Please cite as: EUAA, 'Introduction' in *Country Guidance: Somalia*, October 2025.

Introduction

INTRODUCTION
Last update: October 2025

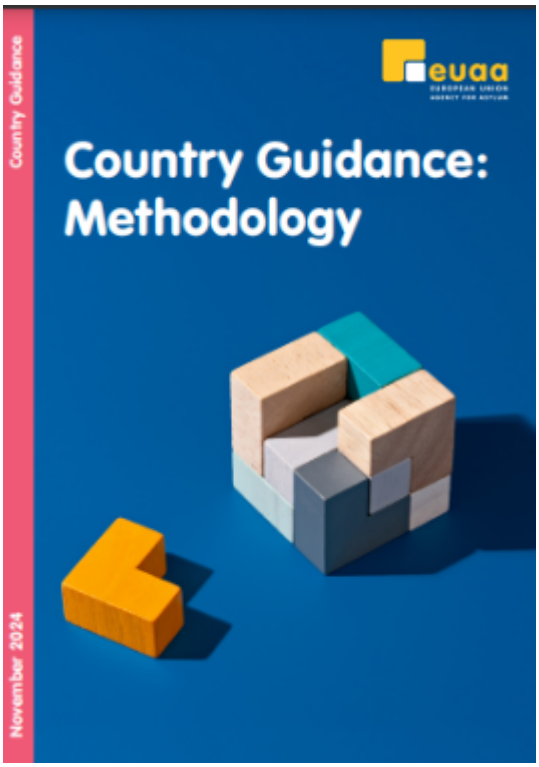
The country guidance documents provide country-specific common analysis and guidance in relation to the assessment criteria established in the recast Qualification Directive (QD)1 and in the newly adopted Qualification Regulation (QR)2, which will repeal the QD with its entry into application on 1 July 2026. They are developed by the European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA) together with a network of senior-level policy officials from EU+ countries and represent their joint assessment of the situation in main countries of origin, in accordance with current EU legislation and jurisprudence of the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU). The European Commission and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) also provide valuable input in this process.

The aim of the country guidance documents is to assist decision-makers and policy-makers in their daily work and to foster convergence in the assessment of applications for international protection and the type of protection granted?in the context of the Common European Asylum System.

The development, review and update of country guidance is regulated under Article 11 of the EUAA Regulation3.

In accordance with Article 11(3) EUAA Regulation, Member States have the obligation to take into account the common analysis and guidance notes when examining applications for international protection, without prejudice to their competence to decide on individual applications.

Image



For more details on the process of producing country guidance documents and the exact role of stakeholders involved, see ‘Country Guidance: Methodology’ (November 2024).

This document encompasses the development, review and update of country guidance and regulates the work of the EUAA Country Guidance Network and all related processes.

This common analysis is based on country of origin information (COI) covering the period 1 April 2023 – 31 March 2024. Additional information on major legislative, security and humanitarian developments covering the period 1 April to 31 July 2025 has also been reflected. Each section of the country guidance documents also clearly states the timing of its last update.

The analysis and guidance within this document should be considered valid as long as current events and developments in the country fall within the trends and patterns described within the COI on which the assessment at hand is based on.

The analysis and guidance provided within this document are not exhaustive.

Common analysis, guidance note and methodological approach

The country guidance document consists of two components: the guidance note and the common analysis. These two parts focus on the situation in the country of origin and provide analysis and guidance on the assessment of relevant international protection needs.

guidancenote2

Country Guidance: explained - cover

The Country Guidance documents should be read in conjunction with the separate document ‘ Country Guidance: explained’ (February 2025).

