

Politics

ICC Prosecutor says obtained evidence of violations done by military forces in Libya

The Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC), Karim Khan, confirmed that he obtained evidence regarding violations by military forces in Libya, noting in his briefing to the Security Council that during his visit to Libya, he met with Khalifa Haftar and his military prosecutor in Benghazi, as well as the military prosecutor in Tripoli, Minister of Justice in the Government of National Unity and Head of the Presidential Council before his visit to Tarhouna.

The ICC Prosecutor reaffirmed the need to exert more efforts on the situation in Libya and said that he was reassured in the past few days about something that has been clear for a long time.

"In Tarhouna, I saw heartbreaking things, this is the suffering that we have heard and seen. There's a feeling of stress and fatigue that all of this happened and is happening without action by the international community and the ICC," Khan said.

"One of the victims told me that we always hear about your court, but where are the results?" This is true from the point of view of the victims he met and spoke with. The matter is not limited to Tarhouna, we had received many messages from different cities in Libya, and the team working in Libya continues to investigate in Tripoli, Benghazi, Misrata and other locations," Khan said, pointing out that he and his colleagues met a number of victims from different regions of Benghazi, Derna and centers of detention in Tajura and other areas.

Khan emphasized that for the first time since 2011, we have documented human rights violations with evidence in Libya, saying that this is the first time that the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court has been able to speak from Libya. Khan arrived in Libya this week in a visit that is the first by an ICC Prosecutor.

Politics

Dbeibah tells Norland about need for international community to resolve hurdles facing elections

The Prime Minister of the Government of National Unity, Abdul Hamid Dbeibah, stressed to the United States (US) special envoy and ambassador to Libya, Richard Norland, the need to mobilize the international community to resolve the difficulties that are hindering the holding of elections in Libya, especially the constitutional basis that is still unclear, according to Dbeibah's media office.

The media office added that the meeting saw discussions on efforts that aim at holding elections and removing hurdles, in addition to discussing the return of the US embassy to operate in Tripoli.

Dbeibah confirmed that his government is ready to do its job in order to make elections a successful process, while Norland hailed the government's efforts to clarify its readiness for holding elections when the constitutional basis is ready, referring to the simulated elections done last Saturday.

They also reviewed joint economic and legal files, and fruitful cooperation in order to create an effective partnership, in addition to discussing government spending and the steps taken by the government regarding disclosure and transparency.

Norland headed, earlier on Tuesday, a US delegation participating in the work of the Development Partners Forum, which was held in Tripoli, in the presence of a number of ministers of the Government of National Unity, foreign ambassadors to Libya and representatives of international organizations.

Politics

Dbeibah appoints Emad Al-Trabelsi as Minister of Interior

The Libyan Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah appointed the deputy minister of interior Emad Al-Trabelsi as temporary Minister of Interior.

On October 16, Al-Trabelsi assumed his position as deputy interior minister in the Government of National Unity, in a move that was expected at the time to be followed by him being named as minister.

Last July, Dbeibah decided to appoint the Minister of Local Governing, Badr Al-Din Al-Toumi, as a minister-designate of interior affairs after the dismissal of the former minister, Khalid Mazen, following clashes in the capital, Tripoli, between forces loyal to the government and others that were loyal to Bashagha's government.

The force affiliated with Al-Trabelsi, known as the "Public Security and Security Positions Apparatus", participated in the clashes since its beginning in favor of the Dbeibah government and contributed to the expulsion of Bashagha's supporters from the capital.

Al-Trabelsi - one of the leaders of Zintan revolutionaries in the February 17 revolution - had shown a tendency to join Bashagha's government, and sources close to him said that he was promised benefits through the mediation of Major General Osama Juweili, one of the most prominent supporters of Bashagha in the western region.

However, Al-Trabelsi changed his loyalties after naming Essam Buzariba - a leader from Al-Zawiya and brother of member of House of Representatives Ali Buzariba - as Minister of the Interior in Bashagha's government.



