Fighting erupts in northern Ethiopia

Forces from Ethiopia's Tigray region have launched a major offensive against the federal government, shattering a four-year-old peace deal and threatening a wider regional conflict

VIOLENCE IN TIGRAY AND SURROUNDING REGIONS *(Sep 22-23, 2026)*



- Territory controlled by Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF)
- Disputed area between Tigray and Amhara
- Reported TPLF and allied ground operations
- Airport seized by TPLF
- Ethiopian military drone strike

2020: Civil war breaks out between TPLF and Ethiopian government forces

Nov 2022: African Union-brokered ***Pretoria Agreement*** brings end to fighting. Death toll from two-year war estimated at between **300,000** and **600,000** people

2025: Regional tensions escalate, as uneasy peace following Pretoria agreement begins to unravel

Sep 20, 2026 TPLF announces alliance with six other armed groups from across Ethiopia aimed at overthrowing government of Prime Minister ***Abiy Ahmed*** *(above)*



Sep 23: TPLF leaders say they have entered "defensive" war to counter aggression by federal government

Sources: AEI's Critical Threats Project, Reuters

Picture: Getty Images

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