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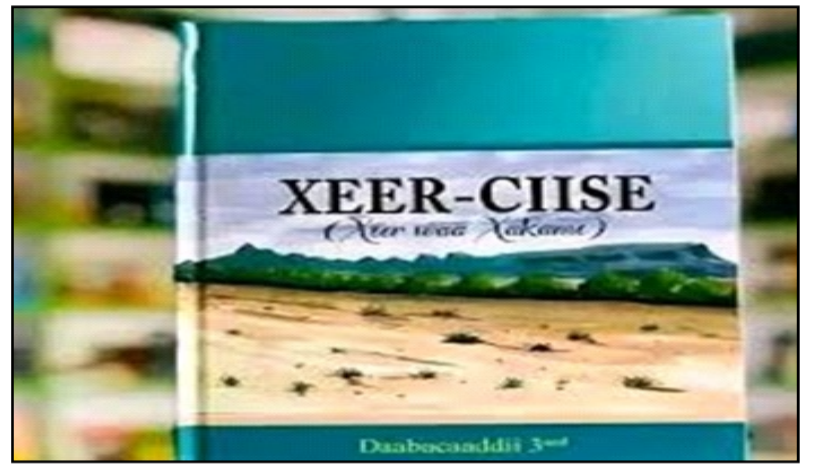
President Abdirahman Irro halts 'Xeer Ciise' tenets event, appeals for peace and stability

The President ordered security to be vigilant and prevent further violence, while urging citizens to remain calm



By M.A. Egge
The President of the Republic of Somaliland, Abdirahmaan Mohamed Abdillaahi (Cirro), on Saturday suspended the 'Xeer Ciise' (the Isse customary tenets) book presentation event following the Friday skirmishes event in Borama that resulted in fatalities and injuries; as a section of the

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Former Presidents Riyale and Bihi Call for Immediate End to Awdal-Salal Tensions



Mohamoud Walaaleye
Two former presidents of the Republic of Somaliland, H.E. Dahir Riyale Kahin (3rd President) and H.E. Muse Bihi Abdi (5th President), have jointly called

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COMMUNIQUE OF THE NATIONAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE OF SOMALILAND



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Somaliland Parliament Suspends 'Xeer Ciise' Book Launch, Urges Immediate End to Violence in Awdal and Seel Regions



By M.A. Egge
The House of Representatives of the Republic of Somaliland has issued an urgent resolution ordering the immediate suspension of a controversial book launch event centered on the "Xeer Ciise" customary tenets, citing it as

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Somaliland's Long Walk to the World Stage: The Moment "When" Finally Becomes "Now"



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The Government of the Republic of Somaliland Condemns Destabilizing Actions by the Federal Government of Somalia



The Government of Republic of Somaliland strongly condemns the continued interference and deliberate destabilizing actions carried out by the Federal Government of Somalia in relation to the violent incidents that occurred today in Borama, Awdal Region.

These actions are calculated, coordinated, and clearly designed to inflame tensions, spread disinformation, and deepen divisions within the peaceful and cohesive communities of Somaliland. Such conduct constitutes a grave violation of

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Capital FM: Somaliland-US Dialogue Strengthens Investor Confidence



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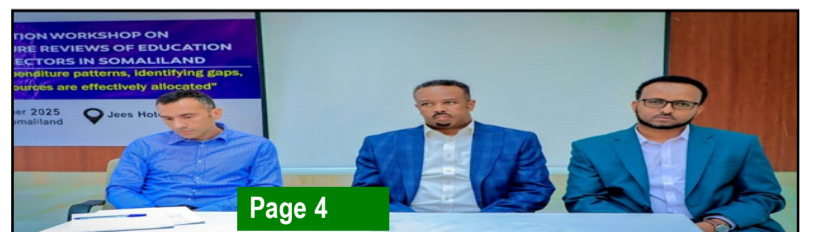
Somaliland Diaspora to Washington: Punish the Guilty – Don't Tar Us All with Somalia's Brush



Mohamoud Walaaleye
President Donald Trump stunned the nation Tuesday by declaring Minnesota's Somali community "garbage" that has "destroyed our country," vowing to strip Temporary Protected Status

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Somaliland Launches Major Budget Review to Boost Health, Education, Water and Sanitation Services



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President Abdirahman Irro opens National Conference on Justice Sector Reform

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President Abdirahman Irro halts.....



"I support and reaffirm the peace process initiated by Somaliland's traditional leaders, who have immediately stepped forward to mediate between the brotherly communities of Awdal and Selel. Let the security forces protect all citizens, and let us collectively correct whatever has gone wrong. I am confident that our nation will resolve its differences peacefully", he said.

In his closing remarks, the President encouraged Somalilanders to calm tensions, safeguard peace, and unite around the national interest.

"Brothers and sisters, let us remain calm, uphold peace, and work for the common good.

"Stability must be protected, for the lives and wellbeing of our people are more valuable than anything else", he ended his address.

The President had earlier on Friday evening made a passionate appeal for calmness and the upholding of peaceful stability.

He likewise condoled the families who lost loved ones in the skirmishes that was ignited by the rejection of the launch of the 'Xeer Ciise' customary tenets in the said regions.

So far, in related event, a large section of Somaliland traditional leaders and the members of the clergy had reached Borama to help bring calmness and peaceful stability following the chaos.

They were seen walking along several streets of Borama city as they ushered calmness that had returned at noon on Saturday.

Somaliland parliament had also moved swiftly to suspend the event on Saturday in their first seating of the new session.

community were violent against the function.

In an address to the nation, the President urged the people of Somaliland particularly the communities of Awdal Region and Borama city to remain calm, maintain peace, and uphold social unity.

He emphasized that he is ready to take any steps necessary to protect civilian lives, preserve public safety, and safeguard the national interest of Somaliland.

The President stated, "To all the people of Somaliland, especially those in Awdal Region and Borama, I call for peace, stability and social cohesion".

He continued, "As President, I am prepared to do whatever is required to protect the lives of my people, to support any consensus reached by the community, and to act in the best interest of the Republic of Somaliland."

The Head of State explained that he suspended the 'Xeer Ciise' event purely out of concern for the

public interest and the sentiments of the community.

"Today, as President, I halted the 'Xeer Ciise' commemoration, placing the national interest and the concerns of our citizens first.

