

Libya daily security analysis report

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Latest Developments

Political Developments

- PM (GNU) Dbeibah was pictured alongside Turkish President Erdogan at the Teknofest event in Istanbul. During a speech, Dbeibah thanked Turkey and the Baykar company for the support that they had provided to Libya. **COMMENT:** The Baykar company produces the Bayraktar TB2 UAV which has been used extensively in Libya, both during the 2019/20 and subsequently as a deterrent during the GNU/GNS period of competition in 2022. **COMMENT ENDS.**
- HoR Speaker Aquila Saleh arrived in Cairo on Apr 29. The head of the HCS, Khaled Mishri also arrived in Cairo. A statement from the HCS media office later denied that Mishri was meeting with Saleh during his trip to Cairo, claiming that his visit to Cairo was to discuss election laws and the work of the 6+6 committee. **COMMENT:** Despite the claims to the contrary, it is probable that Mishri and Saleh will meet. Egypt was instrumental in getting the two to conduct a series of meetings in January 2023. The January meetings saw both Saleh and Mishri claim that an agreement had been made on election laws, however, the statements were little more than window dressing with nothing tangible being forthcoming. Egypt will be keen to see some form of movement from the HoR and HCS as continued failure risks both bodies losing ownership of the election law and constitutional files. **COMMENT ENDS.**
- On Apr 29, five BRICS nations, Russia, India, China, Brazil and South Africa affirmed their support for Libya's sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity. The statement came following a meeting of BRICS Deputy Foreign Ministers and Special Envoys for the Middle East and North Africa held a meeting held in South Africa. The ministers also voiced their support for a Libyan-led, Libyan-owned political process with UN led mediation.

Security Developments

- In a statement published on its social media account, the 444th Combat Brigade announced that it had refused to intervene in Zawiyah after receiving a request from the GNU. The statement added that the decision was taken in order to avoid clashes with the Zawiyah youth and asserted that the government must listen to the demands of the people and to "abandon the policy of muzzling voices using military force if it wants to continue in its position." **COMMENT:** 444 Brigade has typically avoided involvement in affairs it deems political, with its role in the GNU/GNS motivated clashes being that of interventionist rather than protagonist. **COMMENT ENDS.**
- JMC 5+5 member, Mukhtar al Naqasa announced that the commission will meet in early May to follow up on the work of the Tripoli and Benghazi meetings. The most prominent file to be discussed at the upcoming meeting will be joint support for the 2023 elections.
- Unconfirmed press sources reported the arrest of five political activists in Sirte. The five were members of the Together for the Homeland Party and were said to have been planning to hold an election awareness seminar. Libyan Crime Watch condemned the arrests asserting that "such practices constitute a flagrant violation of human rights, fundamental freedoms, and international principles that guarantee freedom of expression and political participation."
- The Turkish frigate TCG Goksu conducted exercises off the Libyan coast.

Regional Developments

- The recently announced ceasefire in Sudan collapsed once again, with fighting reported throughout Khartoum on Apr 29 including airstrikes. As with the previous ceasefire collapses (four so far) both sides blamed each other. In an interview with the BBC, Rapid Support Force commander, General Dagalo stated that he would not negotiate until the fighting had ended, while the commander of the Sudanese Army, Abdel Burhan claimed that it was not possible to sit with Dagalo as he is leading a rebellion that must be ended.

Oil and Gas Developments

- The NOC announced that oil production had increased to 1.211 million barrels per day.

Significant Incidents

Tripolitania Region



- 1. Demonstration - Apr 28 16:00, Az Zawiyah Province, Daman Street:** Demonstrations restarted in the area of Semafro Daman resulting in the closure of a route with burning tyres.
- 2. Security Operation - Apr 28 14:00, Al-Jafara Province, Mayah:** GACS Western Branch reported rescuing 473 migrants of various nationalities.
- 3. Murder/ Execution - Apr 28 21:00, Az Zawiyah Province, Sabratah:** A male named as Jamal al Harari was killed following a quarrel.

Cyrenaica Region

NSTR

Fezzan Region

NSTR

Offshore

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. SRSG 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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SECURE EVERY DAY

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