

THE PROBLEMS OF SUSTAINING FRIENDLY INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS BETWEEN SOMALIA, KENYA AND ETHIOPIA

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to identify the problems of sustaining friendly international relations between Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia. The research aim is to explore the impact of their relationship. The researchers conducted correlation in this study. Correlation is a research design where the researchers determine of whether or not and to what extent an association exists between two or paired variables. The researchers' purpose is to contrast two or more characteristics from the similar set and give details how characteristics vary together (Osa & Onen, 2008). The relationship between the government of Somalia and Kenya, The result indicated that there is positive correlation as indicated r. value .567 and the sig. value .000 in this study the researchers reject their hypothesis and accept the alternative, which is the existence of positive correlation between government of Somalia and Kenya. And association between the variables showed a high statistically significant result. This is the relationship between government of Somalia and Ethiopia. Results indicated a positive and significant relationship between the government of Somalia and Ethiopia, and this was indicated by the r and sig values (r. value=.327and sig=.003), this was so because the sig-value was less than 0.05 which is the required level of significance in social sciences in order to declare a significant relationship. The study therefore recommends that Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia continue to keep the Diplomatic leaders and promoting democratic peace of these neighboring countries as it will aim on improving the socio-livelihood of the three nations.

Keywords: Sustaining Friendly, International Relations between Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia.

INTRODUCTION

The Ethiopian–Somali conflict was a territorial and political dispute between the territories of present-day Ethiopia and Somalia. Lasting from the late 1940s until 2009, the tensions culminated in three wars and numerous military clashes alongside the borders. During the 16th century, Imam Ahmad ibn Ibrahim al-Ghazi (Ahmad Gurey or Gagn) led a Conquest of Abyssinia (*Futuh al-Habash*), which brought three-quarters of the Christian polity under the power of the Muslim Adal Sultanate. With an army mainly composed of Somalis, Al-Ghazi's forces and their Ottoman allies came close to extinguishing the ancient Ethiopian kingdom. However, the Abyssinians managed to secure the assistance of Cristóvão da Gama's Portuguese troops and maintain their domain's autonomy. Both polities in the process exhausted their resources and manpower, which resulted in the contraction of both powers and changed regional dynamics for centuries to come. Many historians trace the origins of hostility between Somalia and Ethiopia to this war.^[4] Some scholars also argue that this conflict proved, through their use on both sides, the value of firearms such as the match lock musket, cannons and the arquebus over traditional weapons. (ABBINK, 2003)

Somalis in Kenya have historically inhabited the Northern Frontier District (NFD), later renamed the North Eastern Province. The NFD came into being in 1925, when it was carved out of the Juba land region in present-day southern Somalia. At the time under British colonial administration, the northern half of Juba land was ceded to Italy as a reward for the Italians' support of the Allies during World War I. Britain retained control of the southern half of the territory, which was later called the Northern Frontier District.

On June 26, 1960, four days before granting British Somaliland independence, the British government declared that all Somali-inhabited areas of East Africa should be unified in one administrative region. However, after the dissolution of the former British colonies in the region, Britain granted administration of the Northern Frontier District to Kenyan nationalists despite an informal plebiscite demonstrating the overwhelming desire of the region's population to join the newly formed Somali Republic. On the eve of Kenyan independence in August 1963, British officials belatedly realized that the new Kenyan administration was not willing to give up the Somali-inhabited areas it had just been granted administration of. Led by the Northern Province People's Progressive Party (NPPPP), Somalis in the NFD vigorously sought union with their kin in the Somali Republic to the north. In response, the Kenyan government enacted a number of repressive measures designed to frustrate their efforts in what came to be known as the Shifta War.

Relations between Kenya and Somalia have historically been tense. Agitations over self-determination in the Somali-inhabited Northern Frontier District culminated in the Shifta War during the 1960s. Although the conflict ended in a cease-fire, Somalis in the region still identify and maintain close ties with their kin in Somalia. In October 2011, a coordinated operation between the Somali military and the Kenyan military began against the Al-Shabaab group of insurgents in southern Somalia. The mission was officially led by the Somali army, with the Kenyan forces providing a support role. In early June 2012, Kenyan troops were formally integrated into AMISOM. (Godfrey Mwakikagile, 2007).

