

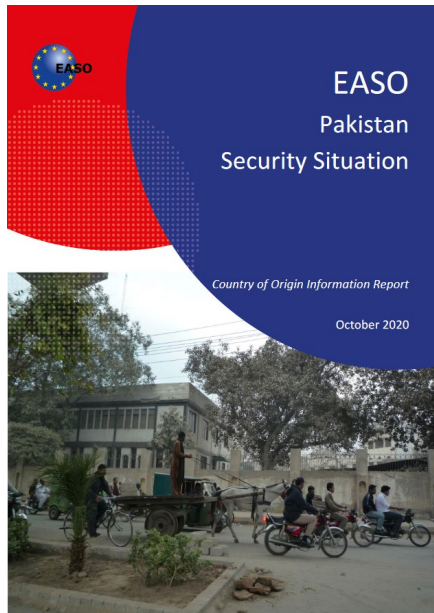
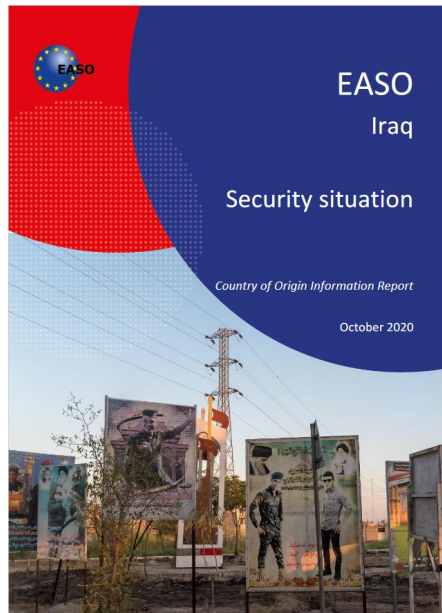
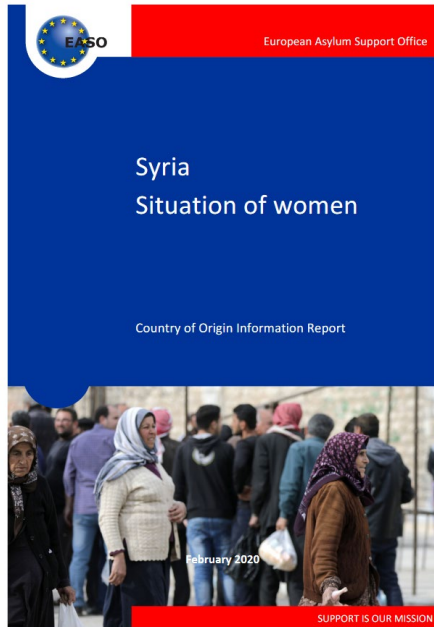
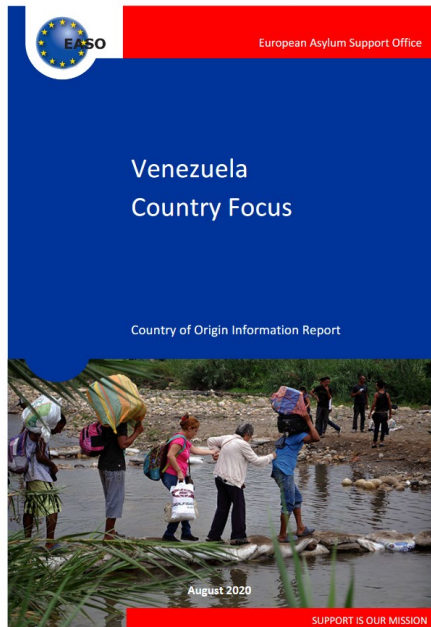


# EASO Country of Origin Information (COI)

**Carla Ramos**

Senior COI Officer, COI Sector, TCRU





## Quiénes somos



## Como producimos COI



## Principales productos COI y Como los compartimos







# COI y CEAS

## Directiva 2011/95/EU (refundición)

### Artículo 4 - Valoración de hechos y circunstancias

3) La evaluación de una solicitud de protección internacional se efectuará de manera individual e **implicará que se tengan en cuenta:**

a) **todos los hechos pertinentes relativos al país de origen en el momento de resolver sobre la solicitud**, incluidas las disposiciones legales y reglamentarias pertinentes del país de origen y el modo en que se aplican;

### Artículo 8 – Protección interna

2. Al examinar si un solicitante tiene fundados temores a ser perseguido o corre un riesgo real de sufrir daños graves, o tiene acceso a la protección contra la persecución o los daños graves en una parte del país de origen según lo establecido en el apartado 1, **los Estados miembros tendrán en cuenta las circunstancias generales reinantes en esa parte del país y las circunstancias personales del solicitante en el momento de resolver la solicitud, de conformidad con el artículo 4.** A este fin, los Estados miembros garantizarán que se obtenga información exacta y actualizada de fuentes pertinentes como el **Alto Comisionado de las Naciones Unidas para los Refugiados y la Oficina Europea de Apoyo al Asilo**





