



People's Republic of China

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General info

The People's Republic of China has significant strategic interests in the Horn of Africa, particularly concerning maritime trade, security of the Bab el-Mandeb Strait. China has had a military base in Djibouti since 2017 and generally aims to have an influence over the region. Stability in the region is quite important for China in general. China sees Somalia as an important node in its African strategy, promoting state sovereignty and economic development in the country. China widely supports the Federal Model of Somalia and is in general against recognition and actions of separatist regions and organizations, including Somaliland, Puntland and Jubaland.

Stance Towards Somalia

Since the 1980s China has been supporting Somalia economically, promoting development projects. Since the beginning of the Civil War in 1991 China has withdrawn its support due to political instability but returned to the country 9 years later as part of broader African engagement strategy, giving away cheap credits to the country, promoting regional stability and piracy suppression. Since 2007 China has been sending task forces to the Gulf of Aden to target pirates. Alongside with the United States China has recognized the Federal Government

of Somalia in 2013. In 2021 as part of the Belt and Road initiative (BRI) China increased its investment into Somalian port and road infrastructure. From 2023 China has been engaged in the anti-terrorist operations in Somalia.

Chinese proposals

China does not recognize or support any separatist movement. It is a principal position. Therefore China should be pushing for an investigation into the ways arms find their way to Jubaland and block any such shipments. China will promote the BRI initiative as an efficient way to stabilize Somalia economically and create a ground for the reintegration of breakaway terrorist and separatist organizations, possibly condemning actions of Kenya regarding support of the rebel army.

