



CENTRAL
INTELLIGENCE
AGENCY

[Report Threats](#)
[ر عربي](#)
[Contact](#)

عربي 中文 English Français Русский Español More

[HOME](#)
[ABOUT CIA](#)
[CAREERS & INTERNSHIPS](#)
[OFFICES OF CIA](#)
[NEWS & INFORMATION](#)
[LIBRARY](#)
[KIDS' ZONE](#)

Library

Library

Home Library Publications **The World Factbook**

Publications

The World Factbook

World Leaders

CIA Maps

Historical Collection Publications

Additional Publications

Center for the Study of Intelligence

Freedom of Information Act Electronic Reading Room

Kent Center Occasional Papers

Intelligence Literature: Suggested Reading List

Reports

Video Center

Related Links

THE WORLD FACTBOOK

Please select a country to view



ABOUT

REFERENCES

APPENDICES

FAQs

CONTACT

[VIEW TEXT/LOW BANDWIDTH VERSION](#)
[DOWNLOAD PUBLICATION](#)

AFRICA :: **ERITREA**



PAGE LAST UPDATED ON JANUARY 7, 2014



VIEW 2 PHOTOS OF ERITREA

EXPAND ALL

Introduction :: **ERITREA**

Background:



The UN established Eritrea as an autonomous region within the Ethiopian federation in 1952. Ethiopia's full annexation of Eritrea as a province 10 years later sparked a violent 30-year struggle for independence that ended in 1991 with Eritrean rebels defeating government forces. Eritreans overwhelmingly approved independence in a 1993 referendum. ISAIAS Afworki has been Eritrea's only president since independence; his rule, particularly since 2001, has been highly autocratic and repressive. His government has created a highly militarized society by pursuing an unpopular program of mandatory conscription into national service, sometimes of indefinite length. A two-and-a-half-year border war with Ethiopia that erupted in 1998 ended under UN auspices in December 2000. The Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission (EEBC) created in April 2003 was tasked "to delimit and demarcate the colonial treaty border based on pertinent colonial treaties (1900, 1902, and 1908) and applicable international law." Eritrea for several years hosted a UN peacekeeping operation that monitored a 25 km-wide Temporary Security Zone. The EEBC on 30 November 2007 remotely demarcated the border, assigning the town of Badme to Eritrea, despite Ethiopia's maintaining forces there from the time of the 1998-2000 war. An increasingly hostile Eritrea insisted that the UN terminate its peacekeeping mission on 31 July 2008. Eritrea has accepted the EEBC's "virtual demarcation" decision and repeatedly called on Ethiopia to remove its troops. Ethiopia has not accepted the demarcation decision, and neither party has entered into meaningful dialogue to resolve the impasse. Eritrea is subject to several UN Security Council Resolutions (from 2009, 2011, and 2012) imposing various military and economic sanctions, in view of evidence that it has supported armed opposition groups in the region.

Geography :: **ERITREA**

People and Society :: **ERITREA**

Government :: **ERITREA**

GO TOP



About CIA

- Today's CIA
- Leadership
- CIA Vision, Mission & Values
- Headquarters Tour
- CIA Museum
- History of the CIA
- FAQs
- NoFEAR Act
- Site Policies

Careers & Internships

- Career Opportunities
- Student Opportunities
- Application Process
- Life at CIA
- Diversity
- Military Transition
- Diversions & Information
- FAQs

News & Information

- Press Releases & Statements
- Speeches & Testimony
- CIA & the War on Terrorism
- Featured Story Archive
- What's New Archive
- Your News

Kids' Zone

- K-5th Grade
- 6-12th Grade
- Parents & Teachers
- Games
- Related Links
- Privacy Statement

Offices of CIA

- Intelligence & Analysis
- Clandestine Service
- Science & Technology
- Support to Mission
- Human Resources
- Public Affairs
- General Counsel
- Equal Employment Opportunity
- Congressional Affairs
- Inspector General
- Military Affairs

Library

- Publications
- Center for the Study of Intelligence
- Freedom of Information Act Electronic Reading Room
- Kent Center Occasional Papers
- Intelligence Literature
- Reports
- Related Links
- Video Center

Connect with CIA

* Required plugins [Adobe® Reader®]



GO TOP