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# **NEWSLETTER**

March 2024

Dear <</First Name>>,

As we bid farewell to winter, let us reenergize ourselves and welcome the upcoming season with hope, unity, selflessness, and care for others. This month, I want to emphasize the importance of meaningful dialogue in bringing peace to our war-torn nation. It's crucial for us, as a community of 30,000 readers, to learn how to communicate effectively with



each other. I extend my heartfelt appreciation to everyone who shared their comments and feedback after last month's message. One common theme that emerged was the need for us to act as one voice, and I wholeheartedly agree.

At its core, AEPAC was founded to enhance US-Ethiopia relationships by advocating for democracy, human rights, religious and press freedom, the rule of law, and a free-market economy. As Americans of Ethiopian descent, it is our duty to leverage our citizenship privileges and obligations to advance this pro-Ethiopia agenda within the US government. This principle remains steadfast regardless of the political landscape in Ethiopia, whether under a democratically elected government, an ethnocentric dictatorship, or any other governance model.

Our actions, such as opposing the TPLF aggression in the past and standing against the current corrupt brutal regime, are rooted in advancing AEPAC's mission and serving the interests of all 120

million Ethiopians. As we witness a vibrant younger generation assuming leadership roles within our organization, AEPAC remains committed to its mission and values.

While we value all AEPAC supporters, including those whose views may have evolved over time, it's essential to acknowledge the challenges caused by shifting government policies and the resulting disillusionment within the diaspora. Some have suggested that AEPAC should focus solely on US domestic policies rather than Ethiopian affairs. However, maintaining our founding principles is paramount, and those seeking to address US local issues exclusively may also consider supporting local political parties of their preference in their community (democratic or republican).

I appreciate the diverse perspectives within our community, including those who may not fully align with AEPAC's positions but are willing to engage constructively. Without principled consistency, we cannot effectively advocate for the 120 million Ethiopians facing both short-term and long-term challenges in a very volatile region of the world.

To those disheartened by the current state of affairs in Ethiopia, let us remain optimistic and supportive of the people's aspirations for a better, safer, and more equitable union. Our efforts must focus on advancing the pro-Ethiopia agenda in the US administration and legislation in the US government, ensuring human rights protection, holding violators and abusers accountable, fostering economic advancement through partnerships, and harnessing the diaspora's collective strength for positive change.

As we continue our journey, let's engage in civilized dialogue, leveraging our freedom of thought and speech in the land of the free.

#### In other news:

• The International Monetary Fund (IMF) plays a crucial role in international monetary cooperation, trade expansion, and economic growth. AEPAC advocates for IMF loans to Ethiopia to be conditional on halting government atrocities and corruption.<u>https://t.co/aiXiwbS9a9</u>

• Stay tuned for the next newsletter, where we will announce AEPAC-endorsed candidates for the US Congress and discuss support for a pro-Ethiopia candidate in the upcoming presidential elections.

• The AEPAC Youth Committee has extended the scholarship essay submission deadline to the end of May, continuing its efforts to engage young Ethiopian Americans in civic duties.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to our shared vision for a better Ethiopia. Warm regards,

Yours Sincerely, Mesfin Tegenu Chairman

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# HOW YOU CAN HELP

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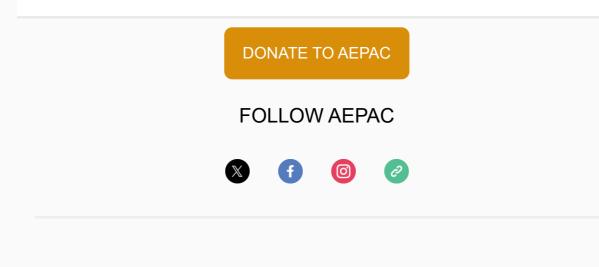
To keep up to date with AEPAC, follow us on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, and <u>Instagram</u>. Check out our website - <u>www.aepact.org</u>

## Share

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: <u>AEPAC Mission Video</u>

## Contact

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