The former Special Adviser to the United Nations Secretary-General on Libya, Stephanie Williams, said that Libyan political actors tend to exchange fire during the day and collude at night while continuing to amass significant gains at the expense of Libyan citizens. In a policy brief published on Brookings Institution after the passing of two years since the Libyan ceasefire agreement signed in Geneva, Williams said Libya's wily and opportunistic post-2011 ruling elite – a network of security, political and economic actors – continues to prioritize patronage and its own transitory deals above the future of the country. Williams said that the specter of Muammar Gaddafi is still haunting the country, as evidenced by the sudden entry into the presidential race of Saif Al-Islam Gaddafi last year, indicating that Libya is facing a dilemma of democracy, referring to what she described as "the fear" that some potential presidential candidates, if elected, would take everything, one person, one vote, leading to a return to the era of Muammar Gaddafi."

Williams said that the candidacy of Khalifa Haftar and the Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah sparked a deep controversy, as Haftar's coup attempt in April 2019 killed a large number of civilians in western Libya, while Dbeibah acted in bad faith by violating the pledge he made during the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum in February 2021 that he would not present himself as a presidential candidate. She explained that the agreement on a constitutional basis for the elections had recently stopped due to Haftar's insistence on language that would allow candidates to retain a second citizenship (in his American case), and said that the House of Representatives and the High Council of State could end the work that began in Cairo in March 2022 through coordinated international pressure. Williams pointed out that Libya has retreated from the headlines of the newspapers and ceased to be a priority in many capitals, with the international community's attention focused on the Ukrainian crisis. Despite the bleak outlook for the Libyan situation, Williams indicated that there are a number of applicable points to mitigate the effects of local and regional situations on the Libyan crisis, and to fulfill the aspirations of the Libyan people.

In October 2020, the two parties to the conflict in Libya signed a ceasefire agreement in the meetings of the 5+5 Joint Military Commission after talks that lasted for 5 days at the United Nations headquarters in Geneva.



"I have never seen such crimes throughout the wars in the world," said the International Criminal Court (ICC) Prosecutor, Karim Khan, on Monday during his visit to Tarhuna, where he met families of those killed or went missing in the 2019-2020 offensive on Tripoli, according to Al-Ahrar TV channel.

Mayor of Tarhuna, Mohammed Al-Kasher, who accompanied the ICC official to the mass graves in the city, told the local channel that prosecutor Khan lauded the patience of the victim families who chose to reconstitute their rights via legal channels and not through revenge as he put it.

The city, located some 65 km southeast of Tripoli, was Khalifa Haftar's last stronghold in western Libya during his assault on the region before his attack collapsed 14 months later.

Upon its liberation in May 2022, horror stories began to unfold, as residents recounted scores of disappearances, murders, human rights abuses, mass graves, and detention facilities with evidence of torture at the hands of the Kaniyat militia that took sides with Haftar, in his war to seize the capital and rule the country.

Many of the corpses discovered in the mass graves have shown evidence of torture, while some have been burnt and others buried alive, including women and children.

The General Authority for Searching and Identifying the Missing said that it referred all the information about the mass graves sites to the ICC prosecutor.

Lutfi Al-Misrati, director of the excavation department, accompanied Khan to the grave sites and provided a thorough explanation of the mechanism followed by the field teams.

For his part, Khan praised the efforts and progress made by the commission and vowed to cooperate and support the Libyan Public Prosecutor to bring justice for all these crimes.



The UN envoy to Libya, Abdoulaye Bathily, says his mission in Libya is challenging but not insoluble, indicating that his work focuses on what the Libyans want without foreign interference.

Bathily's remarks came at a meeting with the Speaker of the Arab Parliament, Adel Al-Asoumi, on the sidelines of the Arab Summit in Algeria.

The UN official said he is counting on the Arab Parliament to support his new mission, citing that parliamentarians always have a supportive and facilitating role in such crises.

