleased to highlight the amazing work of AEPAC supporters across the

country raising money and volunteering for pro-Ethiopian candidates. We have now endorsed 29 candidates! In keeping with our bi-partisan approach, we have chosen to support friends from both the Democrats and Republican parties.

The more champions we have in Congress the more chance we have of

The conversation was

changing the US-Ethiopia relationship to one focused on mutual respect and trade. We are a long way from that today, but thanks to your hard work, we will have new friends in the new Congress, who can help make that change. I also had the pleasure of meeting Chairman Meeks this month, who serves as

I hope to see you there!

AEPAC Activity Update

Endorsements Continued

Election Day on November 8, 2022.

Yours ever,

related to Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa. With just under two weeks to go until the election, please keep pushing. Our community is at its best when we are actively engaged in civic life and the political process. AEPAC member recognition & Fund-raising Gala Finally, I would like to invite you to join AEPAC's leadership team for a member

recognition and fundraising dinner in Washington DC on December 10th, 2022.

constructive, and I was pleasantly surprised how open he was to our

arguments. We agreed to work closely together going forward on all matters

Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

It will be held at The Westin Arlington Gateway and start at 6pm. This will be an opportunity for AEPAC and our family of partner organisations from across the country to get together, reflect on challenges and successes, and look ahead to how we can push our cause even further in 2023. You can sign up here: https://tinyurl.com/aepac2

Mesfin Tegenu, AEPAC Chairman

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AU led peace initiative in South Africa

 Reinstating services and security in Tigrai Ethiopia Economic Outlook Tana Forum in Bahirdar 14-16 October 2022 Ethiopia's Science and Art Museum inaugurated **How You Can Help**

AEPAC ACTIVITY UPDATE

AEPAC Endorsements of US candidates running for the midterm election of

2022, both at national and local levels are going on. AEPAC in collaboration

with its chapters has endorsed and publicized 29 candidates (photo gallery

below) through different platforms. The candidates are from both the

Republican and Democratic parties and include governors, attorney generals,

county executives, etc. AEPAC and its chapters will continue this process until

AEPAC AEPAC Endorsement for the US 2022 Midterm Elections (Updated on 1st November)

COLORADO

CALIFORNIA

NEVADA

ARIZONA

Paid for by AEPAC, www.aepact.org, and not authorized by any candidate (Photo Source: Ballotpedia & Wikipedia) **AEPAC 2022 ENDORSED CANDIDATES**

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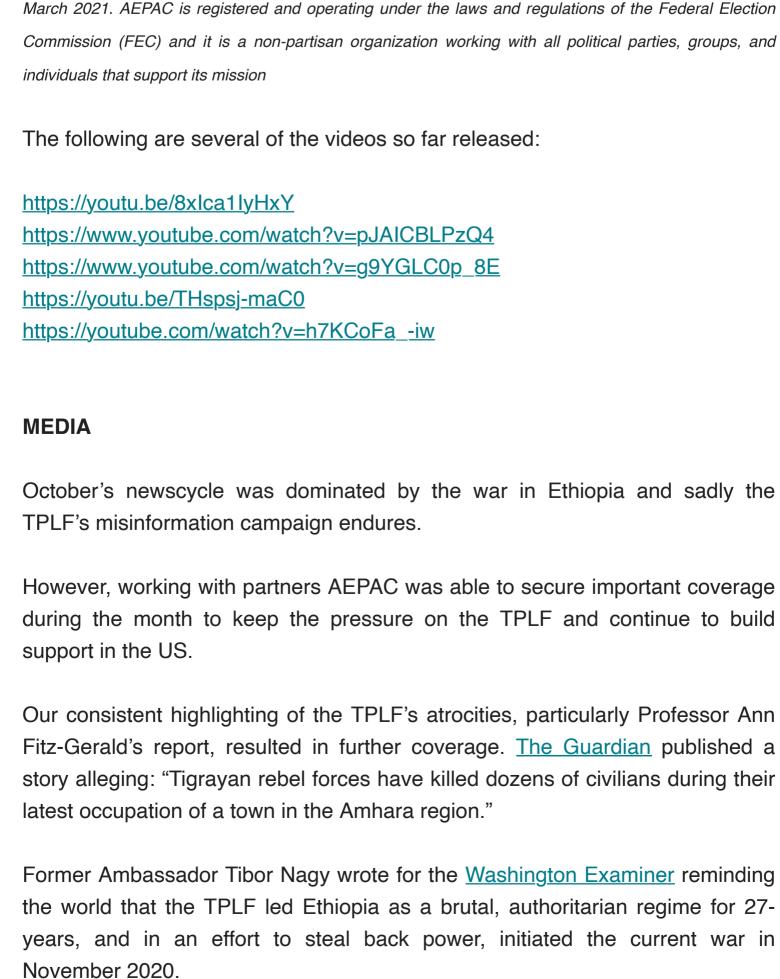
1 AEPAC is the first Ethiopian American political action committee (PAC) which was established in

MICHIGAN

NEW JERSEY

VIRGINIA

PENNSYLVANIA



AEPAC issued a number of statements in response to the US Government's commentary of the conflict and peace talks, the most important one related to the <u>disarming the TPLF</u> to secure a lasting peace. Finally, Africa Intelligence published a write up on the two Congressional bills, HR6600 and S3199. The article warns they may return in 2023, yet recognises the success of AEPAC's lobbying to stop them from going through to date.