# COI y EASO

Reglamento (UE) N o 439/2010 por el que se crea una Oficina Europea de Apoyo al Asilo, Art. 4 – COI

La Oficina de Apoyo (EASO) organizará, favorecerá y coordinará actividades relativas a la información sobre los países de origen

En particular:

- La recogida de información pertinente, fiable, precisa y actualizada sobre los países de origen
- La elaboración de informes sobre los países de origen
- La elaboración de un formato y métodos comunes
- La creación y desarrollo de un portal COI
- El análisis de la información sobre países de origen de forma transparente para fomentar la convergencia de criterios de evaluación



# ¿Como estamos organizados?

## Sector COI de la EASO



# Third Country Research Unit (TCRU)

## Asylum Knowledge Centre



**17 staff:**

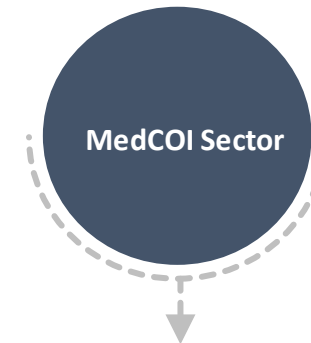
**11 Oficiales de  
investigación y  
asistentes de  
investigación**

**3 Investigadores Senior**

**1 Oficial COI Portal**

**1 Editor**

**1 Jefe de Sector**

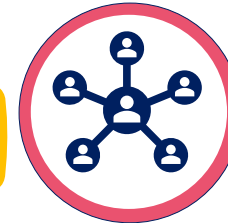


# Sector COI

Producción y metodología COI



COI para operaciones



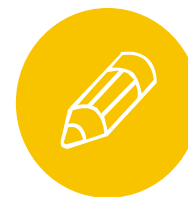
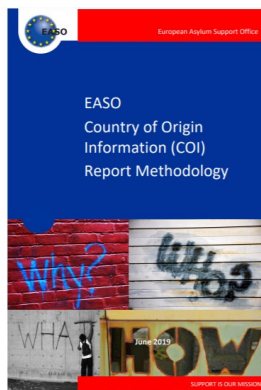
COI Networks



# Producción y metodología COI

## Metodología COI

Metodología común EU+, guías y capacitación sobre prácticas de COI



## Experiencia / apoyo de COI horizontal

Provisión de asesoramiento / experiencia / aportación de COI a otros sectores de la EASO con actividades vinculadas a COI

