

**Subject: Informational materials on Libyan conflict**

**In-depth background:**

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2015/02/23/unravelling>

**In Libya, Militia Advances on Capital, Raising Prospect of Renewed Civil War**

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/04/world/africa/libya-tripoli-militia-hifter.html>

The move all but obviated plans for peace talks this month among competing Libyan factions. The United Nations secretary general, António Guterres, had arrived in Tripoli for that purpose the previous day.

**Libya not ready for democracy, says eastern warlord Haftar, vowing to seize power if elections fail**

<https://www.libyaobserver.ly/news/libya-not-ready-democracy-says-eastern-warlord-haftar-vowing-seize-power-if-elections-fail>

**LNA spokesman: "Al-Mesmari: We will cut the heads of Tripoli youths like ISIS"**

<https://twitter.com/penlibya/status/1129745150253707264?s=19>

**2018 UN report:**

[https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s\\_2018\\_812.pdf](https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s_2018_812.pdf)

**Acts that threaten the peace, stability or security of Libya or acts that obstruct or undermine the successful completion of its political transition:** Over the reporting period, armed groups further increased their influence over Libyan State institutions, promoting their own political and economic interests. The use of violence to take control of State infrastructure and institutions and threats and attacks against public servants are widespread across the country and are particularly noticeable in Tripoli. Predatory behaviour by armed groups is resulting in the misappropriation of Libyan State funds and the deterioration of institutions and infrastructure. The violent competition to capture the Libyan State is hampering the political transition in the country. 15. Targeted persecutions and serious human rights violations are deepening grievances among some categories of the population and ultimately threatening long - term peace and stability in Libya. **The siege of Darnah** and the indiscriminate shelling of residential districts have had the greatest impact on civilians and constitute a direct violation of human rights and international humanitarian law. The Panel is verifying video footage of summary executions of men in civilian clothing, allegedly by LNA soldiers, likely to have taken place in Darnah.

**DEATH TOLL:**

More than 75,000 people have been driven from their homes in the latest fighting and 510 have been killed, according to the World Health Organization.

**Background on Haftar:**

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2019/05/03/trump-changed-us-policy-towards-libya-this-is-why-it-matters/?noredirect=on&utm\\_term=.aaaae8c24432](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2019/05/03/trump-changed-us-policy-towards-libya-this-is-why-it-matters/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.aaaae8c24432)

**CNN: US lawmakers ask FBI to investigate Libyan general praised by Trump**

<https://www.cnn.com/2019/05/16/politics/trump-libya-haftar-doj-letter/index.html>

**On Haftar saying Libya is not ready for democracy:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dqmhoOsTK9U>

<http://time.com/5569624/whats-happening-in-libya/>

<https://www.libyaobserver.ly/news/libya-not-ready-democracy-says-eastern-warlord-haftar-vowing-seize-power-if-elections-fail>

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/jan/10/libya-may-not-be-ready-for-democracy-says-military-strongman>

The commander of the self-styled Libyan army in eastern Libya, Khalifa Haftar, said "Libya is not ready yet for democracy," adding in a statement to Jeune Afrique magazine that elections are now priority in the country, saying "if they failed, then our forces will seize control of the entire country."

**On Saudi support:**

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/saudi-arabia-promised-support-to-libyan-warlord-in-push-to-seize-tripoli-11555077600>

**Video of Haftar saying that anyone who retreats in his army should be shot in the head**

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=454881788583172>

## **Libya 'war crimes' videos shared on social media**

An investigation by BBC Arabic has found evidence of alleged war crimes in Libya being widely shared on Facebook and YouTube. The BBC found images and videos on social media of the bodies of fighters and civilians being desecrated by fighters from the self-styled Libyan National Army. The force, led by strongman General Khalifa Haftar, controls a swathe of territory in the east of Libya and is trying to seize the capital, Tripoli. Under international law the desecration of bodies and posting the images online for propaganda is a war crime. The Foreign Office says it takes the allegations extremely seriously and is concerned about the impact the recent violence is having on the civilian population.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/av/world-africa-48105968/libya-war-crimes-videos-shared-on-social-media>

## **Russian TV: Haftar negotiating establishing Russian military base in Benghazi**

<https://www.libyaobserver.ly/inbrief/russian-tv-haftar-negotiating-establishing-russian-military-base-benghazi>

**On Haftar's son stealing money:**

<https://www.libyaobserver.ly/news/un-panel-experts%E2%80%99-report-haftar%E2%80%99s-son-took-central-bank-libya%E2%80%99s-money-benghazi>

A report issued [on September 05](#) by the panel of experts of the United Nations on Libya accused Brigade 106 of Khalifa Haftar's forces led by his son Saddam of controlling Benghazi-based Central Bank of Libya (CBL) and transferring huge sums of money and silvers to unidentified places. "The vault seized by Brigade 106 in late 2017 contained over 630 million dinars, 159 million euros, 1.9 million dollars and 5.569 silver coins.

[Libya armed group cuts off water supply to Tripoli, Al Jazeera](#)

[Libya's Gen. Haftar asked to shed light on fate of two missing journalists](#)

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