



Press Release: Being Informed in an Era of Disinformation

Date: March 1, 2021

We are observing an alarming rise of uncorroborated, polarizing and dangerous allegations stemming from various actors in and out of the Horn of Africa. We know too well how disinformation of this nature can quickly turn into hysteria and lead to scapegoating, counter accusations and falsely inform public opinion. The heightened disinformation era clouds the ability of policy makers and experts from forming sound judgments and informed opinions.

The future direction of peace and stability in the Horn of Africa risks being undermined if we allow allegations—rather than established facts, define how we understand the evolving situation on the ground.

Canada has played an important role in the world as a peacemaking nation. It enjoys a stellar reputation abroad and this should be leveraged to support the countries of the region with any and all assistance required to maintain the peace and security that was ushered in when Ethiopia & Eritrea signed an agreement to that effect in 2018.

For this reason, **we call upon all national media outlets, Global Affairs Canada, as well as our federal parliamentary leaders to constructively engage the countries in the Horn of Africa in the interest of peace and security in the region.**