

Politics

ICC Prosecutor: We're working on bringing in persons with standing arrest warrants



The Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC), Karim Khan, confirmed in his briefing at the Security Council that his office was working to prosecute the people named in the public and non-public arrest warrants of the ICC, pointing out that the ICC was keen on providing a clear picture of what it would present in the Libyan case and has achieved notable progress in its strategy during the past six months.

Khan said in his semi-annual briefing on Wednesday that he and representatives of the Public Prosecution Office of the Criminal Court conducted 15 visits to three regions in Libya, during which they were able to collect evidence, which included more than 4,000 items, and conduct interviews with witnesses on the incidents under investigation.

The ICC Prosecutor also explained that the cooperation with the Libyan authorities represented the sound basis for achieving noticeable progress regarding the Libyan situation during the coming period, stressing the need for the ICC to fully cooperate with the Libyan authorities to pursue the arrest of the wanted.

He added that the ICC had reached the main standards within the framework of the investigative plans for crimes related to the period from 2014 to 2018 in Libya, saying that his office achieved progress regarding similar issues in detention areas and crimes against immigrants, in addition to significant engagement with those affected by these crimes, including the victims and their representatives.

Khan indicated that there was a need for a regional presence for his office in Libya to help expedite investigations and obtain key evidence and witnesses to speed up justice, explaining that his office also organized training courses for civil society organizations on justice standards compatible with the ICC to ensure everyone's participation in crimes within the ICC jurisdiction.

He stressed that the ICC was working on using technology to move forward in investigations, and this has included using the Internet to manage evidence, which allowed the Libyan team to benefit from artificial intelligence (AI) and translation devices to capture the words spoken by victims and witnesses when listening to them.

Khan also confirmed that he and members of his Office had received entry visas to Libya on November 08, noting that his upcoming briefing before the UN Security Council would be from Libya, for the second time.

Politics



Libya pledges \$50 million to help support Palestinians in Gaza

The Libyan Prime Minister, Abdul Hamid Dbeibah, renewed his rejection of the Israeli occupation forces' aggression against the Gaza Strip and the policy of systematic killing and genocide by the Israelis.

Dbeibah announced in his cabinet meeting in Gharyan city the allocation of 50 million US dollars in humanitarian aid to the people of Gaza as "a sign of solidarity and duty."

This came after the Head of the Presidential Council, Mohammed Menfi, had addressed the Prime Minister, asking for the acceleration of the provision of humanitarian support for the Palestinian people.

Menfi said that the Palestinian Authority's President Mahmoud Abbas had sent him an invitation, urging him to quickly support international organizations such as UNRWA and the Red Crescent via Rafah crossing between Gaza and Egypt, and to support the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank. On the 34th day of the war on the Gaza Strip, the Israeli occupation army continues its airstrikes on various areas of the Strip, as the number of martyrs since the start of the war has risen to 10,569, including 4,324 children and 2,823 women, while the number of the injured has reached more than 26,000.

Politics



In support of Palestinians, Al-Kilani says they are citizens with full rights in Libya

Minister of Social Affairs Wafaa Al-Kilani has reiterated Libya's unequivocal support for the Palestinian people, highlighting that the Palestinian community in Libya enjoys full public rights akin to the Libyan citizens. Al-Kilani's remarks came during her reception of the Palestinian Ambassador in Libya on Tuesday.

For his part, the Ambassador expressed his high appreciation for the support and solidarity of the Libyan people as well as the firm stance of their government regarding the Israeli brutal aggression against the people in Gaza.

At least 10,569 Palestinians have been killed since 7 October. Of those, 4,324 were children, 2,823 women, and 649 elderly, according to the spokesman for the Palestinian Ministry of Health in Gaza.

Another 26,475 people were wounded, while 2,550 people remain missing, including 1,350 children.

Politics

Libya's Fatwa House issues Fatwa to boycott pro-Israel companies



Libya's Fatwa House has issued a fatwa (a religious edict) against Western companies supporting the Israeli occupation of Palestine.

