



Tigrayan Advocacy & Development Association (TADA)

211 Clapham Road

London

SW9 0QH

Email: info@tadauk.org

Website: www.tadauk.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

London, United Kingdom – December 9, 2025

On the 10th Anniversary of World Genocide Remembrance, TADAUK ORG Condemns the Ongoing Genocide in Tigray and Demands Urgent Action

09 December 2025: London – As the global community solemnly marks the tenth anniversary of the United Nations' International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of Genocide, the promise of "Never Again" echoes as a hollow platitude. Today, TADAUK ORG stands in solidarity with the people of Tigray to honour the victims of a genocide that the world has witnessed and failed to stop. We uphold the truth, condemn the international inertia, and issue an unequivocal call for immediate, concrete action to halt the ongoing destruction, ensure justice, and restore dignity.

The genocidal war launched against the people of Tigray in November 2020 is not a historical footnote; it is a present and ongoing crisis. A vast body of evidence compiled by the International Commission of Human Rights Experts on Ethiopia (ICHREE), the Newlines Institute, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and multiple United Nations bodies has meticulously documented atrocity crimes of staggering scale and brutality.

The litany of horrors is catalogued not in whispers, but in definitive reports:

- **Mass Killings and Ethnic Cleansing:** Credible investigations have documented systematic massacres, extrajudicial executions, and a campaign of ethnic cleansing in Western Tigray, where Amhara regional forces, with federal acquiescence, sought to purge Tigrayans from their land through violence and terror. The U.S. Secretary of State, Antony Blinken, has himself condemned "acts of ethnic cleansing which we've seen in Western Tigray".
- **Systematic Sexual Violence as a Weapon of War:** Sexual violence has been deployed as a tool of genocide. The UN Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide has cited reports describing Tigrayans as "cancer" and expressing intent to destroy women's reproductive capacities—a clear indicator of genocidal intent. Reports document widespread rape, gang rape, sexual slavery, and mutilation.
- **Deliberate Imposition of Conditions Calculated to Destroy:** The siege on Tigray, characterised by the systematic blockage of humanitarian aid, medicine, and food, constitutes a deliberate infliction of conditions of life meant to bring about the physical destruction of the group. The destruction of over 70% of health facilities and the pillaging of livelihoods are not collateral damage but calculated acts of genocide.
- **Cultural Erasure and Incitement:** The suppression of the Tigrinya language, the destruction of cultural heritage, and the public incitement to genocide through dehumanising rhetoric complete the picture of an intent to destroy the Tigrayan group in whole or in part.

Despite a Cessation of Hostilities Agreement in November 2022, the underlying genocidal logic persists. The UN Special Adviser warned in October 2023 of a “heightened risk of genocide and related atrocity crimes” in Ethiopia, noting that the “risk of genocide is present and growing”. The federal government’s recent blockade on essential goods entering Tigray is a stark continuation of the siege warfare that has defined this conflict, threatening a fragile peace and proving the ongoing intent to subjugate through starvation and deprivation.

The Unmistakable Framework of Genocide Under International, African, and Ethiopian Law

The atrocities in Tigray are not merely tragic violations of norms; they constitute clear breaches of binding legal frameworks at every level.

1. Violations of International Law:

- The Genocide Convention (1948): The evidence meets the threshold for multiple acts under Article II: killing; causing serious bodily or mental harm; deliberately inflicting conditions of life calculated to bring about physical destruction; and imposing measures intended to prevent births.
- International Humanitarian Law (Geneva Conventions): The targeting of civilians, humanitarian workers, and medical facilities; the use of starvation as a method of warfare; and the widespread commission of rape and torture are grave breaches constituting war crimes and crimes against humanity.
- The Principle of the Responsibility to Protect (R2P): The Ethiopian state has manifestly failed in its primary responsibility to protect its population from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity. This failure triggers the international community’s responsibility to take collective action.

2. Violations of African Union Legal Instruments:

- The African Union Constitutive Act: The violence violates the Act’s core principles of respect for human rights, the condemnation and rejection of impunity, and the promotion of peace, security, and stability on the continent.
- The African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights: It constitutes a wholesale assault on the guaranteed rights to life, dignity, freedom from torture, and the right of displaced persons to return to their homes.

