



ADVOCATES CALL FOR TPS FOR ETHIOPIA ON UN HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

Armed conflict, famine, and ethnic cleansing make Ethiopia unsafe for return

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WASHINGTON, DC—Today on the United Nations Human Rights Day, UndocuBlack Network and Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc., or CLINIC, members of the Temporary Protected Status Deferred Enforced Departure Administrative Advocacy Coalition ([TPS-DED AAC](#)) Steering Committee, sent a [letter](#) to the Biden administration reiterating the call for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Ethiopia. The TPS DED AAC has been calling for TPS for Ethiopia since [August](#), with no action from the Biden administration.

For over a year, Ethiopia has suffered increasing conflict, violence, and ethnic cleansing, exacerbated by severe famine conditions and infrastructure failure. According to USAID, [6.5 to 7 million](#) people in northern Ethiopia now face severe acute food insecurity and [8.1 million](#) are in need of humanitarian assistance. Armed conflict and atrocities from multiple actors continue to worsen, including the use of [drone strikes](#) against civilians. The Ethiopian government's blockade on humanitarian aid also continues, cutting off basic services. As violence and food shortages continue to worsen and spread throughout the country, the United States must not return anyone to such conditions.

Timantha Goff, Policy & Advocacy Analyst at UndocuBlack Network stated: "Plainly put, the current conditions in Ethiopia are absolutely untenable for safe return and are exactly the kind of situation that TPS was meant to address. It is past time for the Biden administration to keep its promises of racial equity and a better future for Black immigrants. The literal lives of countless individuals will ultimately be at stake if immediate action is not taken on their behalf. On this United Nations Human Rights Day, we must do our part to protect human life and designate Ethiopia for TPS."

Lisa Parisio, Advocacy Director at CLINIC stated: "TPS is a vital foreign policy tool demonstrating to the world that the United States will not return people to conditions where their human rights are at stake, which has clearly been the case in Ethiopia for more than a year. TPS can and should be used as part of larger U.S. responses to humanitarian and human rights disasters where safe return is impossible. We remind the administration yet again how crucial TPS is for Black immigrants who may slip through the cracks of other humanitarian protections due to entrenched racism in U.S. immigration law and policy."

The [TPS-DED AAC](#) is a national coalition of more than 100 organizations with deep expertise in law and policy surrounding TPS and DED. Member organizations range from community-based organizations directly serving impacted communities in the United States to international NGOs, working in and providing insight from affected countries.

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