

# Libya daily security analysis report

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# Latest Developments

## Political Developments

- The Presidential Council has appointed the Minister of Justice (GNU) as president of a committee formed to communicate with Lebanese authorities with regard to Hannibal Gadhafi after he went on hunger strike in protest at his continued detention without trial.
- Minister of Foreign Affairs (GNU) Najla Manqoush has travelled to Saudi Arabia to participate in the second ministerial meeting of Arab states with Pacific Islands countries, which is to be held in Riyadh.
- HoR spokesman, Abdullah Belihag, stated the HoR will hold its next official session on June 12 and 13 in Benghazi. The sessions are to be headed by Speaker Aqila Saleh who has spent noticeable time recently working from his home in Qubbah.
- Prime Minister (GNS) Osama Hammad travelled with a delegation to the Ribyana region for his first official visit since taking office.
- On June 11, the head of the HSC, Khalid Mishri, accompanied by the Head of the Electoral Laws Preparation Committee, Omar Abulifa, held a meeting in Tripoli with the ambassadors of the countries concerned with the Libyan crisis to brief them on the outcomes of the 6+6 Committee.
- The Presidential Council has welcomed the outcomes of the 6+6 Committee and “supports everything that leads to the holding of non-exclusionary presidential and parliamentary elections without delay.” The council also looked forward to the HoR issuing the electoral laws in their final form.

## Security Developments

- Tripoli hosted the first meeting of the Libya and Italian Military Cooperation Committee for 2023. The meeting was held on June 07 and 08. The two sides discussed a number of issues of “common interest” which aimed at developing joint bilateral cooperation in the field of defence.
- The Minister of Interior (GNS) Essam Abuzriba met with the ministry’s Director of Financial Affairs Al-Siddiq al-Shaibani and the Director of the Sabha Security Directorate, Osama Owaidan. The discussions focused on the security problems facing the city. They also discussed the needs of the directorate to start work on training police officers to deal with police dogs and to open the information and documentation department as soon as possible.

## Migrant Crisis

- UNSMIL issued a statement regarding recent activity in Libya: “We are concerned about the mass arbitrary arrest of migrants & asylum-seekers across Libya. The authorities have arrested thousands of men, women & children from the streets & their homes or following raids on alleged traffickers’ camps and warehouses.”

## Oil & Gas Developments

- The NOC stated that crude oil revenues in their accounts in the Libyan Foreign Bank amounted to \$1.57 billion in May. Revenues from petroleum products amounted to \$59,862,000 in May, gas and condensate revenues recorded \$29,862,000, and petrochemicals \$615,874.

# Assessment

## Political Developments

### Hannibal Gadhafi's hunger strike continues

The Presidential Council has appointed the Minister of Justice (GNU) as president of a committee formed to communicate with Lebanese authorities with regard to Hannibal Gadhafi after he went on hunger strike in protest at his continued detention without trial.

Mohamed Shaaban, the Libyan ambassador to Syria stated that Hannibal is suffering ill health after eight years in detention. He pointed out that Hannibal was only two years old when Moussa al-Sadr disappeared in Libya and that there had been several committees sent over the years to investigate the matter. Shaaban stated that the Qaddafi tribe was angry over the circumstances Hannibal was being subjected to and he demanded that Hannibal be released quickly.

**COMMENT:** 'Hannibal went on hunger strike at the start of June. His lawyers stated that six days in, he was suffering spasms in his muscles, hands and legs, dizziness and headaches as well as prior medical problems in his spine and hips. Hannibal is the youngest of Gadhafi's five sons and has been imprisoned at the Internal Security Forces HQ in Beirut since 2015. His ongoing detention has been linked to the disappearance of Al-Sadr, who was a prominent Shi'a Imam, in Tripoli in 1978. He was a founder of the Shia political party, the Amal Movement.

