

Security Council

Stability in the Horn of Africa



Research Report

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The power of the Internet

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Introduction

The Horn of Africa is the region in the easternmost extension of land in Africa, containing the countries of Djibouti, Eritrea, Somalia and Ethiopia. Aside from the aforementioned states, when referring to the Horn of Africa parts of Kenya, Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda or Tanzania might also be included.¹ The Horn has always been an important geostrategic region throughout the course of history however, the opening of the Suez canal further expanded its significance since it became one of the principal lines of communication with Europe as well as with the East. Nowadays, its importance has been enhanced even more as it plays an integral part in the Red Sea/ Persian Gulf/ Indian Ocean sector of superpower rivalry.

Tensions in East Africa have been rising over the past decades. The Horn is inhabited by various different ethnic, linguistic, cultural and religious groups which unfortunately has generated distrust, antagonism and deep-seated conflicts. This cultural diversity instead of becoming a gratifying force of mutually enriching inter-relationships became the distinguishing figure for further discrimination, hatred and ethnic polarisation. This, in combination with different national goals and ambitions, has made it impossible for an environment of unity, peace and stability to be established and maintained.

The severe instability in the region gave the great powers an opportunity to take advantage of the declining economy of the region and impose their ideals and political, economic and strategic aspirations on regional states in exchange for their financial help and military support. This condition has enabled the great powers, such as the USA, China and the Russian Federation, to spread their influences without much resistance and intervene in the affairs of the area exacerbating the tension between the rivals. It is also worth mentioning that, aside from the great power competition in the region, Middle Eastern states, such as the United Arab

¹ "Horn of Africa." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., <https://www.britannica.com/place/Horn-of-Africa>.

Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Qatar, Iran and Egypt, have been pursuing their interest in the area adding to their centuries-old and complex history.

The aforementioned reasons have led the Horn of Africa to become a region of extreme social instability, interminable political upheaval, economic chaos, civil disputes and the battleground of several proxy wars. The Security Council, being the only UN instrument that can impose actions and measures on States, holds the future of the region in a chokehold. It is of vital importance to implement different mechanisms aiming towards regional security, peace and stability so as to prevent further aggravation of the situation and ensure the maintenance of a just and conflict-free environment where the economy, cultural diversity and politics can finally flourish. We must all cooperate, share ideas and perceptions so as to combat such a multifaceted issue efficiently while remaining within the United Nations Charter and respecting the indispensable right to sovereignty.

Definition of Key Terms

Coalition

A coalition is defined as the temporary combination of two or more political parties or groups that were before independent from each other, so as to form a government or achieve a common objective. The coalition of political parties aiming for the formation of a government is a common phenomenon and under certain circumstances can be maintained for a long period of time.²

Colonialism

Colonialism is defined as “control by one power over a dependent area or people”³. It occurs when a nation claims another while enforcing their language, culture and religion over the native people.

Coup d’etat

A coup d’etat is defined as “the sudden, violent overthrow of an existing government by a small group”⁴. It is a method of governmental reform and is a common occurrence in revolutions, conflicts and civil wars.

² “Coalition.” *Cambridge Dictionary*, <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/coalition>.

³ Blakemore, Erin. “Colonialism Facts and Information.” *Culture*, National Geographic, 3 May 2021, <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/culture/article/colonialism>.

⁴ “Coup D’état.” *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., <https://www.britannica.com/topic/coup-detat>.