## Producción COI

Informes de COI, queries, hojas informativas, COI para country guidance



## COI Portal

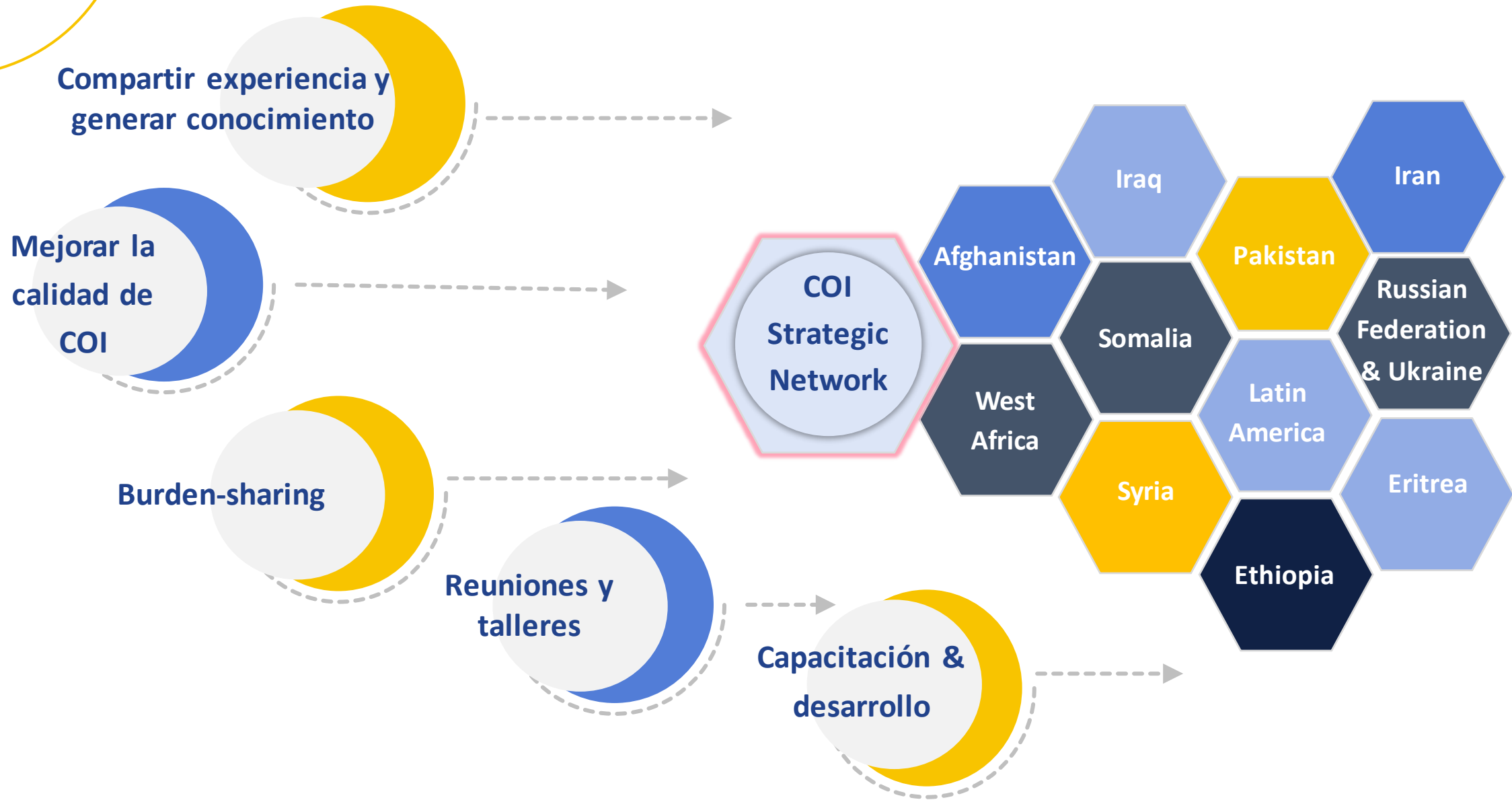
Portal común para productos EASO y EU + COI

<https://coi.easo.europa.eu/>





# COI Networks



# COI para Operaciones

## Tailor-made COI support:

- COI Helpdesk
- COI metodología
- Producción COI (informes, queries, ...)
- Capacitación COI
- COI reuniones/talleres
- Coaching en el trabajo

Chipre  
Malta  
Italia  
Grecia

Apoyo COI bajo planes  
operativos

Balcanes  
Occidentales  
Turquía

Apoyo COI en el marco de la  
estrategia de dimensión  
exterior de la EASO



A large, 3D-rendered logo of the European Asylum Support Office (EASO) is positioned in the upper left. It features the word "EASO" in bold, capital letters, surrounded by a semi-circle of twelve five-pointed stars, all in a dark blue color. The background of the top half of the slide is a dark blue gradient with some abstract, lighter blue geometric shapes.

¿Cómo producimos COI?



# Proceso de producción de COI EASO

EASO COI Report Methodology 2019

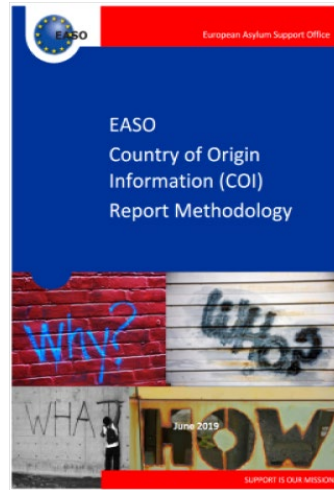




# Modelos de producción COI

- Producción conjunta
- Europeización
- Redacción interna
- Subcontratación

# Producción conjunta COI



# Principales desafíos en la producción común de COI

## Proceso de producción

- Definir los términos de referencia
- Varios redactores / armonización
- Idioma
- Prácticas nacionales / metodología COI de la EASO

## Otros desafíos

- Procesos conflictivos
- Recursos disponibles

There are no exact figures as to the number of ISIL fighters operating in Iraq today. Some estimates put the numbers at between 10,000 and 15,000 operating in Iraq<sup>66</sup>, whereby some 500 to 1,000 fighters operate in the western desert areas<sup>67</sup>, whilst the rest are believed to have regrouped in the Hamreen mountain range in the north-eastern parts of the country, which extends from the governorate of Diyala, crossing the northern part of Salah al-Din governorate and into the southern parts of the governorate of Kirkuk<sup>68</sup>.

#### X.1.2.2 White Flags

Other remnant groups appear to be building new militant fractions in the Hamreen Mountains. One such group goes under the name of the "White Flags". Armed with weapons accumulated from years fighting along ISIL, these fighters are also finding shelter in the folds of the mountain ridge<sup>69</sup>. The group is said to be an alliance of former ISIL militants and disgruntled Kurdish militias (with no former connection to the Peshmerga forces) who were pushed out of the multi-ethnic (Kurd-Turkmen) town Tuz Khurmatu<sup>70</sup>.