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The Kenyan, Ethiopia–Somali conflicts has been a consistent issue since the colonial period. Problems have ranged from petty skirmishes between the three communities, to police harassment, extortion, home invasions, physical violence, and massacres perpetrated against the Somali community. And also the government of Kenya's and Ethiopia military adventure cannot usefully be considered solely in terms of an external threat from Somalia. There is, as with all conflicts, no single reason why the country finds itself at war.

A complex mix of local politics and economics is at play, as well the activities of al-Shabaab. The problems of sustaining friendly international relations between Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia the due to their similarity in ethnical, cultural, geographical and even religious because the identity of Somalis is principally shaped by Islam and cultural practices that collectively form the everyday decisions and lives of the Somali government. Therefore the researcher intends to identify the problems of sustaining friendly relations between Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia. In the current atmosphere of mistrust, occupation, lack of control of internal rebel groups within Somalia, and the tendencies of the neighboring countries to military infester with the running of Somalia state administration.

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The purpose of this study is to identify the problems of sustaining friendly international relations between Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia. The research aim is to explore the impact of their relationship.

- I. To establish the factors that contributes to the sustaining of friendly international relations between Somalia, Kenya, and Ethiopia.
- II. To establish the impact of the friendly relations between Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia to the people of all three countries.
- III. To establish the relationship between the factors and impacts of friendly international relations between Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Normative theory suggests that the positivist tenet of the ‘value-free’ nature of scientific knowledge has been challenged. Moreover, it has been claimed that positivism also has a ‘hidden normative content’ (Neufeld, 1995: 98-106). Primarily, researchers using a positivist approach within the study of IR have to choose a research field as well as a theory in order to examine the topic they have chosen. At this stage, they “may be influenced by their personal values in the pre-scientific choice of topic” (Neufeld, 1995: 99).

Moreover, the theory which social scientists use to explain their research topic is already embedded in certain normative preferences. So the chosen theory determines the facts, which will be taken into account according to its mainstream assumptions. In the next stage, in order to explain the issue faced with, it is required to make an interpretation viewing from the each side of the problem. For a comprehensive understanding of each side’s claims, value systems should be considered. Furthermore, the researcher’s act of interpretation itself should be interpreted in the highlighting of his own values.⁴ consequently, as Frost points out, “International Relations scholars have to take normative positions” (Frost, 1994: 118).

Moreover, he asserts that “there is no way in which social scientists may legitimately avoid becoming involved in normative theory” (Frost, 1996: 34). This is primarily due to the fact that “the material which social scientists study is human actions and that these actions cannot be simply observed but need to be understood” (Frost, 1996: 40).

In order to do this, the observer or the investigator must engage in normative theory. Neufeld expresses a similar view asserting that, “the nature of positivism’s hidden normative content is now manifest ... [since it contains] explicit and implicit value judgments, and controversial normative and ideological claims” (Neufeld, 1995: 105) despite its value-free and objective talk. Another reason, which contributed to keep normative theory in the margins of the discipline, has been the dominance of realist theory in the field of IR. Briefly, realism defines a ‘balance of power’ system in which the primary actor, namely the state, pursues its own national interests (often defined in military terms), utilizing a rational decision-making process. In this sharp view of the world, there is no space left for ethical judgments in the realm of ‘high politics’. However, “realist concern with power and the balance of power (Neufeld, 1995)

This approach is known as the Verstehen approach to social sciences, which is also referred as ‘interpretative social science’ and sometimes as ‘humanist social science’. In 1958, Peter Winch combined the insights of these earlier theorists and published his conclusions in his

