

Editorial Note

Dear readers and colleagues,

Rebuilding a country after years of conflict and instability is a difficult task that requires addressing interconnected challenges. Progress made in one area may positively or negatively impact other areas. Therefore, in rebuilding Somalia, it is crucial to address the complex challenges to achieve a successful reconstruction that brings stability, prosperity and sustainable development. This will enable restoring the rule of law, human rights and good governance. In this regard, this volume presents a variety of articles that provide valuable insights into the economic, security, social and political dynamics in Somalia and beyond. Welcome to the issue of 2022, volume seven of '*Somali Studies: A Peer-Reviewed Academic Journal for Somali Studies*'.

The first article, entitled "*The Role of Famine in Piracy off the Somali Coast: A Study on the Drought and Famine of 2011*" sheds light on the complex interplay between environmental factors, livelihoods and piracy. It examines the relationship between the famine of 2011 and the observed criminal activity off the Somali coast at that time. The article concludes that without proper reconstruction of Somali institutions and the economy, there remains a looming threat of resurgence in piracy.

A complex web of challenges has long characterized the Greater Horn of Africa. The second article, "*Weak Rule of Law, Political Instability and Violence in the Greater Horn of Africa: What Role on the Economic Development?*" examines the interconnectedness of these challenges and economic growth and development. The study implies strategies to promote sustainable economic growth in the region, and it affirms "*to stimulate the economic development in the GHA, and recommends adoption of public policies that can empower institutions, promote the rule of law and maintain favorable levels of political stability*".

The third paper, entitled “*Economic Relations Between Türkiye and Somalia: Prospects and Challenges*” explores the economic cooperation and trade between the two countries, as well as the obstacles that need to be overcome to make such a partnership successful. Economic relations play a significant role in the recovery process in Somalia; it helps create jobs, increase incomes, and improve livelihood levels.

Constitutions in Sub-Saharan Africa generally ensure the right to assembly and peaceful protest. Still, in reality, the authorities often infringe upon these rights through the use of excessive force, arrests, and prosecution of protesters. The fourth article, entitled “*Freedom of Assembly and Demonstration in the Constitutions of Somalia, Ethiopia and Uganda*” delves into this issue.

The fifth article, “*Channelling East African Poetic Futures Through Diasporic Experiences*” examines how diasporic East African poets have integrated their displacement and dislocation experiences into their poetic style, using new media forms to express their artistic creativity.

The final article, titled “Dareerinta Ereyada Weedha Af-Soomaaliga” [Word Order in the Somali Language], analyzes the word order in Somali sentence, and the placement and use of sentence particles such as ‘baa,’ ‘ayaa,’ ‘waa,’ and ‘weeye’ in the Somali language.

We extend our gratitude to the authors, reviewers and editorial team who have contributed to this important scholarly endeavor. They have put a lot of time and effort into their work and deserve recognition for their contributions. Thank you, everyone!

Mustafa Feiruz
Editor-in-Chief