

Libya daily security analysis report

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Table of Contents

Latest Developments	3
Political Developments	3
Security Developments	3
Oil and Gas Developments	3
Significant Incidents	4
Tripolitania Region	4
Cyrenaica Region	4
Fezzan Region	4
Offshore	4
Outlook	5
Short Term Outlook	5
Medium to Long Term Outlook	5
Key Dates	5
Acronym List	7

Latest Developments

Political Developments

- The US Ambassador to Libya, Richard Norland, met with PC member, Mussa Koni on Apr 06 to discuss the new US strategy to prevent conflict and promote stability which should see a greater focus on the historically marginalized southern region. **COMMENT:** The recent plan presented by US President Biden has a significant focus on the southern region, given its key role in the stability of the wider Sahel. It notes that southern Libya is the focal point of initial sequenced efforts which will incrementally build towards progress in all three major regions of Libya and ultimately through the critical sub-regions of the Sahel and Coastal West Africa. **COMMENT ENDS.**
- The secretary general of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), Jassim Mohammed al Budaiwi invited all parties currently involved in the Libyan 'crisis' to a meeting to be held at the headquarters of the general secretariat in Riyadh. Budaiwi also expressed the GCC's support for the role of the UN and the efforts of SRSG Bathily 'to reach a political solution, hold elections and reunify state institutions, in order to realize the will and aspirations of the population.'
- Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov met with Turkish President Erdogan in Ankara, with the two discussing a variety of issues, including Libya. Lavrov once again blamed NATO for attacking Libya and claimed that 'we' are now trying to get the country back on its feet. He also noted that there were many armed groups in Libya and that it was necessary for all parties to meet for dialogue. The talks also focused on the future of the current deal which allows grain exports through a safe corridor in the Black Sea Turkey has pushed for a 120-day extension to the deal, which has so far seen the export of 25 million tons of grain. However, Russia wants to see any subsequent grain deal be coupled with the removal of Western sanctions on the export of Russian food and fertilisers. **COMMENT:** Not only is Ukrainian grain directly imported into Libya, with several large shipments totalling 480k tons being received during 2022/23, but the removal of Ukrainian grain from the global food chain would also push up the global price of wheat, having a further impact on the already soaring price of basic necessities within Libya. **COMMENT ENDS.**

Security Developments

- PM(GNU) Dbeibah had to cancel a planned appearance at the Nama International Competition for memorizing the noble Qur'an in Zawiyat al Mahjoub (east of Misrata) after SAF and RPG fire was reported in the area of his convoy. **COMMENT:** Reporting on the episode has been notably subdued with little mention of it in the mainstream Libyan domestic media. The motive for the activity is not known, and while the Zawiyat al Mahjoub area is known to have both GNU and GNS supporters there is no confirmation that political alignment or rejection is necessarily the key factor, with armed group payments also often being a trigger in the Misrata area. **COMMENT ENDS.**
- A planned 5+5 meeting in Benghazi, which is expected to be in the expanded format similar to the recent Tripoli meeting, was postponed from Apr 06 and is expected to start following Iftar on Apr 07.

Oil and Gas Developments

- The NOC announced on Apr 06 that oil production had reached 1.233 million barrels per day.

Significant Incidents

Tripolitania Region



- 1. Armed Attack - Apr 06 19:00, Nuqat Al-Khams Province, Ajaylat:** An armed group forced entrance into the Ghout al Dis Clinic.
- 2. Arrest - Apr 06, Tripoli Province, CP 17:** Three Libyans were arrested when their vehicle was stopped and found to be smuggling an individual in their boot.
- 3. Other - Apr 05, Tripoli Province, Tripoli:** Libyan Telecom and Technology Company (LTT) reported a cyberattack from a suspected foreign source which has impacted service systems and internet coverage.
- 4. SAF - Apr 06, Misrata Province, Zawiyat al-Majoub:** SAF and suspected RPG fire was reported near the convoy of PM (GNU) Dbeibah in the Zawiyat al-Mahjoub area. As a result, Dbeibah cancelled a planned appearance at an event in the town.

