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Moran Global Strategies, Inc. Mail - Letter to Secretary of State Rubio From Eritrean Government-in-Exile



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Letter to Secretary of State Rubio From Eritrean Government-in-Exile

3 messages

Elias Gerasoulis <elias@moranstrategies.com>

Fri, May 16, 2025 at 8:14 AM

To: "Spera, Vincent D." <SperaVD@state.gov>, "Wong, Eric M" <WongEM2@state.gov>, "Mackey, Holly M"

<MackeyHM@state.gov>

Cc: Ghebre Bahdurai <nrce.in.exile@gmail.com>

Bcc: nadine@moranstrategies.com

Dear Mr. Spera:

I wanted to flag for you and your colleagues the following attached letter from the Transitional Eritrean Government-in-Exile and its President, Ghebre Bahdurai.

I also want to thank you once again for connecting me with your colleagues, whom Mr. Bahdurai and myself met with and had a productive meeting.

Sincerely,

Elias Gerasoulis

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Letter to Marco Rubio Secretary of State.pdf

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TRANSITIONAL ERITREAN GOVERNMENT IN EXILE

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**The Honorable Marco Rubio
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20520**

Subject: Addressing Ethiopia–Eritrea Tensions and Supporting Democratic Transition in Eritrea

Dear Secretary Rubio,

I write to you with deep concern over the escalating tensions between Ethiopia and Eritrea, and to urge U.S. engagement in supporting a peaceful and democratic resolution in the Horn of Africa.

The authoritarian regime in Eritrea continues to play a destabilizing role in the region. Ethiopia has openly expressed its intention to access the Red Sea, possibly through the coastal area of Eritrea. It should be welcomed and encouraged. Ethiopia has the right to access the Red Sea under international law, and through peaceful dialogue, it can be realized. Eritrean forces remain entrenched inside Ethiopia, particularly in Tigray and Western Tigray, and have aligned with armed militias such as Fano, further fueling Ethiopia’s internal instability. Moreover, the regime’s growing security ties with Egypt and Somalia complicate an already volatile geopolitical landscape.

A direct military conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea would only deepen instability, empower regional autocrats, and trigger a humanitarian crisis. The alternative—and sustainable—path forward is to support a democratic transition in Eritrea led by Eritreans themselves, paving the way for a post-transition economic partnership with Ethiopia that benefits both nations.

Recommendations for U.S. Engagement

1. Support Eritrean Pro-Democracy Movements

The U.S. should prioritize capacity-building and diplomatic support for democratic Eritrean organizations working to dismantle the dictatorship. The National Representative Council of Eritrea – Government in Exile (NRCE-GIE), in collaboration with civil movements like the Blue Revolution, is actively working toward a democratic

transition. U.S. backing is critical to accelerate these efforts through material, technical, and political support.

2. Facilitate an Ethiopia–Eritrea Trade Agreement

The United States can play a pivotal role in brokering a future trade agreement that secures Ethiopia's access to Assab while preserving Eritrean sovereignty. Such an agreement, negotiated between Ethiopia and Eritrean democratic representatives, offers a peaceful and mutually beneficial alternative to conflict.

3. Remove Eritrean Regime Influence from Ethiopia

We urge the U.S. to exert diplomatic and economic pressure on the Eritrean regime to fully withdraw from Ethiopian territories, particularly Tigray and Western Tigray, and cease support for extremist militias. This step is essential to stabilizing Ethiopia internally and preventing further bloodshed.

4. Lead Regional Diplomacy to Contain Authoritarian Expansion

The Eritrean regime's ties with Egypt and military involvement in Somalia must be closely monitored and countered through regional diplomacy. U.S. leadership can help isolate Eritrea's dictatorship and prevent it from exploiting external alliances to prolong its repressive rule.

Empowering Eritreans to reclaim their future is the only durable solution for regional stability. We urge the United States to stand with Eritrea's democratic movement and play a constructive role in advancing peace, security, and prosperity across the Horn of Africa. The Transitional Eritrean Government works closely with the House and Senate and has a great deal of support. We are represented in Washington by the former Senior Congressman Jim Moran's lobbying firm, Moran Global Strategies.

I respectfully request a meeting or follow-up discussion to explore how U.S. leadership can help us move forward.

Sincerely,

Ghebre Bahdurai

President

National Representative Council of Eritrea – Government in Exile (NRCE-GIE)

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