We are attentive to anything that touches the common good, and we will not allow harm or conflict to affect the peaceful coexistence of the people of Somaliland", he underpinned.

The President ordered security forces to strengthen public safety to prevent any further unrest, and called on citizens to remain calm and prioritize peace.

"I instruct all branches of the security forces to reinforce security and ensure no further harm occurs.

I also urge the public to restrain their emotions. Above all, the lives of our people are my highest priority", he stated.

The President also expressed strong support for the peace initiative launched by Somaliland's traditional leaders to ease tensions between the communities of Awdal and Selel.

Somaliland Parliament Suspends 'Xeer....



the primary trigger of recent security disturbances in the Awdal and Selel regions.

In its first sitting of the 13th session held on Saturday, the parliament declared that "security is the foundation of everything" and that any activity undermining peace must be halted without delay.

Key points of the resolution include:

- Immediate cancellation of the planned "Xeer Ciise" book launch ceremony, which lawmakers said directly contributed to the outbreak of unrest.
- A call for President Abdirahman Mohamed Abdullahi Irro to accelerate the national peace platform already established between the two affected brotherly communities so they can resolve their differences through dialogue.
- An outright ban on all demonstrations and acts of violence in the affected areas.

- A directive to the government to restore and maintain comprehensive security across Awdal and Selel regions.
- A requirement for the government to provide urgent humanitarian assistance to civilians and security personnel injured during the clashes.
- An appeal to Somaliland's traditional elders and religious scholars to actively participate in efforts to restore calm and stability.

The resolution comes amid escalating tensions in parts of Awdal and Selel regions over the past week, where protests linked to the book's presentation, rejected by a section of the regional communities turned violent, reportedly leaving civilians and security personnel deaths and injuries.

Parliamentarians emphasized that lasting peace can only be achieved through inclusive dialogue and strict adherence to the rule of law, urging all parties to prioritize the higher interests of the nation.

Former Presidents Riyale and Bihi Call.....

for an immediate end to escalating tensions between communities in Awdal region and the neighboring Salal region.

Speaking from the United Arab Emirates, where both leaders are currently staying, the ex-presidents revealed that they held direct talks with the incumbent President of Somaliland H.E. Abdirahman Irro regarding the crisis in Awdal. They confirmed that the president has agreed to review and reverse controversial decisions that sparked the unrest.

Former President H.E. Dahir Riyale Kahin specifically appealed to the youth of Awdal to halt all forms of violence and heed the guidance of their traditional elders and intellectuals.

"I am appealing to the youth of Awdal to stop the violence and listen to their elders," Riyale said in a statement. The elders said they have also contacted the paramount Sultan of the (Ciise) clan to help reinforce brotherhood and reconciliation between the sister communities of Awdal and Salal.



Meanwhile, former President H.E. Muse Bihi Abdi urged Awdal residents to welcome the Peace delegation currently in the region, reminding them of the long tradition of mutual respect shown to Awdal delegations across Somaliland.

"People of Awdal, your peace delegations have been heard and respected many times before.

Today, it is time to listen to the Peace delegation," Muse Bihi stated, emphasizing the need for wisdom and peace.

Local sources say the intervention by the two influential former heads of state has been warmly received by many in Awdal, with hopes that it will lead to a swift de-escalation and the restoration of calm in the region.

The Government of the Republic.....



international norms and the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of sovereign states. The Republic of Somaliland will not tolerate externally orchestrated attempts to undermine public order, weaken national unity, or incite violence against its citizens. Our security institutions remain fully committed to protecting civilians, restoring calm, and upholding the rule of law with utmost professionalism and restraint.

The government of Somaliland deeply regrets the loss of civilian lives during the recent unrest. The relevant institutions are working to commission an inquiry to establish the facts surrounding these tragic events. His Excellency, the President has called for calm and patience, reaffirming the government will continue to engage with community leaders, civil

society, and all relevant stakeholders to ensure stability, accountability and peaceful resolution.

The Ministry calls upon regional organizations, the African Union, the United Nations, and all responsible members of the international community to unequivocally reject and condemn these provocative and destabilizing actions by the Federal Government of Somalia, and to respect the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and hard-won peace of the Republic of Somaliland.

Somaliland's stability and democratic achievements are irreversible. No external interference will succeed in reversing the progress our people have made over the past three decades.

Somaliland Diaspora to Washington:.....



from hundreds of residents and unleash ICE raids on the state's largest immigrant enclave. The explosive remarks, delivered during a Cabinet meeting, reignited a two-year-old \$1 billion welfare-fraud scandal and thrust a little-known geopolitical fault line into the heart of American politics: the bitter divide between Somalia and the overlooked reality of the Republic of Somaliland.

At the center of the storm is the "Feeding Our Future" case. Federal prosecutors say a Minneapolis-based nonprofit billed taxpayers for millions of nonexistent COVID-era meals for children, then laundered the money into luxury cars, lakefront homes, and wire transfers to Somalia — some of which, investigators allege, were taxed by the al-Qaeda-linked terror group al-Shabaab. Of the 78 people charged, 76 are of Somali origin; only two are non-Somali Americans. But a growing chorus of Somalilanders in the diaspora insists the numbers tell a deeper story.

In an exclusive interview with Alpha News, an anonymous Somaliland activist — speaking under protection for fear of reprisal — drew a razor-sharp distinction between her homeland and Somalia proper. "Somaliland is a country in the Horn of Africa... we have a distinct culture and a big difference from Somalia in the adherence to the rule of law," she said. "Look at the feeding scam: 76 are from Somalia, two are Americans. That shows the difference. Somalilanders believe in the rule of law. We thrive in countries like the USA."

She accused Somalia's government and its diaspora of mirroring a culture where "politicians treat corruption as a skill," citing viral footage of Somalia's Defense Minister whispering to inflate famine-aid appeals fivefold on camera. Ordinary citizens, she argued, simply emulate their leaders.

The activist reserved her harshest words for Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-Minn.), a Somalia native and one of Trump's favorite targets. "Ilhan Omar disregards 6.8 million Black, Muslim, democratic people in Somaliland," she charged. "She calls us 'Somali isku-sheeg' — those who falsely call themselves Somali. She preaches democracy and human rights but has never demanded accountability in Minnesota. To me, Ilhan Omar is a

fraud, and I hope justice is knocking on her door very soon."