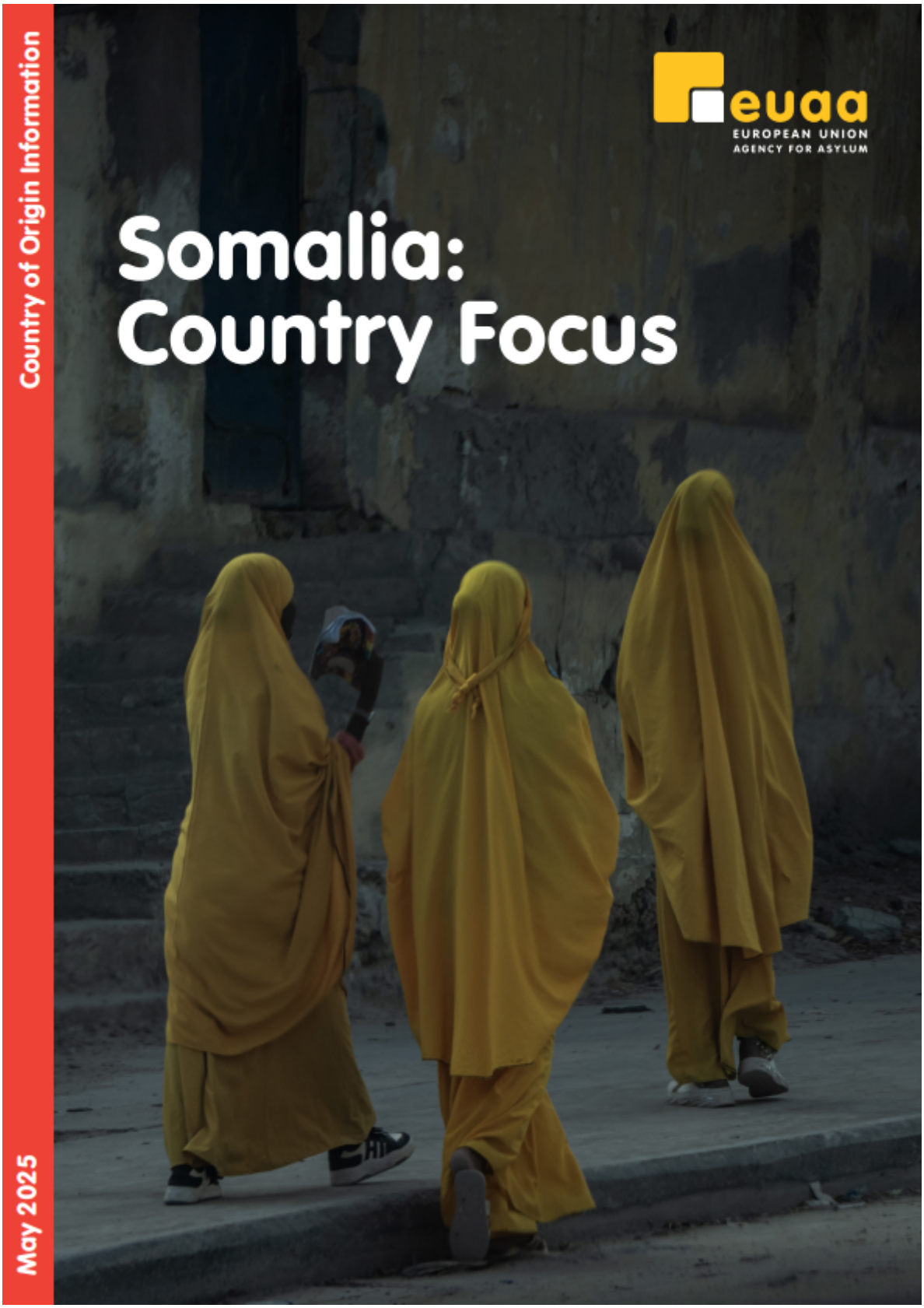
This document outlines the general guidance relied upon in this analysis, as well as the methodological framework, approach and indicators used to assess the different elements of qualification for international protection.