Extremism

Extremism is considered the advocacy of extreme ideologies or measures. It is usually found in a political or religious context, known as religious and political extremism, but can also be used to describe economic ideals. Extremism in all forms is an ideology that is considered far from the general stance of society. It is closely linked to fanaticism and radicalism.⁵

Horn of Africa

The Horn of Africa is considered a sub-region of the larger part of East Africa and is also sometimes referred to as the Somali Peninsula. Although it consists of four basic nations, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Somalia, some definitions also include the states of Kenya, Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda and Tanzania. Its coasts are washed by the Gulf of Aden, the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea.⁶

General Overview

History of the Horn of Africa

The Horn of Africa has a long and complex history often making it difficult to distinguish the legitimate reasons behind the different conflicts appearing in the region. Looking through the history of the area, it becomes evident that colonialism has been one of the distinguishing factors shaping politics, conflicts and relations between the states as we know them today. During the New Imperialism period, known as the era between the 1880s and the start of World War I, Europeans started claiming African territory driven by their



⁵"Extremism." *CambridgeDictionary*, <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/extremism>.

⁶"Horn of Africa." *New World Encyclopedia*, . 14 Jan 2018, 15:50 UTC. 26 Sep 2021, 11:16 https://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/p/index.php?title=Horn_of_Africa&oldid=1008778

own commercial interests. During the Scramble for Africa⁷, also known as the Race for Africa, Eritrea was colonized by Italians and Djibouti by the French. Part of Somalia was colonized by the British and another by the Italians forming Italian and British Somaliland. Ethiopia was the only nation in the Horn of Africa that managed to remain independent and autonomous during that time yet was occupied for a brief period during World War II by Italy. Foreign colonialism created boundaries and sparked conflicts that have yet to be resolved.

World War II caused a sudden termination to Italian colonialism as all three countries, Ethiopia, Eritrea and Italian Somaliland, were liberated by the British between April and May of 1941. The excitement which arose from the Italian defeat as well as from the Atlantic Declaration⁸ was to be short-lived as it was quickly proven that the great powers were to pursue policies once again dictated by their national interests. The colonial powers were not willing to renounce their colonies just yet as they benefited greatly from their overseas territory. The French were reinstated in French Somaliland, Great Britain refused to relinquish their control over British Somaliland and even Ethiopia's independence and autonomy could be considered strictly nominal. Independence movements in Eritrea and the two Somalilands failed to exert British Power. The process of decolonization was also impeded by the outbreak of the Cold War as the US and USSR tried imposing their opposing national policies, leading to more tension and causing proxy wars all over the continent of Africa.

Regional Conflicts

Throughout modern history, a number of regional disputes have formed prolonging armed violence, conflict, political and social instability, the economic recession which have all had extremely severe effects on the humanitarian sector as well as on the regional environmental state.

The Eritrea-Ethiopia dispute

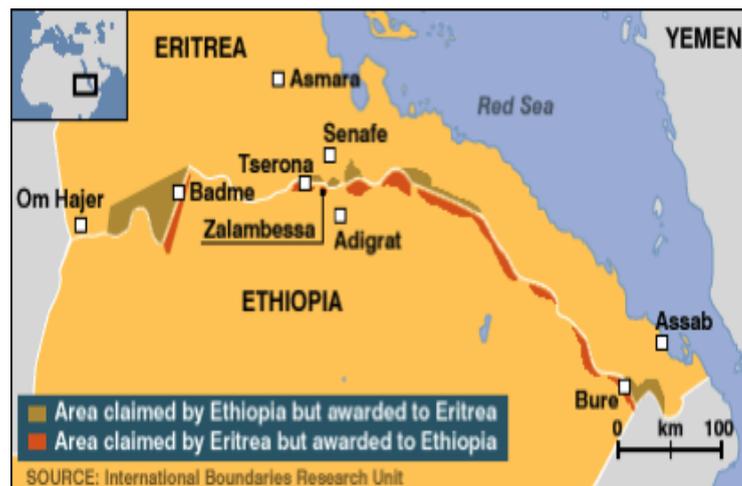
The Eritrea-Ethiopia conflict was sparked in 1998 and was followed by a number of very disastrous incidents which have inevitably stigmatized both of the nations' histories. Before Eritrea was occupied by the Italians in 1986, it belonged to the Ethiopian empire. However, during World War II, after the defeat of the Italians in

⁷ "Scramble for Africa." *New World Encyclopedia*, . 2 Nov 2019, 05:12 UTC. 29 Sep 2021, 16:13<https://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/p/index.php?title=Scramble_for_Africa&oldid=1026554>.