#### X.1.2.3 Other non-State armed groups

Aside from ISIL, other smaller militant jihadist armed groups are also present in Iraq, which form part of what the BBC called the 'Sunni insurgency' in 2014. The main ones are Jamaat Ansar Al-Islam (JAI) (mainly based in Ninewa), the Naqshbandi Order (Jaysh Rijal al-Tariqa al-Naqshbandia, JTRN), Jaysh Al-Mujahideen (JAM) (mainly near Hawija), Islamic Army of Iraq (mainly in Diyala and Salah al-Din)<sup>71</sup>. JTRN is the second largest insurgent group after ISIL; its ideology 'espouses a blend of the banned Baathist Party's ideology (...) and Naqshbandi Sufi Islam' while emphasising jihadist language<sup>72</sup>. It included remnants of the Saddam Hussein-era army and drug smugglers<sup>73</sup>. It has created front groups of Baathists and has operated in parts of Anbar and Falluja<sup>74</sup>.

A new group called the Khawbaksh has also emerged in 2018, calling itself a 'Kurdish volunteer' group active against PMUs in the areas around Tuz Khurmatu and Kirkuk with links

<sup>66</sup> Markusen, M., Center for Strategic & International Studies, *The Islamic State and the Persistent Threat of Extremism in Iraq*, November 2018 <https://www.csis.org/analysis/islamic-state-and-persistent-threat-extremism-iraq>.

<sup>67</sup> Reuters, *Islamic State makes comeback in Iraq with switch to guerrilla tactics*, 24 July 2018 <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-iraq-security/islamic-state-makes-comeback-in-iraq-with-switch-to-guerrilla-tactics-idUSKBN1KE0MH>.

<sup>68</sup> Reuters, *Islamic State makes comeback in Iraq with switch to guerrilla tactics*, 24 July 2018 <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-iraq-security/islamic-state-makes-comeback-in-iraq-with-switch-to-guerrilla-tactics-idUSKBN1KE0MH>.

<sup>69</sup> BuzzFeed News, *The new face of ISIS in Iraq calls itself the White Flags*, 1 April 2018 <https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/borzoudaragahi/isis-iraq-white-flags-syria-new-name#wmEvymwYp>.

<sup>70</sup> Middle East Eye, *No surrender: 'White Flags' group rises as new threat in northern Iraq*, 31 January 2018 <https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/iraq-islamic-state-white-flag-hashd-al-shaabi-1282818812>.

<sup>71</sup> BBC News, *Iraq crisis: Key players in Sunni rebellion*, 14 July 2014, <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-28053496>.



#### ACCORD 2

Meaning 500, not the rest of the 10,000-15,000, as it seems in the text

Nevine Abou-Gabal

Done

#### ACCORD 2

Deleted: w



#### ACCORD 2

were? If you write are, you need a source for it that is not from 2014.



#### ACCORD 2

mentioned by BBC in 2014 were



#### ACCORD

Is there a more recent source that indicates that these groups are still active in 2018? If not, mention that no information could be found whether they are still present in Iraq.

Nevine Abou-Gabal

Not to my knowledge? Not in 2018, there may be some remnants, but I have not seen any reports.



#### ACCORD 2

Was in 2014

Nevine Abou-Gabal

Noted



#### ACCORD 2

This source is from 2018, however it does not refer to any of the above-mentioned groups, so it is misleading to connect it in the text like it is done. This source mostly talks about Khawbaksh and similar groups (which you refer to in the next paragraph)

Nevine Abou-Gabal

I opt to leave it. I think it is good to mention the other insurgency groups, although they have not been active since 2014, there are no indications that they have disappeared.



#### ACCORD 2

Now again 2014, connection with "it" does not work here, referring to different groups than the source from 2018 above

Suggestion: treat the whole paragraph above as historical (2014), take out the 2018 source, say that no new information could be found, then introduce the new group below