Omar fired back Monday, flanked by Gov. Tim Walz, calling Trump's threats "bigoted rhetoric" meant to distract from inflation and border failures. She dismissed the planned revocation of TPS — which affects fewer than 500 Minnesotans — as legally toothless and warned that ICE "strike teams" risk sweeping up American citizens.

The scandal has also engulfed Walz's administration. More than 400 Minnesota Department of Human Services whistleblowers accuse his team of burying 2020 warnings about the fraud to avoid

"alienating the Somali community," a key Democratic voting bloc. House Oversight Chairman James Comer (R-Ky.) has subpoenaed records by December 17, while Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent opened a probe into whether state tax dollars indirectly funded al-Shabaab.

In a bizarre twist, the terror group itself released a propaganda video mocking Trump's deportation threat as proof of American weakness — language that eerily echoes Democratic talking points about xenophobia fueling radicalization.

As federal agents prepare to descend on Minneapolis neighborhoods, Somaliland voices are pleading with Washington: punish the guilty, but do not paint an entire diaspora with the same brush.

"We are American patriots," the activist told Alpha News. "This country gave us opportunity. Hold individuals accountable — not all Somalis."

Somaliland's Long Walk to.....



Mohamoud Walaaleye For thirty-four years, the Republic of Somaliland has been the best-kept secret in the Horn of Africa: a peaceful, democratic, functioning state that the world politely pretended not to see.

While its neighbor Somalia descended into three decades of chaos, Somaliland quietly built itself from the ashes. No foreign peacekeepers. No UN trust fund. Just its own people, their own money, and an iron determination to prove that statehood is earned, not gifted.

They held seven successful elections (one-person, one-vote, observed by international monitors), demobilized militias, printed their own currency, issued passports, built one of the most strategic ports on the planet, and kept the peace while the world looked the other way.

And now, after all the patience immortalized in the Somali proverb "Samraa sadkii hela" — patience reaps its reward — the tide is turning. Fast.

From "Never" to "Not If, But When"

Something changed in 2025. The phrase diplomats once whispered behind closed doors — "Somaliland recognition is a question of when, not if" — is no longer a polite fiction. It's a calendar item.

The United States has dramatically warmed. High-level AFRICOM delegations now land in Hargeisa instead of Mogadishu. Project 2025 documents openly float recognition as a way to counter Chinese expansion in Djibouti. Even the messy Minnesota feeding scandal — where millions meant for Somali-American children allegedly vanished toward extremist hands — has had the unintended effect of reminding Washington that betting everything on a fragile government in Mogadishu may no longer be the smart play.

Across the Atlantic, Britain — the former colonial power — is having second thoughts about its decades-long loyalty to the "one Somalia" policy. In Tel Aviv, defense planners at the Institute for National Security Studies published a November 2025 paper describing Somaliland as Israel's "most promising untapped partner" against Houthi missiles and Iranian proxies in the Red Sea.

Add the UAE's multi-billion-dollar investment in Berbera Port, Ethiopia's landlocked desperation for secure sea access, and Taiwan's quiet diplomatic flirtations, and suddenly Somaliland is not begging for a seat at the table — the table is being moved to Somaliland. **December 2025: The Month the World Says Yes?**

Capital FM: Somaliland-US.....



US delegation engages Horn of Africa businesses on trade, investment prospects

A high-level United States delegation has completed a week-long tour of Horn of Africa countries, holding meetings with government officials and business leaders to assess security, humanitarian conditions, and opportunities for trade along the Red Sea corridor. Led by U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM) Operations Commander Gen. Dagvin Anderson, the team also included U.S. Deputy Ambassador Justin Davis. Their mission focused on counter-terrorism cooperation, maritime security, and the stability needed to support investment and economic growth. Stops on the tour included Puntland, Ethiopia, Somaliland, and Somalia.

Gen. Anderson reiterated that U.S. engagements in Somaliland are aimed at strengthening institutions and supporting African-led responses to insecurity, which continues to disrupt trade routes and investment flows.

In Hargeisa, Somaliland, the delegation met members of the local business community to

discuss how private-sector players can contribute to peace and regional economic integration.

Among those consulted was Abdirashid Duale, CEO of Dahabshil Group, a major financial services provider operating across Africa, the Middle East, and the United States.

The discussions touched on the need for predictable policies, stronger commercial ties with international partners, and the role of stable financial systems in supporting regional trade.

Economists say the engagement signals growing interest in structured trade dialogue between Somaliland businesses and U.S. policymakers. They add that frameworks such as a dedicated trade task force or bilateral commercial agreements could help reduce barriers, improve market access, and outline clear rules for cross-border investment.

Such arrangements, they note, would provide much-needed certainty for companies operating in the Horn of Africa region, where security challenges often affect supply chains and investor confidence.

Whispers in Hargeisa are growing louder: December 2025 could be the month the first domino falls.

President Abdirahman Mohamed Abdullahi "Irro" has told the public earlier "sound of recognition" is already audible. Intelligence sources speak of closed-door meetings in Washington, London, Abu Dhabi, and Tel Aviv converging on the same timeline. Some even point to a possible surprise announcement from Israel — a move that would shatter the African Union's tired taboo on post-colonial border changes and trigger a recognition cascade.

Twenty countries, whether leaks or media speculations that surfaced in October, have quietly signaled readiness to follow the first mover.

The Country That Refused to Fail

This is not a story of charity or pity. It is the story of a people who refused to let their country die.

When the central government in Mogadishu collapsed in 1991, Somaliland's clans could have followed Somalia into the abyss. Instead, reclaimed their independence from the legally invalid union, elders locked themselves in conference halls for years, paid for peace with their own

cattle, and stitched a nation back together. While warlords fought over the south, Somaliland's women opened businesses, its youth went to university, and its ports welcomed ships from across the world.

They did all the homework. They just needed the world to mark the paper.

The Final Chapter?

After 34 years of building a state in plain sight, Somaliland stands on the edge of the moment every schoolchild in Hargeisa has dreamed of: the day a foreign leader steps to a podium and says, "We recognize the Republic of Somaliland."

When that happens — and the signs say it will happen soon — it won't just be a diplomatic footnote. It will be one of the most extraordinary underdog victories in modern history.