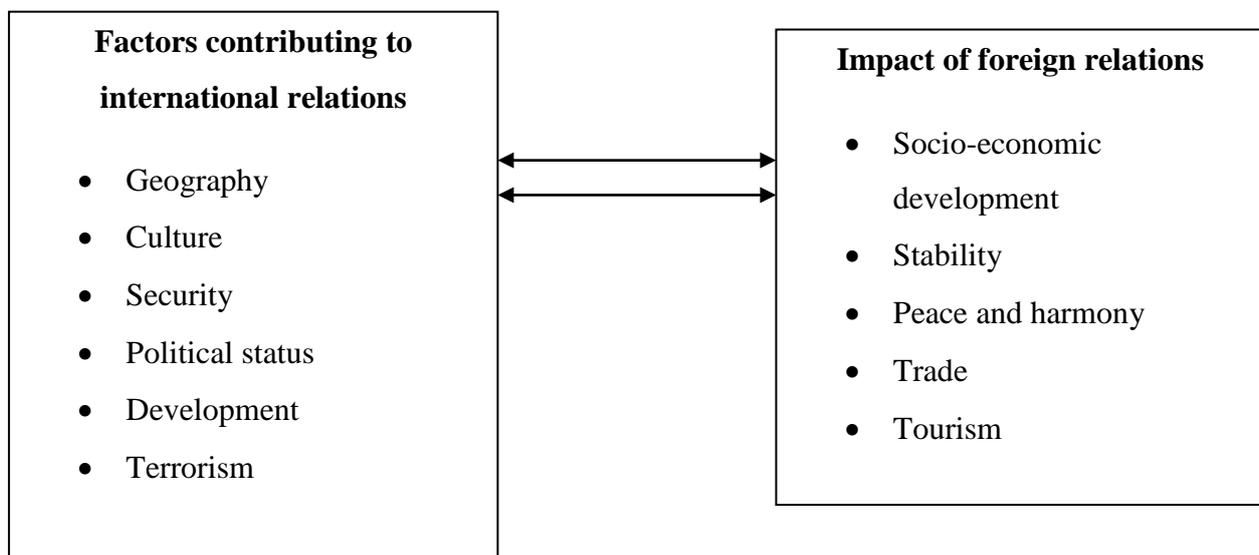
work called The Idea of a Social Science. Is closely related to the value commitments of statesmen who see order as essential to national security” (Viotti/Kauppi, 1993: 536).

According to Frost and Brown, another reason that has invalidated normative theory is the Cold War system itself. In the Cold War period, it was meaningless to make ethical claims within a bipolar system of power and nuclear deterrence. As Frost puts it, “in a ‘life or death’ struggle there did not appear to be much point in spending time and effort discussing the shape of a just world order” (Frost, 1996: 5). Therefore, the end of the Cold War, the emergence of new states bringing new ethical problems, and the rise of ethical concerns in world politics paved the way for normative theory to flourish in the last two decades.

‘Ethics in International Relations: A Constitutive Theory (1996)’ offers many insights into the IR theory and the practice of world politics. In his work, Frost attempts to construct a ‘background theory’, which will provide guidelines and justification for the consideration of what he calls ‘hard cases’ of IR. To this end, he applies Dworkin’s jurisprudential constructivist method to IR. By using Dworkin’s theory of legal argument in order to cope with the hard cases in law (which are not clearly covered by any settled rule of law or precedent but come up for decision before a judge), Frost tries to generate solutions to the hard cases of IR: “According to Dworkin’s model, it is possible to settle hard cases, ...but not without getting involved in “deep” discussions about the basic justifications for the institutions within which these issues arise” (frost, 1996a: 98).

This entails, according to Frost, the construction of a background theory for the institution within which the hard case in question arises. In his construction of a normative theory of international relations, Frost identifies the following steps: First, we must list all those norms in international relations that are considered settled in terms of the modern state domain of discourse. Second, we must attempt to construct the best possible background justification for this settled body of norms. Third, following through on step two, we must apply the procedure of reflective equilibrium. [This is a back-and-forth procedure, by moving back and forth between the settled rules and the background theory the judge seeks equilibrium.] Fourth, with the aid of the background theory we must generate answers to some of the hard cases facing international relations theorists (Frost, 1996a: 104).