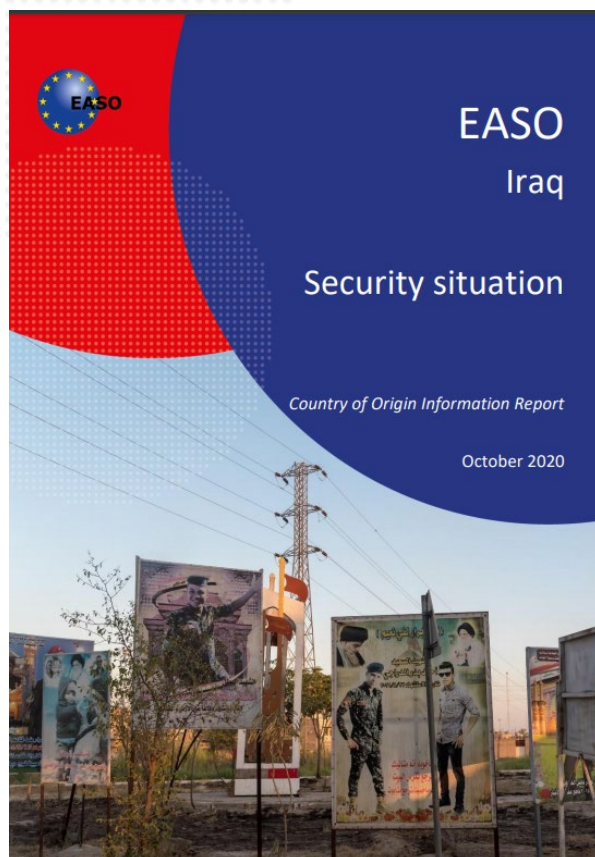
Newer information about AAI can be found here, but mostly related to attacks in Iran <http://iswresearch.blogspot.com/2018/10/isis-second-resurgence.html>

Nevine Abou-Gabal

Done, did not refer to the ISW link since it takes up AAI in Iran.

Nevine Abou-Gabal





## Acknowledgements

EASO would like to acknowledge the following national asylum department as co-drafter of this report, together with EASO:

**Belgium**, Office of the Commissioner General for Refugees and Stateless Persons, Cedoca (Centre for Documentation and Research)

EASO would also like to acknowledge **ARC**, the Asylum Research Centre, as co-drafter of this report.

The following departments and organisations have reviewed respective parts of this report:

**Denmark**, Ministry of Immigration and Integration, The Danish Immigration Service

**Finland**, Finnish Immigration Service

**France**, Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons (OFPRA), Information, Documentation and Research Division

**ACCORD**, the Austrian Centre for Country of Origin and Asylum Research and Documentation, and

**ARC**, the Asylum Research Centre.

All parts of this report have been reviewed by at least one reviewer. **ARC**, who acted as co-drafter and as reviewer, reviewed parts drafted by other co-drafters.

