



1.2 The European Union (EU)-Somalia Cooperation: Areas, Achievements, Challenges, and Opportunities

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ABSTRACT

This study offers a comprehensive assessment of the cooperation between the European Union and Somalia, examining its key areas, achievements, persistent challenges, and future opportunities. A qualitative research approach, utilizing an extensive documentary review of academic articles, policy documents, and reports, forms the methodological basis. The analysis identifies multiple areas of cooperation: governance and institutional development, security and counterterrorism, development assistance, humanitarian aid, trade and investment, migration, and regional integration. Notable achievements include contributions to security and stability through support for AMISOM, substantial humanitarian assistance, and progress in governance and state-building. However, the effectiveness of this cooperation is hindered by significant challenges such as ongoing security concerns, weak institutional capacity, political fragmentation, infrastructure deficits, corruption, and recurrent humanitarian crises. The study also highlights opportunities for enhanced partnership in economic development, capacity building, infrastructure, and inclusive peacebuilding. Recommendations include strengthening political dialogue, increasing tailored financial support, enhancing local capacity-building, fostering sustainable economic development, and promoting inclusive governance to improve the partnership's impact and sustainability.

Keywords: European union; Somalia; Cooperation; Development; Governance

