

Libya daily security analysis report

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Latest Developments

Regional Developments

- Flight tracking sites show a series of military flights from Brussels, Germany and the UK travelling to Egypt in anticipation of the evacuation of foreign nationals from Sudan. Open sources report continued fighting at Khartoum airport with satellite imagery showing a total of 27 aircraft destroyed.



Photo: Destroyed aircraft as of Apr 21 – Source: Gerjon, Social Media

- Reporting continues to indicate that the Rapid Support Force is receiving arms supplies from outside the country. All sources indicate that this resupply is emanating from Eastern Libya, however, it is unclear if the supply is by the LNA, the UAE or Wagner Group.

Eid Developments

- Disruptions were reported at the Eid prayers in Tripoli's Martyrs Square on Apr 22 when supporters and opponents of Mufti Sadiq Gharyani threw shoes at each other. The tension between the two groups is related to Gharyani's fatwa on the start of Eid, which led to different areas of Libya following a different date for the start of Eid. The General Authority of Endowments determined that Apr 21 was the first day of Eid, while some regions of its west adhered to the opinion of Dar al-Iftaa, which insisted that Apr 21 was the completion of the month of Ramadan.
- LNA Commander Khalifa Haftar participated in Eid Al-Fitr celebrations in the city of Benghazi on Friday. The LNA General Command said that Haftar participated in the "Benghazi Youth Gathering" celebration which was held in Al-Kish Square in Benghazi, in the presence of a large crowd of the city's youth.
- PM (GNU) Dbeibah was pictured at the al-Ghalban Mosque in Misrata attending Eid prayers on Apr 22.

Migrant Developments

- In an interview with an Italian news agency the Italian Foreign Minister, Antonio Tajani claimed that illegal migration from Libya and Tunisia had increased by 100%. He added that the EU so far has not shown enough solidarity with Italy on the issues, but that this was changing as illegal migrants moved throughout mainland Europe.

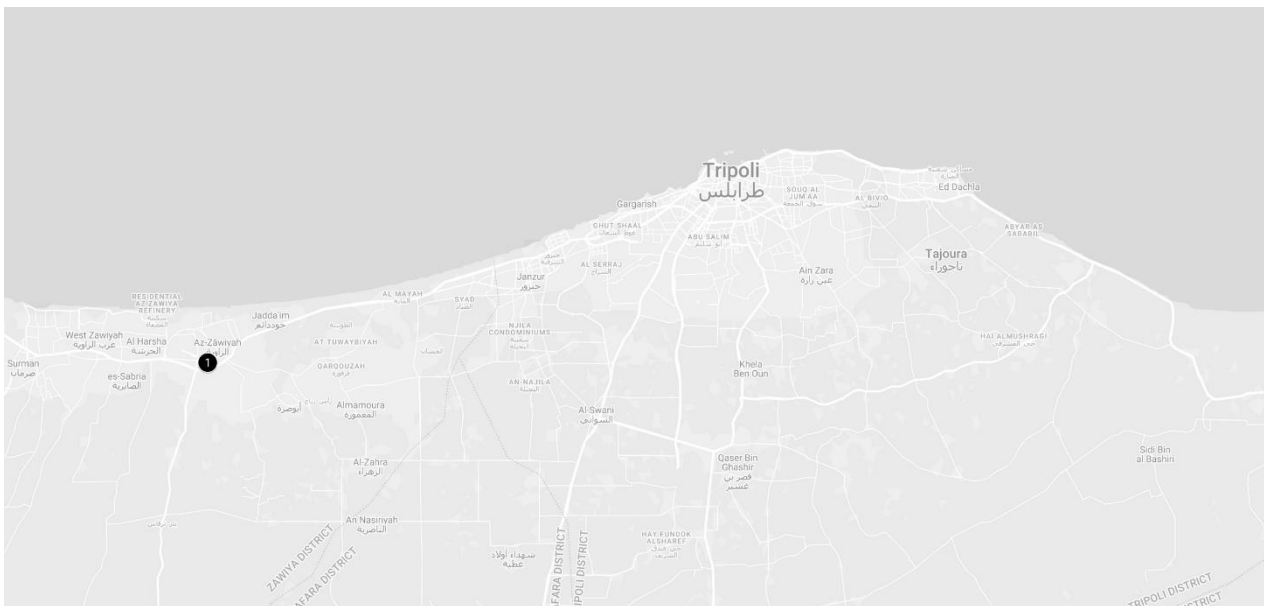
- The search and rescue organisations SOS Humanity, Mission Lifeline and Sea-Eye are taking legal action at the Civil Court in Rome against the Italian authorities' systematic policy of assigning distant ports. The Italian authorities assigned Ravenna in northern Italy as a place for migrants' disembarkation to the vessel Humanity 1. The vessel had rescued 69 survivors but was assigned Ravenna which involved a voyage of 1,600km. **COMMENT:** Organisations operating rescue ships have heavily criticized the recent decisions taken by the Italian government. They claim that a policy of vessels only being able to conduct one rescue per sailing and the assignment of northern Italian ports are intentionally designed to reduce rescue capacity. **COMMENT ENDS.**

Other Developments

- An earthquake measuring 5.5 was reported on Apr 22 which is the strongest quake in the area in 10 years. The location was recorded as in the Mediterranean to the southeast of Malta. **COMMENT:** A total of 29 earthquakes have been reported within 300km of Malta during 2023, representing a significant increase in activity with the annual number being below 10 for the last 10 years. **COMMENT ENDS.**

Significant Incidents

Tripolitania Region



1. Murder/ Execution - Apr 21, Az Zawiyah Province, Zawiyah: An individual named as Abdo Zaait was shot and killed in the Zawiyah area.

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 21 - 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

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