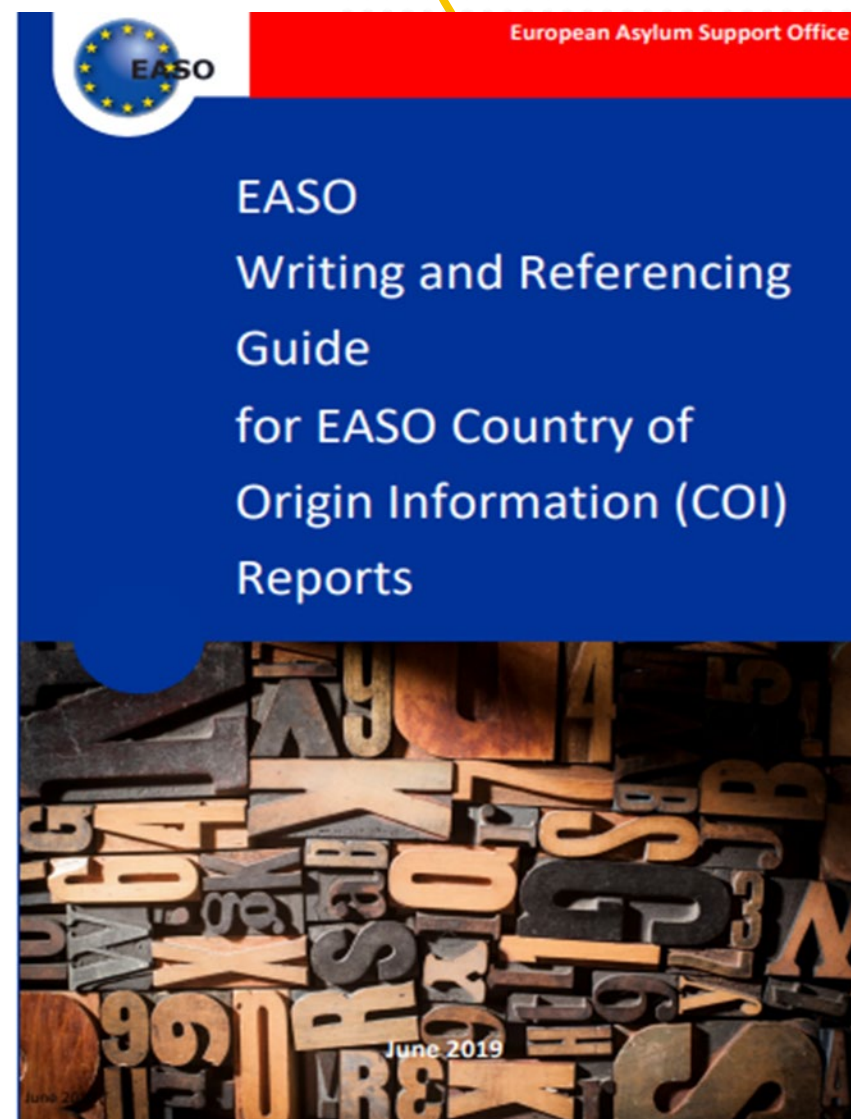
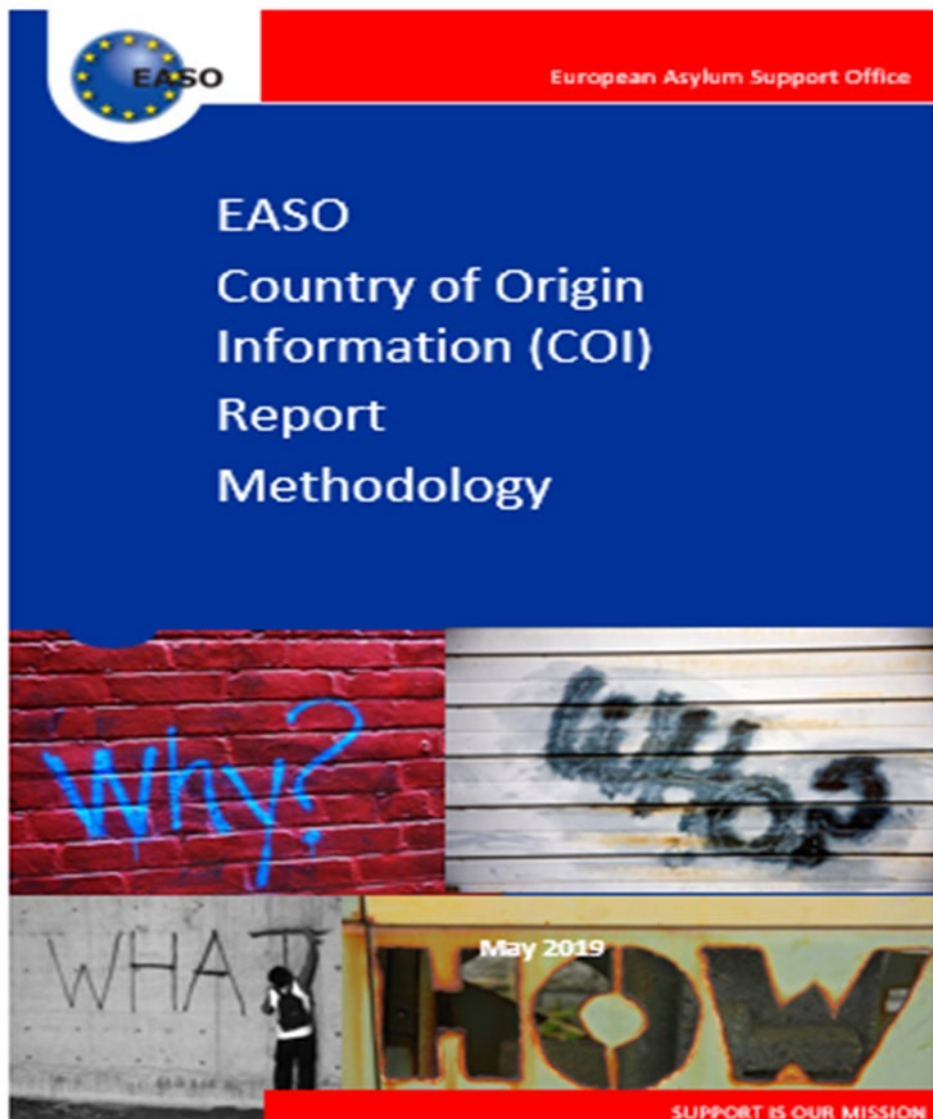
The review carried out by the mentioned departments, experts or organisations contributes to the overall quality of the report, but does not necessarily imply their formal endorsement of the final report, which is the full responsibility of EASO.