A people who were told "wait," who were told "impossible," who were told "you don't exist," are about to walk onto the world stage with their heads high, their flag flying, and their story finally, triumphantly, told.

Patience, after all, reaps its reward. And Somaliland's reward is almost here.

COMMUNIQUE OF THE.....



Mohamoud Walaaleye
Theme: "Building Trust, Strengthening Institutions, and Advancing Justice Throughout the Country"

The National Justice Conference of Somaliland was held in Hargeisa on 2-3 December 2025. The conference was launched by the President of the Republic of Somaliland H.E. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi Irro and attended by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Speakers and members of both houses of Parliament, members of the Cabinet, the Chairman of the WADDANI opposition party, and Sheikh Mohamed Omar Dirir.

A total of 310 participants attended, representing all justice sector institutions, including courts, the Judicial Commission, the Ministry of Justice, the Office of the Attorney General, the Solicitor General's Office, the Police Force, the Custodial Corps, the Law Reform Commission, the Human Rights Commission, lawyers and legal professional associations, civil society organizations, universities, religious scholars, traditional leaders, media, and former senior justice sector officials.

This was the first national justice conference of its kind to be held in 14 years. It demonstrated a renewed national commitment to strengthening the justice system, judicial independence, access to justice, accountability, and restoring public confidence in all justice institutions.

The conference thoroughly analysed the findings of the data collection, assessments, and consultations conducted by the National Justice Conference Preparatory Committee 2025 with justice sector stakeholders.

The Committee's report highlighted major challenges that have severely undermine the justice system and the delivery of justice services, including:

- Dysfunction and delays in the work of the Judicial Commission
- A broken case management system
- Outdated laws and procedures in urgent need of reform and the enactment of missing laws
- Widespread lack of coordination among justice institutions
- Inadequate training, welfare, and very low salaries for personnel

Extremely poor equipment and infrastructure

Complete absence of transparency and accountability mechanisms

These combined factors have weakened the efficiency and public service delivery of justice institutions, resulting in a sharp decline in public trust.

All participants unanimously agreed that Somaliland urgently needs to commence implementation of the Justice Sector Reform Plan and the Justice Reform Roadmap (2026-2029) that was debated and refined during the conference on 2-3 December 2025.

Accordingly, the National Justice Conference issued the following communiqué: -
RESOLUTIONS

Implementation of the Justice Sector Reform Plan (2026-2029): The Plan shall be recognized as the unified roadmap for all justice institutions, providing each institution with tailored reform objectives, measurable actions, and annual budgets.

Full operationalization of the Judicial Commission: The currently non-functional Judicial Commission shall be fully activated and provided with all necessary resources, technical support, personnel, and funding to enable it to perform its duties independently, particularly regarding judicial administration, financial autonomy, appointment, discipline, promotion, transfer, and performance evaluation of judges.

Establishment of Judicial Commission regional offices: Fully functional offices of the Judicial Commission shall be established in every region to receive complaints, register disciplinary cases, and monitor judges' conduct, and strengthen oversight and accountability.

Significant increase in salaries, benefits, and establishment of a pension system for judicial personnel (2026-2028).

Increase the number of Supreme Court justices to 13 to reduce case backlog, expedite appeals from regions outside Hargeisa, and create a strong bench capable of developing consistent national jurisprudence.

Selection and appointment of judicial leaders, Judicial

Commission members, and justice sector personnel must be merit-based and free from clan-, region-, or area-based quotas.

Modernization and digitization of case management across police, prosecution, courts, and prisons through an integrated digital system that tracks every case from arrest to final judgment.

Establishment of a National Justice Training Institute to provide continuous professional training for judges, prosecutors, police, custodial officers, lawyers, and support staff.

Creation of a unified, transparent public complaint and disciplinary mechanism for police, judges, prosecutors, lawyers, the Ministry of Justice, custodial services, and other justice actors.

Professionalization of police investigators and the Attorney General's Office, standardization of investigation procedures, and strengthening oversight.

Strict adherence to the law in arrest, investigation, and detention; the President shall direct the police and security agencies to respect all constitutional safeguards.

Major investment in infrastructure, equipment, IT, vehicles, and modern facilities for justice institutions.

Restoration of the Ministry of Justice's constitutional role in publishing Judicial Commission decisions on appointments, promotions, and disciplinary actions to enhance transparency. Mandatory annual performance reports by every justice institution and the holding an annual judicial conference, with a national justice conference every five years.

Enactment of clear legal procedures governing presidential pardons, defining the roles of the Attorney General, Ministry of Justice, and Custodial Corps to prevent unlawful or politicized releases.

The Ministry of Interior shall issue clear procedures for the execution of court judgments and orders.

Strengthening and expanding community dispute resolution centres (attached to police stations) to reduce the burden on formal courts and facilitate resolution of minor disputes.

Within three months, all relevant ministries and institutions shall submit five legislative packages for comprehensive law reform according to the following timeline:

**Package 1 (Mar-May 2026):
Judicial Independence & Justice Administration

Package 2 (May-Jul 2026):
Core Civil & Criminal Laws and Procedures

Package 3 (Aug-Dec 2026):
Laws on Children, Violence, and Family

Package 4 (Oct-Dec 2026):
Regulation of Legal Profession & Specialized Courts

Package 5 (Nov 2026-Sep 2027):
Custodial Corps and Medical Profession Laws

PART II – IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM To ensure the implementation of this communiqué and the recommendations of the 2025 National Justice Conference Preparatory Committee, every institution shall, within three months, submit:

- Formal endorsement of the objectives
- An institution-specific annual action plan starting 2026
- Budget requirements
- Staffing needs
- Training and infrastructure needs

CONCLUSION
The National Justice Conference reaffirms the commitment of the Republic of Somaliland to building an independent, efficient, modern justice system rooted in public trust.

The adoption of the Justice Reform Roadmap (2026-2029) marks a historic milestone in the reform of the judiciary and the justice sector as a whole.

The Government, justice institutions, civil society, and Somaliland's international partners pledge to work together to implement these reforms in order to deliver swift, impartial, transparent, effective, and equal justice for all.

We are fully committed to implementing all the decisions issued by the Justice Conference. END.

Hon. Yonis Ahmed Yonis-Minister of Justice
Republic of Somaliland.

