



**East Africa
Association**
for Research
& Development

East Africa Association ANNUAL REPORT



**REPORT
2019**

Istanbul, Turkey

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GSD
GLOBAL SOMALI DIASPORA

**YUNUS EMRE
ENSTITUSU**

INTERNATIONAL GLOBAL
SOMALI DIASPORA CONFERENCE



Prof. Ali Sheikh Ahmed
General Director of DAD

Director General's Message

Since its establishment, East Africa Association for Research and Development (DAD) embarked on a fascinating path of growth and development. For DAD, the year 2019 started with the echo of the East Africa Development Forum and follow up of the tasks and relations initiated in the conference. Moreover, DAD conducted several capacity-building programs for youth accompanied by the fifth Global Somali Diaspora conference which was hosted in Istanbul.

With the goal of strengthening the relations between East African countries and their relations to the world, DAD conducted a visit on three East African countries. In these countries, DAD networked with universities, research institutions, civil society organizations, schools and prominent businesses.

The year 2020 holds a great potential for DAD. The second East Africa Development Forum will be held in this new year. We hope to conduct this year's forum to be a bigger caliber than the first with increased delegates and senior individuals from both government and other organizations.

We would like to extend my gratitude to the esteemed management of East Africa Association for Research and Development (DAD) and all our partners for their valuable support that contributed to the successful implementation of our programs for the past three years.

We wish you a prosperous year where visions are realized, and goals achieved!

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About us

DAD

East Africa Association for Research and Development, shortly known as 'DAD' is a research and development organization that develops solutions to social, economic and political challenges in East Africa to help make communities throughout the region safer and more secure, healthier and more prosperous.

DAD was launched on May 2017 by a group of education experts and prominent social leaders from East Africa together with graduates of Turkish universities from East Africa who are also involved in youth empowerment, training and research activities.

DAD's goal is to develop the human capital of the region and produce up-to-date and accurate knowledge and analyses in the fields of politics, economy and society and inform policy makers, civil society organizations, businesses and the public on changing political, economic, social and cultural conditions of the region. DAD is nonprofit, nonpartisan, and committed to the public interest.



Vision

Pioneer in research and development to enhance the quality of life in East Africa.

Mission

Promoting peace and development in East Africa through human capital development, extensive research on the challenges of the region and forming a knowledge base that will help leaders in government and civil society leaders get the best available information possible.

Core Commitments

Knowledge: DAD is committed to creating a knowledge base and connecting people to the right information at the right time and in the appropriate format to be useful for decision makers in public and private sector. Information that is independent of context is easily transferable by means of recording, recitation and graphic representations. We strive to build knowledge from information by adding it the relevant context which affects the meaning and value of knowledge. Our commitment here is producing knowledge about new analysis and perspectives on contemporary issues and getting it into the hands of policy actors in ways that might not have been possible had they not worked together.

Advocacy: Our work will create a bridge between knowledge and power and between state and society. We are committed in enhancing the knowledge base; informing, educating and advising policymakers and the public at large; encouraging public discourse; and providing evidence to legitimize decision-making.

Impact: Our motto is 'towards a better life', a guiding principle to act as a catalyst in social transformation in East Africa through rigorous efforts to influence public debates and institutional strategy making process. By getting involved in the decision-making process we aim to conduct research and advocate for policies that creates positive impact and shaping lives and communities.

Collaboration and Partnership: DAD is dedicated to facilitating, encouraging, supporting, and rewarding productive and equitable research partnerships across academic fields, and with external partners. By raising the questions that matter, our research center co-creates knowledge with governmental agencies and its decision makers, local community organizations, citizens, as well as businesses, practitioners and workers. Through collaboration and partnership, we aim to bridge the ontological divide between theory and practice and the boundary it creates between the two separate worlds of research (theory) and policy (practice).