3. Violations of Ethiopian Constitutional and Domestic Law:

- The Ethiopian Constitution: The acts perpetrated by state and allied forces represent a fundamental betrayal of the Constitution’s guarantees of equality, human dignity, the inviolability of life, and the rights of nations, nationalities, and peoples.

Testimonies of Intent and Complicity

The genocidal intent is not inferred; it has been explicitly stated and acknowledged.

- Pikka Havesto’s Testimony on Abiy Ahmed: The reported statement—‘we shall wipe them out, 100 years back’—epitomises the destructive intent driving the campaign against Tigrayans.
- Antony Blinken’s Official Determination: The U.S. Secretary of State’s declaration that “ethnic cleansing” has occurred in Western Tigray and that all sides, including Ethiopian, Eritrean, and Amhara forces, have committed war crimes and crimes against humanity is a formal finding by a major power that cannot be ignored.

The Path Forward: ICHREE Recommendations and the Imperative for an Independent Investigation

The now-disbanded ICHREE provided a clear roadmap. Its core recommendation—which the international community has disgracefully neglected—was for the UN Human Rights Council to “ensure that a follow-up independent investigation is mandated” to pursue full accountability. This must be the starting point.

Furthermore, we note with extreme alarm the recent warnings from the UN and regional observers of a “heightened risk” of renewed large-scale atrocity crimes. Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed’s government continues to threaten military action and enforce blockades, proving that the mindset that enabled genocide remains entrenched. An independent investigation is not just about the past; it is a critical deterrent against a future, potentially even more devastating, round of genocidal war.

A Specific Call for Urgent Action by Global and Regional Powers

On this day of remembrance, remembrance without action is complicity. TADAUK ORG calls for the following immediate and specific measures:

1. To the United Nations, Secretary-General, and Human Rights Council:

- Immediately reconstitute and empower an independent international investigation mechanism (as recommended by ICHREE) with a mandate to investigate genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes in Tigray since November 2020.
- Invoke the “Uniting for Peace” procedure (General Assembly Resolution 377(V)) to bypass any Security Council deadlock and take measures to ensure civilian protection and humanitarian access.

2. To the African Union Peace and Security Council and Commission:

- Move beyond silent diplomacy. Publicly acknowledge the findings of genocide and atrocity crimes and urgently table the situation in Tigray as a standing agenda item.
- Suspend Ethiopia’s membership rights in the AU until it complies with its Constitutive Act, cooperates fully with independent investigations, and lifts all sieges on Tigray.

3. To the United Nations Security Council:

- Formally refer the situation in Ethiopia, with a focus on Tigray, to the International Criminal Court (ICC) for investigation and prosecution.
- Impose a comprehensive and mandatory arms embargo on all parties to the conflict, specifically targeting the Ethiopian and Eritrean governments.

4. To the European Union and its Common Foreign and Security Policy:

- Enforce Magnitsky-style targeted sanctions against all identified perpetrators of atrocity crimes, including high-level government, military, and militia officials, and their commercial enablers.
- Suspend all budget support and development aid to the Government of Ethiopia until verifiable steps towards justice, accountability, and unimpeded humanitarian access are taken.

5. To the United States Government:

- Formally determine that genocide is being committed against the Tigrayan people, following the precedent of the Newlines Institute report and the State Department's own past findings.
- Lead multilateral efforts at the UNSC for an ICC referral and dramatically increase pressure on the Ethiopian government through all diplomatic and economic tools.

6. To the United Kingdom Government, Genocide Advisory Board, and Parliament:

- The UK's Genocide Advisory Board must issue an immediate determination on the situation in Tigray.
- Parliament must debate and pass emergency measures to sanction perpetrators, support an ICC referral, and condition all UK engagement with Ethiopia on concrete progress towards justice.

As we observe this sombre anniversary, we declare that the memory of the victims of Tigray—and of all genocides—demands more than moments of silence. It demands a roaring, unceasing call for justice. The people of Tigray deserve truth, justice, reparations, and guarantees of non-repetition. By confronting the failures that allowed genocide to unfold during a decade dedicated to its prevention, we can begin to rebuild the crumbling edifice of international law. Only then can the shattered promise of “Never Again” be reforged into a reality.

About TADAUK ORG: TADAUK ORG is a UK-based advocacy organisation dedicated to promoting justice, human rights, and accountability for atrocity crimes in the Horn of Africa.

For Media Inquiries, Please Contact:
The Office of the Directors, TADAUK ORG London
Email: info@tadauk.org