

Good afternoon,

Please join us next **Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>** for a **World Affairs Councils of America (WACA) KNOW NOW conference call** featuring **Mohammed Ali Abdallah, Political Advisor for U.S. Affairs to the Prime Minister of Libya**. The call will take place from **2:00 to 2:30 pm (EST)**. This is a timely conversation as we recently observed the grim anniversary of Khalifa Haftar's April 4<sup>th</sup> attacks on Tripoli that derailed the peace negotiations. In his role as Political Advisor, Mr. Abdallah has spent the last year engaging Members of Congress and their staff as well as Trump Administration officials in a campaign to course correct from President Trump's fateful call to Haftar last April 15<sup>th</sup> which upended past U.S. policy in Libya.

Mr. Abdallah – a former Libyan Member of Congress and President of the National Front Party – is a rising leader in the Libyan Government of National Accord (GNA) and will provide key insights and updates about the ongoing conflict in Libya. He will join WACA President and CEO Bill Clifford for a thoughtful and lively discussion about the GNA's important work fighting COVID-19, Haftar's continued human violations, the detrimental economic consequences of Haftar's oil blockade, the ongoing proxy warfare, and the GNA's successful efforts to counter Haftar's year-long military campaign among other topics.

If you or a colleague of yours would like to RSVP, please fill out the [registration form](#). This event is free and open to the public.

Please note if you cannot listen on April 15<sup>th</sup>, the conversation will be recorded and made available as a podcast. If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at [cmurphy@mercuryllc.com](mailto:cmurphy@mercuryllc.com).

Thank you and we hope you can join this important conversation.

Good weekends all.

Best,  
Chris

**Call Description:** The conflict and violence that has handcuffed Libya's progress post-revolution continues to plague Libyans' efforts to revitalize and rebuild the war-torn country. In cooperation with the international community, Libyans established the interim Government of National Accord to unite the country's factions and build a stable civil society. In April 2019, Khalifa Haftar and his forces launched an attack on Tripoli to overthrow the GNA, instigating a war that over the past year has killed more than 2,200 people, displaced over 200,000, and made oil-rich Libya the center of an international proxy. One year after Haftar began his advance on Tripoli, join Mr. Abdallah and WACA President and CEO Bill Clifford to discuss the state of the war in Libya, the role of external powers, and prospects for resolution.

**Speaker Bio:** Mr. Mohammed Ali Abdallah is the Political Advisor for US Affairs to the Prime Minister of Libya, leader of the US- and UN-recognized Government of Libya.

For a number of years, Mr. Abdallah was a prominent member of the Libyan opposition in the diaspora in the United States. In 2012, during the first democratic elections held in Libya in over four decades,

Mr. Abdallah won a seat in the General National Congress, Libya's parliament. He was elected from the 9th District of Misrata (Libya's 3rd largest city). During his term in office, Mr. Abdallah served as the Chairman of the Financial Planning, Budget, and Finance oversight Committee. In that capacity, Mr. Abdallah was instrumental in revising the development and operational budget process, establishing a structure to de-centralize financial spending, as well as introducing structural reforms in local governance. As a member in the Telecommunications and Transportation Committee, Mr. Abdallah led efforts to establish a regulatory body to oversee the telecom sector, paving the way for increased private investment in the industry. Mr. Abdallah served as President of the National Front Party, (the third largest political party in Libya), from 2012 until 2017.

During the UN-led political dialogue process, Mr. Abdallah served as a member of the Political Dialogue Committee, which resulted in the Libyan Political Agreement (LPA) at the end of 2015. He continued to play a significant role in the political dialogue amongst the different political factions and helped de-escalate conflicts paving the way for consolidation of GNA governance and UN return to Tripoli. His continuous involvement included a role in the ongoing negotiations aimed at expanding the consensus around the LPA and facilitating democratic transition of power.

Mr. Abdallah graduated from Lafayette High School in Lexington, Kentucky in 1993. From there he went on to earn multiple degrees from the University of Kentucky, including a degree in Telecommunications & Data Management (2000) and a degree in Business Management (2000).

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