Social Engagement: Our researchers use their learning, ingenuity, and creativity to participate in dialogue and work toward common purposes with community partners. Drawing on the strengths and expertise of different stakeholders, they co-create and apply evidence-based research to address shared challenges; guide and develop policies and practices; and seek out and support initiatives that result in tangible improvements for individuals and communities.



Our Departments

■ **DAD Research Center:**

This unit conducts research to develop solutions for social, economic and political challenges in East Africa to help make communities throughout the region safer and more secure, healthier and more prosperous. The Department's main aim is to produce up-to-date and accurate knowledge and analyses in the fields of politics, economy and society and inform policy makers, civil society organizations, businesses and the public on changing political, economic, social and cultural conditions of the region. The strategic plan of DAD Research Center expresses its core commitments to knowledge, advocacy and impact through collaboration, partnership, and social engagement in research.

■ **DAD Youth:**

To build stable and cohesive societies DAD Youth follows a holistic approach of empowering the youth through initiatives and programs prepared to enable young people to discover their abilities and to fill the skill gap that exists. With partnering the non-governmental and governmental organizations the department will offer trainings on life skills, leadership, entrepreneurship and employability.

■ **East Africa Development Forum:**

A multi-stakeholder platform for debating, discussing and initiating concrete strategies and policies for the development of countries in East Africa. Its main aim is to showcase the current and future challenges, opportunities and strategies to utilize the immense natural resources of the region. The forum also displays policy recommendations for institutional building, good governance, youth empowerment and poverty reduction. The forum brings together heads of states and governments, policy makers, partner states such as Turkish institutions, United Nations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

Conferences

- Echo of the East Africa Development Forum and The Upcoming 2020 Forum
- The 5th Global Somali Diaspora Conference

Echo of the East Africa Development Forum and The Upcoming 2020 Forum

A range of prominent intellectuals, renowned academicians, policymakers, civil society leaders, businesses, researchers and analysts from Turkey, East Africa and around the world gathered on December 2018 to debate and discuss the Somali Turkish relations and to strengthen ties between the two nations on both civil and state levels. Following the sideline meetings between DAD and other institutions, memorandums of understanding were signed as well as plans of other projects was initiated.

The director of the SETA Foundation, Prof. Burhanettin Duran stated that the Turkish Somali partnership, in diaspora perspective, shows us the necessity to conduct similar conferences in future Turkish-Somali partnership. Under the initiative and direction of Dr. Ali, the results of the conference deserve the ever-shining light from his eyes whenever he talked about the conference. On the Somali agenda, Turkey was always eager to initiate partnership and collaboration which enriches both nations. The world is going under transformation. More than international organizations, bilateral relations are becoming more important. Also, the world is turning into a situation where states are striving for their own survival under the increasing competition between states.

As a result, the 2nd East Africa Development Forum will be held this year. Details about the agenda, place and key delegates will be shared through our communication platforms as soon as they get finalized. This time, both DAD and SETA will sign an MOU how they will cooperate in the near future and share the responsibilities of the upcoming conference.

The 5th Global Somali Diaspora Conference

The 5th Global Somali Diaspora Conference was held in Istanbul between 14-17 of June 2019. The conference was organized under the leadership of the Somali Global Diaspora (GSD) and in partnership with East Africa Association for Research and Development (DAD), Yunus Emre Institute, Islamic Conference Youth Forum (ICYF) and with the sponsorship of Hormuud. The main purpose of the conference was to bring together Somali diasporas and discuss challenges that face Somali communities all around the world by creating joint agenda as well as discovering the opportunities and how to build a strong diaspora community. During the two days of the conference discussions focused the challenges facing Somalis at home and in the diaspora peace building, reconciliation, business and environment.

High level delegates from the Federal Government of Somalia and the Republic of Turkey such attended the conference. The Deputy Prime Minister of the Federal Government of Somalia Mr. Mahdi Mohammed Gulaid, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic Turkey Faruk Kaymakçı, the former President of Somalia Sheikh Sharif Sheikh Ahmed, Director General of East Africa Association for Research and Development “DAD” Dr. Ali Sheikh Ahmed, and the well-known Somali scholar and senior advisor to office of the Somali prime minister Dr. Abdirahman Abdullahi “Baadiyow”.

