

**Djibouti Cases, 1970-2012**  
**Last Updated: 22 October 2017**

torg	gname	onset	min	max
T1087	FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF THE FRENCH SOMALI COAST		1975	1976
T1714	FRUD	13-Nov-91	1991	1994
T2201	FRUD - AD	24-Jul-99	1998	1999

- I. FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF THE FRENCH SOMALI COAST  
 Min. Group Date: 1975  
 Max. Group Date: 1976  
 Onset: NA

Aliases: Front For The Liberation Of The French Somali Coast, Front De Liberation De La Cote Des Somalis, Front For The Liberation Of The Coast Of Somalia, Front For The Liberation Of The Somali Coast, Somali Coast Liberation Front

**Part 1. Bibliography**

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[https://books.google.com/books?id=1dtn0olA8PcC&pg=PA183&lpg=PA183&dq=FRONT+FOR+THE+LIBERATION+OF+THE+SOMALI+COAST&source=bl&ots=mZdU\\_8sEDr&sig=1aecAlhJW-PqN7SuC9OBhuohT0l&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjl27n6\\_JHVAhVM0GMKHUBXATEQ6AEITjAH#v=onepage&q=FRONT%20FOR%20THE%20LIBERATION%20OF%20THE%20SOMALI%20COAST&f=false](https://books.google.com/books?id=1dtn0olA8PcC&pg=PA183&lpg=PA183&dq=FRONT+FOR+THE+LIBERATION+OF+THE+SOMALI+COAST&source=bl&ots=mZdU_8sEDr&sig=1aecAlhJW-PqN7SuC9OBhuohT0l&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjl27n6_JHVAhVM0GMKHUBXATEQ6AEITjAH#v=onepage&q=FRONT%20FOR%20THE%20LIBERATION%20OF%20THE%20SOMALI%20COAST&f=false)

**Part 2. Basic Coding**

Aliases: FLCS

Group Formation: 1964 (Raymond 1992, 183)

Group End: 1976 (political accommodation - GTD 2017; MIPT 2008)

### **Part 3. Narrative**

#### **Group Formation**

The FLCS formed in 1964 in French Somaliland also known as the French Territory of the Afars and Issas (Raymond 1992, 183; MIPT 2008). The organization was an ethno-nationalist revolutionary group, which fought for the territory's independence from French colonial rule (Raymond 1992, 183; MIPT 2008). The group first came to attention as a violent organization in 1975 in Mogadishu, Somalia (MIPT 2008; GTD 2017). The group seemed to oppose the French government and not the Somali or Djibouti government (Raymond 1992, 183; MIPT 2008).

#### **Geography**

The group was transnational. Its main attacks were transnational in Mogadishu, Somalia and Paris, France (GTD 2017). The group had an external base of operations in western Somalia (MIPT 2008).

#### **Organizational Structure**

There is not much information available about the group's organizational structure. It primarily recruited from ethnic Issa both in the French Territory of Afars and Issa as well as Somalia (MIPT 2008). Its primary membership base and organizational leader is unknown. There is no information about the group's size. It did not appear to have a political wing.

#### **External Ties**

The group had an external base of operations in western Somalia (MIPT 2008). There is no evidence of external support from any other state or non-state actors.

#### **Group Outcome**

The group's last violent incident was in 1976. French police killed six FLCS members during a standoff in 1976 (MIPT 2008). In 1977, France granted the territory independence and it became an independent state known as Djibouti (MIPT 2008; Raymond 1992, 183). It is unknown why the group stopped using violence although its cause was achieved by 1977 at the latest.

- II. FRUD  
Min. Group Date: 1991  
Max. Group Date: 1994  
Onset: 1991

Aliases: Front For The Restoration Of Unity And Democracy (Frud), Front For The Restoration Of Unity And Democracy, Front Pour La Restauration De L'unit\_ Et De La iD\_mocratie, Front Pour La Restauration De L' unite Et De La Democratie, Front Pour La Restauration De L' unite Et De La Democratie (Frud), Frud

### Part 1. Bibliography

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<https://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/djibouti/politics.htm>.

### Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: No additional aliases found

Group Formation: 1991

Group End: 1994 (peace accord)

### **Part 3. Narrative**

#### **Group Formation**

FRUD formed in 1991 by the minority ethnic group Afars, who advocated a multiparty democracy and increased influence of Afars in the government of Djibouti (Global Security n.d.(a); [Freedom House 2001](#); [McGregor 2009](#)). It may have had a secondary separatist aim (Global Security n.d.). [The group was founded as a merger of three unspecified Afar groups \(Global Security n.d.\(b\)\)](#). After independence from France, Djibouti remained a one party government primarily dominated by the majority ethnic group Issa, who make up about 60% of the population (Gleditsch 2013, 611; [BBC 2017](#)). Armed conflict first erupted in November 1991, when the Afars led an armed attack on Djibouti government troops (Gleditsch 2013, 611; [University of Central Arkansas n.d.](#)). The Djibouti government responded with armed force, and a civil war (the Djiboutian Civil War) ensued the next three years (Gleditsch 2013, 611; [BBC 2017](#); [University of Central Arkansas n.d.](#)).

#### **Geography**

[The FRUD started in Balho, Northern Djibouti \(University of Central Arkansas n.d.\)](#). The Afar are a transnational ethnic group, who reside in northeastern Ethiopia, southeastern Eritrea, and Djibouti (Britannica 2016). FRUD asked neighboring countries (especially Ethiopia) and countries with present military bases in Djibouti to remain neutral towards their conflict with the government (Makaila 2016). The group was strictly domestic (Gleditsch 2013, 611). However, the group remained supported by Afars living in Somalia and Ethiopia (Gleditsch 2013, 611). Fighting between the group and the government occurred predominantly in northeastern Djibouti ([BBC 2017](#)). There is no information on where FRUD was based. However, the FRUD originated in northern Djibouti, and gained territory in the west as well (Global Security n.d.).

[The group has incited attacks in Djibouti City and clashed with security forces in Djibouti City, near Tadjoura, Gagade, Kharab, Yoboki, Arhiba, and Bekaneb districts \(University of Central Arkansas n.d.\)](#).

#### **Organizational Structure**

Before the end of the Djiboutian Civil War, the FRUD split into two factions. One, the FRUD, negotiated with the Djiboutian government and became a legitimate political party led by President Ali Mohamed Daoud (Global Security n.d.). The other favors continued

armed rebellion against the Djiboutian government (Global Security n.d.). There are no size estimates of the FRUD. Members of the group consisted primarily of ethnic Afars (University of Central Arkansas n.d.; Freedom House 2001; Gleditsch 2013, 611). Sources differ on membership size and range between 3,000 to 4,500 fighters (Gleditsch 2013, 612; Canada IRB 1998). The group was founded by Ahmad Dini Ahmad (McGregor 2009). Its military was led by Adoyta Yussuf, who helped the group launch numerous guerrilla attacks in northern Djibouti (Canada IRB 1998). The FRUD organization had a political and military wing (Gleditsch 2013, 611).

### **External Ties**

During the Djiboutian civil war, the Ethiopian government explicitly provided military assistance to FRUD rebels fighting the Djiboutian government (University of Central Arkansas n.d.).

### **Group Outcome**

On December 26, 1994, the FRUD negotiated with the Djiboutian government and became a legitimate political party (Global Security n.d.). The next year, the majority of the FRUD was disarmed (Global Security n.d.). The conflict between the Djiboutian government and the FRUD-AD officially ended in May 2001, when President Guelleh signed the final peace accord, ending the Djiboutian Civil War. In 1991, the FRUD rebelled against the government (University of Central Arkansas n.d.). After the Ethiopian government began to provide military support to the rebels, Djibouti President Gouled Aptidon asked France for military assistance (University of Central Arkansas n.d.). Consequently, in 1991, France mediated negotiations between the FRUD and Djibouti government and deployed peacekeeping troops and military observers into the conflict in Djibouti (University of Central Arkansas n.d.).