The Fatwa released on Sunday demanded that Muslim states and nations extend support to their brothers in Gaza by all means, including the economic front.

Supporting the people of Gaza and Palestine is a legal duty for all Muslims, rulers, and those ruled, the Sharia Research and Studies Council of the Fatwa House underscored.

Boycotting pro-Israel companies, providing money and arms, using economic and diplomatic cards, staging protests, and other "modern-day weapons" are all sources of leverage that can be used to support the Palestinians, according to the Fatwa House.

The Council said that it is following closely the acts of genocide committed by the Zionists and their allies - led by the US against the children and civilians in the besieged strip.

The consequences of ignoring the cries of those oppressed people will be harsh on everyone, the statement cautioned.

Libya's Presidential Council, the Prime Minister, the Central Bank, the state-run oil corporation, and all government institutions have a legal duty to halt all export and import activities with Western companies and governments that are openly supplying the Israeli occupation authority with weapons, money, and equipment, the Council underscored.

The Fatwa House also directed merchants and consumers to boycott Western-produced products, which companies support the "enemy," especially nonessential and luxury goods.

Politics

Wagner mercenaries in Libya on alert for attacks



Mercenaries of the Russian Wagner Group stationed near Gharyan are on alert, fearing a surprise attack from the western region, local security sources have said.

Wagner's mercenaries stationed at Brak Al-Shati Base, some 600 km south of Gharyan, fear a possible advance by brigades affiliated with the Tripoli-based Government of National Unity (GNU), the sources who spoke to the Italian Nova news agency explained.

The Russian paramilitary group had begun an intensive aerial reconnaissance in the area extending between Al-Shuwerf -an area far north controlled by Khalifa Haftar's forces- and the Brak Al-Shati Base, home to Wagner's HQ in the resource-rich region of Fezzan south of Libya.

The area -located halfway between Sebha and Tripoli- is a vital supply line between forces in Tripoli and Fezzan.

Moreover, on Monday, October 30, the Haftar-aligned Wagner group relocated part of its forces, as well as military and logistical equipment, from the Al-Jufra Base in central Libya to the southwest.

Reliable sources suggest that this move may have been prompted by concerns surrounding the recent entry of GNU-backed forces into Gharyan, which saw armed clashes last week.

The conflict was initiated after a pro-Haftar military leader, Adel Daab, launched an attack on several military HQs in a bid to take over the city.

The GNU hit back immediately by dispatching a force to repel the aggression.

Politics



Haftar seeks to sign new military deal with Russia

Bloomberg reported on Sunday that Khalifa Haftar is looking for air-defense systems to protect him against rival forces in Tripoli, according to people close to his self-styled Libyan National Army.

The newspaper added that a defense accord is being hammered out between Russian President Vladimir Putin and Haftar following their first-ever meeting in Moscow in late September.

Bloomberg indicated that Haftar also wanted training for his air force pilots and special forces, and in return, a handful of air bases currently occupied by Wagner paramilitaries would be upgraded to host Russian forces.

This Russian threat is being taken "very seriously" by the US administration, said Jonathan Winer, a former US special envoy to Libya. He added that keeping Russia out of the Mediterranean had been a key strategic objective, reiterating that if Russia got ports in Libya, that would give it the ability to spy on all of the European Union.

According to Bloomberg, Russian warships may also get permanent docking rights at a Libyan port, most likely Tobruk, located just a few hundred kilometers across the Mediterranean from Greece and Italy, according to other people with knowledge of the talks.

"However, that is a longer-term prospect because it will require substantial upgrading of port facilities, they said. Russia so far has only one naval base in the Mediterranean, at Syria's Tartus." The newspaper explained. Haftar's deepening ties with Moscow have raised concern in Washington and prompted a series of high-level visits to the country this year in a bid to persuade him to change course.