Meanwhile, Al-Asoumi affirmed the Arab Parliament's position on supporting all moves that preserve the sovereignty of the Libyan state over its entire territory and its unity.

The Arab Parliament's chief underscored the UN's efforts to end the Libyan crisis and his confidence in the UN envoy's ability to achieve positive progress on this path. He urged all parties to demonstrate flexibility and join the consensus on holding elections as soon as possible, halting all foreign interference, and evacuating mercenaries and foreign fighters from Libya.

The final statement of the Arab summit, which concluded in Algeria on Wednesday, stressed the need to end the Libyan crisis through an inter-Libyan solution and move swiftly towards elections to achieve durable political stability in the country.

Economy



No need of extending gas pipeline from Libya to Greece, Ministry of Oil says

The Ministry of Oil and Gas confirmed on Wednesday that there is no point in extending a gas pipeline from Libya to Greece, as the European network is one network and includes Greece, pointing to the Mellitah-Sicily line which was established and began work on September 30, 2004.

This came in response to some questions from those interested in public affairs and a number of oil and gas experts, after statements by the Chairman of the National Oil Corporation, in which he confirmed the possibility of extending two gas pipelines, one linking Libya with Greece and the other linking Libya with Egypt.

Regarding the construction of pipeline from Libya to Damietta in Egypt, the Ministry pointed on its Facebook page to the memorandum of understanding, which was signed on October 16, 2007 between the National Oil Corporation and the Italian company Eni for the establishment of a gas liquefaction plant in Libya.

This memorandum was amended on June 12, 2008, and both of them stipulated that a preliminary engineering study be conducted to establish a gas liquefaction plant and that a signature grant of \$500 million was paid upon agreement on this project, the ministry added.



Economy



Turkey's exports to Libya exceed 2 billion dollars since beginning of 2022

The Turkish Exporters Council said that Turkey's exports to Libya from January to the end of October 2022 exceeded 2 billion dollars.

According to the Council's figures, Turkish exports to Libya increased by 3.3% in 2022 compared to the same period last year, with the value of exports amounting to 2 billion and 24 million dollars.

Anadolu News Agency cited the Head of the Turkish-Libyan Business Council, Murtaza Karanfil, as confirming that there are greater potentials to increase Turkish exports to Libya, adding that grain and legumes, furniture, textiles and ready-made clothes the most exported goods by Turkey to Libya during the first ten months of 2022.

The Head of the Turkish-Libyan Business Council said that the rapprochement in political relations positively affects Turkey's trade and investment relations, indicating that the agreements signed by the two countries will have an important role in trade and investment relations, and will have positive results soon.

Economy



Libya sends 30 million tons of fuel to Tunisia

Libya has provided an aid fuel shipment estimated at 30 million tons to Tunisia, on the instructions of the Prime Minister of the Government of National Unity (GNU).

The GNU spokesman, Mohammed Hammouda indicated in a statement that the fuel shipment entered the Tunisian ports on Tuesday.

According to Hammouda, Tunisian Prime Minister Najla Bouden praised the GNU's position in supporting her country and providing aid to the Tunisian people.





Economy

Minister of Transport calls to resume work on four airport projects

The Minister of Transport, Mohammed Al-Shahoubi, has stressed the importance of cooperation between the Transport Projects Authority and the Libyan Development and Investment Holding Company through the development of mechanisms and solutions that lead to the resumption of projects contracted between the two parties.

This came during a meeting devoted to discuss activating the airport projects contracted between the ministry and the Libyan Development and Investment Holding Company, especially Labraq, Ghat, Tobruk and Kufra airports, in addition to the financial allocations required at the four airports, according to the ministry's Facebook page.



Economy

Libyan Banking Sector Development Forum kicks off in Tunisia

The fourth Libyan Banking Sector Development Forum started Tuesday, in Tunisia, in the presence of the Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Libya, Ali Al-Hibri, members of the bank's board of directors, Amrajaa Ghaith and Mohammed Al-Mukhtar, in addition to a number of banking officials.