Hannibal had fled Libya in 2011 after Tripoli fell, heading to Algeria with his wife and some of his siblings. They applied for political asylum in Syria however after being lured to the border area under the pretext of giving an interview, Hannibal was kidnapped and taken to Lebanon. Hannibal's lawyers claim that Hezbollah was behind the kidnapping. Hannibal was been sentenced to 18 months in prison in 2018 for "insulting" the Lebanese judiciary and was also slapped with a one-year travel ban. In September 2022, Hannibal gave an interview in which he refuted that he had any knowledge of the disappearance of Al-Sadr. This came as southern Lebanon had prepared to commemorate Al-Sadr's disappearance with some observers suggesting the interview suggested preparations were underway for Hannibal's release.

Lebanese – Libyan relations remain strained, partly due to Al-Sadr's disappearance and Hannibal has little support in Lebanon. His hunger strike has however begun drawing national and international attention to his position and placed pressure on the GNU and PC to act.' **COMMENT ENDS.**

### HCS: Mishri discusses the results of the 6+6 Committee

On June 11, the head of the HSC, Khalid Mishri, accompanied by the Head of the Electoral Laws Preparation Committee, Omar Abulifa, held a meeting in Tripoli with the ambassadors of the countries concerned with the Libyan crisis to brief them on the outcomes of the 6+6 Committee. The meeting was attended by the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in Libya, Residon Zeninga, Ambassador of the European Union Jose Sabadell, British Ambassador Caroline Hurdall, French Ambassador Mustafa Maharaj, Turkish Ambassador Canan Yilmaz, Egyptian Chargé d'Affaires Ambassador Tamer Mustafa, Chargé d'Affaires of the Italian Embassy Mikael Rossi, US Ambassador Richard Norland, German Ambassador Michael Unmacht and the Chargé d'Affaires of the US Embassy Lizzie Ordman.

The media office of the HCS stated that the meeting consisted of "a briefing and discussion on the results of the 6+6 Committee concerned with developing laws regulating the electoral process," noting that the attendees "agreed to praise the work of the two committees and the efforts made that led to the issuance of electoral laws. They also stressed the need to complete this process by preparing a clear roadmap for holding elections.

Prior to this meeting, Mishri held a meeting at his residence in Tripoli with the heads of the committees of the HCS, in the presence of the second vice president of the council, Omar Boushah, and the head of the committee for the preparation of electoral laws, Omar Aboulifa.

Separately, a member of the HoR side of the committee, Ali Tekbali, stated that there had been “many interventions” in the 6+6 Committee from all parties and suggested that the countries which had accepted all the outcomes may not have studied each decision closely enough.

A member of the HCS side of the committee, Fathalla al-Sariri, stated that the work of the committee was linked to the 13<sup>th</sup> constitutional amendment and stated that its decisions were binding. He further stated that the HoR “must issue it without objection” and that the SRSG had no right to accept or reject any of the committee's outputs. “Everyone voted and signed the laws set by the committee after consensus, which are final.” He confirmed that the period of 240 days would begin once the laws were issued and announced by parliament.

**COMMENT:** ‘The 240 days statement is linked to the HoR roadmap which sees elections being held within 240 days (around eight months) after the official issuance of the constitutional basis for elections.

The outcomes of the committee are expected to be now sent to the HoR however, despite al-Sariri’s position that the HoR should accept the outputs without objection, a group of MPs have already stated their objections, highlighting the difficulties Speaker Saleh will have in pushing the laws through, assuming he is even ready to do so.

It should also be noted that the 6+6 stipulated the HoR/HSC plan to have a new unified government installed to oversee election as part of their outcomes. The acceptance therefore of the outcomes in their entirety has serious implications for the GNU.’ **COMMENT ENDS.**

## **Migrant Crisis**

### **UNSMIL: Raising the alarm over the treatment of migrants**

UNSMIL issued a statement regarding recent activity in Libya: “We are concerned about the mass arbitrary arrest of migrants and asylum-seekers across Libya. The authorities have arrested thousands of men, women and children from the streets and their homes or following raids on alleged traffickers’ camps and warehouses.

Many of these migrants, including pregnant women and children, are held in overcrowded and unsanitary conditions. Thousands more collectively, including migrants who had entered Libya legally, were expelled without due process or due process.

