



Ethiopia Peace Observatory

19 April 2022

EPO: Year in Review

INTRODUCTION

The Ethiopia Peace Observatory (EPO) is a special project launched by the Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) to enhance local data collection efforts in Ethiopia and offer deeper analysis through weekly and monthly updates. To mark one year since its first publication, the EPO is proud to present this special report reviewing the project's achievements over the past 12 months and outlining new plans for the coming year.

BY THE NUMBERS

Data: Recorded 1,344 political violence events and 165 demonstration events

Reports: Produced 50 Weekly reports (English and Amharic), 10 monthly reports (English and Amharic), three special reports (English)

Engagement: Earned over 380 media mentions

WHAT TO WATCH FOR IN 2022

- Continued publication of weekly data
- Weekly and monthly analyses
- Updated Conflict and Actor Profiles as well as Regional Overviews
- New local partnerships — to be announced at the end of April 2022
- The EPO on Facebook and Telegram

2021 IN REVIEW

Over the past year, the EPO team has covered political disorder throughout Ethiopia, collecting data on 1,344 political violence events and 165 demonstration events (*see Figure 1 on the following page*).

While most events recorded by the EPO team last year involved Ethiopia's northern conflict in Tigray, Amhara, and Afar regions, political violence and demonstration events in Oromia, Benshangul/Gumuz, and Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples regions also contributed significantly to the total data collected. Trends in all of these regions were analyzed frequently in weekly and monthly reports (*see Figure 2 on the following page*).

Figure 1. Political Disorder Events in Ethiopia (1 April 2021—1 April 2022)

