

Geneva, November 15, 2020

Over the past two weeks, the world witnessed an increase in violence in Ethiopia, in the Oromia region as well as in the Tigray region.

These tensions have rightly and repeatedly been qualified as "internal to Ethiopia" notably by the Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed. IFE regrets the violent and military turn that these internal tensions have taken. Indeed, the power of dialogue and the resolution of grievances without resorting to violence must remain the one and only avenue in the Horn of Africa, a region that has already been subject to numerous territorial and ethnic conflicts over the past decades.

Yesterday, Saturday November 14 2020, the capital of Eritrea, Asmara, was hit by missiles. Today, Sunday 15 November 2020, the leader of Ethiopia's Tigray region confirmed firing the missiles.

IFE condemns this highly hostile and unacceptable act from the TPLF. In view of the absence of fatalities in connection with this act, we call on the Government of Eritrea to first exhaust all legal and diplomatic avenues before resorting to violence, relying in particular on the instruments made available by multilateralism.

Indeed, we call on the Government of Eritrea to prevent this act from propelling Eritrea into a spiral out of control. We call on the Government of Eritrea to protect every single Eritrean life, both civilian and military.



Mussie Calmerfalk Ephrem
President



Veronica Almedom
Co-director