# Principales productos EASO COI / ¿Cómo los compartimos?

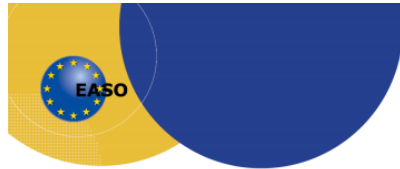




# Metodología COI EASO



# Principales productos EASO COI



## COI QUERY

Country of Origin	<b>SOMALIA</b>
Main subject	<u><a href="#">Situation of the Gabove minority group in Somalia, especially in Somaliland and Puntland</a></u>
Question(s)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><u><a href="#">1. What is the treatment of the Gabove minority group in Somalia, especially in Somaliland and Puntland?</a></u></li><li><u><a href="#">2. What is the situation of returnees belonging to the Gabove minority group in Somalia, especially in Somaliland and Puntland</a></u></li></ol>
Date of completion	30 March 2021
Query Code	Q5-2021
Contributing EU+ COI units (if applicable)	N/A

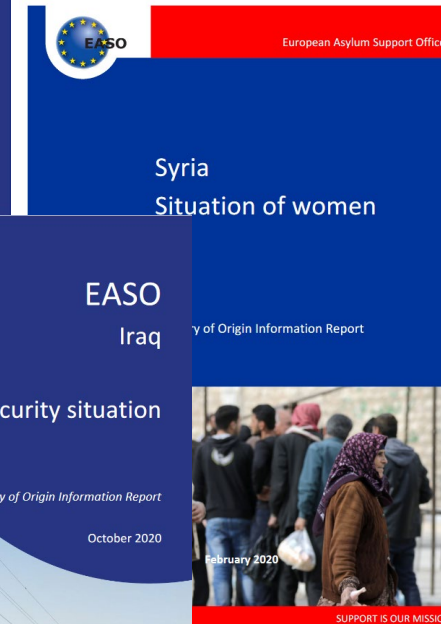
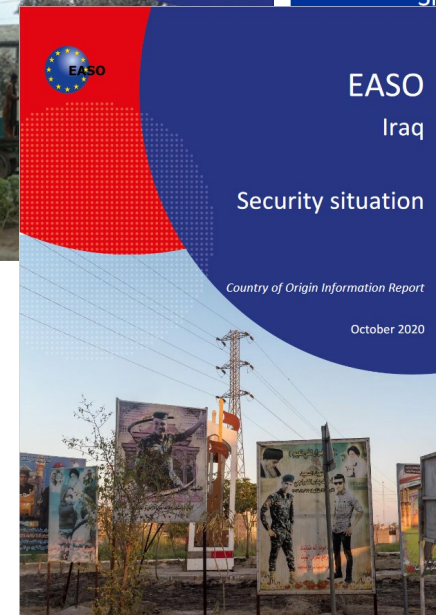
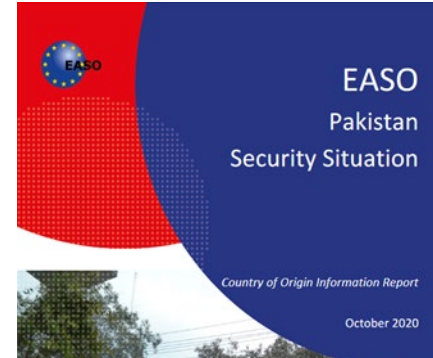
### Disclaimer

This response to a COI query has been elaborated according to the [EASO COI Report Methodology](#) and [EASO Writing and Referencing Guide](#).