⁸ Nato. "'The Atlantic Charter' - Declaration of Principles Issued by the President of the United States and the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom." *NATO*, https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_16912.htm.

1941, Eritrea was liberated and the United Nations determined that Eritrea would be reemerged with Ethiopia whilst remaining autonomous under the sovereignty of Ethiopian rule as stated in resolution 390 A(V).⁹ Eritrea would be allowed to keep its own laws, flags and language. Even though Eritrea was once part of the Ethiopian empire, the Italian rule altered the nation's history distinctly in comparison to Ethiopia which had never been colonized. In 1961 Ethiopia breached the agreement and removed Eritrea's autonomy and independence turning it into another Ethiopian province. This was highly condemned by the Eritrean public and it set the first motive behind the conflict between Eritreans claiming complete independence from Ethiopia and the Ethiopian State. During the 1970s and 1980s, armed opposition continued against the Ethiopian State and by the late 1980s Ethiopia was threatened by the organized rebel groups that were formed, namely the Oromo Liberation Front, the Tigrayans People's Liberation Front (TPLF), and the Eritreans' People's Liberation Front (EPLF). These different rebel groups began organizing coordinated actions which proved to be very successful and later on the TPLF started reaching out to other ethnic groups so as to form an umbrella organization, known as the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF). This organization included most ethnic groups in Ethiopia aside from Eritreans as they understood their liberation would be inevitable once the Ethiopian government was overthrown. In 1991, Eritrea finally gained its independence establishing its State in the North which became officially autonomous in 1993 after a UN-sponsored referendum.

The separation was done in a diplomatic manner: Ethiopia took complete responsibility for their actions, left them with a substantial amount of resources and granted them control over the port of Assab which is of great geographical and strategic importance. However, the borders between Ethiopia and Eritrea were never clearly marked and it was just assumed that they would remain the same as before their incorporation in Ethiopia in 1952. But those borders had never been clear either leaving the two nations facing issues with the corps on the border region which led to heated conflict between civilians. A



⁹ "Eritrea : Report of the United Nations Commission for Eritrea; Report of the Interim Committee of the General Assembly on the Report of the United Nations Commission for Eritrea." *United Nations*, United Nations, <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/666498?ln=en>.

number of economic rooted reasons, such as high export charges for Ethiopians from the port of Assab and different currencies, raised the tensions to an all-time high by the year 1997. As diplomatic tensions grew, Eritrean diplomats walked out of talks in May 1998.¹⁰

The confrontation arose when an armed group of Eritreans crossed the area of Badme. Within the week, troops clashed in the region of Badme, marking the start of two brutal years of warfare. The Eritrean takeover of Badme moved the dispute from diplomatic conversations to military conflict, deploying development, causing fatalities, breaching internationally recognized human rights and crumbling the economy.

Conflict in Ethiopia

On November 4th 2020, Ethiopian Prime Minister, Abiy Ahmed, launched an offensive attack against rebel forces in the northern Tigray region. The crisis can be rooted back in Ethiopia's federal system which, since 1994, has been separated into ten sub-regions, each controlled by a different ethnic group. The Tigray's People Liberation Front (TPLF) played a very influential role during the establishment of said system. The TPLF was one of the four parties of a coalition set up after the military regime, Siad Barre's government, was ousted from power in 1991. Even though the coalition assisted in stabilizing the state as well as developing the economy, major concerns were raised about democracy, basic freedoms and the credibility of the elections. Civilians organized mass protests which resulted in a government reshuffle bringing Abiy Ahmed into power. Mr Abiy set up the Prosperity Party, which the TPLF refused to join, and removed several Tigrayan politicians from office accusing them of corruption and repression. In 2019 Mr Abiy even managed to put an end to the Ethiopian-Eritrean border dispute, earning him a Nobel Peace Prize. These actions created upheaval amongst the Tigrayan population who interpreted his activities as an effort to destroy the feudal system and centralized power. When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, the government postponed its elections; however, Tigray defied the central government and held its own elections. In October, the central government stopped funding Tigray which the Tigray people characterized as a "declaration of war". However, military confrontation officially began when Tigrayan forces were accused of invading army bases to steal weapons. Mr Abiy stated that "The federal government is therefore forced into a military confrontation" as he believed Tigray had crossed a "red line"¹¹. Eritrea quickly joined the war on the side of the central government as they believed the TPLF was to blame for the prior conflict. Some of the worst abuses committed in the Tigray region have been blamed on Eritrean soldiers.¹²

