

**Question for written answer E-008480/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Siôn Simon (S&D)

Subject: State of emergency in Ethiopia

Ethiopia has declared a six-month state of emergency in light of the deadly protests that have rocked the country in the past few months. These protests stem from the grievances of Ethiopians of various ethnicities that have been subject to a system of governance whereby the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) controls all key levers of economic and political power. Key political institutions are owned and operated by, and for the benefit of, the ruling ethnic group.

Ethiopia ranks 103 out of 168 countries on Transparency International's corruption perceptions index, and has also lost about USD 25 billion since 2000 to illicit financial outflows, according to Global Financial Integrity.

A major part of EU development funding to Ethiopia is financed by the European Development Fund, with funding for the period 2014-2020 amounting to EUR 745 million. In the previous cycle of funding, for the period 2009-2013, the EU dedicated EUR 674 million to programmes in Ethiopia.

Is the Commission aware of how the TFLP manages these funds?

Can the Commission provide details on how to address the calls for a new government?