CONCEPTUAL REVIEW



Somalia has experienced external intervention armed conflict since its independence on 1 July 1960. In addition to a number of inter-state wars over the years, it has suffered immensely from military coups and gross human rights violations. Despite a number of attempts to end the violence in Somalia, including 15 peace processes (e.g. partial peace processes, roadmaps, etc.), the security challenges remain demanding and have prompted further external intervention. Following a visit to Somalia in mid fall 2013, UN Deputy Secretary Jan Eliasson expressed support for an African Union (AU) proposal to triple peacekeeping troops in Somalia to 45,000 from the current 17,551. Although there are challenges to such a large increase, the UN Security Council in mid-November 2012 authorized an increase of 4,000 peacekeepers. The increase of number of troops, suggests that the situation in Somalia is too vulnerable to lose sight of despite the political gains made in recent years. (Siyad, 1980).

METHODOLOGY

The study utilized a descriptive survey design. Descriptive research is used when the problem is structured and well understood. In the third type of design mentioned by Ghauri and Gronhaug, the problems under investigation are also structured but in contrast to descriptive research, the researcher must deal with cause and effect problems and the researcher must isolate the causes and effects (explanatory research). The research design of this thesis is mainly descriptive in nature as the problem that we are dealing with is well structured and understood. Therefore, the researchers selected this design as it provides rigorous and replicable procedure for understanding relationships. Therefore quantitative data analysis was used in this study.

The target population of the study was Somali diplomats and diplomats and nationals of all three countries. The study specifically focused on literate people such as the Embassy of Kenya, the Embassy of Ethiopia and other nationals in Somalia; since the questionnaire is in English and the researchers could not find standard translation for the terminology set out in the literature of the study. Thus, the researchers were gone to avoid errors or bias in the findings that may result from the misunderstanding of the questionnaire by the respondents. The study utilized Slovin's formula to establish the sample size of the research. The formula is as follows

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(0.05)^2}$$

Categories	Target Population	Sample size
Diplomats from three countries	20	10
Parliament committee	30	15
Nationals from the three countries	50	35
Total	100	60

The sampling procedure of this study used non probability sampling procedure particularly; Purposive sampling was used to select the sample. Purposive sampling is a method of sampling where the researchers intentionally choose who to include in the study based on their ability to provide necessary data (Osa & Onen, 2008).

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

This part presents the background information of the respondents who participated in this study the purpose of this background information is to find out the characteristics of the respondents. Furthermore, the respondents have also been given the promise that all the data they provided is used for the purpose of Academic research and the identities of the respondents were confidential. In total, 60 respondents of politician people in Mogadishu-Somalia. They filled in the questionnaire 60 Politicians people in Mogadishu-Somalia. The shape of the questionnaire in the demographic section is looked upon in terms of Gender, Age, Education, Occupation, and Duration of stay in area.

Demographic Profile	Frequency	Percentage
Gander of the respondents		
Male	43	71.7%
Female	17	28.3%
Total	60	100%
Age:		
18 up to 30	5	8.3%
31 up to 40	11	18.3%
41 up to 50	20	33.3%
51 above	24	40.0%
Total	60	100%
Educational level:		
Secondary	5	8.3%
Diploma	12	20.0%
Bachelor	21	35.0%
Master	15	25.0%
Other	7	11.7%
Total	60	100%
Occupations:		
Parliament	20	33.3%
Diplomacy	6	10.0%
Ministry affaires	21	35.0%
Politician	10	16.7%
Other	3	5.0
Total	60	100%
Duration of stay in area:		
Below 1 year	8	13.3%
2 up to 5 years	22	36.7%
6 up to 10years	24	40.0%
Above 11 years	6	10.0%
Total	60	100%

Source: Primary data, 2016

Gender of the respondents

The above table 4.1 shows results indicated that majority of respondents were Male 43 (71.7%) and only 17 (28.3%) were female, Based on data gathered, the majority of the respondents are male, while a small number of the respondents are female.

Age of the respondents

The above table 4.1 Still results show that majority of respondents in this sample were between 51 above years of age (40.0%), these were followed by those between 41-50 years (33.3%), implying that majority of respondents in this sample are youths.

Educational level of the respondents

The above table 4.1 Concerning the respondents academic qualification, majority of them are bachelor degree holders (35.0%), 25.0% were Master degree holders and these were followed by Diploma degree holders (20.0%), implying that respondents in this sample were generally qualified.