¹⁰ Dias, Alexandra Magnólia. "Borderless World vs Borders as Walls: Insights from a Borderland Group in Northern Ethiopia." *Crossing African Borders - Borderless World vs Borders as Walls: Insights from a Borderland Group in Northern Ethiopia*, Centro De Estudos Internacionais, 1 Jan. 1970, <https://books.openedition.org/cei/222>.

¹¹ "Ethiopia's Tigray War: The Short, Medium and Long Story." *BBC News*, BBC, 29 June 2021, <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-54964378>.

¹² Walsh, Declan, and Abdi Latif Dahir. "Why Is Ethiopia at War with Itself?" *The New York Times*, The

Conflict in Somalia

Somalia's population, unlike the majority of other African nations, majorly consist of a single, homogeneous, religiously compliant ethnic group that shares the same culture and language. However, the population has been divided into different clans based on common ancestors. During the Colonial period, Britain and Italy would use a divide and rule tactic along clan lines and engaged in collective punishment of clans. Colonial administration would use a patrimonial system of resource distribution and emphasize the division of the population into clans, an ideology that has stuck with the Somalian people up to now. Whereas one would suspect that the fact that Somalia consists of one major ethnic group would facilitate the maintenance of long term peace, Somalia has actually been waged in one of the cruellest civil wars for the past two decades. In October 1969, Mohamed Siad Barre staged a military coup d'état against the elected government of the time. He held dictatorial rule until January 1991 when his regime was ousted and had to flee the country. Since then, Somalia has remained without a functioning central government and atrocities are being committed to this day.

Unlike many African populations, the overwhelming majority of the Somalis are part of a single, homogeneous, religiously compliant, ethnic group. All Somalis are Muslim and share the same language and culture. Nevertheless, one of the most terrible civil wars in Africa has been waged in this country for more than two decades. Competition for resources as well as power remains the main cause behind this conflict however, colonial legacy and repression by the military regime consist of the major background causes of the civil war. Clan identity is rooted in political interests, wide availability of weapons, which have been circulating on the market for more than twenty years, and the high percentages of unemployment among youth have continued to exacerbate the problem and allow the continuation of violence.

Terrorism

Throughout the past decade, the Horn of Africa has become a major centre for organized terrorism. The severe political instability, corruption, wide accessibility to illegal weapons, poor border controls and social and ethnic inequalities have attracted several terrorist groups and organizations to take over the area, aggravating the situation even more. It becomes evident that the Horn of Africa is a tension-filled crossroad in a range of different aspects. The intense presence of terrorist groups in the region threatens the security of people and puts fundamental human rights at risk.

New York Times, 5 Nov. 2020, <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/11/05/world/africa/ethiopia-tigray-conflict-explained.html#link-2dbf1cb2>.

