

A DECADE TRANSFORMED REVIVAL OF TURKEY AND SOMALIA'S MULTILAYER RELATIONS

Edited by **Mehmet Köse**

Turkey's humanitarian intervention operations to lessen the effect of the humanitarian crisis that hit Somalia hard in 2011, had a dramatic impact on the development of Turkey-Somalia relations. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan's visit, then the Prime Minister of Turkey, to Somali Capital Mogadishu with a large delegation, has transformed the relations from limited fields such as security operations and political engagements under the umbrella of multilateral institutions to intertwined multifaceted and multi-layered relations embracing state building, development, and improvement of economic infrastructure. Bilateral relations have made significant positive contributions to the reconstruction process of Somalia over the past decade. The relations with Somalia have been an important milestone in Turkey's Africa opening policies. This book is a collection of chapters assessing the growing relationship between Turkey and Somalia in diverse sectors and fields such as history, politics, security, peacebuilding, economy, development, society and culture.

The multi-level and multi-sector relationship between Somalia and Turkey has matured for the last decade. Experts have examined the different aspects of the relationship. This is a timely contribution to the literature. Moreover, this is a must-read book for policymakers and researchers interested in Somalia-Turkey relations.

-Afyare Abdi Elmi, Professor of International Politics

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A Decade Transformed

Revival of Turkey and Somalia's Multilayer Relations

Edited By **Mehmet Köse**

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A DECADE TRANSFORMED

Revival of Turkey and Somalia's
Multilayer Relations

EDITED BY
MEHMET KÖSE



Africa Foundation

Africa Foundation is a non-profit organization launched in Ankara in 2015. The Foundation has two main primary objectives, the first of which is that it offers specialized educational programs on Africa and provides an in-depth knowledge on the continent. Second, it promotes research on the socio-economic, political and cultural relations between Turkey and Africa. Thus, the Foundation undertakes a range of educational and research projects on the continent in such areas as politics, security, diplomacy, economy and human development. It conducts roundtable discussions, seminars, and workshops and promotes procedural, pragmatic and prudent policies on African Affairs. The research institute publishes reports and policy briefs on the continent.

Africa Foundation scrutinizes decision-making mechanisms, identifies key challenges, and provides practical solutions and policy recommendations to decision-makers and stakeholders on Turkey-Africa relations.

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PREFACE

Mehmet Köse

Last time Somalia came to the attention of the Turkish public was with the service of the Turkish brigade under the United Nations (UN) Peacekeeping Force in 1992. The Turkish soldiers served in Mogadishu for two years and left the country in 1995 after the US-led international force and then the UN Peacekeeping Force failed to maintain security in Somalia. There was a long period of disengagement until the naval task force was sent to the region in 2009, within the framework of the UN Security Council resolution, against the piracy threatening international trade, in the Gulf of Aden.

The efforts to ensure stability in Somalia and the establishment of transitional governments in the 2000s brought about the initiatives of Somalia to establish its international relations again. In this period, with its economic development and its increasing presence in the international arena, Turkey became one of the major countries that the Somali Transitional Government of Somalia has established relations with. Turkey hosted UN-led Istanbul Conference on Somalia in 2010. Turkey and Somalia reached bilateral agreements at the margins of Istanbul Conference. These were pioneering indicators of Turkey-Somali relations.

In 2011, Turkey's humanitarian intervention operations, to lessen the effect of the humanitarian crisis that hit Somalia hard, had a dramatic impact on the development of Turkey-Somalia

relationship. Recep Tayyip Erdogan's visit, then the Prime Minister of Turkey, to Somali Capital Mogadishu with a large delegation, has transformed the relations from limited fields such as security operations and political engagements under the umbrella of multilateral institutions to intertwined multifaceted and multi-layered relations.

Africa Foundation organized an academic symposium on 19-20 August 2021 in Ankara to discuss about ten years of Turkey-Somalia relations (between 2011-2021) and its impact on both Somali and Turkish people. The experts reflected on how this decade of engagement affected different sectors as well as societal, political, and economic relations of two countries. As a result, 20 papers were presented in 6 sessions under different topics such as political relations, security, economy, development, health, social relations, and culture in the symposium. This book in your hand covers most of the papers presented in this symposium.

The first part of the book, titled "History, Politics, Security and Peacebuilding" has 6 articles. The authors of the chapters in the section discuss the historical perspective and multilayered dimension of Turkey-Somali relations, the rebuilding the security sector which is critical component of reconstructing state and order, the relationship between Somalia and the perception of Turkey in Somaliland, the role of Turkish and Somali non-governmental organizations in peacebuilding and the perspectives of the Somali women in Turkey's peacebuilding activities.

