

**Subject:** Somaliland's First Ambassador to Israel on Ask Haviv Anything  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 29, 2026 at 4:57:22 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
**From:** Joshua Gross  
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Earlier today, Ambassador Mohamed Hagi – Somaliland's newly appointed envoy to Israel – joined [Ask Haviv Anything](#) for a wide-ranging conversation on Somaliland, its relationship with Israel, and its ever-growing strategic geopolitical relevance. A few excerpts worth flagging:

**On the Israel relationship:** *“Our hearts and minds are always with Israel because of recognition. We need to build a relationship that is mutually beneficial – for the Israeli people, for the Israeli government, for our people and our government as well.”* – Amb. Mohamed Hagi

**On Somaliland's democracy:** *“Somaliland has successfully combined a modern structure with customary mechanisms of dialogue and conflict resolution. This has enabled us to maintain political stability, conduct critical elections, and ensure peaceful transfers of power in a region often characterized by volatility.”* – Amb. Mohamed Hagi

**On Somaliland's success without recognition:** *“You have had elections with real changes of government. You have accountability...You have better monetary policy in a currency that you can't trade with the world than the countries around with currencies that can trade with the world. You believe in institution building... It's a story that calls to question the world's standards and international standards. If Somaliland doesn't qualify, what does? You don't have any of those things and you're more successful than all your neighbors who do.”* – Haviv Gur

Please find links to the episode and additional background below.

- Ask Haviv Anything (April 29, 2026): [How Somaliland and Israel became fast friends, with Amb. Mohamed Hagi](#)
- Ask Haviv Anything (December 31, 2026): [Why the global outrage at Israel's Somaliland recognition?](#)
- Wall Street Journal op-ed by President Abdirahman Mohamed Abdullahi (January 14, 2026): [My Country, Somaliland, Recognized](#)
- Moment Magazine interview with U.S. Representative Bashir Goth (January 12): [Exploring Israel's Move to Recognize Somaliland: A Guide for the Perplexed](#)

Best,

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