One of the major terrorism organizations located in the Horn, and specifically Somalia, is al-Shabaab. Al-Shabaab is a Jihadist group created in 2006 mainly attacking places of mass gathering and one of its basic motives is establishing a fundamentalist Islamic State in Somalia. Al-Shabaab has been connected with Al-Qaeda, the terrorist organization responsible for the 9/11 attacks against the USA, and is now considered their ally. There have also been several allegations that the group is cooperating with other terrorist groups in Africa, such as with Boko Haram in Nigeria. Nevertheless, it states a major threat to the security of the region as it has proven to be of extreme power. It has carried out several attacks throughout the years including the 2010 World Cup bombing killing 74 people watching the match, the Garissa's university attack in Kenya killing 148 people and many more.¹³ Even though it has been partly confined and does not control a large number of regions in Somalia anymore, it is still fuelling terrorist attacks, prolonging violence and expanding its agenda.

Environmental Degradation

The ongoing conflict has led to the Horn of Africa standing out as one of the most environmentally vulnerable regions in the world. In a more global context, the environmental effect of conflict could be considered as either direct or indirect. The direct impact includes all military-related actions which can have immediate physical effects, such as nuclear contamination, destruction of buildings and infrastructure and natural resource destruction.

On the contrary, indirect impact includes all those effects which may occur or start to appear a while after the conflict. In the case of the Horn of Africa, although it is evidently richly endowed with natural resources, conflict and colonization have not allowed the States to take proper advantage of them thus remaining one of the poorest corners of the globe. During the past decades, military conflict accompanied by major natural disasters, such as droughts and severe floods, have led to widespread devastation, famine and population displacement. All of the above, in addition to an unstable administrative system, unable to properly address the environmental degradation that has followed all these years of conflict, have seriously affected the region.

Conflict and environmental degradation are two terms very closely linked and could be considered as "co-depending", meaning that the heavy existence of one can spark the other. In the Horn of Africa, both of these phenomena have been reported. Excessive armed conflict has led to the destruction of natural resources and disruption in the climate as well as destructive natural disasters have been the cause for conflict. For example, water scarcity has raised tensions to an all-time high as

¹³ "Who Are Somalia's Al-Shabab?" *BBC News*, BBC, 22 Dec. 2017, <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-15336689>.

States fail to cover their needs and often attempt to seek a foreign land to gain access to natural resources.

Human Rights Abuses

Political upheaval in the Horn of Africa has taken the media's eye off of the innumerable human rights that are being violated all over the region on a daily basis. The situation in the region has had severe impacts on the humanitarian aspect and on people's fundamental human rights. The ongoing war in the Tigray region has been one of the cruellest conflicts in recent history. Eritrean soldiers have been accused of sexual and gender-based violence and assault, homicides of civilians, forced displacement of residents of Tigray and many more. In June 2021, more than 1.7 million people had been displaced and it seems to be one of the world's worst famine situations in years, with more than 5.2 million people in need of urgent assistance. About 33,000 are young children and babies are dangerously close to sickness and potential death from malnutrition, Unicef says. Further, two million people are classed as on the brink of "severe crisis".¹⁴ Aside from Ethiopia, Somali people have continuously had their human rights infringed upon and no organization has managed to put an end to the atrocities committed in the area. A report by Amnesty International in 2020 stated that freedom of expression was violated as journalists were harassed, threatened, arbitrarily arrested and killed. Women's and girls' lives are put at risk by sexual violence and gender-based cruelty. In addition, girls continue to undergo the medically prohibited practice of Genital Mutilation on a regular level. Government critics are being harassed, censored and prosecuted and attacks on media houses are a common phenomenon. As Amnesty International stated, "The ongoing conflict between the government and its regional and international partners on one side, and the armed group Al-Shabaab on the other, combined with a series of natural disasters and the COVID-19 pandemic, had a devastating impact on the civilian population, causing further food insecurity and mass displacement".¹⁵

All of the aforementioned are either considered war crimes, crimes against humanity or major violations of human rights and are prohibited by international law, yet are being committed every day. The crisis in the Horn of Africa is after all a humanitarian crisis and aside from its causes should be treated as such. More Economically Developed Countries (MEDCs) are focusing on the number of deaths and the economic crisis, that is caused by the conflict and instability in the Horn of

¹⁴ "Ethiopia Conflict: 33,000 Tigray Children Risk Death from Hunger - Un." *BBC News*, BBC, 11 June 2021, <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-57446154>.