The forum includes seven discussion sessions, focusing on the current conditions of the economy in Libya, the role of commercial banks in revitalizing the economy, the role of financial technology in supporting banking products, ways to support small and medium enterprises, and the role of the capital market sector towards activating the sector.

The fourth session of the forum was launched under the honorary chairmanship of the former Minister of Planning, Al-Taher Al-Jahimi, Governor of the Central Bank from 1997 to 2002.



Economy

Turkish Energy Minister: Turkey and Libya head towards more cooperation in oil field

Turkish Energy Minister Fatih Donmez said Monday that the Turkish-Libyan memorandum opened new horizons for Ankara to become a partial supplier of natural gas to the world.

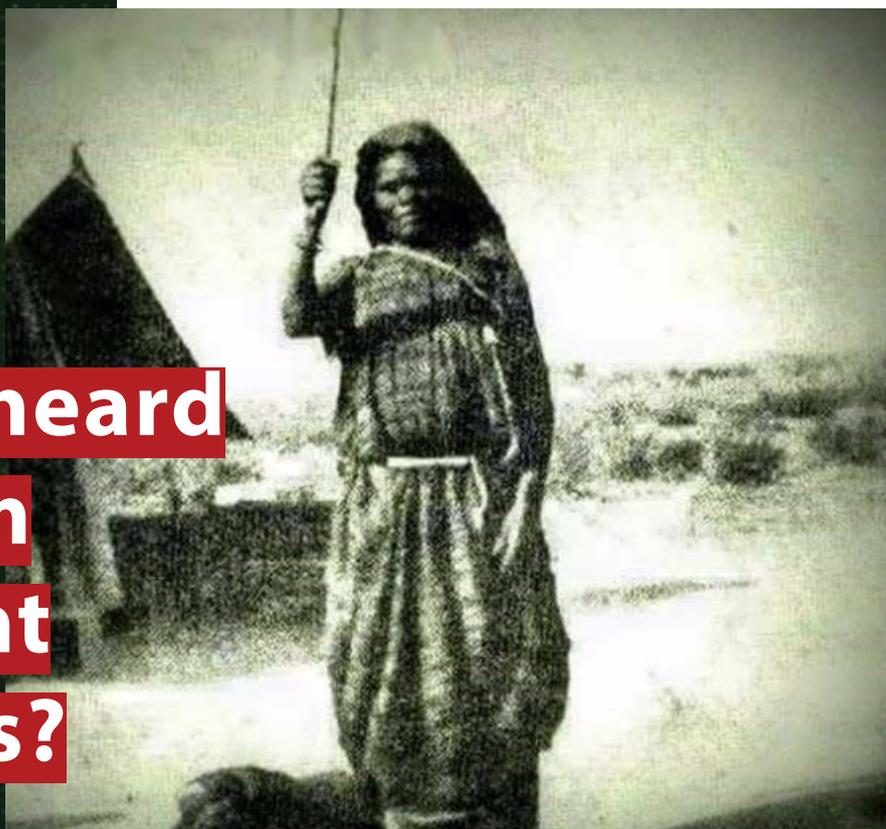
Libya is one of the countries with the largest oil and gas reserves, still, it never had the opportunity to properly benefit from this potential due to ongoing internal conflicts and civil war, the Turkish minister says, adding that his country had a crucial role in establishing peace and stability in Libya.

He highlighted that investment and mining deals between Turkey and Libya existed even before 2011, as he anticipated that the two countries are heading towards more cooperation in oil exploration and production in onshore and offshore fields in Libya.

"If two free, sovereign countries agree on cooperation, I think that a third country should not raise any question," Donmez says, underscoring that the deal will contribute to the development of Libya and solve the energy crisis at the regional and global levels. "The goal is to create a transparent, safe, and profitable market for all," Minister Donmez said.

Features

Have you heard of freedom fighter Bint al-Muqwas?



