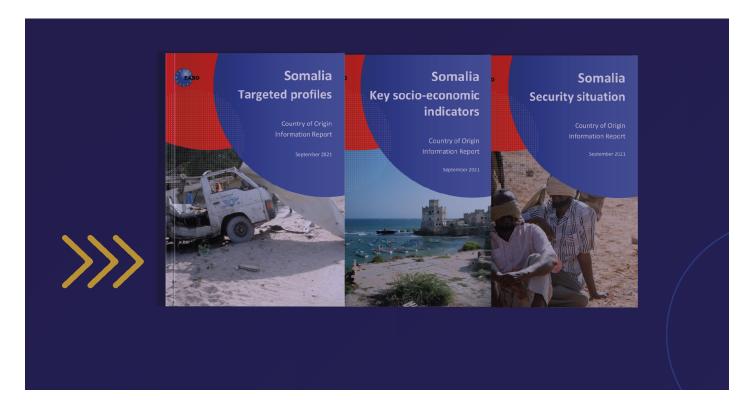


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## EASO publishes three COI reports on Somalia: Targeted profiles, Key socio-economic indicators and Security situation



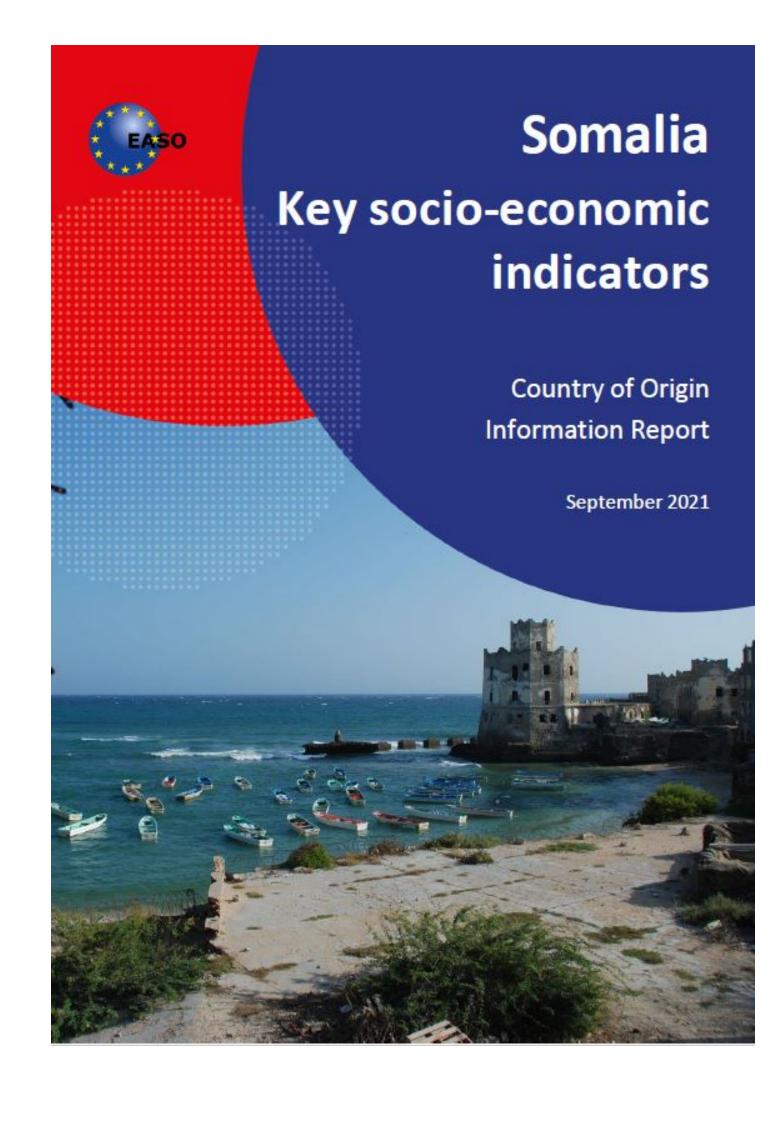
Today, the European Asylum Support Office (EASO) published three Country of Origin Information (COI) reports. The first report is titled Somalia: Targeted profiles, the second one Somalia: Key socioeconomic indicators and the third one Somalia: Security situation. These reports are part of a series of four COI reports on Somalia that have been produced in 2021. They build upon the preceding EASO COI report on Somalia: Actors (July 2021). They should be read in conjunction with one another. This series of COI reports provide relevant information on international protection status determination for Somali asylum seekers and will be used in the development of EASO country guidance note on Somalia.

After peaking in 2015, with 21 600 applications for international protection, Somali asylum applications have fluctuated in recent years. So far in 2021 (January-June), Somalis have lodged over 6 900 asylum applications in the EU+, according to data from the Early Warning and Preparedness System (EPS). This makes Somalia the seventh top country of origin of applicants in the EU+ (in 2020 Somalia was the 10th top country of origin). So far in 2021, the EU+ recognition rate for EU-regulated types of protection (at first instance) for Somalis was 58 %, which is in line with that of the previous year. At the end of June 2021, some 11 400 Somali applications were pending at first instance.

potentially targeted profiles: people recruited by and deserters from Al-Shabaab; women and girls; individual perceived as contravening religious laws/tenets; minorities and non-minority clans; individuals involved in blood feuds/clan disputes; individuals supporting or perceived as supporting the government, the international community, and/or as opposing Al-Shabaab; journalists; LGBTIQ.

