

Evacuate Eritreans from Libya

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Dear Ms./Mr. Senator _____

President _____

We write to you with an urgent plea: that you help save the lives of some hundreds or thousands of Eritreans who are caught in the cross-fire of a new and rampant outbreak of violence among Libyan militias.

It has been over a decade since Libya became the battlefield of terrorist groups and militarized factions competing for political power. It has also been over a decade since the world first witnessed Eritrean young women, young men, children, and even Eritrean newborns, being the prey of the cruelest human traffickers in Libya.

Eritreans who have passed through Libya are now facing irreversible physical and mental wounds. Indeed, every day, and especially in this new outbreak, our sisters and brothers still in Libya not only lack access to food, water, medical treatment and sanitation, but they are also sexually abused, harshly beaten and subject to other inhumane treatment. They are also at risk of being shot in the inter-factional violence.

Many of the Eritreans are located in government and other detentions centers in Tripoli and other parts of the country. Others have recently fled those facilities, and are living by their wits in hiding. More precise details of their locations can be obtained from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Organization for Migration.

This grave human tragedy demands a rapid reaction – on both humanitarian and diplomatic levels. We call upon all nations and UNHCR to use all necessary internal and external means and resources to ensure the most rapid evacuation of Eritrean nationals from Tripoli and the other affected regions.

With hope and deepest gratitude for any assistance you may be able to provide,

Sincerely

George Ghebresslassie