The Director General of DAD, Dr. Ali Sheikh Ahmed, was among the keynote speakers in the conference. In his speech he focused on the potentials of Somalis and their role in the East Africa region and Somalia’s relation with turkey which is based on mutual benefits and respect unlike other countries, mainly the West.

On June 17th the program was concluded with a tour of Istanbul city in which attendees were taken to the historical places as a Somali Culture Exhibition opened at Taksim Art Gallery. It was arranged by GSD and Somali Culture Association partnering with Yunus Emre Institute, and with the help of İstanbul Kültür A.Ş. Somali culture, nature and nomadic life of Somalia was presented through art paintings and antiques. Nomadic life is essential part of Somali culture and they have one of largest livestock’s in Africa.



Seminar Series

- Round Table -Volunteerism and Youth Contribution
- Round Table - The Role of Higher of Education in Promoting Social Responsibility
- Panel - Private Sector in Somalia: Economic Growth and Social Development
- Seminar- POLITICAL CULTURE: Breaking the Vicious Cycle of Somalia's State Failure

Round Table -Volunteerism and Youth Contribution

East Africa Association for Research and Development (DAD) organized a round table under the theme “Volunteerism and Youth Contribution” moderated by MrsJawaahirDaahir, the Chairman of the Somali Global Diaspora. Mrs. Jawaahiremphazized volunteerism as the backbone of many national and international non-governmental organizations and other civil society organizations, as well as social and political movements. It is present in the public sector and is increasingly a feature of the private sector.

A healthy society is one in which importance is given to formal and informal relationships that facilitate interaction and engagement and thus engender a sense of belonging. It is also one in which there is broad participation by all sections of the population. Communities with these characteristics do better in moving forward to meet common aspirations.

Volunteers are more likely to develop civic skills, to attach more importance to serving the public interest as a personal life goal and to be more politically active. Thus, in going about their voluntary activities, individuals are also cultivating an outlook that contributes to a social environment that nurtures the well-being of all.



Round Table – The Role of Higher of Education in Promoting Social Responsibility

East Africa Association for Research and Development DAD organized a roundtable on The Role of Higher of Education in Promoting Social Responsibility. The program was commenced with an opening speech gave by Associate Professor Dr. Mohamed Hassan Nur, a Somali scholar and Chief Registrar of Mogadishu University. Participants of the program were mainly students attending universities in Turkey.

Dr. Mohamed Hassan Nur emphasized the role of higher education in teaching morals of social responsibility to their students. Discussions mainly focused on the roles of family and school play in instilling values and principles that will lead to a responsible citizen. Higher education institutions should prepare students and equip them the knowledge and skills needed to act as catalyst for achieving greater good. The participants underlined the vital role that higher education could play in strengthening civic engagement and active citizenship and to provide service to the community through community engagement and outreach.

Panel – Private Sector in Somalia: Economic Growth and Social Development

In partnership with Hormuud Foundation, East Africa Association for Research and Development (DAD) organized a program under the theme Private Sector & Civil Society in Somalia: Contribution to Economic Growth and Social Development. Socio-political and civil society leader Dr. Abdirahman Abdullahi “Baadiyow” along with the Director General of DAD, Dr. Ali Shiekh Ahmed discussed the role and responsibilities of civil society organization giving the example of Mogadishu University and DAD.

On the other hand, representatives from Hormuud Telecom elaborated the policies and the role of the business in the social development. Also, the Culture and Education Attaché from the Somali Embassy in Turkey Mr. Abdiaziz Sheikh Abdirahman, commended the works of both DAD and Hormuud.