Notes for Iris:

- why 1991? Maybe spillover from Eritrean independence?
- their political goals are mostly reformist. In 1977, the government was set-up as mostly one-party. They had minimalist aims.
- gleditsch et al is wrong on external support here

### **III. FRUD - AD**

Min. Group Date: 1998

Max. Group Date: 1999

Onset: 1999

Aliases: Front For The Restoration Of Unity And Democracy - Ahmed Dini Faction, Front Pour La Restauration De L'unit\_ Et De La D\_mocratie - Ahmed Dini Faction, Front Pour

La Restauration De L'unite Et De La Democratie - Ahmed Dini Faction, Frud - Ad, Frud - Ahmed Dini Faction

### **Part 1. Bibliography**

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### **Part 2. Basic Coding**

Aliases: FRUD-Armé, FRUD-Dini

Group Formation: 1994

Group End: 2000 ([disarmament](#))

### **Part 3. Narrative**

#### **Group Formation**

The FRUD-AD splintered from FRUD in 1994 over peace talk disputes. FRUD negotiated with the Djiboutian government to become an official political party and implement more FRUD officials in the Djiboutian government (Bollee 2003, 481). However, the negotiation overlooked rank-and-file members of the FRUD, which caused a faction led by Ahmed Dini to splinter and keep fighting the government (Bollee 2003, 481). [Sources do not specifically identify the first violent attack of the FRUD-AD, because the FRUD and FRUD-AD are often used as aliases, but was likely around 1994.](#) The parent group of the FRUD-AD emerged from the minority ethnic group Afars, who advocated a multiparty democracy and increased influence of Afars in the government of Djibouti (Freedom House 2001; McGregor 2009). The group is ethno-nationalist and had similar goals, but splintered due to disagreements over a peace accord.

#### **Geography**

In July 1995, the FRUD-Dini faction allegedly conducted sporadic attacks on government troops and bases in northern Djibouti (the government denies that any attacks occurred) (Minorities at Risk 2004). In 1996, the faction destroyed two government vehicles in southern Djibouti near Kouta Bouya (mid-December) and targeted a French military helicopter in northern Djibouti near the Mabla mountains (mid-January) (Minorities at Risk 2004). Armed conflict remained quiet until 1997, when the faction attacked Djibouti military barracks (Minorities at Risk 2004). The last known attacks were conducted in 1998 along the Djibouti-Ethiopia and Djibouti-Somalia border (Minorities at Risk 2004). [The group does not appear to be transnational despite support from Afar diasporas in Ethiopia and Somalia \(Gleditsch 2013, 611\).](#)

#### **Organizational Structure**

No information on the funding of the FRUD-Dini faction was found. The faction is led by Ahmed Dini, who refused to accept a negotiation between the FRUD and the Djiboutian government regarding the disarming of the FRUD (Bollee 2003, 481). The FRUD-Dini faction is a splinter group of the FRUD (Bollee 2003, 481). No information regarding the size of the faction was found. [When Djibouti first gained independence, Ahmed Dini](#)

served as the country's prime minister before turning to lead rebel groups (IOL 2004). Members of the group consisted of a ethnic Afar militias (Minorities at Risk 2004).

### **External Ties**

The FRUD-Dini faction received support from Eritrea during the Eritrean-Ethiopian War (Bollee 482). During this conflict, the Eritrean government cut off Ethiopian access to the Port of Assab (Bollee 482). In addition, the Port Autonome de Djibouti provided freight carrying weapons and ammunition to Ethiopia (Bollee 2003, 482). Due to conflict between the two countries, Eritrea supported the FRUD-Dini faction to limit Ethiopian access to the port (Bollee 2003, 482).

### **Group Outcome**

The FRUD-Dini faction group conducted sporadic attacks against the Djiboutian government until 1998 (Reworld 2004). In February 2000, the faction came to terms with Djibouti president Guelleh, who promised 'equal opportunity' in exchange for the disarmament of the FRUD-Dini faction (Bollee 2003, 481). It is unknown exactly when its last violent attack occurred, but was likely around 2000 (US State Department 2000). In September 2002, when the government of Djibouti adopted multiparty politics, members of the faction joined the creation of the Democratic Union, an umbrella organization made up of weak opposition groups (Bollee 2003, 482).

Notes for Iris:

- why 1999? Unclear -- aggregation of violence?
- ahmad dini is the original prime minister. He is Afar and his replacement is
- his disagreement with the 94 peace talks is over how FRUD military is integrated into the Djibouti military and little amnesty or concessions for individual foot soldiers
- the faction was more disorganized and sporadic than other factions
- there was not a lot of popular internal support for the group
- they negotiate a peace agreement that includes provisions for individual fighters in contrast to the 1994 agreement