

Press Release

Global Initiative to Empower Eritrean Grassroots Movement (GI)

August 22, 2021

The Global Initiative to Empower Eritrean Grassroots Movement (GI) would like to express our sincere congratulations to the organizers of the First Global Yiakl convention and also to the organizers for the First face-to-face Workshop of the Eritrean Research Institute for Research Policy and Strategy (ERIPS) for staging successful convention and workshop that were held on July 31 to August 1, 2021 and on August 1, 2021 respectively.

We wish the newly elected leaders of Global Yiakl success in the important role they are going to play on behalf of the members of Yiakl movement world-wide.

Despite the several obstacles and roadblocks, it is noteworthy that the Yiakl movement has reached this successful milestone. We realize this is a result of the sustained hard work, dedication and stamina of the leaders who have earned our utmost respect.

As you may know GI was formed, as a temporary body, in February 2016, with the mission to facilitate the grassroots efforts for the establishment of local, regional and global Baitos for the purpose of electing Global Leaders using the bottom-up grassroots approach.

Representatives of GI had appeared in several social outlets, PalTalk, TV, and radio programs to urge Eritreans to form Baitos in their respective geographical areas, admittedly with limited success. In 2018 when Abiy and Isaias signed the secret agreement that threatened the sovereignty of Eritrea, the Yiakl movement that was born which resulted in the formation of several local Baitos that formed country-wide Baitos.

In light of the success of the Global Yiakl movement, we feel GI's mission is being accomplished even though there is much yet to be done. But we are confident that the mission we had undertaken is now in good hands under the Global Yiakl leadership.

We feel the best role we can play at this stage is to support and encourage Global Yiakl. We hope other groups and civic movements to support the Global Yiakl movement and its leadership.

GI urges all pro-democracy Eritreans who have not joined their local Yiakl Baitos and those who have not yet formed their local Baitos, to do so urgently. For Eritreans who live in countries that have not yet joined Global Yiakl, we strongly urge that you form local Baitos and elect your country-wide leaders who will join Global Yiakl. So far there are only 12 countries who have joined the Global Yiakl. We are sure

there are many Eritreans in many parts of the world who are eager to be part of a movement whose goal is to contribute to ending dictatorship in our country. It is time you join the Global Yiakl movement.

We would also like to encourage the leaders of the Global Yiakl to do their best to encourage Eritreans who have not yet formed their local and country-wide Baitos to do so and join the Global Yiakl without further delay.

Now, what needs to be done is to create a mechanism that will enable all justice-seeking Eritreans world-wide to participate in the election of Global Representatives who will represent Eritreans world-wide. We trust the new leadership of Global Yiakl will collaborate with others to establish a mechanism and form a commission that will take the lead to bring all the various stakeholders in the opposition camp to agree on an all-inclusive, democratic election process.

The ERIPS First Workshop that was held at a face-to-face meeting at the Catholic University in Washington DC with a Zoom access to those who couldn't attend the workshop in person was also an astounding success. It was very encouraging to see Eritrean scholars and professionals assembled together to discuss issues of primary relevance to the current situation in Eritrea. ERIPS aspires to prepare research-based studies and effective strategies to transform Eritrea to democracy and to ensure smooth transition while preparing blueprints and whitepaper policy documents for the accelerated development of the country. We urge Eritrean professionals and scholars to be members of ERIPS and contribute to its success.

Victory to Global Yiakl Movement!

Victory to the Eritrean People!

May our Martyrs be forever remembered!

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