Occupations of the respondents

The above table 4.1 shows the most of respondents department is Operations Parliament (8.3%), Diplomacy (20.0%), and Ministry affaires (35.0%). Politician (25.0%) and other (11.7%) the majority of the respondents were stay politician and Diplomacy.

Duration of stay in area of the respondents

The above table 4.1 shows With respect Duration of stay in area, results indicate that majority of these respondents had stay 6-10 years 24(40.0%), these were followed by those who had stay for 2-5 years 22(36.7%), implying that these workers have enough working experience.

The factors that contributes to the sustaining of friendly international relations

No	The factors that contributes to the sustaining of friendly international relations.	Mean	Std. Deviation	Interpretation
1.	Government of these countries have so far focused and decided to cooperate so that to protect their territories against and Terrorist movement especially AL_SHABAB.	2.90	.951	Very good
2.	Kenya and Ethiopia joined force and delayed solders (troupes) to fight AL_KHAIDA in Somalia so as to establish peace in Mogadishu.	2.98	1.049	Very good
3.	After the formation of the Transitional National Government (TNG) of Somalia, Ethiopia at first not recognize the inversion government and reportedly continued its roads against AL_SHABAB and supporting warlord faction . Hence accusations on both sides.	2.97	.863	Very good

4.	Mostly, terrorist movements have their basis in both Somalia and Ethiopia. But now Kenya is threatened and underdid some Terrors caused by terrorist coming from these countries. Hence Diplomatic cooperation and creation of neutral new military force is needed to neutralize that said movement.	2.85	.936	Very good
5.	Kenya and Ethiopia joined force and delayed solders (troupes) to fight AL_KHAIDA in Somalia so as to establish peace in Mogadishu.	1.38	.666	Poor
	Mean Index	2.62	.893	Very good

Source: Primary Data 2016

According to the above table presented the total mean index of the factors that contributes to the sustaining friendly relations between Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia is 2.62. This indicates that there is a very good of sustaining friendly relations between these countries. The researchers where fund the factors that contributes to the sustaining friendly are Fight AL_KHAIDA and Supporting Warlord Faction as indicted the mean index (2.98) and (2.97) respect. Three major factors have been explained by most scholars as the root causes of Somalia's conflict and the followed breakdown and statelessness of the country.

Impacts of the friendly relations to the people

No	Impacts of the friendly relations	Mean	Std. Deviation	Interpretation
1.	Socio economic development is achieved between the people of the three countries	2.80	.951	Very good
2.	Peace and harmony between the three countries is experienced	2.78	1.049	Very good
3.	Trade is achieved	2.57	.863	Very good
4.	Tourism is achieved	2.35	.936	Very good
5.	Stability of the nation is experienced	1.18	.666	Fair
	Mean Index	2.34	.893	Very good

Source: Primary Data 2016

Somalia's conflict is characterized by both typologies of conflicts that are explained above since this conflict broke out because of "bad domestic problems" it is also a "mass-Level" conflict because of the multiplicity of actors in it including regional states that involve in this conflict because of the problems flooding over borders to neighbor states (Brown, 1996: 580).

Somalia's case is a classic example of regionalized conflict since almost all states in the region have suffered "spillover" problems from Somalia. However, almost all states in the

region have military and political involvement in this conflict. Kenya and Ethiopia have both explained their concerns about willingness to create security “Buffer Zones” inside Somalia to protect their national security (Eriksson, 2013: 4). Although the result are showed the impact of three countries are socio economic and peace of harmony as indicted the mean index (2.80) and (2.78) respect.

