

A PETITION TO THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

A Call for Action to Stop the Bloodshed and Prevent a Humanitarian Catastrophe in Ethiopia

We, the undersigned citizens of Canada, draw the attention of the House of Commons to the following:

WHEREAS, According to Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch State security forces in Ethiopia have used excessive and lethal force against largely peaceful protests, which has resulted in hundreds of protesters killed and thousands injured by state security forces across the country, with upwards to 400 people estimated to have been killed in clashes between Oromo protestors and government forces this past June;

WHEREAS, According to Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, Members and leaders of opposition parties as well as protesters summarily rounded up and extra judicially executed;

WHEREAS, According to Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch thousands of innocent Ethiopians, men women and youth, mainly from the Amhara and Oromia regions, are continuously subject to violent persecution, torture, arbitrary deportation or detention in concentration camps;

WHEREAS, many Ethiopians are helplessly trying to run away, risking their lives at sea, where countless have drowned while trying to escape persecution and torture;

WHEREAS In response to the on-going crackdown, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, has called for access for independent observers to the country to assess the human rights situation with Ethiopia's government rejecting this call.

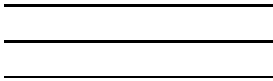
WHEREAS, this crisis left unchecked, is escalating to a humanitarian catastrophe that threatens to engulf the whole region in blind violence and compromise global peace and security;

THEREFORE, your petitioners call on the Government of Canada to condemn atrocities being committed by the Ethiopian government against peaceful protesters, urgently pressure the Ethiopian government to stop the use of excessive and lethal force, allow access for independent UN observers and engage with all opposition groups in peaceful, inclusive dialogue; In addition, your petitioners call on the Government of Canada to suspend economic and diplomatic support to the government in Ethiopia until it stops its lethal repression of peaceful dissent and advise the Canadian diplomatic mission in Ethiopia to set diplomatic priorities accordingly.

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Please return this petition (free of postage):

Peter Julian MP (New Westminster-Burnaby) 629-C, Centre Block House of Commons, Ottawa ON K1A 0A6



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Peter Julian, MP (New Westminster-Burnaby)
Room 629-C, Centre Block
House of Commons
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

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