



Please cite as: EUAA, '[1.5. Individuals involved in blood feuds/clan disputes and other clan issues](#)' in *COI Report - Somalia: Country Focus*, May 2025.

1.5. Individuals involved in blood feuds/clan disputes and other clan issues

Clan conflicts can be triggered by various reasons, including access to resources (water, grazing land or pasture), competition over land and land rights, access to jobs and markets (e.g., the local qaad market), breach of women's or other vulnerable categories' protection status (see below), insults, competition over political and administrative power.⁵⁰⁰ For more background information on clan conflict drivers see the [EASO COI Report Somalia: Targeted profiles \(September 2021\)](#).⁵⁰¹

Clan conflicts and disputes can be settled through traditional reconciliation mechanisms based on customary law and managed by clan elders. However, without a proper enforcement of the compensation or peace-agreement, in the absence of implementation follow-ups, or in case of failure to address the root causes of the dispute, clan conflicts tend to recur.⁵⁰² Within this context, another shortcoming of the traditional reconciliation mechanism, which is based on the diya institute, or mag in Somali – see for further details the EUAA Somalia: Targeted profiles (September 2021) and EUAA Somalia: Actors (June 2021) – lies in the fact that 'blood compensation' is paid to the victim's clan,⁵⁰³ or, as Hoehne puts it, to the victim's extended patrilineal family – the diya paying group – not to the victim's closest family.⁵⁰⁴ This may work as a trigger for revenge at a later stage.⁵⁰⁵ Moreover, 'blood debts can be put on hold, banked, sometimes for years, until an appropriately respected figure comes of age to be murdered'.⁵⁰⁶

Clan status and power also determine, same as in other contexts, the level of 'blood compensation' or revenge, with victims of minority or marginalised clans 'worth' less than their counterparts from more powerful clans.⁵⁰⁷ Minority or marginalised groups have less negotiation power, and capacity to enforce agreements, and often need to rely on more powerful clans for protection.⁵⁰⁸

- **[1.5.1. Mapping of major clan conflicts/feuds](#)**

- (a) Jubbaland
- (b) South-West State
- (c) Benadir Regional Administration (BRA) – Mogadishu
- (d) Hirshabelle
- (e) Galmudug
- (f) Puntland
- (g) Sool, Sanaag and contested regions
- (h) Somaliland

- **1.5.2. Clan revenge and vulnerability in clan conflicts**

- (a) For men
- (b) For women and girls

- 500

EASO COI Report - Somalia: Targeted Profiles, September 2021, [url](#), pp. 76-77

- 501

EASO COI report Somalia: Targeted Profiles, September 2021, [url](#), pp. 76-85

- 502

Said Bile A., RVI, Beyond the accord – The effectiveness of local peace structures in managing inter-clans conflicts in Puntland state – Somalia, 2024, [url](#), pp. 8, 17-19, 29; see also EASO COI Report - Somalia: Targeted Profiles, September 2021, [url](#), p. 78

- 503

Said Bile A., RVI, Beyond the accord – The effectiveness of of local peace structures in managing inter-clans conflicts in Puntland state – Somalia, 2024, [url](#), p. 22

- 504

Hoehne, M. V., Input received during the peer-review process, 23 April 2025

- 505

Said Bile A., RVI, Beyond the accord – The effectiveness of of local peace structures in managing inter-clans conflicts in Puntland state – Somalia, 2024, [url](#), p. 22

- 506

Harding A., The mayor of Mogadishu, 2016, p. 154

- 507

Harding A., The mayor of Mogadishu, 2016, pp. 153-154; see also Hoehne, M. V., Political Orientations and Repertoires of Identification: State and Identity Formation in Northern Somalia, 2011, [url](#), pp. 102-104; EASO COI Report - Somalia: Targeted Profiles, September 2021, [url](#), pp. 78-79

- 508

Menkhaus, K., State Collapse in Somalia: Second Thoughts, September, 2003, p. 412. As cited in EASO COI Report - Somalia: Targeted Profiles, September 2021, [url](#), p. 78