Cyrenaica Region

NSTR

Fezzan Region

NSTR

Offshore

NSTR

Outlook

Short Term Outlook

- Libya remains locked in a political impasse with two governments, both of which are slowly weakening. The House of Representatives (HoR) and the High Council of State (HCS) continue to dominate the current political scene, with their efforts to resolve key issues like the constitution taking centre stage. SRSB Abdoulaye Bathily is attempting to wrest some control away from the two entities in a bid to make progress towards elections in 2023, however, they continue to enjoy the support of key regional and international backers. Various factions are beginning to position themselves for expected change in 2023 as the UN continues to push towards elections, while regional and global issues, not least the Ukraine offensive, continue to shape the international communities' agendas in Libya.
- The security situation in and around Tripoli remains fundamentally unstable. After significant changes to the capital's security makeup in August and September 2022, new faultlines are emerging as militia commanders continue to consolidate their positions. This includes expanding their influence through ministries and other state apparatus. In addition, plans to reconstruct Tripoli International Airport threaten to destabilise the delicate balance of power in the city with Misratan entities looking to claim significant influence over the location. The resurgence of Jihadist Salafism in Tripolitania is also a potential source of destabilisation, one which is currently being felt in Tajura and along the north-west coastline. This instability along the coastline may be positively impacted by efforts in Zawiyah to reorganise armed groups which could increase cooperation. Armed groups in Tripoli continue to be empowered via financial, military, and political means, ensuring they will continue to exert significant influence over the political situation.

Medium to Long Term Outlook

- The solution to Libya's political impasse remains elections for many stakeholders with UNSMIL attempting to develop a new pathway. Realistically, the path to elections in 2023 will be fraught with difficulties however, there is a real chance that much-needed groundwork could be achieved. While UNSMIL heads efforts towards elections, other international stakeholders are prioritising more short-term objectives as they look to shape not just Libya, but regional and global issues.
- Terrorist groups remain active but contained in Libya. Islamic State (IS) will continue to present a threat to security forces, primarily in the south, and may re-establish the capability to mount sporadic attacks along the coastline in the future. The group continues to suffer from years of attrition and is more likely focused on providing support for more active IS theatres in sub-Saharan Africa. Al-Qaeda-aligned groups remain active in the country with their integration into societies in the south and some armed groups in the Tripoli area potentially posing a longer-term issue for Libya.

Key Dates

Date	Occasion	Comment
April 22 - 24, 2023	Eid Al-Fitr (+/-)	Public Holiday
May 01, 2023	May Day	Public Holiday
June 27, 2023	Arafat Day	
June 28 – 30, 2023	Eid Al-Adha	Public Holiday
July 19, 2023	Islamic New Year	Public Holiday

September 16, 2023	Martyrs' Day	Public Holiday
September 27, 2023	The Prophet's Birthday	Public Holiday
October 23, 2023	Liberation Day	Public Holiday
December 24, 2023	Independence Day	Public Holiday

Acronym List

AQ - Al-Qaeda
BDB – Benghazi Defense Brigade (Al Qaeda-aligned – AAS and RSCB associated/umbrella group)
CBL – Central Bank of Libya
CESF - Constitution and Election Support Force
CNI – Critical National Infrastructure
DACOCT - Deterrence Apparatus for Combating Organized Crime and Terrorism (SDF)
DDR - Disarmament, demobilising and reintegration
GASO – General Administration of Security Operations
GACS – General Administration of Central Support
GECOL – General Electricity Company of Libya
GMMR – Great Man-made River
GNA – Government of National Accord (2016)
GNC – General National Congress (2012)
GNS – Government of National Stability (2021)
GNU – Government of National Unity (2021)
GTUC - Greater Tripoli Union Council (Tripoli militias and others, established in June 2020)
HCS – High Council of State (Tripoli-based)
HNEC – High National Elections Commission
HoR – House of Representatives (Tobruk-based)
IDF – Indirect Fire (mortars/rockets)
IDP - Internally Displaced Persons
IED - Improvised Explosive Device
IOC - International Oil Company
IS - Islamic State
JMC – Joint Military Commission
LIFG – Libyan Islamic Fighting Group
LNA – Libyan National Army
LPA – Libyan Political Agreement (2015)
LPDF - Libyan Political Dialogue Forum (2020)
LROR - Libyan Revolutionary Operations Room
MoD - Ministry of Defense
MoF - Ministry of Finance
MoFA - Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MoI - Ministry of Interior
MoJ - Ministry of Justice
MoO - Ministry of Oil
MoT - Ministry of Transportation
NFDK - No Further Details Known
NGO - Non-Governmental Organisation (aid/charity)
NOC – National Oil Company
NSG – National Salvation Government (GNC)
NSTR - Nothing Significant To Report
P3+2 – France, Germany, Italy – UK, US
PC – Presidency Council
PG – Presidential Guard
PFG - Petroleum Facilities Guard
RPG - Rocket Propelled Grenade
RTA - Road Traffic Accident
TIP – Tripoli International Airport
SSA – Stability Support Authority
SAF - Small Arms Fire
SDF – Rada Deterrence Force/ Special Deterrence Force/ Rada
UXO - Unexploded Ordnance

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SECURE EVERY DAY

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