

**Question for written answer E-001928/2023/rev.1  
to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs  
and Security Policy**

Rule 138

**Thierry Mariani (ID)**

Subject: EU policy in Ethiopia

In 2018, the European Union applauded the election of Abiy Ahmed and congratulated him on winning the Nobel Peace Prize. Following the outbreak of the war in Tigray (2020) however, it made a U-turn. The EU condemned Mr Ahmed (December 2021) and suspended its budgetary aid of EUR 90 million owing to problems concerning respect for human rights.

Moreover, certain countries (Russia, the United Arab Emirates, Turkey and China) have invested massively in the country, arming it and drafting contracts for post-conflict reconstruction with their companies. This rise in influence at domestic level is also reflected in Ethiopia's support in international bodies.

Certain European countries such as France are, however, calling for a more pragmatic approach to the situation, particularly in view of the migratory risks to which this loss of influence in the region could expose the EU, given that Ethiopia is a on a major immigration route to Europe.

1. Does the EU have any diplomatic leverage in the Horn of Africa?
2. Does the EU expect a greater risk of immigration to Europe following the upset in the balance of power in the region, particularly following the outbreak of the war in Sudan?
3. Does the EU plan to take action to preserve Ethiopia's cultural heritage, which is endangered by turmoil in the Horn of Africa?

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