Italian Nova news agency revealed a few days ago, citing Libyan security sources, that Wagner mercenaries stationed at the Brak al-Shati base feared a possible advance by the forces of the Government of National Unity, saying Wagner Group began an intensive aerial reconnaissance in the area extending between the city of Al-Shuwerf and about 260 kilometers south of Gharyan, and the Brak Al-Shati base.

Nova said that late last month, Wagner transferred part of its forces and military and logistical equipment from Al-Jufra base in central Libya to the southwest. It indicated that this may be related to the recent military developments in the city of Gharyan, which witnessed violent clashes October 30 after forces affiliated with Adel Daab, loyal to Haftar, launched an attack against government forces in order to control the city.

Economy

Libyan PM says government subsidy for fuel is massively affecting budget

The Libyan Prime Minister, Abdul Hamid Dbeibah, welcomed the Security Council's decision to extend the mandate of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya for another year and open new horizons for cooperation to complete the steps of the roadmap to end the transitional stages and prepare for elections.

Speaking at a cabinet meeting in Gharyan city, Dbeibah explained that parallel spending exceeded 15 billion dinars and was not subject to any regulations, which contributed to the fluctuations of the foreign currency parallel market. He added that the "government's doors are open to regulatory bodies to follow up on government spending on projects in different areas of the country."

Dbeibah has indicated that parallel spending is not concerned with public sectors' salaries and state financial budgets, noting that parallel spending encourages money laundering and smuggling operations as well as increases the demand for purchasing foreign currency from the black (parallel) market.

"The fuel subsidy numbers are frightening, and the electricity sector uses 60% of the fuel subsidy. 40 billion dinars are being spent as fuel subsidy for citizens." He said, stressing his government's commitment to the monetary policies of the Central Bank of Libya to preserve the value of the Libyan dinar and the balance of the Libyan economy.

The sudden increase in the exchange rate of the US dollar against the Libyan dinar raised public concerns and fears that this would impact the citizen's costs of living, as this came in conjunction with the Central Bank's announcement of a deficit exceeding 11 billion dollars, indicating that foreign exchange revenues amounted during the past 10 months amounted to \$19.7 billion, while total expenditures amounted to \$30.6 billion.

Economy

Al-Abed reviews with education officials requirements of labour market

The Minister of Labour and Rehabilitation, Ali Al-Abed, has convened a meeting with the Education Outcomes Harmonization Committee on Tuesday to discuss strengthening the link between education and the labour market.

Minister Al-Abed emphasized the importance of continuous development of education programs and modernizing scientific specializations in line with the requirements of the national market.

He called for applying entrepreneurship curricula and launching academic qualification programs for the secondary stage, allowing students to choose their specializations and keep pace with the market changes.

The meeting included Saleh Al-Ghoul, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research for Higher Education Affairs, Taher bin Taher, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Technical and Technical Education for Colleges and Institutes Affairs, and Masouda Al-Aswad, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Labor for Employment Affairs.

Economy

NOC opens registration for investment

The National Oil Corporation (NOC) has opened registration for investment to exploit the potential of undeveloped oil fields and enhance the sector's infrastructure.

This coincides with the noticeable increase in Libyan oil production and in pursuit of achieving the strategic goal of increasing production, according to the NOC.



Economy

Moroccan investors look for partnerships with Libyan counterparts

Moroccan investors have expressed their desire to establish partnerships with their Libyan counterparts and invest in the Libyan market to strengthen the economic partnership between the two countries.

This announcement came in a meeting for the Minister of Economy and Trade of the Government of National Unity, Mohammed Al-Huweij and leading Moroccan businesspeople and investors in all fields on the sidelines of the Moroccan-Libyan Business Forum in Tangier, according to a Ministry statement on Monday.

"The visit of the Prime Minister to Morocco and his meeting with the Moroccan government paves the way for improving our partnerships. It strengthens the distinguished relations between the two peoples through holding meetings of the joint supreme committee," Al-Huweij said.

