



*Skriu for liv*

Hailemariam Desalegn  
Prime Minister of Ethiopia

Re: Eskinder Nega

Dear Prime Minister,  
I urge you to immediately and unconditionally release Eskinder Nega, an Ethiopian journalist and father of a young son, detained for peacefully expressing his opinion.

Eskinder Nega is serving an 18-year prison sentence for terrorism. He was charged in 2011 after giving speeches and writing articles criticising the government and supporting free speech. He is currently being held in Kaliti prison, Addis Ababa.

He has previously been harassed, arrested and prosecuted a number of times for his writing. Between 2006 and 2007, Eskinder and his wife Serkalem Fasil were tried for treason and other charges along with 129 other journalists, opposition politicians and activists. Serkalem gave birth to their son, Nafkot, while she was in prison.

I consider Eskinder Nega to be a prisoner of conscience and believe he was arrested, prosecuted and convicted solely because of his peaceful and legitimate activities as a journalist. I call for his immediate and unconditional release.

I also ask you to ensure the authorities stop using criminal proceedings to silence their critics and end other forms of harassment against journalists, human rights activists and other members of civil society.

Yours sincerely,

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Signature

**AMNESTY**  
INTERNATIONAL

