

Complaint No. 414/2010 (*N.T.W. v. Switzerland*)

Complaint No. 414/2010 (*N.T.W. v. Switzerland*) concerned a national of Ethiopia, residing in Switzerland, who claimed that his forced return to Ethiopia would constitute a violation by Switzerland of article 3 of the Convention. The complainant alleged that during the electoral campaign in 2005 he had become interested in politics, had joined the supporters of the KINIJIT/CUDP party and had actively campaigned for the candidates of that party. After the elections the government party began a crackdown on the opposition party, and several members of the opposition were killed. The complainant alleged that he was warned by a friend, who had connections with the governing party, that he was a target and that the police were looking for him. He left Ethiopia and applied for asylum in Switzerland. He alleged that he would be arrested and tortured if returned to Ethiopia because of his past political involvement and because he continued to be politically active in Switzerland. The Committee observed that the complainant had not submitted any evidence that the police or other authorities in Ethiopia had been looking for him since he left the country, that he had never been arrested or ill-treated by the authorities during or after the 2005 election, nor did he claim that any charges had been brought against him under the anti-terrorist or any other domestic law. The Committee further noted the complainant's submission that the Ethiopian authorities used sophisticated technological means to monitor Ethiopian dissidents abroad, but observed that he had not elaborated on that claim or presented any evidence to support it. In the Committee's view, the complainant had failed to adduce sufficient evidence about the conduct of any political activity of such significance that would attract the interest of the Ethiopian authorities. Accordingly, the Committee concluded that the decision of the State party to return the complainant to Ethiopia would not constitute a breach of article 3 of the Convention.