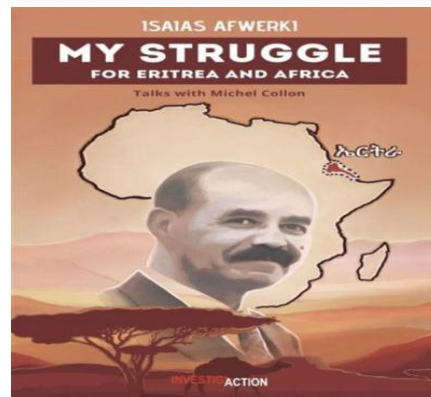


## Eritrea's challenges and responses



Michel Collon wrote in the introduction to his book of interviews with Eritrean President Isaias Afwerki:

“As soon as it was liberated, Eritrea was put under pressure by the World Bank: “We will write your economic programme. Otherwise...” And since that threat, for refusing to submit to Western multinationals, Eritrea has been subjected to every possible form of aggression...

- **Economic war:** The West has imposed heavy “sanctions” on Eritrea, a misleading word to disguise the real sabotage of this over independent economy.
- **Political war:** The formation of a coalition of neo-colonial powers to isolate the Eritrean state and impose a change of regime.
- **Military war:** The United States organised a new “proxy” war from 1998 to 2000, using and over-arming Meles Zenawi’s regime.
- **Migration war:** The CIA used social networks to lure Eritrean youth into the nets of the mafias trafficking in “refugees”.
- **Media warfare:** By carefully concealing the interest of Western multinationals, all kinds of stories and fake news have been demonising the Eritrean government for many years.

Eritrea has resisted all these attacks. All good reasons to take an interest

**Why** are the United States and Europe so aggressive?

**How** is small country tackling the multiple challenges of development, drought, food, sovereignty, climate change?

**How** is it prioritising basic needs: healthcare, education, equality, harmony between populations and religions?

**What** proposal does it have for bringing together the countries of the region – Somalia, Sudan, Ethiopia, Djibouti, Egypt, Kenya – and encouraging them to cooperate, since USA is constantly trying to divide and weaken them?

**What** lessons can be drawn for the entire African continent, which is seeking to build a dignified and prosperous future for its children?



Michel Collon

That's what I had a chance to talk to President Isaias Afwerki about, at the of 2023. We absolutely must listen to him. Then we'll *know* whether Eritrea is a "rotten apple" that needs to be removed to protect the rest of the basket, or on the contrary, a beneficial inspiration for an independent and free Africa in a better world?

You be the judge."