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Founder, Council of Gandhian Studies

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Human Rights Council
50th session. Item 4
Oral update on Ethiopia
Geneva, 30th of June 2022

Dear Human Beings,
Mister President,
Dear Experts,
Dear delegation of Ethiopia and all concerned stakeholders,
Excellency's,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Greetings of peace in progress,

At the Human Rights Council, we are talking about people. We are talking about well-being. We are – I am or some of us are – talking about solving conflicts without resorting to violence. If need be, we are talking about the right to life, universal life.

Solving conflicts peacefully is always about bringing the people and their institutions, not only to peace itself, but also to a better state of living than the situation that created – and allowed! – that conflict. Peace and development are deeply interlinked, and so is the development of peace part of development.

To warring countries and parties – sadly as long as they are some – and as it happens hereby, to a Nobel peace prize recipient, we peacefully ask:

What are you doing to preserve each and every life? Are you using non-lethal weapons? Do you have permanent dialogue spaces to assure that those that want peace can reach you? Do you create peace *and safe* zones, as provided for by humanitarian law¹? And finally, will you integrate prevention programs and mediation infrastructures in your policies, locally and internationally, now and in the future?

For the sake of peace and quality of life for all, we thank you for your heartfelt and humane results.

Muchas Gracias senior Presidente.

¹ Geneva convention IV, article 15 ; Additionnal Protocol I, articles 48 to 62.