¹⁵ "Somalia2020Archives." *Amnesty International*, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/location/afri-ca/east-africa-the-horn-and-great-lakes/somalia/report-somalia/>.

Africa and undermine the importance of human life, completely unable to comprehend the terrible living conditions of those living in the area.

Major Parties Involved

Eritrea

As it was aforementioned, Eritrea has struggled severely through the past decades due to conflict, political instability and more. The only president since Eritrea's independence has been Isaias Afwerki with his rule being strictly autocratic and repressive since the year 2001. His government's unpopular program of mandatory conscription for all males into national service, which is of indefinite length, has constructed a militarized society that does not encourage social, cultural, economic or academic advancement. Since the 2018 Peace agreement with Ethiopia, the nation has focused a lot on prioritizing diplomatic relations, ensuring security and creating an environment of stability. In December 2018 the Security Council also lifted the arms embargo, which had been imposed on the State, after not finding any evidence of them supporting Al-Shabaab. It is of vital importance that the progress it managed to report over the past three years is maintained and enhanced even further so as to achieve adequate living conditions for its residents. Its recent involvement with the Tigrayan puts the state's security in immediate danger and it is necessary for the conflict to be restricted so as for Eritrea to be given the ability to progress in all sectors.

Djibouti

Even though Djibouti has also had an intricate history with authoritarian rule and civil war, nowadays it has managed to remain mostly uninvolved from the neighbouring conflicts and maintain a basic level of stability. Due to its geopolitical location, Djibouti embodies a crucial strategic spot for trade and other transactions. Due to its easy accessibility, Djibouti has often been linked with human trafficking chains for forced labour and sexual exploitation. People crossing East Africa en route to Yemen and the other Middle Eastern states are vulnerable to exploitation in Djibouti and women and girls may be forced into domestic prostitution or servitude.

Somalia

Years of violence and conflict, the intense presence of terrorist groups and criminal activities and authoritarian rule have brought Somalia to its knees. Human rights are not only being infringed but are completely undermined, and there are more than 2.9 million Internally Displaced Persons due to conflict, famine and natural disasters. A mission to stabilize Somalia will be of extreme difficulty as its economy, social unity

and respect towards diplomacy and international law are lacking. However, it must be initiated and enforced as the country's future is at stake.

Ethiopia

Ethiopia is the second-most populous country in Africa and one of the poorest countries in the world, with the vast majority of its population living under the poverty line. It has suffered from long-standing war and military conflict, extreme weather conditions such as droughts, famine and extreme political, social and economic instability. Ethiopia is also struggling from the presence of terrorist organizations, such as Al-Shabaab, almost 2 million Internally Displaced Persons due to both conflict and natural disasters, and illegal drug trade. It is evident that stability and security in the state are nowhere close to the near future and it is a mission of the international community to provide aid, encourage dialogue and increase productivity in the area so as to make a few steps forward towards economic, social and political stability, peace and security.

USA

USA's presence in the Horn of Africa, as well as its involvement in regional disputes, is undeniable. After World War II, the US had major interests in Eritrea and established some of the first American forces there as they played a key role in securing lend-lease lifeline support through the Persian Gulf towards Russia and provided communication lines and air support for military operations in the Middle East and North Africa. The US also developed economic and military relations with Ethiopia as well as with Somalia mostly aiming for modernization, the establishment of diplomatic relationships and economic and social development in the region. However, during the 1960s, the Soviets began supplying excessive amounts of weapons to Somalia which disrupted the balance in the region as well as aggravated the relations between the two superpowers, which were already in turmoil due to the Cold War.¹⁶ Nevertheless, the US has kept relations with nations in the Horn of Africa as it serves their national interests, with the area being of extreme strategic importance.

