

The Crisis In Libya – Fact Sheet

President Trump's call with Khalifa Haftar has proved a catalyst for confusion and disruption at a dangerous time. Confusion was created in the United States as it appears that President Trump has reversed course on our nation's existing policy of support for the Government of National Accord, the GNA. Disruption was created when the international community interpreted Trump's call with Haftar as a signal that the U.S. is supporting the rebel leader's assault on Tripoli.

Haftar's war on Libya has been catastrophic. Thus far, this conflict has produced over 650 deaths, over 3,500 wounded, and over 95,000 displaced civilians. We are witnessing an evolving humanitarian crisis which brings to mind the situation in Syria.

What can be done to assist the GNA with this burgeoning crisis? So far, the humanitarian issue is regarded as a regional and European issue. Do you believe that the scope of the problem is bigger and may touch the U.S.?

Every military briefing makes clear that there is no military solution in Libya, and Haftar's continuing failure to take Tripoli confirms this. ***How will you work to convince attacking parties of this and restart the political and national unification process?***

GNA is our Staunch Ally Against Terrorism

Libya has been an ally to the U.S. in the fight against terrorism. As a strategic partner in the fight against terrorism, Libya is now forced to defend itself in a war led by a rebel general. Forced to engage in a civil war, Libya is now weakened in its ability to fight against terrorists. Security within the region is now jeopardized.

The GNA has been a stalwart ally of the U.S. in the fight against ISIS, as our own military leaders will attest. The attack on Tripoli has diverted GNA resources from rebuilding the country. ***How will you in your role as the senior U.S. representative help end this conflict so military resources can be directed at dangerous terrorist elements?***

Libya is one of only two countries on the continent where American forces have performed kinetic operations against terrorist elements at will, thanks to our relationship with the GNA. ***How will you preserve and expand on this critical working relationship that is currently inactive?***

Background on Khalifa Haftar

Haftar has a problematic history in Libya. He is now creating chaos that will be exploited by ISIS and other terror groups. Haftar's siege has forced U.S. troops to withdraw from Libya, ending their cooperation with local militias in the fight against ISIS.

Are you familiar with the fact that Haftar has called for jihad? Are you familiar with the fact that the International Criminal Court has accused him of war crimes?

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The GNA's new Election and Peace Initiative

Prior to the start of this conflict in April 2019 the GNA was executing a plan for a democratic election with the United Nations oversight. Haftar received multiple invitations to participate. His response was to bomb Tripoli.

Prime Minister Fayez al-Sarraj has announced a peace initiative to end the conflict between the Government of National Accord and Libyan National Army led by Haftar. The peace initiative includes a national peace forum followed by simultaneous parliamentary and presidential elections to be held by the end of the year. It also foresees creation of a Supreme Board of National Compromise to monitor the transition process, oversee best use of financial resources across the country and enable implementation of the legal arrangements. This is the best way forward. The GNA has been a consistent and genuine partner with the UN in their efforts to find a political solution that can satisfy all sides and bring peace and stability to the country.

Prime Minister al-Sarraj recently announced a national unification process leading to national elections in the fall, and this has been endorsed by many groups like the European Union. How will you support these and other efforts to restart the political and national unification process?

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