Somaliland Launches Major.....



The Government of Somaliland has kicked off a high-level technical workshop to overhaul public spending on critical social services, with the aim of making health care, education, water supply, and sanitation more efficient, transparent, and accessible across the country. The three-day review session was officially opened yesterday by the Director General of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, Mr. Mohamed Hassan Saleban. Speaking at the opening, he stressed that the workshop is a key step in ensuring every shilling allocated to social services reaches the people who need it most.

"We are here to map every expenditure, whether it comes directly from the national budget or through our development partners," Mr. Saleban said. "Our citizens deserve to see real improvements in hospitals, schools, clean water points, and sanitation facilities, especially in rural districts."

The first day focused heavily on health and education spending,

where participants analyzed current funding levels, identified gaps, and examined historical trends. The remaining two days will shift attention to social welfare programs, water supply, and sanitation.

Senior officials from the Ministry of Finance's Budget Department, the Ministries of Health Development and Education, as well as technical experts from UNICEF, presented the latest data and proposed measures to increase efficiency and accountability.

A statement from the Ministry of Finance emphasized that the review is part of wider reforms to strengthen budget planning and ensure public funds deliver tangible results for Somaliland's citizens, regardless of region or district.

Participants expressed optimism that the outcomes of the workshop will lead to clearer funding pathways, reduced waste, and faster improvements in essential services in the coming fiscal year.

President Abdirahman Irro opens National Conference on Justice Sector Reform

Justice is the most essential pillar upon which a stable and resilient nation can be built upon.

By M.A. Egge

The sentiments were unequivocally expressed by the President of the Republic of Somaliland H.E. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi Irro as he opened the National Conference on Justice Sector Reform on Tuesday, whereupon he delivered a highly significant keynote speech.

The conference is a major two-day convention that brings together all the justice line stakeholders to chart the way forward in bolstering the sector and enhance the trust of the populace to the judiciary.

The President likewise pledged that resolutions from the summit would be adopted to make the goals of the sector most feasible.

A similar conference was last held a decade and a half ago hence has this time been convened by the justice ministry under the leadership of Minister Hon. Yonis Ahmed Yonis, in collaboration with international development partners including the United Nations (UNDP) and the European Union. Scheduled to run for two days, the conference is focused on establishing a justice system that is modern, independent, transparent, and fully responsive to the fundamental rights of Somaliland citizens.

Justice Is the Foundation of a Strong State

In his address, the Head of State emphasized that justice is the most essential pillar upon which a stable and resilient nation can be built. He noted that justice underpins the protection of citizens' rights, the fulfilment of national duties, and the smooth functioning of state institutions.

The President underscored that justice plays a decisive role in every aspect of society—from peace and stability to economic development and national unity.

He stated the fact that no nation can progress without a justice system that serves and reaches all citizens equally, without discrimination based on social status, clan identity, or economic background.

A Call for Independent, Expert-Led Reform

Highlighting the significance of the gathering, the President pointed out that, "This important conference brings together all stakeholders in the justice sector, as well as legal and judicial experts".

He continued, "Working independently, and guided by your knowledge and experience, you



have the responsibility to thoroughly analyze the system, strengthen what works, correct what has gone off-track, and introduce modalities of what is missing."

The President reaffirmed his constitutional responsibility to uphold the laws of the Republic of Somaliland, pledging that his administration will implement the recommendations and reforms emerging from the National

Conference on Justice Sector Reform.

Restoring Trust in Justice

To address grievances within the justice sector and restore public confidence in the courts, the President reiterated his administration's commitment to advancing justice and the rule of law across the country as per the national 'Government of Unity and Delivery' agenda.

Somaliland and Saudi Arabia Strengthen Ties with High-Level Talks on Investment and Strategic Cooperation



In a significant step toward deepening economic and strategic relations, Somaliland's Minister of Investment and Industry Development, Hon. Said Mohamed Burale, held high-level talks with Dr. Ibrahim Dhahi Adaahi, President of the International Center for Investment and Strategic Agreements of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, during the latter's official visit to the country.

The meeting, described by officials as highly productive, focused on expanding investment opportunities in Somaliland, enhancing bilateral investment cooperation between Somaliland and Saudi Arabia, and identifying strategic projects where the two nations can collaborate effectively.

Minister Burale was joined by Deputy Minister Eng. Mohamed Elmi Huuno, the Director General of the Ministry, senior departmental directors, and the Legal Advisor to the President of Somaliland.

Speaking after the discussions, Dr. Ibrahim Dhahi Adaahi revealed that his center has been actively studying Somaliland's investment landscape with the aim of facilitating modern, large-scale Saudi investments in key sectors."

We have been closely examining the abundant opportunities that exist in Somaliland. Our goal is to channel contemporary and sustainable investments that will benefit both our nations," Dr. Adaahi stated.

The visit concluded on a warm note with an honorary dinner hosted by the Chairman of the opposition Waddani Party, Hon. Hirsi Ali Haji Hassan. The event underscored the cross-party support in Somaliland for stronger ties with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and highlighted national unity in pursuing foreign investment and development partnerships.

Dr. Adaahi was accompanied throughout his visit by Prof. Faisal Mohamed Ali, Senior Advisor for Strategic Relations in the Middle East and Horn of Africa at the Saudi-based International Center for Investment and Strategic Agreements.

Officials from both sides expressed optimism that the talks will soon translate into concrete investment agreements and joint strategic initiatives, further solidifying the growing partnership between Somaliland and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Somaliland Bans Military Personnel from Posting Videos on Social Media



Mohamoud Walaaleye

The Commander of the Somaliland National Army, Brigadier General Nim'an Yusuf Osman, has issued a strict directive prohibiting all soldiers from recording and sharing videos on TikTok or any other social media platform, whether in military uniform or civilian clothes. The order, which takes immediate effect today, Monday, December 1, 2025, warns that any soldier found violating the ban will face legal action and be prosecuted before a Military Court.

In a written directive sent to all military units, Brig. Gen. Nim'an

instructed commanders at every level to strictly enforce the new rule and ensure full compliance across the armed forces.

The decision follows a noticeable increase in recent months of Somaliland soldiers posting videos online, including content recorded while in uniform and on duty, prompting concerns over military discipline and operational security. Military sources say the ban aims to curb unauthorized disclosures, protect national security interests, and maintain the professional image of the armed forces.

