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Forum for Ethiopian Scholars & Professionals 13<sup>th</sup> Conference

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Colloquium  
on  
Political Culture & the Challenges of Transition

In partnership with  
Network of Ethiopian Scholars (NES)

<https://nesglobal.org/>

Watch the live streaming at

<https://www.youtube.com/@FESPYoutubechannel>

Tentative Program

Washington DC time	Saturday, August 3, 2024
8:45 am	<b>Start of transmission:</b> Zoom connection & media. Host Dr. Kone Fiseha, University of Fairfax, Researcher in Cyber Security, VA.
9:00 am	<b>Call to order.</b> <b>Master of ceremonies:</b> Dr. Yohannes Zeleke, Archeologist and Research Associate, Smithsonian Institute, Washington D.C.
9:10	<b>Opening and welcome</b> Professor Minga Negash, Professor of Accounting, Metropolitan State University of Denver and Visiting Professor, University of the Witwatersrand.
9:20	<b>Guest Speaker</b> Professor Mesfin Genanaw, Professor & Chair, Department of Accounting, Houston Community College, and Visiting Professor, University of Houston. "A reflection on the evolution and fractionalization of Ethiopia's elite political culture: An educator's perspective."
9:50	<b>SESSION ONE</b> <b>Session Theme</b> <i>Rethinking the evolving political culture in Ethiopia in the humanitarian, peace and development (HPD) nexus.</i>



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	<p><b>Session Chair</b> Dr. Abate Getahun, Associate Professor of Languages and Communication, General Manager for ARRFO, Senior Job Creation Advisor for Amhara Region, and Former President of Wollo University.</p> <p><b>Speakers</b></p> <p>(1) Dr. Wuhibegezer Ferede, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science and International Studies, Bahir Dar University, Ethiopia. <i>“Revisiting the National Political Reform in Ethiopia.”</i></p> <p>(2) Ato Kefale Beyazen, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Political Science and International Relations, Addis Ababa University. <i>“The Economic Implications of Civil War in Ethiopia: A focus on Post-2018 Internal Conflicts.”</i></p> <p>(3) Ato Eyob Esatu, Executive Director, Organization for Innovation and Sustainable Development Africa, Addis Ababa. <i>“Alternative and Transitional Justice Measures: Identifying Policy Gaps and Opportunities for Building Sustainable Peace and Stability in Post-Conflict Ethiopia.”</i></p> <p>(4) Dr. Mahemud Tekuya, McGeorge School of Law, University of the Pacific and College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences, Oregon State University. <i>“ A Multiple Streams Explanation of the U.S. policies on Ethiopia.”</i></p>
11:50	Professor Worku Abera, Professor & Chair, Department of Economics, Dawson College, Quebec, Canada.” Discussion of <i>the papers on the economic implications of the civil war and the multiple streams explanation of U.S. policies towards Ethiopia.”</i>
12:25	<b>Closing remarks and vote of thanks</b> Dr. Mesfin Mirotschie, Senior Economist, Deflation, Statistics Canada, Ontario, Canada.
12:30	<b>End of Session #1</b>
<b>Washington DC time</b>	<b>Sunday, August 4 2024</b>
8:45 am	<b>Start of transmission:</b> Zoom connection & media Host Dr. Kone Fiseha, University of Fairfax, Researcher in Cyber Security, VA.
9:00 am	<b>Call to order</b> Master of ceremonies: Dr. Yohannes Zeleke, Archeologist and Research Associate, Smithsonian Institute, Washington D.C.
9:10 am	<b>Guest Speaker</b> Professor Mammo Muchie, Research Professor, Department of Science & Technology/National Research Foundation, Tshwane University of Technology, South Africa. <i>“Development, ethnicity, innovation &amp; the competition for power/scarce resources in Ethiopia: A Pan- African Perspective.”</i>



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9:45 am	<p><b>SESSION TWO</b>  <b>Theme:</b> Resetting the <i>dialogue on varieties of post conflict transitions: plans, processes, risks, idiosyncrasies, alliances &amp; geopolitical dynamics.</i></p> <p><b>Session Chair:</b> Professor Minga Negash, Professor of Accounting, Metropolitan State University of Denver and Visiting Professor, University of the Witwatersrand.</p> <p><b>Speakers</b>  (1) Dr. Abu Girma, Associate Professor of Economics, Faculty of Humanities &amp; Social Sciences, University of Tsukuba, Japan. <i>“Ethiopia: On Economic Transition to Sustainable and Inclusive Development.”</i></p> <p>(2) Ato Lidetu Ayalew, Former Member of the House of Peoples Representatives (Federal Parliament) of Ethiopia. <i>“Transition: what type and process? Why &amp; how?”</i></p> <p>(3) Professor Berhanu Abegaz, Professor of Economics, College of William and Mary, VA and Ato Samuel Habte, Chairperson of Congress of Ethiopian Civic Associations (CECA). <i>“A Citizen-Centered Roadmap for Systemic Political Transition in Ethiopia.”</i></p> <p>(4) Professor Achamyeleh Debela, Professor of Art and Computer Graphics, North Carolina Central University, and Professor Getachew Metaferia, Professor of Political Science at Morgan State University, Baltimore, MD. <i>“Ethiopia’s evolving crisis: A scenario-based roadmap for transition.”</i></p>
12:00	<b>Discussion and Q &amp; A</b>
12:25	<p><b>Concluding remarks and vote of thanks</b>  Dr. Zelalem Teferra, Associate Professor of Sociology, Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Ethiopian Studies, Addis Ababa University. (TBC)</p>
12:30	<b>End of colloquium/Conference</b>
	<p><b>Visit FESP’s Booth</b>  @  <b>Colorado’s Taste of Ethiopia Cultural Festival</b>  <b>(August 3 &amp;4 2024)</b></p> <p><b>City of Denver Montbello Rec Center, 5555 E. 53rd Ave., Denver, CO 80239</b>  For more information <a href="https://www.tasteofethiopia.org/">https://www.tasteofethiopia.org/</a></p>

### Code of Conduct & Guidelines

The Forum for Ethiopian Scholars and Professionals (FESP) tries to adhere to the standards of professional conduct. These guidelines are intended for all participants to **establish minimum standards and expectations** to ensure a productive and successful conference and colloquia.



