



(44) 7984 109189

(44) 7814 273860

[contact@londonfano.uk.com](mailto:contact@londonfano.uk.com)

[www.londonfano.uk.com](http://www.londonfano.uk.com)

62 Beechwood Road  
London, E8 3DY

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### **Statement: Ethiopian Sport and Culture Federation in Europe's Decision to Exclude Amhara Community Representation**

**London, UK – July 15, 2025** – London Fano, a registered Community Interest Company (CIC) serving as a voice for the voiceless Amhara community in Ethiopia, unequivocally condemns the recent decision by the Ethiopian Sport and Culture Federation in Europe to refuse the Amhara Association in Germany a presence at their planned festival. This decision, communicated officially by the Federation, is not only deeply disrespectful but also a profound betrayal of the very principles of Ethiopian culture, togetherness, and mutual support.

We understand that the Amhara Association in Germany sought a legitimate slot/booth at the festival with clear intentions: to be a voice for the suffering Amhara community in Ethiopia and to raise vital funds through voluntary contributions. This request was communicated well in advance and in good faith. The Federation's refusal, therefore, is unacceptable and raises serious questions about its true agenda.

As London Fano, and on behalf of the Amhara community in the United Kingdom, we firmly believe that the request from the Amhara Association in Germany was not only vital and timely but also deserved the full support and even advocacy of the Federation. The Amhara people are an integral part of the larger Ethiopian fabric, which the Federation purports to gather and represent. To exclude a community facing documented atrocities, killings, displacement, and repression is to deny the very essence of unity.

The Amhara people are currently enduring an unprecedented humanitarian and human rights crisis under the current Ethiopian government and its administration. Since April 2023, a brutal military assault has resulted in over 5,945 civilian casualties, over 174 deadly drone/airstrikes, widespread sexual violence, abductions, and mass detentions. The crisis also includes systematic ethnic profiling and the indiscriminate targeting of civilians, leading to the destruction of schools, harvests, and places of worship.

In light of these undeniable facts and the Federation's concerning decision, London Fano wishes to make its position clear:

1. **We call upon the entire Amhara community in Europe to recognize this decision as a blatant disregard and disrespect** for the immense suffering of the Amhara people.
2. **We urge the Amhara community to boycott the planned festival**, as any funds generated will inadvertently facilitate and support the ongoing violence and killings targeting the Amhara people.
3. We unequivocally state that the individuals behind this festival are promoting the government's false narrative and actively undermining the crucial efforts of the Amhara diaspora. **London Fano will register its strong opposition.**

London Fano will continue its tireless work as a voice for the voiceless, exposing human rights violations, providing comprehensive support to the Amhara people's struggle for existence, preserving Amhara history and culture, coordinating the diaspora for unity, and collaborating with global organizations to protect Amhara interests.

We stand in solidarity with the Amhara Association in Germany and all those who bravely speak truth to power. We urge all concerned individuals and organizations to reflect on the implications of this decision and to stand with the victims of injustice.

Sincerely,

The London Fano Team  
[contact@londonfano.uk.com](mailto:contact@londonfano.uk.com)  
[www.londonfano.uk.com](http://www.londonfano.uk.com)