There are 5 articles in the second chapter, under the title of "Economy and Development". Issues are discussed in this chapter are emerging trends in the trade relations between Turkey and Somalia, the role of growing Somali business diaspora in Turkey on trade relations, the role of Turkey in reviving Somalia's health system, academic profile, training experiences and career pathways of

graduates of Somalia Mogadishu Recep Tayyip Erdoğan Vocational School and the impact of human capital development programs in Somalia. Chapter three presents four articles under the title of “Society and Culture.” Cultural diplomacy and diaspora mobility: narratives and reflections from the Somali diaspora in Istanbul on Turkey-Somalia relations, Somali diaspora-Turkish relationships: changing Somali diaspora perspectives on Turkey, understanding the rising popularity of Turkish drama among the Somali youth and learning Turkish language: perceptions of the Somali students are the articles presented in this chapter.

The contributors of this edited volume assess the growing relationship of Turkey and Somalia in diverse sectors and fields with articles based on qualitative and quantitative research. Economy, security, history, society, health, education, culture, social networks and many other topics are covered in this book. I would like to thank our scholars for their devoted and qualified research.

I would like to express my gratitude to Professor Afyare Elmi for his extensive support and mentoring throughout the research and symposium. The support given by Heritage Institute and its director Prof. Afyare Elmi is beyond description. I would like to express our gratitude to the Academic Committee and Organizing Committee of the Symposium for their contribution to the program. Special thanks go to our dedicated students of the Africa Academy and the coordinators and assistants at Africa Foundation. City University of Mogadishu, Istanbul Commerce University, Lokman Hekim University and Social Sciences University of Ankara did not spare their support. Of course, we owe the implementation of the symposium to the support of Ziraat Participation Bank, Albayrak, Favori, Decale Hotel, Medical Park and Lokman Hekim Hospital.

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ABBREVIATIONS

AFRICOM	United States Africa Command
AK Party	Justice and Development Party
AMISOM	African Union Mission in Somalia
AMTB	Attitude/Motivation Test Battery
AU	African Union
CDP	Center for Peace and Democracy
COGWO	Coalition for Grassroots Women Organization
COSONGO	Somaliland NGOs Association
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
CT Scan	Computerised Tomography Scan
DAD	East African Association for Research and Development
DIJHRO	Ismail Jumale Center for Human Rights
DP World	Dubai Port World
EU	European Union
FGS	Federal Government of Somalia

FMSs	Federal Member States
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GHS	Global Health Security
GRRN	Golweyne Relief and Rehabilitation
ICG	International Crisis Group
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
IFEDA	Iftin Education Education and Development Foundation
IHH	Humanitarian Relief Foundation
IHRO	Isha Human Rights Organization
IIDA	Women's Development Organization
INGOs	International Non-Governmental Organizations
IP Address	Internet Protocol Address
ISIS/Daesh	Islamic State of Iraq and Syria
JAD	Jubaland Development Organization
KISIMA	Kisima Peace and Development Organization
MBC	Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NCO	Non-commissioned Officer
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
OECD	Observatory of Economic Complexity

OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OIC	Organization of Islamic Cooperation
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
PASOS	Peace Movement Society for Somalia
PKK	Kurdistan Workers' Party
SAA	Somali Action Alliance
SAF	Somali Relief Foundation
SDD	Strategic Depth Doctrine
SNA	Somalia National Army
SNM	Somali National Movement
SOYDA	Somali Young Doctors Association
SSA	Sub-Saharan Africa
SSDF	Somali Liberation Democratic Front
SSR	Security Sector Reform
SSWC	Somali Women and Children's Protection Organization
SYL	Somali Youth League
SYPD	Sustainable Peace and Development Building Initiative
TASCO	Taakulo Somali Society
TASS	Tadamun Social Society

TFG	Transitional Federal Government
TIKA	Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency
TURKSOM	Somalia Turkish Task Force Command (Turkish: <i>Somali Türk Görev Kuvveti Komutanlığı</i>)
UAE	United Arab Emirates
UCID	Justice and Welfare Party (Somali: Ururka Caddaalada iyo Daryeelka)
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNOSOM	United Nations Operation on Somalia
UNSC	United Nations Security Council
US	United States
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USC	United Somali Congress
USD	United States dollar
WHO	World Health Organization

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