The Libyan people have a history of fierce resistance against foreign intervention. Heroic stories of men and woman symbolized in Sheikh of martyrs Omar al-Mukhtar set a great inspiration to the rest of the world and a school for Libyan generation to come.

Amongst them was a spirited woman who demonstrated remarkable bravery in resisting the Italian invaders in her own unique way.

Salima Bint al-Muqwas, a woman from the Nuwayl tribe in southern Libya in Fezzan region, was well known to the Europeans and French in particular as Joan of Arc of the Arabs.

She became famous in February 1912 after her legendary participation in the battle of Girgarish against the Italian occupiers. Her courageous performance in the battle had amazed the French reporter Paul Tristan of French newspaper La Marseille, who was struck by her character that he presented her a sword.

From her small town in the south, she made her way to Tripoli, trekking for miles through a large arid desert and under the scorching sun. She was forced to walk half the journey with 12

other women who set off with her to heed the nation's call to fight the Italian occupiers.

Armed with a long stick and firm belief, she attended all battles against the Italian occupation in Tripoli, moving around the battle ground to instill courage among the Mujahidin and put fear into the heart of the enemy, chanting and singing with an enthusiastic spirit, reminding resistance fighters of the immutable truth taught by history that victory and independence always belong to the right holders.

Alan Ostler, an English journalist, mentioned her in his book "The Arabs in Tripoli." He told how she would run in the direction of the battle in a hurry to advance the men. At one time she was hit by a fragment of cannon on her hand; she kept on waving it while blood ran out in all directions, calling men into the battle. He described her as an African war goddess.

She was always keen on being in the right place at the right time during the colonial period, which made her a model of commitment and dedication.



Health

Director of Tripoli Eye Hospital denies blindness of any cases after eye surgery in the hospital

The Director of the Tripoli Eye Hospital, Rania Al-Khouja, denied on Sunday the news circulated on social media regarding the 14 diabetic patients, who got eye infections after a surgery using “Avastin” injection, considering it media whirlwind for the purpose of fighting the public sector for suspicious reasons.

Al-Khouja indicated in a statement that diabetics are injected with this drug, a procedure that has been followed for years, and what happened is one of the possible complications of the injection only, and it is a normal allergic reaction, which happens to some cases.

“Last Thursday, 55 patients were injected with the same precautionary measures followed, and 14 cases were allergic, they were treated by the Eye Hospital team, and they are now in good health”, she explained, confirming that the Drug Control Center tested the drug, and the results proved that it was suitable for use.

According to the news, the number of cases affected by the aforementioned injection has reached twenty, and some of them may go blind.



Health

NCDC calls for seasonal flu vaccination

The National Center for Disease Control has called on some categories of society to go to the nearest health center to get the seasonal flu vaccination, in order to avoid serious complications as a result of infection.

NCDC identified the categories that should be vaccinated such as (pregnant women, people over 55 years old, those suffering from chronic diseases, health workers, children from one month to 5 years old, and people with immunodeficiency).

NCDC explained that the seasonal influenza vaccine is one of the most important means of prevention, and provides 70-90% protection against influenza.



Health

Tripoli to host Libyan-French Health Day this month

The new French ambassador to Libya, Mostafa Maharaj, revealed on Friday that Tripoli will host the French-Libyan Health Day, hours after a meeting he held with the leaders of the Ministry of Health in the Government of National Unity.

The ambassador, who officially assumed his duties earlier this month in Tripoli, held a meeting on Thursday with the Deputy Prime Minister of the Government of National Unity and Minister-designated of Health, Ramadan Abu Janah, at the ministry’s headquarters in Tripoli between Libya and France in the health sector.

He also said that the first step will be that the French Embassy in Libya is going to organize French-Libyan Health Day this month in Tripoli.

The Ministry of Health of the Government of National Unity said that Abu Janah exchanged ideas with the French ambassador for cooperation in the medical field, and they discussed the possibility of developing the health sector and exchanging experiences, in the interest of both countries.