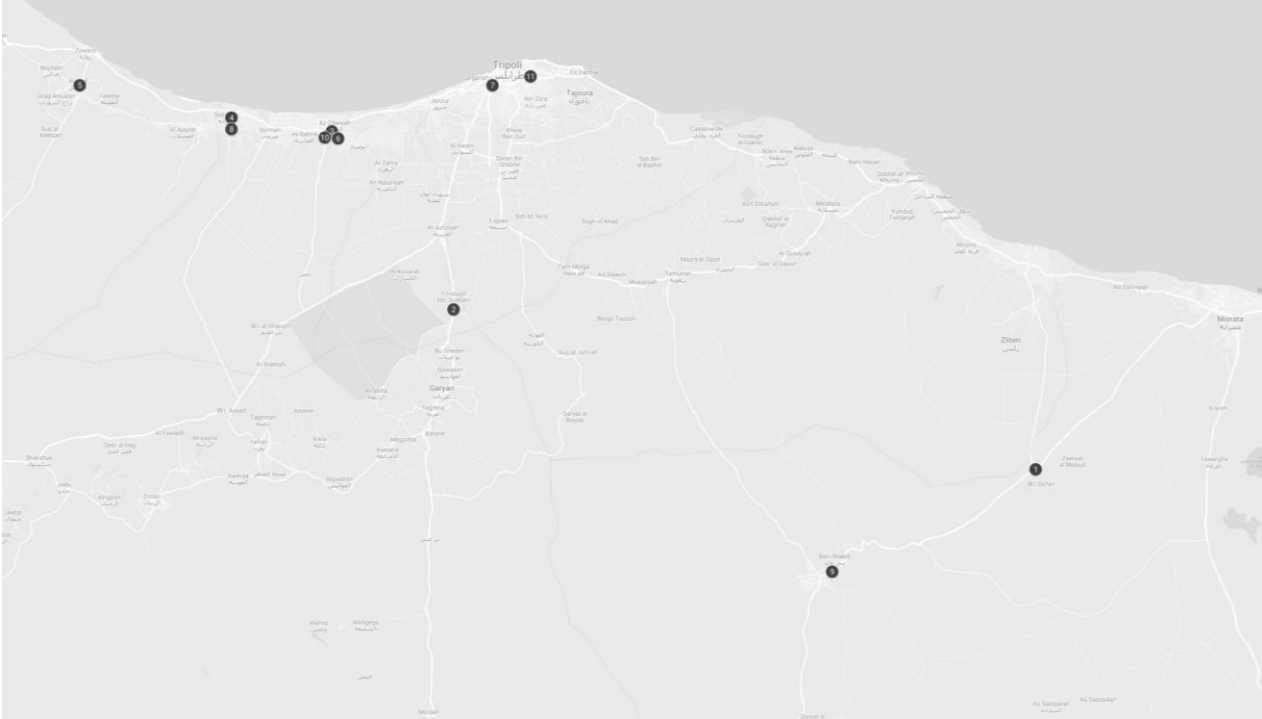
The campaign of arbitrary arrests and deportations has been accompanied by an alarming increase in hate speech and racist rhetoric against foreigners on the Internet and in the media.

The UN mission calls on the Libyan authorities to stop these measures and treat migrants with dignity and humanity in line with their international obligations. The Libyan authorities must also grant UN agencies and international non-governmental organizations unhindered access to detainees who need urgent protection.”

**COMMENT:** ‘The treatment of migrants in Libya has long been a serious issue however over recent weeks, security forces in both east and west Libya have carried out crackdowns on the migrant communities. This has included the deportation of thousands of Egyptian nationals on foot over the border last week.’ **COMMENT ENDS.**

# Significant Incidents

## Tripolitania Region



**1. Security Operation - Jun 10, Misrata Province, Dufan:** The Department of Tasks of the General Administration for Security Operations conducted patrols south of Misrata under the framework of enforcing security by establishing a number of checkpoints and carrying out mobile patrols to track down gangs involved in the smuggling of people, fuel and drugs.