This report was drafted by the Austrian Centre for Country of Origin and Asylum Research and Documentation (ACCORD) in accordance with the <a href="EASO COI Report Methodology">EASO COI Report Methodology</a>. It was peer-reviewed internally, and externally by Norway, Landinfo, Norwegian Country of Origin Information Centre; and by international Somalia expert, scholar and author, Joakim Gundel.

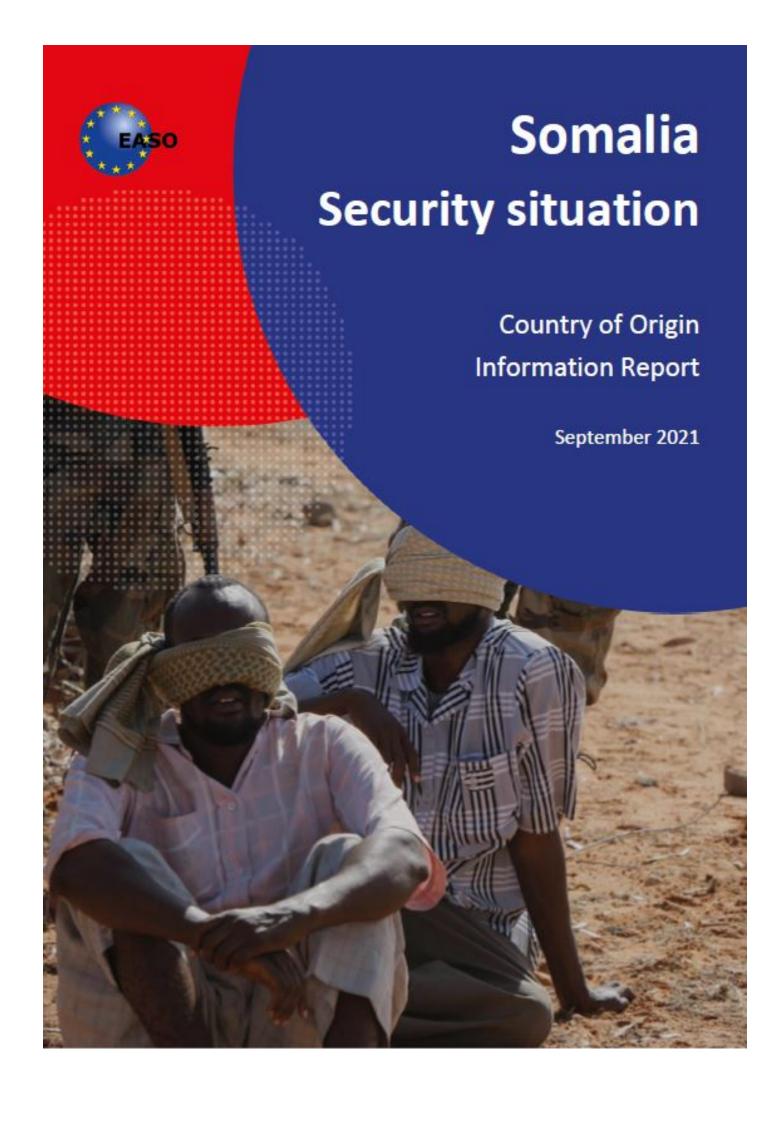
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The EASO COI report on <u>Somalia</u>: <u>Key socio-economic indicators</u> provides background information and details on key socio-economic indicators in three Somali cities, namely Mogadishu, Garowe, and Hargeisa. These represent the main urban centres in Somalia, including Puntland and Somaliland. The reference period of the report is January 2020 – 30 June 2021.

This report was drafted by the Austrian Centre for Country of Origin and Asylum Research and Documentation (ACCORD) in accordance with the <u>EASO COI Report Methodology</u>. It was peer-reviewed internally, and externally by Denmark, Ministry of Immigration and Integration, Danish Immigration Service (DIS), COI Unit; and Greece, General Secretariat for Migration Policy, Greek Asylum Service, Asylum Processes and Training Department.

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The EASO COI report on Somalia: Security situation provides an overview of the main security trends and incidents at national level in the period January 2020 – 30 June 2021, as well as details on conflict dynamics, territorial control/influence, and armed actors at regional level. Finally, the report provides regional details about incidents, their impact on civilian life, internal displacement, and conflict related humanitarian issues. This report was jointly written by the COI Sector of EASO, together with contributions from ACCORD (Austrian Centre for Country of Origin and Asylum Research and Documentation) in accordance with the EASO COI Report Methodology. It was peer-reviewed internally, and externally by The Netherlands, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MINBUZA), Country of Origin Information Unit; and by international Somalia expert, Ken Menkhaus, Professor of Political Science at Davidson College, North Carolina (US).

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