

**Subject:** Somaliland President in Wall Street Journal: "My Country, Somaliland, Recognized"  
**Date:** Thursday, January 15, 2026 at 7:26:33 AM Eastern Standard Time  
**From:** Joshua Gross  
**To:** Joshua Gross  
**Attachments:** image001[99].png, image002[43].png

Good morning,

For your awareness, please see today's op-ed in The Wall Street Journal by Dr. Abdirahman "Irro" Mohamed Abdillahi, President of the Republic of Somaliland titled: "[My Country, Somaliland, Recognized.](#)"

In the piece, he reflects on the significance of Israel's recent recognition of Somaliland, the historical ties between the two nations, and the broader implications for regional security and international engagement. A few excerpts:

- "While much of the world remained silent, Israel raised the alarm at the United Nations in May 1990, drawing attention to the systematic persecution and killing of Somaliland's population, later referred to as the 'Hargeisa Holocaust.'"
- "Israel and Somaliland share a deep understanding of the struggle for self-determination and international legitimacy. Somalilanders have long regarded Israel as reflecting our own journey, and the hope of advancing shared interests has never waned."
- "Today, the Horn of Africa is an arena of intensified great-power competition, with China and Turkey expanding their presence and influence in Somalia. Somaliland has chosen a different path."
- "One of the proudest moments of my presidency will undoubtedly be listening to Somaliland's national anthem as we inaugurate our first official embassy, in Israel."

Please also find below some additional recent coverage for your reference.

**The Jerusalem Post** – "[Israel's recognition of Somaliland sends warning to Turkey, Iran, Syria](#)" (January 13, 2026) Lt. Col. (Ret.) Jonathan Conricus

**The Washington Post** – Op-Ed "[Israel recognized this small enclave as a country. America should, too.](#)" (January 12, 2026) Joshua Meservey, Senior Fellow, Hudson Institute

**Jewish Insider** – "[Somaliland's top diplomat in Washington hopes for Jewish support in bid for additional recognition](#)" (January 9, 2026) Gabby Deutch

**The Washington Examiner** – [“It’s time for Trump to recognize Somaliland”](#) (January 8, 2026) Tiana Lowe Doescher

**Reuters** – [“Somali regions reject Mogadishu's move to cut ties with UAE”](#) (January 13, 2026) Giulia Paravicini

Best regards,

Josh

**Joshua Gross**

Partner

Washington DC

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O. \_\_\_\_\_  
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