

Libya daily security analysis report

April 17, 2023

Prepared by:
Risk Analysis Team, Libya

Table of Contents

Latest Developments	3
Political Developments	3
Security Developments	3
Significant Incidents	4
Tripolitania Region	4
Cyrenaica Region	4
Fezzan Region	5
Offshore	5
Outlook	6
Short Term Outlook	6
Medium to Long Term Outlook	6
Key Dates	7
Acronym List	8

Latest Developments

Political Developments

- The Head of the High National Election Commission (HNEC), Emad Sayeh, confirmed that the country's elections would be simultaneous. He also added that all electoral processes would be cancelled in the event that the presidential vote can not be held. The period for the implementation of the three elections (president, lower house and upper house) is calculated starting from the date on which the Commission receives the electoral laws.
- The Assistant Secretary-General and Mission Coordinator of UNSMIL, Raisedon Zenenga met with a delegation of Tuareg notables and civil society members. UNSMIL confirmed in a statement that the delegation fully supported the recent initiative announced by SRSG Bathily on Feb 27 and called for the elections to be held without delay. They also repeated their demand for the "disenfranchised members of cultural components in the south to be accorded full rights as citizens" and that the women's representation in parliament is increased to 30%.
- SRSG Bathily is due to brief the UNSC on Libya on Feb 18. Following the briefing Bathily will conduct a closed-door session with the council members, accompanied by Kimihiro Ishikani, chairman of the U.N. Sanctions Committee on Libya.

Security Developments

- The LNA announced the arrest of a terrorist cell in the eastern region (no specific location). The cell consisted of six individuals, including one woman, and that they had intended to target LNA units. Reportedly the group had been under surveillance for two months and the operation was conducted with the assistance of the ISA Eastern Branch.
- The GNU Minister of the Interior, Imad Trabelsi announced the restructuring of security directorates according to a geographical area. He also noted that in the context of combating smuggling across borders and ports, the ministry will extend its control over all the country's ports, starting with the western and northwest sectors, through its specialized security services.
- Fighting has continued in Sudan for a third day. Several unconfirmed sources indicate that government forces have reversed some of the gains made by the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in the initial fighting, with increasing speculation that the RSF may be expelled from the capital. However, the reality is unlikely to be as clear cut with an obvious information war being waged on social media between supporters of both sides of the conflict. In Libya, the ongoing conflict to the south has raised concern about the deterioration of security on the southern borders. HoR member, Saeed Amgheib, who represents Kufra warned that the situation will "negatively affect the security of Libya's southern borders" due to the presence of "mercenaries and traitors who possess weapons and money outside the framework of the military establishment." **COMMENT:** As previously assessed, the current conflict is likely to impact the security in the southern border areas, however, the scale and nature of this impact will be dependent on how the conflict develops in terms of winners and losers. **COMMENT ENDS.**
- Unconfirmed open sources claim that LNA Commander Khalifa Haftar and HoR Speaker Aquila Saleh will visit Cairo in the near future to be informed of the developments emanating from the recent visit of Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukrey to Greece, and more importantly Turkey. **COMMENT:** Shoukrey recently conducted a meeting with his Turkish counterpart Melvut Cavusoglu in Ankara. The meeting marked a significant step in Egyptian/Turkish relations with diplomatic relations having been broken off in 2013 following the removal of Mohamed Morsi by now President Abdel Sisi in Jul 2013. The current rapprochement between the two countries, who also backed opposing sides in the 2019/20 Libyan conflict, is considered part of a wider geopolitical shift involving the majority of nations with an active involvement or interest in Libya. **COMMENT ENDS.**

Significant Incidents

Tripolitania Region



1. Arrest - Apr 17 03:00, Tripoli Province, Salahuddin: RADA and ISA arrested a Libyan national for online activity.

2. Troop Movements - Apr 16 16:00, Tripoli Province, Qaser Bin Ghashir: A large convoy of 444 Brigade forces assembled on the airport road.

Cyrenaica Region



3. Carjacking - Apr 16 15:00, Benghazi Province, Benghazi: An armed carjacking was reported in the Bouatni area. One suspected was arrested afterwards with searches continuing for two other perpetrators.

4. Carjacking - Apr 17 13:00, Kufra Province, Kufra: An armed carjacking of two vehicles was reported in the Tazir area.

5. Arrest - Apr 16, Benghazi Province, Benghazi: The LNA Information Division announced the arrest of an IS cell that was planning attacks against the LNA. The statement added that a total of six individuals were arrested, including a woman, and that the arrests took place with the assistance of the ISA Eastern Region.

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 20 - 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
ISA – Internal Security Agency
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
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

The GardaWorld Difference



122,000+

employees

45

countries with
operations &
infrastructure

\$3B+

in revenues

22,000+

clients

About GardaWorld

At GardaWorld, we're security people. Which makes us peace-of-mind people.

We're the trusted partners you count on, when it really counts. We're the guards, patrollers, support staff and consultants who uphold the highest standards to protect what matters to you. Getting it right the first time, every time. Providing high-quality service on a global scale, with local insights — so we know what to anticipate and how to respond, at any level of risk. We're the eyes and ears and minds who are ready to act smart and act fast, with the vast experience and extensive training to plan and prepare, to monitor and manage, on your terms, on your turf, to your satisfaction, earning our reputation by earning your trust. Bringing reliability, consistency and transparency to your security operations. We're the experts who attend to the smallest details, so you can focus on the bigger picture. The security people who work hard so you can rest easy — and confidently look forward to every day.

SECURE EVERY DAY

Country address:

RMT House, Turkish School Road
Sarraj
Tripoli
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

GARDAWORLD

garda.com