

Human Rights in Ethiopia:

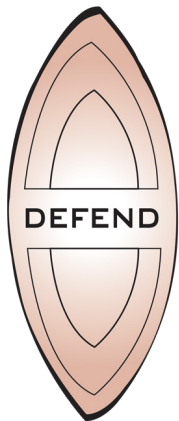
Government Repression and Failed Commitments

Side Event

UN Human Rights
Council
27th Session



- ▶ Monday 15 September 2014, 12.00-13.00
Room XXI, Palais des Nations



EAST AND
HORN OF
AFRICA
HUMAN RIGHTS
DEFENDERS
PROJECT
(EHAHRDP)



CIVICUS

Human rights defenders, independent journalists, and civil society organisations in Ethiopia are subject to some of the most draconian and repressive legal restrictions of any country in the world. Arbitrary, and often wilfully misapplied restrictions on freedom of expression, assembly, and peaceful assembly have contributed to an environment in which conducting advocacy on human rights issues has effectively been criminalised, and where no meaningful independent media exists to hold the government to account.

This panel features speakers with intimate experience of the human rights challenges in Ethiopia, and the dangers for members of civil society

who seek to hold their leaders accountable. The discussion will provide a valuable opportunity to discuss Ethiopia's human rights obligations in advance of its UPR adoption during the 27th UNHRC Session and national elections scheduled for May 2015.

Panelists

Mesfin Negash (Civil Rights Defenders, former Ethiopian journalist)

Yared Hailemariam (Ethiopian Human Rights Defender)

Soliyana Gebremichael (Zone 9 and Ethiopian Human Rights Project)

Moderated by **Tor Hodenfield**, CIVICUS