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**The conference will be transmitted live.** Hence the standards and etiquettes required for formal online meetings will be applied.

### Session Chairs

Session chairs and presenters should connect to the conference using a **Private ZOOM link** that will be sent by FESP. Please expect an email and link from Dr. Kone Fiseha. Please **do not** share the link with another person. All speakers must test their audio and video and ensure that they can share their Power Point and other material that they want to use for their presentation. **Please ensure that your video is of television quality** (good lighting, uncluttered background & business or traditional attire).

One of the most important responsibilities of session chairs is ensuring that sessions and presentations start and finish on time, without any exception. We request session chairs to pay attention to the following:

- (1) Please ensure that your connection is working. Allow enough time for the technicians to get you connected. **Try to be available early**, at least thirty minutes before the start of the conference to check your settings.
- (2) Introduce all speakers at the beginning of the session. Please no long vita. It should not take more than one minute to introduce a speaker.
- (3) Do not try to answer questions that may be directed to the speakers. The chat line for this colloquium is closed. Ignore all malicious comments and unidentified communications.
- (4) Promote collegiality and respectfulness during Q & A, and always.
- (5) Please put your cellphone in silent mode and read text messages and reminders that may come from the conference committee.
- (6) Alert presenters five minutes and one minute before the end of their time, and you should stop the speaker on time.
- (7) Do not paraphrase what a speaker or the speakers have said and refrain from giving your opinion or talking about your research/experience or your organization. You might want to give additional references to the audience for research.
- (8) Please note the difference between a "Session Chair" and a "Moderator". A session chair is "responsible for clearly communicating expectations and logistical information about the session" while a moderator is "responsible for guiding the direction and flow of discussion". You are a session chair and not a moderator.

### Speakers

All speakers are reminded that the purpose of their presentation is to contribute to policy formulation and implementation. Your presentation must end with two/three doable concrete policy proposals. The policy must have been tried and tested and benefit all Ethiopians. The conference is not a platform for promoting a speaker's organization or business or unfounded opinion. As such, all presenters are expected to be non-partisan, and should have no conflict of interest whatsoever. It is not a forum for advocacy, however worthy your cause might be. It is not a forum for rationalizing conflict and separatism.

Speakers are requested to make note of the following:



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- (1) Please ensure that your presentation is of high quality, focused and understandable by non-experts in the field, the public, “Generation Z”, policymakers, and all political actors.
- (2) To reach a larger audience please note that the language used in the conference is Amharic. Presenters who are unable to speak the Amharic language may present their work in English. Your power point can be in either Amharic or English.
- (3) Please note that the forum is not created for canvassing support. Stick to the paper/abstract that has been reviewed.
- (4) To the extent possible, avoid complex mathematical/statistical modelling, technical jargons, abstraction, crude generalizations, and aggressive, inflammatory, offensive or divisive language.
- (5) Address individuals, political organizations, institutions, governments and social groups using their formal names, ranks, titles, etc. and the way they would like to be called.
- (6) Keep your presentation to 25 minutes and allow time for questions and answers. Please try to get your key messages across as early as possible. If your presentation is longer than the allotted time, you will run the risk of being cut off, without communicating the main points of your paper.
- (7) Limit your answers to the question(s) directed to you and answer them in two minutes or less.
- (8) Please note that the event will be transmitted live and recorded. It will be available for public viewing for an indefinite period. While the intellectual property rests on the speaker/presenter the copyright to the material belongs to FESP.
- (9) Important Disclaimer: Neither FESP nor its board members take responsibility, whatsoever, for what a speaker has said or did not say or for any damages that may arise from the presentation or use of the information. It is the speaker’s sole responsibility to avoid any civil or criminal litigation that might arise from the use/misuse of information presented at this forum.
- (10) Please allow time for technological glitches that might occur. Be patient.

### **Online participants**

We encourage online viewers to participate using the Q&A option. There is a separate link for online participants. All questions that get sent will be moderated. It is at the sole discretion of the session chair to decide which questions/comments should be answered. Please comply with the following guidelines:-

- (1) Make sure that your question is relevant to the theme of the session.
- (2) State your full name (no pen name or unidentified cellphone), your institutional affiliation, the country where you are, and identify the speaker to whom the question is addressed to.
- (3) As a matter of courtesy, be brief and ask only one question. No long comments will be entertained. Do not send file attachments.
- (4) If you are given the opportunity to ask your question verbally, you should be on video.
- (5) Address individuals, political organizations, governments, institutions, and social groups using their formal names, ranks, titles, etc. and the way they would like to be called. Use



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of derogatory and/or downgrading/condescending adjectives/codes/pronouns that is judgmental or insulting attitude is disallowed.

### **Media owners**

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