This month's digital efforts have come in the form of promoting AEPAC's

endorsed candidates running in the 2022 Midterm Election and continuing our

efforts to combat TPLF disinformation. As we near Election Day, it becomes

increasingly important to show support to leaders who have supported AEPAC

and listened to the Ethiopian community. We urge everyone to double-check

their registration status, vote early if they can, and get as many people to the

The most effective content this month has been in relation to fact-checking

skewed reporting, the Chairman's response to harmful statements from

The American-Ethiopian Public Affairs Co... @AmericaEt... · Oct 27 ···· AEPAC had a productive discussion with Chairman @RepGregoryMeeks

community through his open-door policy & constructive, inclusive dialogue.

Promote

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regarding Africa & Ethiopia. We will work closely with him on pro-Africa,

pro-Ethiopia US polices & Meeks commits to listening to the 22-

Rep. Gregory Meeks

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The AU-led peace talks to help resolve the conflict

in Tigray started on Monday 24 October in Pretoria.

The negotiators between the Government of

Ethiopia and the Tigray Peoples Liberation Front

(TPLF) arrived in South Africa, amidst intense

offensive by the Ethiopian National Defense Forces

The Ethiopian party is led by Ambassador Redwan

Hussein and the TPLF party is led by Major

General Tsadgan Gebretensae. The peace talks

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NEWS AND CURRENT AFFAIRS

deep into Tigray region.

are being mediated by AU envoy Olusegun Obasanjo, with South Africa's

former deputy president Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka and former Kenyan

In addition to the three key mediators, UN, the US Envoy to the Horn of Africa

Mike Hammer, EGAD chief Workineh Gebeyehu, and other horn of Africa

envoys are in South Africa as observers. This first round of talks is reported to

The UN Security Council convened a closed-door consultation on the Ethiopia

crisis called by 3 members of the council - Gabon, Ghana and Kenya. The

The UN meeting ended with releasing no statement which was characterized

by the US Ambassador to the UN by saying: "It is disappointing that the council

did not agree on issuing a statement...". On October 25, Antony Blinken, US

Secretary of State, in a press release said: "The United States welcomes the

start of African Union (AU)-led peace negotiations between the government of

Ethiopia and Tigrayan regional authorities in South Africa today. We urge the

delegations to engage seriously in these talks to reach a lasting resolution to

this conflict. As a first priority, it is essential to achieve an immediate cessation

of hostilities. We also call on the delegations to agree on unhindered delivery

of humanitarian assistance to all those in need, measures to protect civilians,

The UN Secretary General, US government, EU, AU made statements in

advance of, and seemingly to influence, the outcome of the AU-led peace

process in South Africa, calling for conditions that include cessation of

hostilities, withdrawal of Eritrean forces from Tigray, unfettered humanitarian aid

access etc. Six US Senators, who were co-sponsors of previous sanctions on

Ethiopia, also wrote a letter to the Ethiopian Prime Minster in the same vein.

This flurry of statements came on the heel of the October 24 negotiations in

A team led by the Ethiopian Finance Minister Ahmed Shide attended the annual

IMF and World Bank conference in Washington, DC. Ethiopia's state finance

minister Eyob Tekalign indicated delays in restructuring Ethiopia's debt due to

the failings of a new global mechanism for resolving debt problems, which is

Ethiopia's request for debt restructuring is shelved pending the outcome of the

peace talks in South Africa, an indication that the restructuring might be

predicated upon meeting the conditions demanded by the US, EU, AU, and

other bodies. Ethiopia's bilateral creditors, co-chaired by France and the largest

creditor China, recommitted to granting debt relief in August, but further

disappointing. The war was a key factor in the delay as well.

congressmembers, and AEPAC's endorsed candidates. The American-Ethiopian Public Affairs Co... @AmericaEt... · Oct 27 ··· AEPAC is pleased to announce its endorsement of Erik Aadland (AadlandforCO) for Congress. As a veteran, Aadland has experienced the

DIGITAL

polls as possible.

effects of war first-hand. He will be an ally to the <a>=-= community as we

AEPAC

call for the US to support the peace & security of Ethiopia.

"I believe the U.S.-Ethiopia relationship is important to enhancing security in

the Horn of Africa region and establishing democratic and free enterprise institutions that can lead by example throughout Africa."

for Congress

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African Union led peace initiative in South Africa

AEPAC Endorses ERIK AADLAND

0:02 4.056 views

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Current situation update

The ENDF has continued taking control of major urban centers in the past few days. The ENDF has succeeded in avoiding combat in urban areas while debilitating the military capabilities of the TPLF.