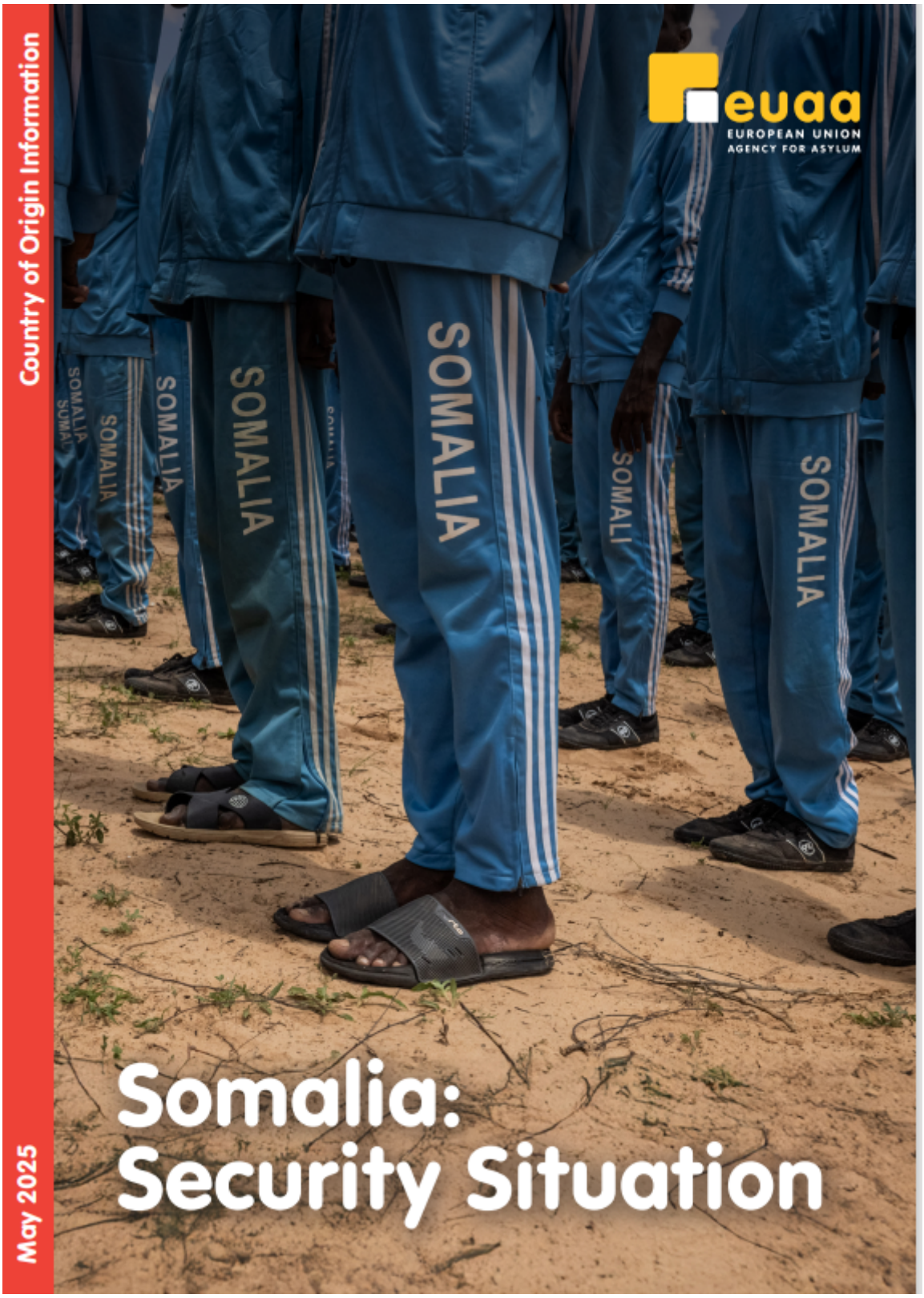
Scope of this development

The current version of the guidance updates and supersedes the ‘EUAA, *Country Guidance: Somalia*', August 2023. A new approach regarding the incorporation of COI in the legal analysis has been adopted in this document and all sections of the document have been updated and restructured to reflect this approach.

This update is mainly based on the following recent COI:

Image


Country of Origin Information
euaa
EUROPEAN UNION
AGENCY FOR ASYLUM
Somalia:
Country Focus
May 2025
Image


Country of Origin Information
euaa
EUROPEAN UNION
AGENCY FOR ASYLUM
SOMALIA
SOMALIA
SOMALIA
SOMALI
SOMALIA
Somalia:
Security Situation
May 2025
Image



COI QUERY

Country of Origin	Somalia
Title	Major political, security, and humanitarian developments
Reference period	1 April 2025 to 31 July 2025
Topics	1. Political developments
	2. Security developments
	3. Humanitarian developments
	4. Accessing and settling down in Hargeisa
Date of completion	13 August 2025
Query Code	Q24-2025
Contributing EU+ COI units	N/A

Disclaimer

This response to a COI query has been elaborated according to the EUAA COI Report Methodology and EUAA Writing and Referencing Guide.

It was produced in response to COI information requests received from the EUAA Country Guidance drafting team in the development of country guidance on Afghanistan. Query responses are produced within a limited time period, typically within 5 to 10 days. Within these time constraints, the information provided in this response has been researched, evaluated and processed with utmost care.

All sources used are referenced and cited in the bibliography section. A quality review has been performed in line with the above mentioned COI methodology. This document does not claim to be exhaustive or conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to international protection. If a certain event, person or organisation is not mentioned in the report, this does not mean that the event has not taken place or that the person or organisation does not exist. Terminology used should not be regarded as indicative of a particular legal position.

The information in the response does not necessarily reflect the opinion of EUAA and makes no political statement whatsoever. The target audience is policy makers, caseworkers, COI researchers, and decision-making authorities. Any event taking place after the reference period is not included in this query response.

Cite as: EUAA, Country of Origin Information Query, Somalia: Major political, security, and humanitarian developments, 13 August 2025, url

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Country Focus 2025

EUAA COI Report: Somalia - Country Focus (May 2025)

Available in PDF and online.

Security 2025

EUAA COI Report: Somalia - Security Situation (May 2025)

Available in PDF and online.

COI Update 2025

EUAA COI Query Response:

Major legislative, security and humanitarian developments (August 2025)

Available in PDF

The following relevant EUAA COI report and query have also been used:

- AS Deserters 2023, EUAA COI report: ‘Somalia – Defection, desertion and disengagement from Al-Shabaab’ (February 2023)
- COI Query FGM/C 2023, EUAA COI Query: ‘Somalia: Forms and prevalence of repeated FGM/C’ (17 May 2023)

Annex: Country of origin information references provides further details and links to all COI documents used as a basis for the analysis within this document. References within this document are to the respective sections of these COI documents.

> To access EUAA COI reports, visit https://euaa.europa.eu/country-origin-information.

- 1

  Directive 2011/95/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 on standards for the qualification of third-country nationals or stateless persons as beneficiaries of international protection, for a uniform status for refugees or for persons eligible for subsidiary protection, and for the content of the protection granted (recast).

- 2

  Regulation (EU) 2024/1347 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 May 2024 on standards for the qualification of third-country nationals or stateless persons as beneficiaries of international protection, for a uniform status for refugees or for persons eligible for subsidiary protection and for the content of the protection granted, amending Council Directive 2003/109/EC and repealing Directive 2011/95/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council.

- 3

  Regulation (EU) 2021/2303 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 December 2021 on the European Union Agency for Asylum and repealing Regulation (EU) No 439/2010.

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