POLITICAL CULTURE

Breaking the Vicious Cycle of Somalia's State Failure

East Africa Association for Research and Development organized a round-table themed “Political Culture: Breaking the Vicious Cycle of Somalia's State Failure” moderated by Dr. Abdurahman Abdullahi “Baadiyow”, Senior Adviser of the Office of the Prime Minister on reconciliation and peacebuilding along with Avv. Omar Abdille “Dhegey”, Senior Legal Adviser of the Prime Minister.



Studies

- Survey on the Challenges Facing Somali Students in Turkey

Survey on the Challenges Facing Somali Students in Turkey

East Africa Association for Research and Development conducted a research on the challenges facing Somali students in Turkey. As a part of the research, biggest cities in Turkey of which most Somali students reside and study have been surveyed.



DAD Management Activities

- Mogadishu Book Fair 2019
- A Panel on Responsibilities and challenges of Somali Youth
- DG Attended Red Sea University - 8th Graduation Ceremony 2019
- Responsibilities and Challenges of Somali Youth
- The 79th World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
- International Conference on the Quest for Democracy: Examining Civil-Military Relations in Muslims Societies
- Post-Colonial Africa: A Case of East Africa
- Turkish Somali Relations: History, Religion, Politics and Economy

Dr. Ali Sheikh Ahmed Presented His Newly Published Book at the Mogadishu Book Fair 2019

Mogadishu Book Fair is an annual forum that promotes books, reading, literature, culture; brings together authors, scholars, poets, publishers & the public. Somali Prime Minister, Hassan Khayre gave the closing keynote speech of this year's fair.

Dr Ali participated in a panel discussion with sever key individuals who were attending the conference. The Prime Minister of Somalia encouraged the authors to change the negative image of our country already and provide the right picture that will help build a bright future that attracts the world.

DG Attended Red Sea University - 8th Graduation Ceremony 2019

The Director General of East Africa Association for Research and Development (DAD), Dr. Ali Sheikh Ahmed attended the 8th graduation ceremony at the Red Sea University in Bosaso. This institution was founded as Mogadishu University's branch in Bosaso 8 years ago. On February 16th, 2017, it became an independent university and changed its name as Red Sea University.

Both Mogadishu University and Red Sea University are two partner institutions with great cooperation. While, Mogadishu served those people in Mogadishu and the surrounding regions, Red Sea University contributed a special value to the people of Puntland region and promotes community service and educational excellence. Red Sea University is also a significant partner of East Africa Association for Research and Development (DAD). Both organizations share deep rooted relations and good cooperation between.

Responsibilities and Challenges of Somali Youth

A panel discussion was held in Bosaso city of Somalia attracting dozens of youth and university graduates. Dr Ali Sheikh Ahmed and Prof Abdisalam of Red Sea University were invited to share their view on the Responsibilities and challenges of today's Somali youth. The event was organized by Al Irshad Umbrella for Awareness and community outreach.

International Conference on the Quest for Democracy: Examining Civil-Military Relations in Muslims Societies:

On Sunday, October 13th 2019, the Center for Islam and Global Affairs (CIGA) at Istanbul Sabahattin Zaim University, along with its institutional partners: Al Jazeera Centre for Studies, the College of Islamic Studies at Hamad bin Khalifa University, Josef Korbel School of International Studies at the University of Denver and the Egyptian Institute for Studies Hosted a three-day international conference examining civil-military relations in Muslims societies. Dr Abdikarim Abdi was invited to participate in the conference on behalf of East Africa association for research and development.

The 79th World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

Dr Abdikarim Abdi, Vice Director of DAD was invited to chair a session New horizons for pharmacy – Navigating winds of change in FIP world Conference held in Abu Dhabi on September 2019. The conference gathered all stakeholders in the pharmacy profession from the entire world to discuss new opportunities and challenges that arise in pharmacy practice, science and education.

Also in this meeting, Dr Abdi was elected as an Executive Committee member of Academic Section of the World International Federation of Pharmacists (FIP).