The Government of Ethiopia is working in coordination with humanitarian agencies to continue providing humanitarian aid in these areas. It has also requested operators of essential services to expedite their preparation to resume services in these areas. The Government is also exploring ways in which public administration and social services in these areas could begin in consultation with the local population.

Meanwhile, the Government of Ethiopia will be participating in the AU convened peace talks to be held in South Africa. The Government of

Ethiopia views the talks as an opportunity to peacefully resolve the conflict and consolidate the improvement of the situation on the ground brought about through the sacrifices of the ENDF. The delegation of Ethiopian Government has left for South Africa this

Government Communication Service

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president Uhuru Kenyatta.

last until Sunday 30 October.

OCTOBER 24, 2022 ADDIS ABABA

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briefers included OCHA Director of Operations and Advocacy and AU High Representative for the Horn of Africa Olusegun Obasanjo. Ethiopia has been invited to participate in the meeting.

and Eritrea's withdrawal from northern Ethiopia".

South Africa.

Ethiopia and IMF-World Bank

Prelude to the AU-led Peace Talks in South Africa

progress requires an IMF deal. According to Eyob, Ethiopia does not have a solvency issue, it's more of a short-term liquidity issue and that there was no danger of it defaulting on its debts. On a related economic issue, the executive order signed by President Biden delisting Ethiopia from benefitting from the African Growth Opportunities Act (AGOA) has been extended for another year further creating pain and unemployment to Ethiopian textile factory workers - predominantly affecting women-based families. There is a movement to get Ethiopia re-listed thanks to about twenty US business leaders who had a stake in this unwarranted action by the US president. AEPAC has been lobbying US lawmakers, administration officials and US businesses to put pressure on the Administration to undo the sanction. Tana Forum in Bahirdar, Ethiopia

Africa Managing Security Threats: Building Resilience for the Africa We Want". Ethiopia's Prime Minister, Abiy Ahmed; Sudan's Transitional Government Chairperson Lieutenant General, Abdul Fatah Al Burhan; Somalia's Prime Minister, Hamza Abdi Barre; Uganda's Vice President, Jessica Rose; and Former Ghanaian President, John Dramani Mahama participated in the meeting. In addition, Hailemariam Dessalegn, Former Prime Minister of Ethiopia; U.S. Special Envoy to the Horn of Africa, Mike Hammer; UN Secretary General Special Envoy to the Horn of Africa, ■ Hannah Tetteh; EU Special Representative for the Horn of Africa (virtual), Annette Weber (PhD); and AUC Commissioner for PAPS, Bankole Adeoye, also attended the panel. Such an attendance is indicative of the timeliness and importance of bringing horn of Africa leaders to discuss the overall development of their countries. During the discussion, Hailemariam stated that the continent's response capacity and landscape for peace and security should prioritize actions toward

rather than externalizing peace

Ethiopia's Science and Art Museum Inaugurated

Hailemariam also stated that the continent must fix governance capacity,

embrace diversity, and prioritize citizen security over region or regime security.

self-reliance

The Tana High-Level Forum on Security in Africa is

an African Union initiative on the Elimination of

Conflicts and the Promotion of Sustainable Peace

in Africa (Tripoli Declaration, August 2009). This

10th forum was held on 14-16 October 2022 in

Bahr Dar under the theme "Forum on Security in

security challenges.

and

A new dome-shaped facility for Ethiopia's first

Minister Abiy Ahmed. He sees this as a significant

The inauguration coincided with the launch a

step in the direction of building a digital economy.

museum was inaugurated by Prime

Conference. These initiatives are all essential for networking, learning, and cocreating across the continent, as we strive to empower Africa through digital transformation. The new facility hosted a technology startup and public/private institution exhibition, as well. The attendance in the first few weeks of the museum's opening indicates how the eager the public is for such recreational and educational initiatives. In just 20 days, 360,000 people visited the museum.

Homeland Security announced a new deportation amnesty for Ethiopians.

Under this privilege, Ethiopians in the U.S. will be eligible to stay for 18 months

and apply for work permits. Ethiopians who were in the U.S. as of October 20,

whether on student visas or tourist visas or in the country without proper

documentation, will be eligible to apply for temporary protected status. Such

status is granted to citizens of countries where conditions are too unsafe for

them to return, whether because of natural disaster, armed conflict, or other

U.S. officials estimate that 26,700 Ethiopians will be eligible to apply for the

protection. This year, the Biden administration allowed Ukrainians in the U.S. to

involving severe food shortages, flooding, drought and displacement will be

able to remain and work in the United States until conditions in their home

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

technology exhibition and opening of the first Pan-African Artificial Intelligence

apply for temporary protected status and has offered the same protections to Afghans. The amnesty states, "Ethiopian nationals currently residing in the U.S. who cannot safely return due to conflict-related violence and a humanitarian crisis

catastrophes.

country improve."

Follow

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regular updates.

Temporary Protected Status for Ethiopians

HOW YOU CAN HELP

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**

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

DONATE TO AEPAC

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