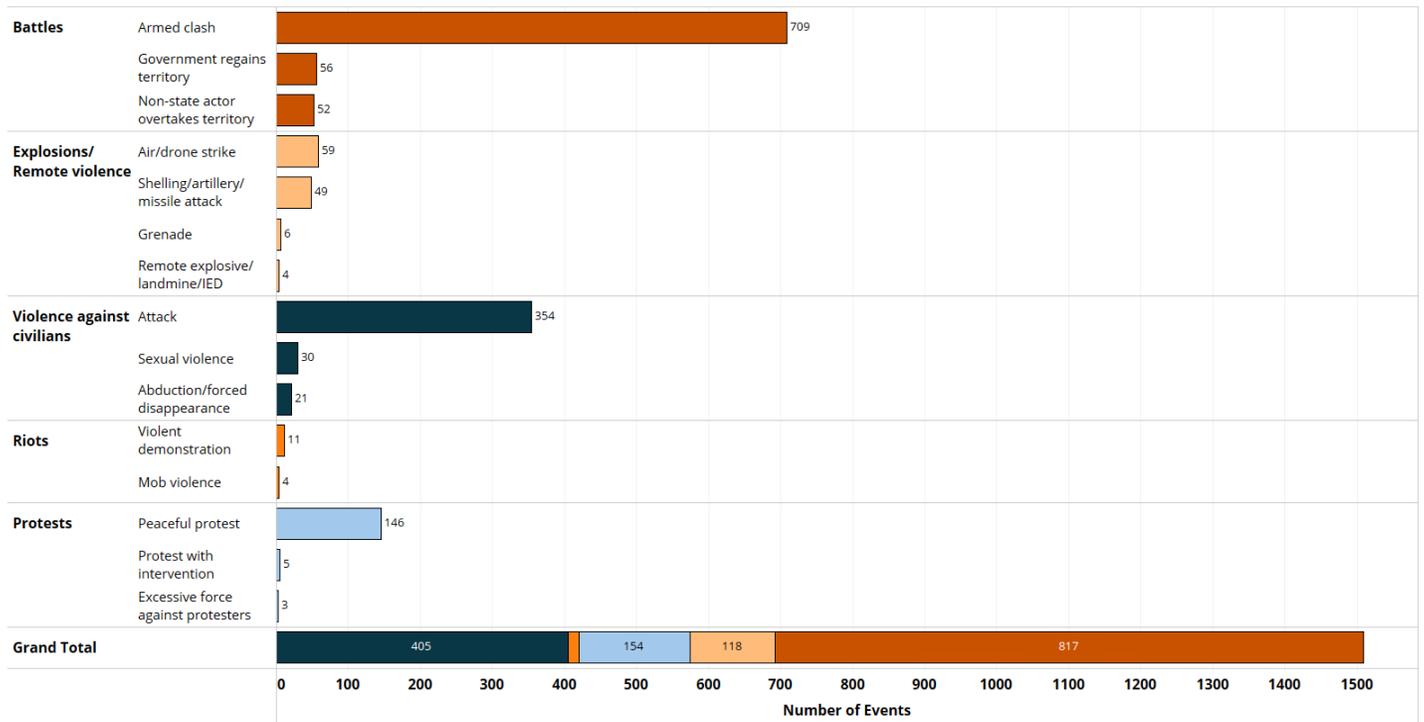
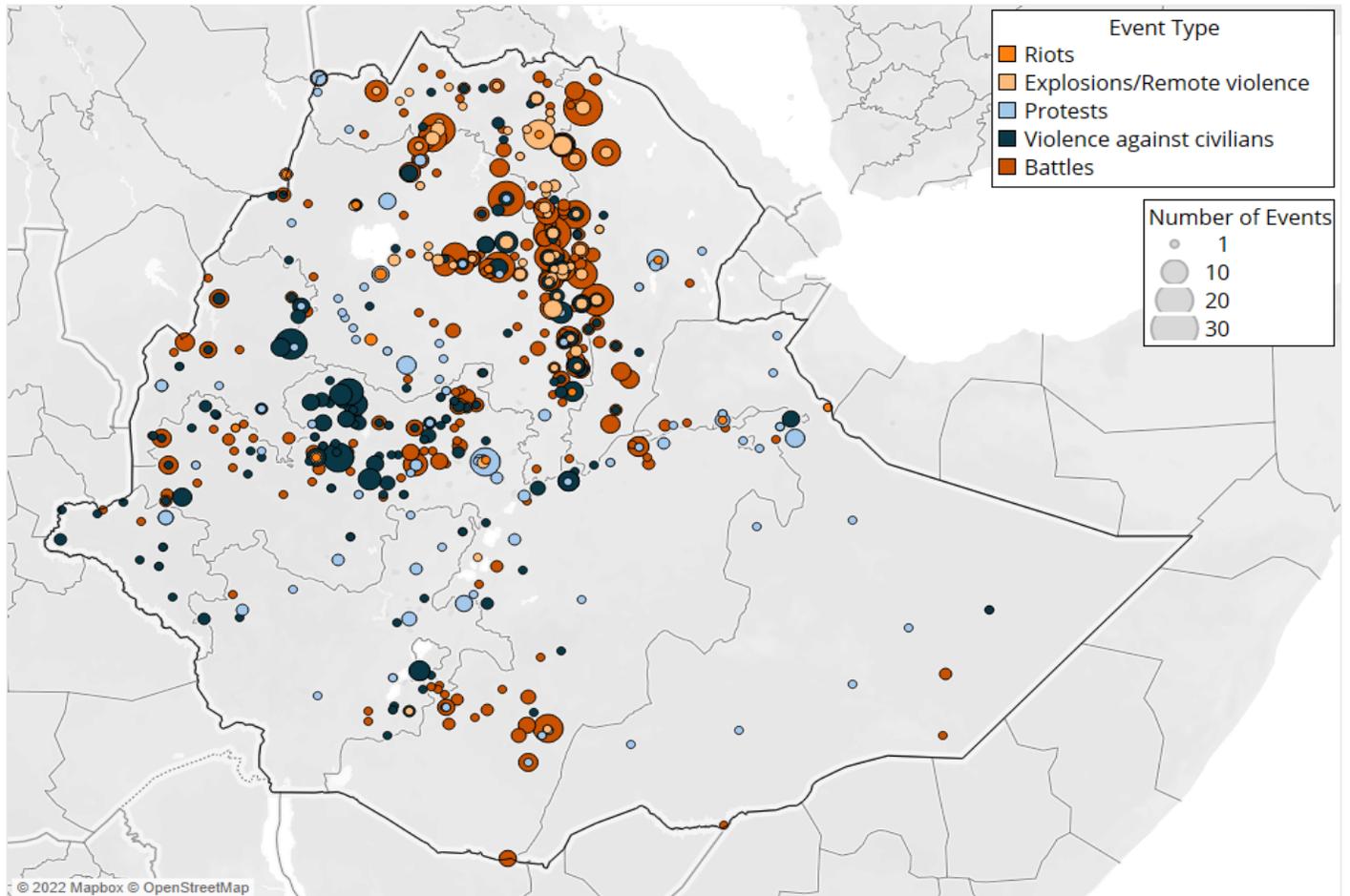


Figure 2. Political Disorder in Ethiopia (1 April 2021—1 April 2022)



Prior to the general elections in June and September 2021, the EPO team conducted detailed research covering the electoral process and potential outbreaks of violence related to the elections. During the elections period, a special section was added to each report to provide up-to-date information on the latest news regarding the elections. Demonstrations throughout the country, particularly in Amhara region and in the capital Addis Ababa, were recorded and analyzed in both weekly and monthly reports.

Over the past year, the regions with the most political violence events were Amhara, Oromia, and Afar. Amhara and Oromia regions, as well as Addis Ababa, also registered the highest number of demonstration events. Violence against civilians, the second most common event type after battles, was also frequent, with 175, 146, and 46 events recorded in Oromia, Amhara, and Afar respectively. The TPLF was involved in most events (monadic analysis), followed by the ENDF.

Overall, the EPO published 50 weekly reports in English and Amharic, 10 monthly reports in English and Amharic, and three special reports in English.

There are many political challenges facing Ethiopia in 2022, and the EPO will continue to improve real-time data collection efforts in low-information conflict contexts and offer deeper analysis through weekly and monthly updates on political disorder across the country. As in the project's first year, new monthly reports will delve deeper into political violence trends that are likely to affect the future of the country.

We thank you for your support over the past year and look forward to continuing to provide high-quality data and analysis on political disorder trends that will bring clarity to the ongoing crisis in Ethiopia for the year to come.

