

# MEMO

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**DATE:** January 16, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Libya Weekly Update

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Below is a summary of the latest top headlines of the week surrounding the news in Libya. Key highlights include:

- This week saw a potential for a ceasefire agreement falter, largely due to the actions of General Haftar. While PM Serraj of the Government of Libya signed the agreement drafted by Russia and Turkey, Haftar left Moscow without signing the deal. He has later indicated that he will abide by the agreement, but history shows he has gone back on his verbal agreements.
- Russia continues to attempt to grow its influence in the region. Along with Turkey, they have made a concerted attempt to broker negotiations between Haftar and the GNA. They have failed so far, due to Haftar largely walking away from the ceasefire deal. The United States could make strides in negotiating real peace conversations in Libya, but remains uninterested in doing so.

**Reuters (1/16): [Merkel upbeat over cease-fire pledge ahead of Libya meeting](#)**

- Chancellor Merkel remains confident in General Haftar's response that he will stick to the ceasefire agreed upon ahead of the Berlin summit.
- Haftar has not signed the ceasefire, but is expressing that he will abide by it. PM Serraj signed the agreement that was drafted by Russia and Turkey.

**Reuters (1/14): [Libya's Haftar leaves Moscow without signing ceasefire: TASS](#)**

- General Haftar left Moscow without signing a ceasefire agreement negotiated by Russia and Turkey.
- PM Serraj signed the agreement, indicating that the GNA wants to take steps towards a peaceful negotiation and an end to the violence.

**Reuters (1/13): [Eastern Libyan Forces Says Ready and Determined to Achieve Victory-Website](#)**

- Amidst the ceasefire negotiations, forces aligned with General Haftar launched a website stating that forces are "ready and determined" to achieve victory.
- The website has also outlined that Haftar would not sign the ceasefire proposal ahead of his meeting in Russia.

**Washington Post (1/10): [Libya's war could be a snapshot of the 21st century's new normal](#)**

- The current geopolitical conflict over the crisis in Libya has shined a light on the potential of wars similar to this happening in the future.

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- As the proxy war continues, Russia aims to grow its influence in the region. Turkey has stepped in in recent weeks as well to work on negotiating a peace deal.
- This is happening under the United State's lack of concern to exercise its influence in the region to help produce real results.

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