The Ministry of Health added that the two sides held another meeting, in the presence of the directors of the International Cooperation Office, pharmacy, medical supply, and a number of other relevant parties, regarding the medical forum that will be held in Libya in the coming period. They also discussed the most important basic steps to enrich the forum.

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Sports

Libya's Al-Akhdar team qualifies to group stage of CAF Confederation Cup

Al-Akhdar football club managed to strike a comeback at home against Blateau Utd of Nigeria, winning the second leg match 3-0 on Wednesday at Benina Martyrs Stadium in Benghazi as part of the second round of 32 of the CAF Confederation Cup. The Nigerians won the first leg 4-1.

Al-Akhdar qualified to the group stage of Confederation Cup for the first time in its history and thus became the only Libyan team to qualify out of three competing teams: Al-Ahly Tripoli and Al-Nasser.

Al-Ahly Tripoli lost 0-3 to South African Marumo Gallants after winning the first leg 1-0 and Al-Nasser drew with Nigerian Rivers Utd, which won the first leg 5-0.



Crime

Employee of South Benghazi Court died after he was attacked with a machete

Local sources from Benghazi confirmed the death of an employee of the South Benghazi Court named, Salem Al-Abdali, who is 30 years old and father of three children, after he was attacked with a machete on Tuesday evening.

The sources pointed out that the citizen was attacked after colliding with a car driven by a number of outlaws who rushed to attack him in front of his wife and children.

According to his family, Al-Abdali died of massive brain hemorrhaging in the emergency department of Al-Jalaa Hospital.



Crime

Public Prosecution confirms arrest of a man accused of kidnapping woman, 3 kids

The Public Prosecutor's Office, in cooperation with the police of the Tajoura Security Directorate and the Criminal Investigation Office in the region, have arrested a person involved in the kidnapping of a woman and three of her children, to force their father to pay a debt owed to the kidnapper.

After spreading the news on social media, the Public Prosecutor's Office started investigations into the incident, and they were able to identify the location of the woman and her children and the identity of the kidnapper.



Education

Dbeibah: Govt ready to set up 500 schools out of the 1,500 targeted projects

Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah says his government is ready to establish 500 new schools from the 1,500 education facilities it plans to construct during the three years ahead, as he called on the Education Ministry to identify the appropriate sites for setting up the new facilities.

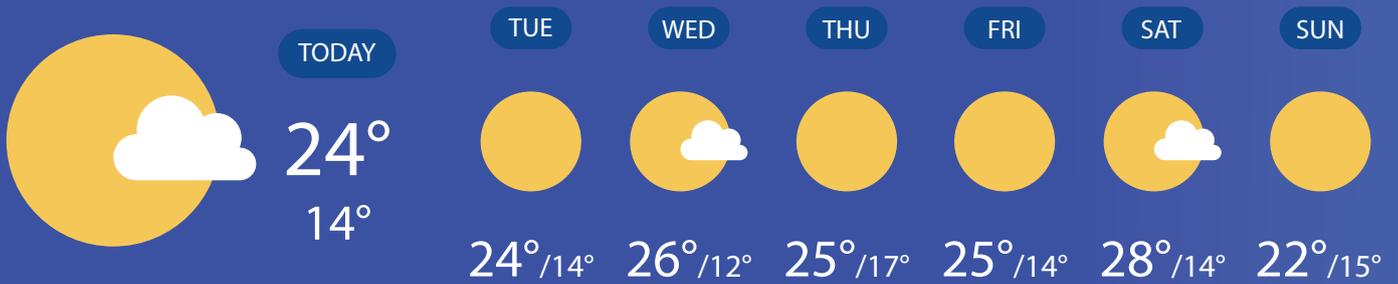
Dbeibah disclosed the decision on Friday during his participation in a ceremony to open a new monitoring education department in Misrata in the presence of the Minister of Education and local officials.

The PM vowed to build model schools that provide adequate infrastructure to support the educational process, student services, and activities.

Photo of the Week



Tripoli Weather Forecast



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