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#### About us.

The Horn of Africa Research and Strategic Advisory (HORASA) is an independent research consultancy focused on providing timely research, analysis, advisory services, and policy recommendations for the Horn of Africa region.

Based in Hargeisa, Somaliland, HORASA has a multidisciplinary team of experts specializing in issues related to security, trade, geopolitics and the climate change and environment in the Horn. The center conducts rigorous policy studies, convenes key regional players, advises governments and organizations, and promotes fact-based policymaking all with the aim of supporting peace, prosperity, cooperation, and development in the region.

### Leadership:

HORASA is governed by a Board comprised of former diplomats, business executives, and civil society leaders hailing originally from across the Horn of Africa region. The Center is led by Executive Director Mr. Abdirisak Shaqale, Senior Strategic Advisor MFA Somaliland.

#### Research:

HAROSA's core research areas include:

- Security issues such as conflict analysis, terrorism, maritime security, border disputes and regional institutions
- Trade flows, infrastructure development, port access, free trade zones, digitalization, and economic integration in wider region.
- Climate (in) security impact on peace, natural resource management, environmental disasters, water, and food security.

#### **Activities**

Key activities include producing academic research papers and policy briefs, hosting regional conferences and seminars, providing advisory services, offering commentary in international media, forging partnerships with key bodies like IGAD and AU, and collecting field data.

#### Funding:

HARSA is funded through grants from governments, foundations, and international organizations as well as earned income from contract research and donations from the private sector.

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The strategic plan for the Horn of Africa research and strategic advisory

### **Vision**

To be the leading research and advisory organization providing expert analysis and guidance on issues related to security, geopolitics, trade, humanitarian affairs, and great and rising power interests in the Horn of Africa region.

### **Mission**

- I. Provide insightful, accurate, and timely research and analysis on key issues shaping the Horn of Africa's political, economic, and security landscape.
- II. Offer strategic advice to government, non-governmental, and private sector clients operating in or engaging with the region and beyond.
- III. Promote sustainable peace, stability, and development in the Horn of Africa through policy-relevant research and advice in collaboration with international, regional and national actors.
- IV. Organize a timely discussion on the regional matters both physically and remote bases.

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## Strategic Objectives

# **Security**



- Monitor and analyze conflicts, terrorism, piracy, and other security threats across the region.
- Assess military capabilities and security partnerships of regional actors.
- Provide risk assessments and early warning for clients with regional operations and interests.

# Geopolitics.



- Track shifts in regional power dynamics and relationships between Horn of Africa states.
- Analyze impacts of competition and cooperation between extra-regional powers on the region.
- Forecast geopolitical risk and opportunities for client decision-making.

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# **Trade**



- Research trends in regional trade and investment flows.
- Identify obstacles to and options for increasing intra-regional economic integration
- Advise clients on market entry, supply chains, and operational risks

# **Humanitarian and Climate Change HOA**



- Analyze drivers of food insecurity, displacement, and other humanitarian crises
- Evaluate effectiveness of responses by governmental, non-governmental, and external actors
- Provide expert guidance to enhance resilience and crisis response capabilities

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## **Great and Rising Powers**



- Monitor engagements in the region by the US, China, Russia, Gulf states and other key actors
- Assess strategic motivations and implications of major power involvement
- Offer clients analysis of relationships and risks pertaining to specific great power interests.

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