Somaliland Launches Nationwide Crackdown on Fake Vet Drugs and Mass Livestock Treatment Drive

In a major push to safeguard the country's vital livestock sector, Somaliland's Ministry of Livestock and Rural Development has simultaneously launched strict inspections of veterinary pharmacies in the capital and large-scale animal health campaigns across four regions.

On Wednesday, teams led by Dr. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdirahman, Director of Animal Health, began unannounced raids on private veterinary drug outlets in Hargeisa. Inspectors are checking for valid licenses, qualified staff, proper storage conditions, and the authenticity of medicines sold. "Fake or substandard drugs threaten both animal health and the incomes of our pastoralists," Dr. Abdirahman said. "We will close any outlet that fails to meet the required standards."

At the same time, veterinary teams fanned out to rural areas:

- In Saaxil Region, doctors treated hundreds of animals in Dooxa-Guban and Waabaha areas of Mandheera District. Regional coordinator Dr. Mohamed Salebaan Mohamed personally supervised the work and inaugurated a community training program supported by the World Bank's Food Systems

Resilience Project (FSRP).

- In Gabiley Region, a full-day outreach at Ceelka Botor provided deworming, vaccinations, nutritional supplements, and blood testing for livestock, ensuring animals meet export health requirements.
- In Sanaag Region, mobile clinics reached remote pastoralist settlements in Xabawga, Hurgufato, and Dadable, delivering treatment to both herds and herders.

Minister of Livestock Omar Shucayb Mohamed praised the teams on the ground, saying: "Livestock is the heartbeat of Somaliland's economy. These combined operations – cracking down on counterfeit drugs in towns while bringing free treatment and training to remote villages – show our determination to protect this lifeline for millions of citizens."

The ministry confirmed the dual campaign will continue over the coming weeks, with more regions scheduled to receive similar veterinary support and stricter enforcement in urban centers. Officials warned that pharmacies found selling expired or counterfeit drugs will face immediate closure and prosecution.



REPUBLIC OF SOMALILAND
MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

BUDGET DEPARTMENT

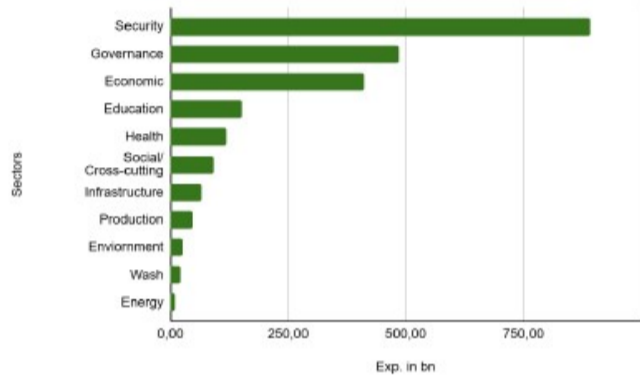
2025 Citizen's Budget Book

Expenditure

Expenditure by Sector in 2024

The Government's main concern continues to be ensuring the safety of its citizens. However, ensuring security is not only important for the absence of harm, but it also ensures that business can operate safely. Similarly, it can boost international confidence when it comes to investments. Nevertheless, the Government also sees that it is important to ensure the education and health of its citizens to build the basis of a strong economy. The Government tries to ensure that its educated and healthy citizens have places to work. Thus, the Government invests in economic diversification through its initiatives, such as the economic zones. These attempts are matched by continued investments in infrastructure, energy, WASH, environment, governance, production, and social issues.

To ensure a better Somaliland for ever citizen



Expenditure Plan

The Government directs its expenditure plans in accordance with the NDP/III goals and policy directions depending on current global developments. In the 2025 budget, the Government prioritizes addressing the essential needs of society and development by implementing a national fiscal policy aligned with the country's development plan.

Sector	2025	Increase since 2024	Sector	2025	Increase since 2024
Security	210,979,741,682 SLSH	15%	WASH	7,020,887,390 SLSH	15%
Health	33,706,771,898 SLSH	81%	Enforcement	7,544,385,129 SLSH	54%
Economy	106,940,809,939 SLSH	163%	Infrastructure	30,448,691,865 SLSH	86%
Governance	121,954,945,186 SLSH	52%	Energy	2,895,938,905 SLSH	38%
Education	43,719,732,743 SLSH	44%	Production	14,076,702,152 SLSH	46%
Social	27,333,944,014 SLSH	48%			

Revenue and Expenditure Comparison

2024 Forecast - Revenue Gap
211,111,688,202 SLSH

For 2024, the Government collected 2,320 bn SLSH in revenue. This is slightly lower than the forecasted 2,531 bn SLSH. This is due to the fact that revenue expansion measures have not picked up pace, and the informal economy and thus the revenue base remains small. Furthermore the Government takes an optimistic approach to forecasting to motivate staff.

2024 Budget deficit
64,505,896,208

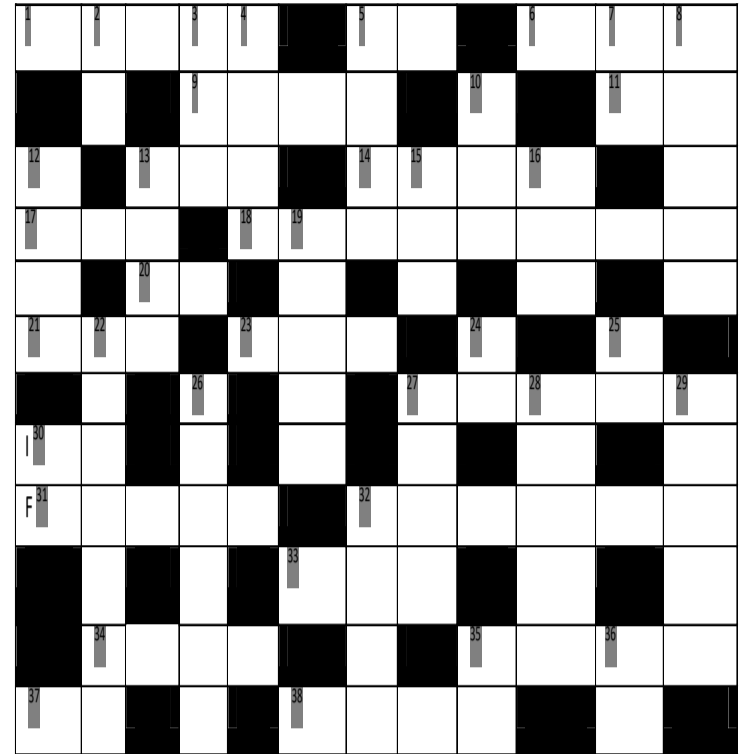
In 2024, the Government spent 2,385 bn SLSH and collected 2,320 bn SLSH. This leaves the Government with a slight deficit at the end of 2024. However, as Somaliland does not have access to the international money market, this kind of deficit will likely not lead to difficulties in Government operations in future periods.