Post-Colonial Africa: A Case of East Africa

DAD's Research Director, Hassan Abdi Hassan participated on panel themed "Post-Colonial Africa: A Case of East Africa" organized by Istanbul Commerce University's Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences which was held on 2nd of May 2019. Mr. Hassan made a presentation in which he highlighted the significant cultural and intellectual impact of colonialism and prominent post-colonial works in the East Africa region. The main points of the presentation can be summarized as follows:

Key materials used in the panel discussed included Kenya's Ngugi WaThiong's 'Crying Child' and 'Decolonizing the Mind', Ethiopian Abbie Gubenga's 'Resistance' and Somali Nuruddin Farah's 'Maps' which are literal works of East African authors making critique on the remnants of colonialism in the region.

Turkish Somali Relations:

History, Religion, Politics and Economy

DAD's Director of Researches, Mr. Hassan Abdi Hassan, presented a paper on the 'Political of Economy of Peacebuilding in Somalia' at the Turkish Somali Relations Symposium organized by Bursa University with the partnership of Frontier University. Mr. Hassan participated in panel moderated by Prof. Dr. Salih Payof Bursa University and accompanied by Prof. Esat Arslan of Çağ University's International Relations department.

- Abülvâdîler veya Zeyyânîler (1236-1555)
- Hafsîler (1228-1574)
- Vattâsîler (1428-1554)
- Sa'dî Şerifleri (1511-1659)
- Alevî-Filâli Şerifleri (1631-
- Muradîler (1631-1702) ve Hüseyinîler (1705-1957)
- Karamanlılar (1711-1835)



Visits and Collaboration

- Meeting with the Management of Africa Turkish Initiative
- Meeting with Jamhuriya University Management
- Meeting with SIMAD University Management
- Meeting with the Ambassador
- DAD's Director General Visited Benadir University
- DAD's Director General Visited Hormuud University
- DAD's Director General Visited Puntland State of Somalia
- Prof. Ali Sheikh Ahmed on State-building and the Appropriate Approaches in Uganda
- DAD's Director General visited office of YTB

Meeting with the Management of Africa Turkish Initiative

A delegation from East Africa Association for Research and Development (DAD) led by the Director General of DAD and other senior management paid a visit to Africa-Turkish Initiative (ATI) on May 5th, 2019. The General Secretary of ATI along with members of the its board of directors gave a warm welcome to the delegation from DAD.

During the meeting a range of issues were discussed particularly the ways of collaboration between the two organizations in the area of research and development. To initiate the partnership between the organizations both management discussed on signing a memorandum of understanding that entails key elements of cooperation between them such as partnering in organizing conferences, panel discussions and conducting mutually implemented research projects.



Meeting with Jamhuriya University Management

Director General of East Africa Association for Research and Development (DAD), Prof. Dr. Ali Sheikh Ahmed paid a visit to Jamhuriya University on February 24th, 2019. The director was warmly received by the President of Jamhuriya University Mr. Mohamed Ahmed Mohamud and other university management. During the meeting a framework for partnership and cooperation is discussed and finally a memorandum of understanding was signed between Jamhuriya University and DAD.



Meeting with SIMAD University Management

Director General of East Africa Association for Research and Development “DAD”, Prof. Dr. Ali Sheikh Ahmed paid a visit to SIMAD University on 23/02/2019. The director was received by the Rector of SIMAD University H.E. Mr. Dahir Hassan Abdi. During the meeting establishing high-level of cooperation between the two institutions was discussed.



Meeting with the Ambassador

On January 20, 2019, Prof Dr. Ali Sheikh Ahmed, Director General of East Africa Association for Research and Development, has paid a courtesy visit to Turkish Ambassador His excellence, Mehmet Yılmaz. The Director and his delegation were highly welcomed to Embassy.