¹⁶ Henze, Paul B. "The United States and the Horn of Africa: History and Current Challenge." *RAND Corporation*, 1 Jan. 1990, <https://www.rand.org/pubs/notes/N3198.html>.

Timeline of Events

<i>1880s-1914</i>	The New Imperialism Period
<i>1914-1918</i>	World War One
<i>1935-1941</i>	Italian occupation of Ethiopia
<i>1941</i>	Liberation of Eritrea, Italian Somaliland and Ethiopia from the Italians by the British
<i>14th of August 1941</i>	The Publication of the joint “Atlantic Declaration” by Winston Churchill and Franklin Roosevelt
<i>1939-1945</i>	World War Two
<i>1952</i>	Eritrea is reintegrated into Ethiopia
<i>1961</i>	Ethiopia breaches their agreement with Eritrea
<i>1969</i>	Siad Barre stages a military coup and overthrows the elected government of the time
<i>1991</i>	Siad Barre’s dictatorial regime is ousted
<i>1998</i>	The Eritrea-Ethiopia border dispute turns into a military conflict with the invasion of Badme
<i>2000</i>	UN Peace Agreement between Ethiopia and Eritrea
<i>2001</i>	9/11 attacks on the USA by Al-Qaeda
<i>December 2018</i>	Security Council lifts arms embargo from Eritrea
<i>July 2018</i>	Ethiopia-Eritrea signing a peace agreement
<i>November 4th 2020</i>	The outbreak of the Tigray war

Possible Solutions

Promotion of diplomacy and international dialogue

Several of the conflicts that have arisen in the Horn of Africa over the course of history could have been prevented or at least restricted to a great extent through better communication between the States. It is evident that there is an unwillingness among the regional governors to discuss their disputes, which was made clear by the Badme situation in 1998. It is of extreme importance to establish an environment of unity based on diplomacy and discussion if stability in the region is to be achieved. The UN provides nations with an international forum for dialogue, bestowing member-states with the choice and access to peaceful, democratic discussions.

Counter-Terrorism measures

One of the major issues which have prolonged conflict and violence in the region and have disabled the achievement of peace, stability and security, is the presence of terrorist organizations. Member-states must take all the measures necessary to limit terrorist activities in the region and discover the people standing and supporting those organizations so as to prevent their reunification. The mandate of the Security Council allows its members to impose military and/or economic sanctions on states and organizations which could be a possible solution to members supporting those lethal groups. Stability and security in the Horn of Africa will be neither attained nor maintained if those terrorist operations are not properly addressed and dealt with.

Humanitarian Crisis Response

As stated before, the conflicts in the Horn of Africa, in combination with a number of other parameters, have led to an immense humanitarian crisis which has put a lot of people's lives in danger and keeps on doing so. The Security Council has the ability to research and encourage the eviction of those responsible for crimes against humanity and war crimes as well as ensuring their proper eviction. The Security Council is not responsible for providing aid to the ones in danger however, it can in a more "indirect" manner. The Security Council can seek justice for already committed crimes, prevent their reoccurrence, suggest them to international judicial instruments and certify that proper punishment to the ones responsible is given.

Environmental Response

Environmental degradation in the Horn of Africa due to conflict is an issue that if not addressed properly will continue to aggravate. The Security Council must take all measures possible under its mandate so as to prevent further destruction of the regional natural resources as well as to control the damage that has already been made.

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Figure 1: "Scramble for Africa." *New World Encyclopedia*, . 2 Nov 2019, 05:12 UTC. 2 Sep,2021,16:13<https://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/p/index.php?title=Scramble_for_Africa&oldid=1026554>.

Figure 2: Dias, Alexandra Magnólia. "Borderless World vs Borders as Walls: Insights from a Borderland Group in Northern Ethiopia." *Crossing African Borders - Borderless World vs Borders as Walls: Insights from a Borderland Group in Northern Ethiopia*, Centro De Estudos Internacionais, 1 Jan. 1970, <https://books.openedition.org/cei/222>.