Relationship between the friendly relations of Kenya, Somalia and Ethiopia

No	The relationship affects the friendly relations between these neighboring countries.	Mean	Std. Deviation	Interpretation
1.	The tension in relations with Somalia led imposing Ethiopia to draw close to Kenya (The Somalia did not decline either from demanding the unification with Somalia of the northern border region of Kenya, which is populated by Somalis) on anti-Somalia basis.	2.25	1.083	Good
2.	Diplomatic leaders of these countries through their stress that the issues between countries must be resolved by peaceful means to reduce displacement of people from country to country.	2.45	.907	Good
3.	The vision that Kenya, Somalia and Ethiopia have for the continent is similar with regards to promoting democratic peace through processes which are driven by African them-selves supported by AU and UN.	2.38	1.059	Good
4.	Kenya and Ethiopia they extended the territory of Somalia, is that broken or affect the relationship between those neighboring countries.	2.37	.882	Good
5.	Somalia has to join Easter African countries union as to facilitate their neighboring diplomatic relationship.	1.73	.578	Poor
	Mean Index	2.23	.902	Good

Source: Primary Data 2016

According to the above table presented the total mean index of the relationship affect the friendly relations between these neighboring countries is 2.23. This indicates that there is an existing the relationship affect the friendly relations between these countries. The researchers where fund the affect friendly relations are Diplomatic leaders and promoting democratic peace as indicted the mean index (2.45) and (2.38) respect.

DISCUSSION

Factors contributing to the friendly international relations

This study analyzes the Somali conflict and the involvement of the most influential external actors, notably Ethiopia and Kenya, and how their intervention in the conflict and peace process impacted the overall situation in Somalia in post 2000. Using Paul Wehr’s conflict

mapping model, which helps to understand the origin, nature and dynamics of a conflict, this study examined the Somali conflict with the help of Kaldor's theoretical framework of 'new wars' and Brown's concept of regional dimensions of internal conflict. Accordingly, the study found that the two countries in question have transnational security concern and their actions and behavior within this particular conflict is necessitated by their national security threats posed by the conflict in Somalia.

This is evident not only because Somalia's conflict gave sanctuary to rebel groups of neighboring states and international terrorist or radical groups involving proliferation of arms supplies and streaming of refugees, but also has become a regional one as it crosses the borders posing a clear and present danger on the national security of neighboring states and the entire eastern African region. Moreover, the "spill over" of the Somali conflict has created a clear threat to the international peace and security causing violence far beyond the region i.e. piracy in the international waters. This confirms Brown's assertion that an internal conflict becomes international issue when it crosses its borders and poses a threat to international peace and security (Brown, 1996).

Impact of the international relations

Somalia's case is a classic example of regionalized conflict since almost all states in the region have suffered "spillover" problems from Somalia. However, almost all states in the region have military and political involvement in this conflict. Kenya and Ethiopia have both explained their concerns about willingness to create security "Buffer Zones" inside Somalia to protect their national security (Eriksson, 2013: 4). Although the result are showed the impact of three countries are socio economic and peace of harmony as indicted the mean index (2.80) and (2.78) respect.

Relationship

The Last objective of this study is the relationship effects the friendly relations between these neighboring countries. The total mean index of the relationship affect the friendly relations between these neighboring countries is 2.23. This indicates that there is an existing the relationship affect the friendly relations between these countries. The researcher where fund the affect friendly relations are Diplomatic leaders and promoting democratic peace as indicted the mean index (2.45) and (2.38) respect.

CONCLUSIONS

This study was examining the problem of sustaining friendly international relation between Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia. The target population of this study was Somali diplomats and diplomats and nationals of all three countries. The simple size was 60 people specifically focused on literal people such as the Embassy of Kenya, the Embassy of Ethiopia and other nationals in Somalia. This study has three objectives: the first objective of this study is to identify the factors that contributes to the sustaining of friendly international relations between Somalia, Kenya, and Ethiopia. The total of mean index is 2.62. The researches concludes the factors that contributes to the sustaining friendly are fight AL_KHAIDA and supporting warlord faction as indicted the mean index (2.98) and (2.97) respect. The second objective of this study the impact of international relation between these countries. So the researchers knew their result are showed the impact of three countries are socio economic and peace of harmony as indicted the mean index (2.80) and (2.78) respect. Last objective of this

study is the relationship affects the friendly relations between these neighboring countries. The total mean index of the relationship affect the friendly relations between these neighboring countries is 2.23. This indicates that there is an existing the relationship affect the friendly relations between these countries. The researchers where fund the affect friendly relations are Diplomatic leaders and promoting democratic peace as indicted the mean index (2.45) and (2.38) respect.

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