MOU with SOMALI-REN

East Africa Association for Research and Development “DAD” and Somali Research and Education Network known as “Somali-REN” has signed a memorandum of understanding “MoU” on Jan 23, 2019. The two organizations agreed on a range of issues among them are collaboration on research capacity development in the Somali higher education and other Research Institutions in Somalia, sharing of Research Resources and expertise, co-applying for research and education developments grants, facilitation of research and education exchanges, and co-facilitation of networking events related to research and education activities.

DAD and Somali-REN are both politically non-partisan Institutions formed to serve for the development of Education and Research in Somalia; and to enhance collaboration between the Somali and Turkish higher education Institutions involved in research and higher Education.

The Director General of DAD, Prof. Dr. Ali Sheikh Ahmed, signed the MoU for the DAD side, while Eng. Abdullahi Bihi the, CEO of Somali-REN, signed for the other side.

A banner for Somali-REN. It features the organization's logo, which includes a globe and the text 'somali REN Research & Education Network'. Below the logo, it says 'Connecting Minds'. At the bottom, there is contact information: a phone number '+252 61 2 697979', an email address 'info@somaliren.org', and a website 'www.somaliren.org'. There are also social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube.

+252 61 2 697979
info@somaliren.org
www.somaliren.org
somaliren



DAD's Director General Visited Benadir University

DAD's Director General, Prof. Ali Sheikh Ahmed and the senior management of Benadir University had a fruitful meeting on January 2019. Among the issues discussed was strengthening the relations between DAD and the University.



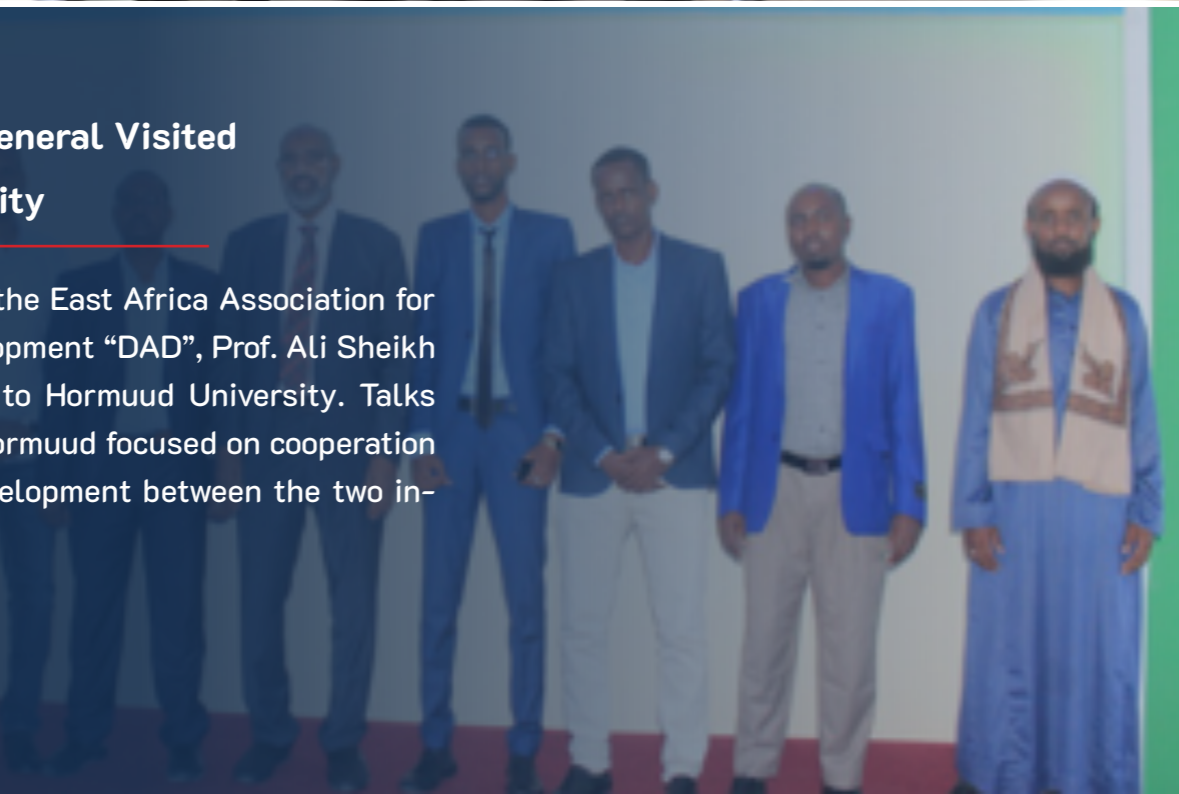
DAD's Director General Visited Puntland State of Somalia