Q1 2025 as a fraction of 2025 forecast
25%

As of Q1 2025, the Government has reached 25% of the revenue target for the year 2025. This is a promising result, if performance can continue in a similar manner. In total, the Government of Somaliland has collected 649,992,629,781 SLSH.

THT Puzzle

Prepared by: Abdillahi Said Muhummed



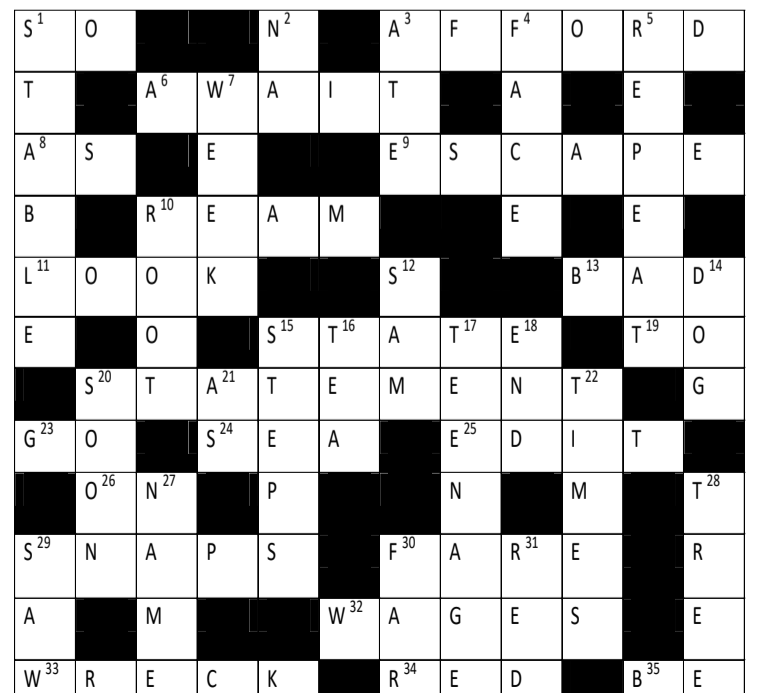
DOWN

- 2 Negative
- 3 Single
- 4 First-hand
- 5 secondhand
- 7 Drive/move
- 8 Observe
- 10 Usage
- 12 Homebased
- 13 Earlobe
- 15 Increase
- 16 Finish
- 19 Normal
- 22 Certain
- 24 towards
- 25 preposition of time/ place
- 26 Pleasure
- 27 Traded
- 28 Below
- 29 Prescriptions
- 30 Condition
- 32 mentioned
- 35 by means of
- 36 towards

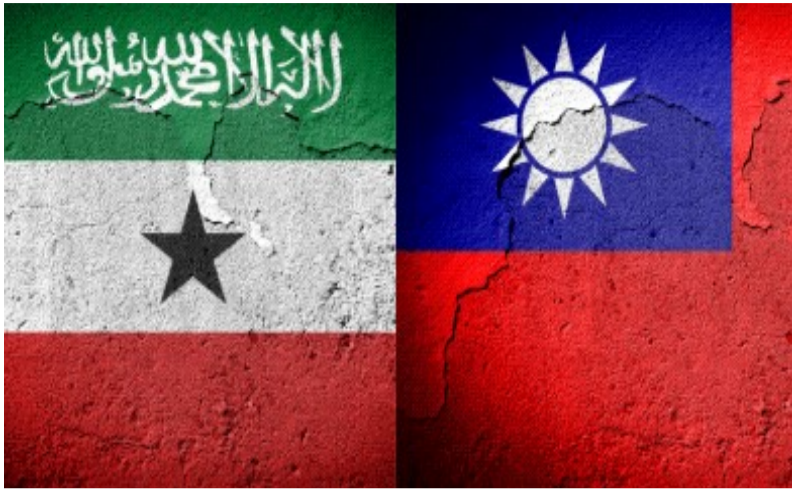
ACROSS

- 1 kind of vegetable
- 5 Kind of lorries
- 6 Before
- 9 Newscast
- 11 operation book (in police stations)
- 13 Insufficient
- 14 comfort
- 17 Single
- 18 Unexpectedly
- 20 in place of
- 21 Earlobe
- 23 Amount
- 27 voice
- 30 Remains
- 31 Angers
- 32 Transparencies
- 33 Immoral / evil
- 34 Stress-free
- 35 Arts
- 37 Identity
- 38 Addition

Previous Answer



De Facto Diplomacy: Taiwan's.....



CLEMENT DILLIES, DEC 3 2025

A strand of the literature on de facto states emphasizes that de facto states' foreign policy aims to ensure both physical security and recognition (Berg & Vits, 2018). Berg and Vits argue that de facto states look for protection from external patrons to maintain themselves and show the international community their capacity to do so. This paper states that instead of being solely driven by physical security concerns, bilateral relationships between de facto states are motivated by their quest for ontological security as they increase it through narratives.