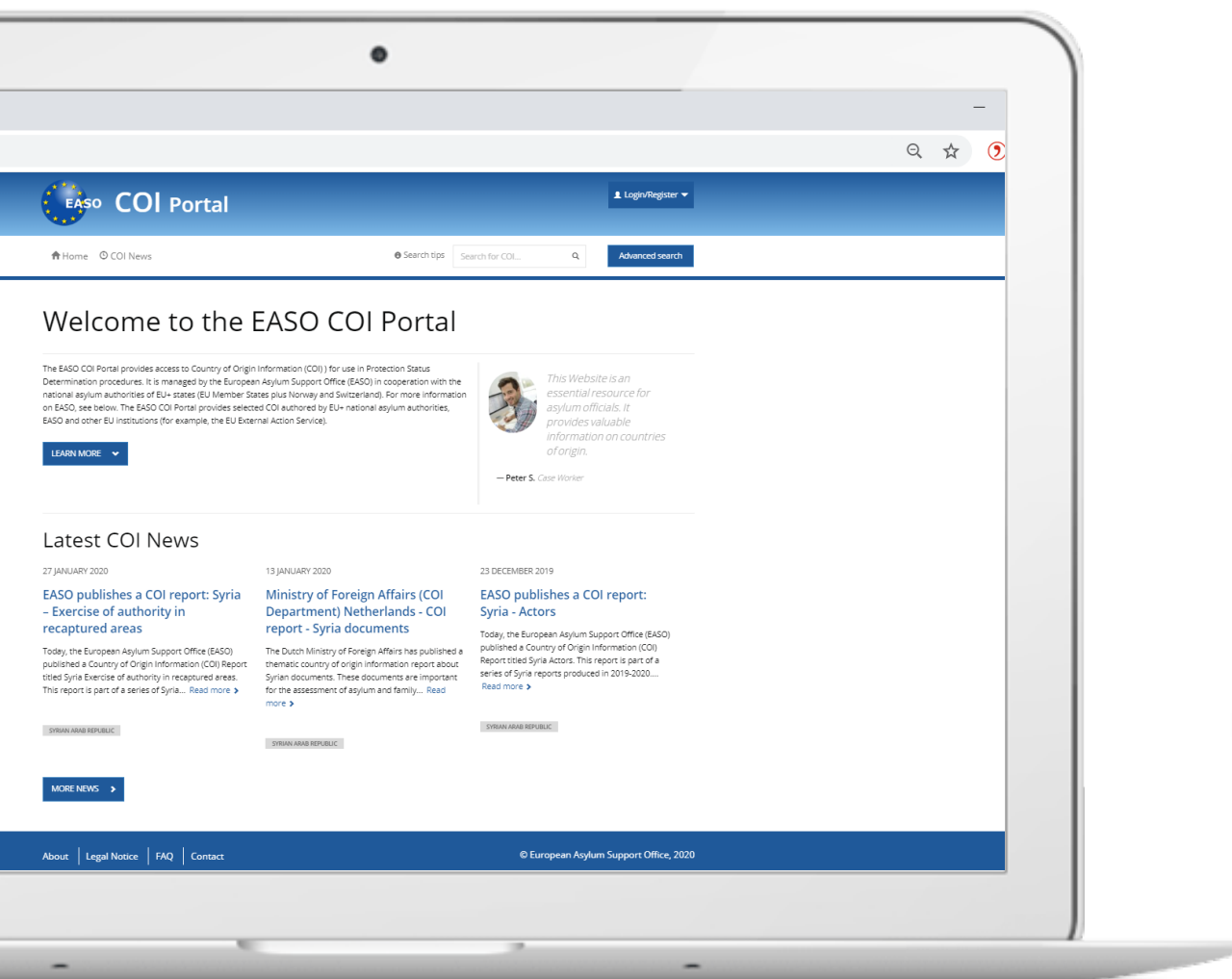
The information provided in this response has been researched, evaluated and processed with utmost care within a limited time frame. All sources used are referenced. A quality review has been performed in line with the above mentioned methodology. This document does not claim to be exhaustive neither conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to international protection. If a certain event, person or organisation is not mentioned in the report, this does not mean that the event has not taken place or that the person or organisation does not exist. Terminology used should not be regarded as indicative of a particular legal position.

The information in the response does not necessarily reflect the opinion of EASO and makes no political statement whatsoever.

The target audience is caseworkers, COI researchers, policy makers, and decision-making authorities. The answer was finalised on 30 March 2021. Any event taking place after this date is not included in this answer.







# EASO COI Portal

<https://coi.easo.europa.eu/>

## Lo que es

Portal de información seleccionada sobre países de origen para apoyo a los profesionales del asilo

## Lo que proporciona

Productos EASO COI (informes, consultas,...)

Productos COI de países de la UE +

COI de las instituciones de la UE



<https://coi.easo.europa.eu>



## EASO COI Portal



## COI Portal

Login/Register ▼

[Home](#) [COI News](#)

Search for COI...

Advanced search

Search tips

## Advanced Search

Search by keywords

Keywords

*You can leave this empty*

Countries of origin

Choose countries of origin

*Start typing or click to see the complete list*

Publication date

From:



To:



*You can fill out any of the fields*

Document type

Response to COI Query

*Start typing or click to see the complete list*

Document source

EASO

*Start typing or click to see the complete list*

Document language

Choose your languages

*Start typing or click to see the complete list*

Clear

Search



### COI QUERY

Country of Origin	SUDAN
Main subject	Armed groups, Security situation, Internal displacement situation
Question(s)	Armed groups, including structure, relationship with other actors, areas of presence and operation, and activities; security incidents, including perpetrators, targets, number of casualties and geographical distribution of events
	See <a href="#">Table of Contents</a> .
Date of completion	13 October 2020
Query Code	Q24-2020
Contributing EU+ COI units (if applicable)	N/A

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The information provided in this response has been researched, evaluated and processed with utmost care within a limited time frame. All sources used are referenced. A quality review has been performed in line with the above mentioned methodology. This document does not claim to be exhaustive neither conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to international protection. If a certain event, person or organisation is not mentioned in the report, this does not mean that the event has not taken place or that the person or organisation does not exist. Terminology used should not be regarded as indicative of a particular legal position.

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The target audience is caseworkers, COI researchers, policy makers, and decision making authorities. The answer was finalised on 13 October 2020. Any event taking place after this date is not included in this answer.



**¡Muchas Gracias!**

[www.easo.europa.eu](http://www.easo.europa.eu)

COI Sector  
Third Country Research Centre