DAD's Director General Prof. Ali Sheikh Ahmed have conducted ten days visit in Puntland where he visited East Africa University in Bosaso, Imam Nawawi Schools, civil society organizations and prominent business companies in the region.



DAD's Director General Visited Hormuud University

Director General of the East Africa Association for Research and Development "DAD", Prof. Ali Sheikh Ahmed paid a visit to Hormuud University. Talks between DAD and Hormuud focused on cooperation on research and development between the two institutions.



Prof. Ali Sheikh Ahmed on State-building and the Appropriate Approaches in Uganda

DAD's Director General Prof. Ali Sheikh Ahmed have conducted a program on state-building and the appropriate approaches for a successful nation building. The program was organized in Kampala, Uganda.



DG of East Africa Association for Research and Development visited office of YTB

Prof. Ali Sheikh Ahmed had a fruitful meeting with senior members of Turks Abroad and Related Communities Presidency on the issues of the Somali students and community in Turkey and how both DAD and YTB can cooperate on programs in the future.

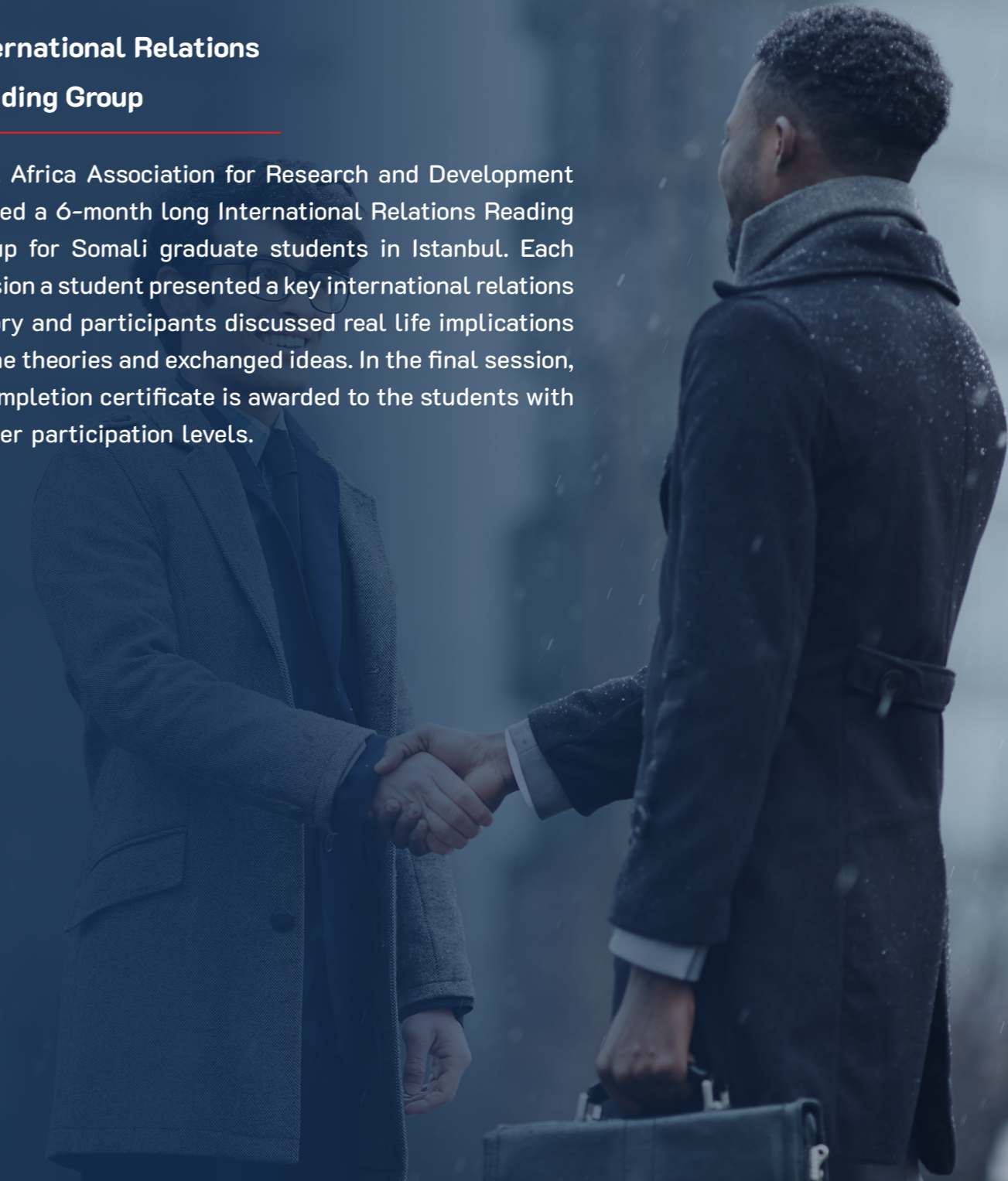


Books and Reading Groups

- International Relations Reading Group
- Dr Baadiyow discussion of his Book Making sense of the Somali history

International Relations Reading Group

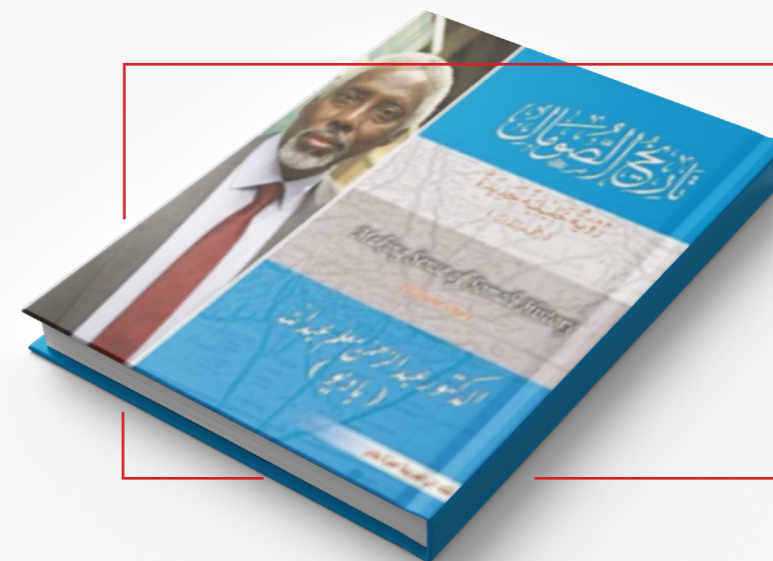
East Africa Association for Research and Development hosted a 6-month long International Relations Reading Group for Somali graduate students in Istanbul. Each session a student presented a key international relations theory and participants discussed real life implications of the theories and exchanged ideas. In the final session, a completion certificate is awarded to the students with higher participation levels.



Dr Badiyow discuss his Book

“Making sense of the Somali history”

In Istanbul November 2019, Dr. Abdurahman Abdullahi Badiyow discussed with youth Somali students his Book “Making sense of the Somali history”. Dr Badiyow in his book explores the history of the people of Somali peninsula since ancient times, the advent of Islam and colonialism, the rise and fall of Somali nationalism and the perspectives of the Somali state collapse.





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