**2. RTA - Jun 10, Al-Jafara Province, Hira:** A man died after colliding with a parked patrol car.

**3. Other - Jun 11, Az Zawiyah Province, Zawiyah:** A power outage took place overnight due to the failure of an electricity transformer.

**4. Other - Jun 11, Az Zawiyah Province, Sabratah:** A power outage took place overnight due to the failure of an electricity transformer.

**5. Other - Jun 11, Nuqat Al-Khams Province, Aljmail:** A power outage took place overnight due to the failure of an electricity transformer.

**6. Other - Jun 11, Az Zawiyah Province, Zawiyah:** A power outage took place overnight due to the failure of an electricity transformer.

**7. Arrest - Jun 11, Tripoli Province, Falah:** The Attorney General announced the detention of 10 employees of GECOL for their participation in the stealing of components of the electrical grid.

**8. Other - Jun 11, Az Zawiyah Province, Sabratah:** The body of a young man was found after he drowned off the beach of Sabratah.

**9. Non-violent transfer of territory - Jun 11, Misrata Province, Bani Walid:** The Bani Walid Security Directorate handed over the HQ of the state-owned Insurance Office in the city centre to its employees. This came after 444 Brigade, in cooperation with the Public Prosecution, ousted an "outlaw group" from the location.

**10. Surveillance - Jun 11 21:30, Az Zawiyah Province, Zawiyah:** A drone was noted flying over the area.

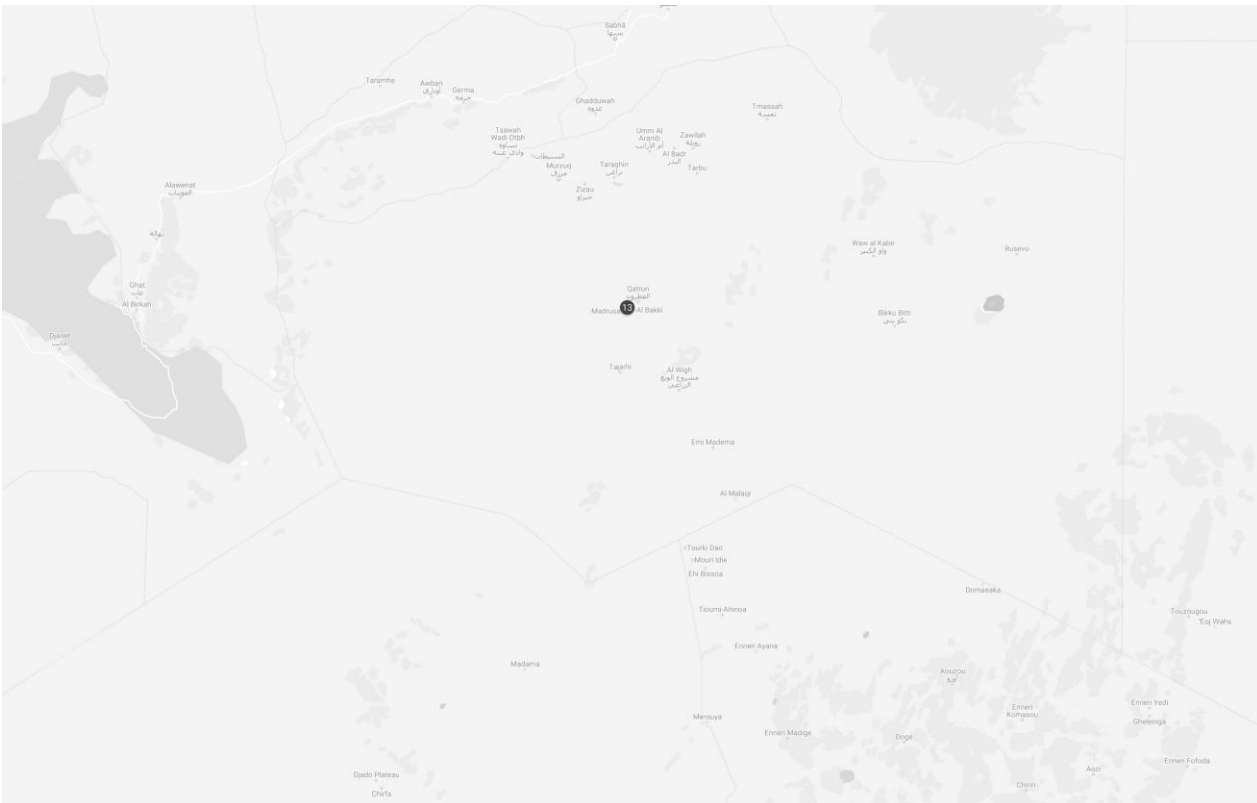
**11. Demonstration - Jun 12 11:00, Tripoli Province, Tripoli:** Employees from the International Islamic Dawah Association staged a protest in front of the Administrative Oversight Headquarters to demand the payment of their salaries.

