

# Ethiopian Activists Urge US National Security Advisor to Push for Sanctions Against Members of the Ethiopian Government

*OLLAA urge US National Security Advisor to Work with the Treasury and State Departments to Sanction Members of the Ethiopian Government*

WASHINGTON, D.C., UNITED STATES, November 16, 2020 /

EINPresswire.com/ -- The Oromo Legacy Leadership and Advocacy Association (OLLAA) formally urged Robert O'Brien, the United States National Security Advisor, to work with the Departments of the Treasury and State to impose Global Magnitsky Act sanctions against members of the Ethiopian security forces that have approved, funded, participated in, or otherwise aided in the extrajudicial killings, torture, and sexual assaults of members of the Oromo ethnic group.

Amnesty International reported this year that "Ethiopian security forces committed horrendous human rights violations including burning homes to the ground, extrajudicial executions, rape, arbitrary arrests, and detentions, sometimes of entire families." The

report further cited evidence of at least 39 documented cases of extrajudicial executions, over 10,000 cases of arbitrary arrests and detentions without access to legal counsel or courts, and additional cases of rape, torture, mass evictions, and the burning of property in the Oromia Region. The State Department's Ethiopia 2019 Human Rights Report also stated, "Significant human rights issues included: reports of unlawful or arbitrary killings by security forces; citizens



The United States National Security Advisor, Robert O'Brien.



Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Secretary of the Treasury Steve Mnuchin

killing other citizens based on their ethnicity; unexplained disappearances; arbitrary arrest and detention by security forces; harsh and life-threatening prison conditions; unlawful interference with privacy; censorship, and blocking of the internet and social media sites.”

Congress has also voiced its concern opposing these significant human rights abuses in Ethiopia. The House passed H. Res. 128, with 114 cosponsors, in the 115th Congress that cited “arbitrary arrests, killings, and torture committed by security forces, restrictions on freedom of expression and freedom of association, politically motivated trials, harassment, and intimidation of opposition members and journalists.” The Senate Foreign Relations Committee also favorably reported S. Res. 168, with 32 cosponsors, in the 115th Congress, which called for the application for Global Magnitsky sanctions against foreign persons responsible for these murders, torture, and other gross violations of human rights.

OLLAA went on to press the case with the National Security Advisor that these human rights abuses are crimes against humanity, and the United States government should use its tools provided by Congress to hold the perpetrators publicly accountable and deter such future activity through Global Magnitsky sanctions.

For all inquiries relating to this press release, please contact:

Dr. Karl Von Batten  
Von Batten-Montague-York, L.C.  
karl.vonbatten@montagueyork.com

---

This press release can be viewed online at: <https://www.einpresswire.com/article/530820368>

EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire, Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information.

© 1995-2020 IPD Group, Inc. All Right Reserved.