NOAS expresses concern over Ethiopian asylum seekers being returned to Ethiopia after contact with Ethiopian intelligence at Norwegian detention centre

The NGO NOAS expressed concern that several Ethiopian asylum seekers were returned to Ethiopia after being presented, in some cases forcibly, to an Ethiopian delegation at the Immigration Detention Centre at Trandum, which Norwegian authorities reportedly knew included representatives of the Ethiopian intelligence service. NOAS argued that this gave the Ethiopian intelligence service access to asylum seekers on Norwegian territory without adequate Norwegian oversight.

The organisation highlighted the case of Nagga Hailemichael, who was forcibly returned to Ethiopia and later reported being abducted and mistreated before fleeing to Kenya. Evidence presented in court indicated that Ethiopian intelligence representatives had found him at the same time and place where he reported being abducted. NOAS argued that these circumstances should have been considered when assessing the risk he faced upon a return. It called for an investigation, an immediate end to the current delegation arrangements with Ethiopia, and measures to allow Nagga to return to Norway.

Source(s)

- Norwegian Organisation for Asylum Seekers | Norsk organisasjon for asylsøkere (25 September, 2026), NOAS frykter at etiopiske asylsøkere har blitt sendt tilbake til forfølgelse i Etiopia etter tvungen fremstilling for etiopisk etterretning på Utlendingsinternatet på Trandum [NOAS fears that Ethiopian asylum seekers have been sent back to persecution in Ethiopia after being forcibly presented to Ethiopian intelligence at the Immigration Detention Centre at Trandum], https://www.noas.no/noas-frykter-at-etiopiske-asylsokere-har-blitt-sendt-tilbake-til-forfolgelse-i-etiopia-etter-tvungen-fremstilling-for-etiopisk-etterretning-pa-utlendingsinternatet-pa-trandum/

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