While existing literature emphasizes physical security as a key driver of de facto states' foreign policy, this paper offers an alternative explanation. Bilateral ties among de facto states can be driven more by identity needs than strategic or physical security benefits. It departs from traditional accounts prioritizing physical security in de facto states' foreign policy by demonstrating how identity-affirming relationships with similarly unrecognized entities, like Somaliland, serve Taiwan's ontological security needs. Drawing upon Mitzen's (2006) accounts of ontological security, which distinguishes between physical and ontological

security, this paper aims to explain what pushes de facto states to enter into relations with one another despite limited capacity to guarantee security. Here, we do not mean to assert that de facto states are acting «as a unified front against the restricting international legal order» but to look at the reasons for de facto states to enter into relations with their kin that seem less able to guarantee physical security than recognized states can. We will be looking at the relationship between Taiwan and Somaliland from the former's point of view. This raises the following

Question: Why do de facto states, despite their limited capacity to provide physical security, pursue bilateral relations? We expect to find that relations between de facto states can be explained by an ontological security seeking behavior, which aims at confirming their national identity and gaining recognition (Grzybowski, 2021) through narratives. For that matter, we will be analyzing Taiwanese narratives focused on their relationship with Somaliland.

It is worth mentioning that here, Somaliland is understood as a context, as the other party in the bilateral relationship with Taiwan, rather than a case in itself. In fact, we will not be looking at Somaliland's narratives on its bilateral relationship with Taiwan.

Defining de facto states in the absence of academic consensus

States benefiting from widespread recognition are often used as the main reference unit in international relations and security studies. This paper utilizes the concept of *de facto* states as its object of study, and we must specify what this term means before starting our research. The field of research on de facto states remains divided on the question of defining de facto states, and no consensus has been reached yet (Kosienkowski, 2022). These definitions usually differ in the criteria they use, which either reduce or increase the number of studied cases. As the aim of this study is not to take part in this definitional debate, we are obliged to specify our chosen definition, as it shapes the case selection process. Scott Pegg et al. (1998) consider de facto states as secessionist entities that combine the following characteristics:

«organized political leadership which has risen to power through some degree of indigenous capability; receives popular support; and has achieved sufficient

capacity to provide governmental services to a given population in a defined territorial area, over which effective control is maintained for an extended period of time.

These entities also share an inability to gain widespread recognition (*Ibid.*). When comparing different definitions of de facto states, Kursani (2020) detailed what criteria arise from Pegg's definition. He arranged them in five broader categories: formal attributes, capability, motivation, international society perspective, and temporality (*Ibid.*). We summarized these criteria in Table 1 in the Figures and Tables section, based on these five categories.

De facto statehood and foreign policy Scholars such as Ker-Lindsay point out that de facto states also share stigmatization from the international community due to widespread nonrecognition by other states (Ker-Lindsay, 2018). This concept is useful for drawing the contours of de facto states' foreign policy. Despite fulfilling statehood criteria as defined in the Montevideo Convention (Toomla, 2016), de facto states are treated as illegal entities, which drastically reduces their possibilities to maneuver in the international system in comparison to recognized states (Ker-Lindsay, 2018). In fact, scholars such as Visoka (2021) point out the crucial benefits provided by widespread recognition and show that these entities do not benefit from any protection by international law, cannot seek membership in multilateral organizations, or develop classical diplomatic and economic relations. In this sense, de facto states are stigmatized, as they do not benefit from these advantages, seeing their foreign policy options reduced.

According to Berg and Vits (2018), de facto states' foreign policy is mainly aimed at ensuring physical security (added to recognition) and can be assimilated to small states in the way they can behave in that matter. *De facto* states can look for protection from external patrons to maintain themselves and show the international community that they have the capacity to do so (*Ibid.*). If such patron-client relationships do not exclude the possibility of a de facto state agency, they do limit their independence (Werner Bastek, 2019). Another way for de

facto states to interact with the external world is to benefit from engagement without recognition. This concept

encompasses a large range of interactions between de facto states and recognized states or international

organizations (Caspersen, 2018), which do not result in recognition. According to scholars such as Caspersen,

these interactions can take the form of «humanitarian aid, travel, educational exchanges, trade, and even some

diplomatic links» (*Ibid.*, p.4). Moreover, Florea (2017) highlighted that among three other factors, the survival of a de

facto state is explained by patron-client relations with other recognized states. In this sense, one would agree that

looking for support from similar entities that also suffer from smallness and stigmatization is not the best option to maintain the status quo of their existence.

Drawing from the above-listed options that de facto states have to enter into external relations, we can conceptualize our phenomenon of interest. In this study, the term «relations between de facto states» is understood in the following way: it encompasses any bilateral interaction between de facto states (based on the above-mentioned definition).

These interactions encompass the same wide range of forms as engagement without recognition does. However, the concept of engagement without recognition accounts for interactions between a state and a given de facto state or the larger international community.

Ontological security and de facto states

Stability and routines

This study is embedded in a constructivist understanding of international security and uses the ontological security approach as its main theoretical base, which emphasizes the importance of identity, continuity, and stable relationships in enabling state agency. According to Eberle and

Handl (2018), this framework is well-adapted to give explanations for foreign policy continuities, and this explains our choice. Our theoretical framework will mainly be grounded on Jennifer Mitzen's work on ontological security. The idea that states do not exclusively seek physical security but also ontological security is one of the central premises of this theoretical approach (Mitzen, 2006). Mitzen

defines ontological security as follows: «the need to experience oneself as a whole, continuous person in time—as being rather than constantly changing—in order to realize a sense of agency» (*Ibid.* p. 342).

In addition to physical security, this means, for states, that security also involves preserving their identity and their routines, which provide a sense of predictability and control (*Ibid.*). According to Mitzen, states are facing existential, rather than physical, uncertainty, and this undermines their agency, which requires a stable environment (*Ibid.*).

Mitzen shows that ontological security is maintained through «routinizing relationships with significant others» (*Ibid.*, p. 342). These routinized relationships provide «confident expectations, even if probabilistic, about the means–end relationships that govern [the actor's] social life» (*Ibid.*, p. 345). In essence, they structure how the state interprets the world and defines its role within it. This «basic trust system» (*Ibid.*, p. 361) allows actors to focus on long-term goals by overcoming doubts and complexity:

«Because actors cannot respond to all dangers at once, the capacity for agency depends on this system, which takes most questions off the table» (*Ibid.*, p. 346).

Mitzen also came up with the concept of ontological insecurity, defined as «the deep, incapacitating state of not knowing which dangers to confront and which to ignore, i.e., how to get by in the world» (*Ibid.*, p. 345).

This situation leads to the impossibility of behaving as an agent, as «the individual's energy is consumed meeting immediate needs» (*Ibid.*). For states, this can lead to identity crises. Mitzen emphasizes that routines do more

To be continue next week