



3.2 EU Humanitarian and Development Initiatives in Somalia: Upholding Human Dignity, Minority Rights, and Equality

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ABSTRACT

This paper analyzes the European Union's humanitarian and development initiatives in Somalia through the lens of fundamental principles: human dignity, minority rights, and equality. The EU's multifaceted programs are designed to build stability, resilience, and inclusive development amidst challenges like conflict, drought, and political instability. A rights-based approach is central, focusing on protecting vulnerable groups—including internally displaced persons, minorities, women, and children—by ensuring access to basic services and empowering local communities. The EU also works to safeguard minority rights through legal reforms, inclusive governance, and community dialogue to reduce marginalization and social tensions. Promoting gender equality and social inclusion is integral to the EU's long-term development agenda. The paper concludes that despite ongoing challenges such as social segregation and insecurity, the EU's adherence to these core values is critical for fostering sustainable peace, inclusive development, and social justice in Somalia. It advocates for participatory, multi-stakeholder strategies to enhance the effectiveness of interventions grounded in human rights principles.

Keywords: European union; Humanitarian aid; Development; Human dignity; Minority rights; Somalia

