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## **The role of political elites in nation-building in contemporary Ethiopia, 1960-2020**

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### **Citation**

Alene, G. A. (2024, May 28). *The role of political elites in nation-building in contemporary Ethiopia, 1960-2020*. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/3761715>

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**Note:** To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).

## Curriculum Vitae

*Gedu Andargachew Alene*, born on August 16, 1963, in Wollo, now part of the Amhara Region in Ethiopia. He attended the Chet Primary and Junior Secondary School in the region from 1979-1985 and subsequently attended his secondary education at Wogel-Tena Secondary Comprehensive School, from 1987-1989. He holds a BA degree in development administration from Civil Service University, Addis Ababa (1998-2001). He then pursued organizational leadership studies, obtaining an MA degree from Azusa Pacific University, CA, in May 2007. As a long-serving Ethiopian politician, he recently served as the National Security Advisor to the Prime Minister of Ethiopia (Nov. 2020-early 2022). Before this role, he was the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (FDRE) from 2019 to the end of 2020. His extensive political career includes significant roles in the Amhara Regional State, the second most populous regional state in Ethiopia: Deputy President from 2008 to 2013, and President from 2014 to early 2019. In these positions, he played a pivotal role in shaping public and socio-economic policies for the region. Beyond his regional responsibilities, Gedu actively participated in the then ruling party's affairs, contributing to the ANDM at the regional level and to the EPRDF coalition at the national level: he held key positions as a central and executive committee member, including serving as the deputy chairman of ANDM. His contributions have left a lasting impact on both state institutions and party affairs. Gedu also served as an elected people's representative in the Amhara Regional Council (1995-2021), a member of the House of Federation (2001-2022), and, most recently, a people's representative in the Ethiopian Parliament. From 2020 to 2023, he conducted doctoral research at the African Studies Centre in Leiden. The focus of his PhD project was on examining the role of political elites in the process of nation-building in contemporary Ethiopia, from 1960 to 2020.