## Cyrenaica Region



**12. Other - Jun 11, Al-Butnan Province, Emsaed Border Crossing:** Truck drivers have again called for support after queues at the Egyptian border have extended to eight days. In May, queues hit 12 days.

## Fezzan Region



**13. Security Operation - Jun 11, Murzuq Province, Qatrun:** 128 Brigade (LNA) carried out security operations from Sabha to Qatrun to the Tummo border crossing. The patrol then split to patrol the area along the Libyan-Algerian border and the Libyan - Chadian border.

## Offshore

NSTR

# Outlook

## Short Term Outlook

- There is an increasing likelihood of forthcoming political change in Libya. The HoR and HCS track has made progress with regard to the constitutional basis for elections, however, this process is only likely to continue smoothly should they secure support for the next phase of their strategy which is the creation of a new unified government. This step is mainly to ensure their continued relevance and primacy over the political process as well as an opportunity to remove certain personalities, like Prime Minister (GNU) Abdulhamid Dbeibah.
- Field Marshal Khalifa Haftar has once again positioned himself well with influence over both the HoR/HCS track and the competing power-sharing talks between his family and the Dbeibah clan. With progress appearing possible on the HoR/HCS track, pressure is now growing on the power-sharing talks to come to an agreement, an agreement which could yet cause a significant rupture in the political landscape in the short term.
- Prime Minister (GNU) Dbeibah is under threat from the HoR/HCS track and is looking to secure a powersharing deal with Haftar in order to help maintain his position however, he has benefited recently from the re-election of Turkish President Erdogan, the fall of rival Misratan prime minister Fathi Bashagha, had is currently building political capital as a result of his security operation along the northwest coastline. He now needs to spend that political currency effectively in talks with Haftar as well as repairing the fractures in his support base. He also needs to manage the security campaign effectively to ensure he can contain his enemies while not pushing too hard and risking a wider destabilisation in the region.
- The security situation in Tripolitania is becoming increasingly unstable. As political divisions deepen, tensions amongst armed groups are growing with increasing competition over territorial control. This is particularly evident around Zawiyah and the northwest coastline as well as Tripoli International Airport. This trend is likely to continue to escalate with factions solidifying and looking for an advantage over opponents.
- The outbreak of violence in Sudan has the potential to cause conflagration across the region and destabilise the southern border areas with Libya. Speculation continues to suggest that the Libyan National Army (LNA) is providing material support to the Rapid Support Force (RSF), one of the belligerents of the Sudanese conflict. Convoys heading south from Libya have been targeted by the Sudanese Armed Forces, activity which may well have encroached on Libyan territory. While the border has allegedly been closed on both sides, local reports suggest traffic is moving normally at this time.

## 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 whether elections are held or not. 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.
- The resurgence of Jihadist Salafism in Tripolitania remains a potential source of destabilisation with indications of renewed tensions between adherents and those of Madkhali Salafism. This



competition between the opposing ideologies seeps into the political as well as the military spaces and is expected to slowly intensify as the Jihadist Salafi adherents gain strength in the region. This could increasingly become a defining factor for various groups involved in the political and military spaces.

- While the political process continues to falter, armed groups are exploiting the situation to increase their strength, influence and power across Libya which will likely have a longer-term negative impact on the political situation.
- 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        |
|--------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| 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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