He added that Libyan-Moroccan relations were further strengthened during that visit in terms of developing memoranda of understanding, expressing his confidence that more cooperation opportunities between businesspeople from the two countries would take place, wishing to increase the levels of joint trade exchange in the coming period. He also reiterated the importance of inaugurating air and sea routes between the two countries to overcome the difficulties faced by businesspeople.

Last Saturday, the Head of the Moroccan Exporters Association, Hassan Al-Santisi Al-Idrissi, announced that they will soon organize a forum bringing together investors, importers and exporters in the Libyan capital, Tripoli. Meanwhile, 17 Libyan companies and institutions, 20 Moroccan companies, and more than 90 Libyan businesspeople participated in the Tangier Forum and Exhibition.



Economy

Ministry of Industry studies opening up Bani Walid carpet factory for investment

The Ministry of Industry and Minerals is considering opening up the Industrial Complex in Bani Walid for investment.

In a brief statement, the ministry said the step comes "as a radical and final solution" to promote the state-run complex.

A delegation from the Ministry of Industry visited the Bani Walid factory to get a first-hand of its operations and identify the obstacles hampering effective production.

During their tour, the officials discussed with the Complex's chairman potential solutions to challenges facing the facility, on top of which were the technical issues.

The Bani Walid Factory was established by the National Company for Spinning and Weaving in 1983 before it was transferred to the Economic and Social Development Fund in 2018.

The factory produces luxury carpets made of pure natural wool and has participated in important internal and external exhibitions, including in Dubai and Germany.

Economy



Security delegation in Brussels to discuss cooperation with EU members

The Undersecretary of Libya's Interior Ministry, Major General Mahmoud Saeed, has arrived in Brussels as the head of a security delegation.

According to the minister, Saeed met with the EU Foreign Policy chief and head of the bloc's Middle East and North Africa affairs department.

The parties discussed the importance of security cooperation and coordination between Libya and European Union countries, especially regarding advanced security checkpoints, training courses, and developed security equipment.

The Libyan delegation comprised Major General Ali Al-Nuwaisri, Director of the General Administration of Security Operations; Major General Muhammad Fathallah, Director of the General Administration of Central Support; and Colonel Youssef Abu Zariq, Commander of the Security Gates.



Opinions

What must Muslims do in the face of Jewish terrorism?

By İhsan Aktaş, Turkish writer

During the Syrian civil war, we woke up one day to find ourselves facing an organization called Daesh. This group had a structure that contradicted every value of the Islamic faith. Over time, it became clear that this organization was, in fact, a product of the CIA.

You can think of Israel and the Zionists as the "Jews' Daesh." There's a viral video on social media showing Netanyahu visiting a rabbi, discussing his skills. The extremist rabbi says, "But the Messiah has not come yet; there are a few hours left in the day. Make his arrival easier."

From World War I to the present day, relentless smear campaigns against Islam have made it easy to associate Islam with "terrorism." This narrative was widely propagated by the global Zionist media. When it comes to Zionists who adhere to a perverted religious ideology far more dangerous than Daesh, using terms like "religious terrorism" or "Jewish religious terrorism" raises suspicion, even among many educated Muslims.

Look at what's happening in Palestine: it's not a war; it's a clear case of genocide. Whether you're Muslim, Christian, atheist, or any regular human being, anyone with a shred of conscience would be disturbed by the sight of a child being torn apart by bombs, hospitals being bombed, and indiscriminate killing of women and children. Those without a conscience may follow the laws of war, but eventually, they'll have to answer for their actions, even in this world.

We've clearly witnessed that the elements of British civilization have been taken over by a perverted Jewish religious organization. Shortly after Biden said, "Do not conduct a ground operation," a hospital founded by Christians was bombed, followed by a church. Biden rushed to Tel Aviv. All EU countries sided with Israel.

Global public opinion: People who realize that states are under the influence of this perverted religious terrorism took to the streets worldwide. Conscientious individuals who see that states lack justice and conscience are supporting the Palestinian cause on the streets of Latin America, the United States, all of Europe, and Muslim countries. It's not just Israel; even the United States will struggle to bear the cost of this anger. Even the crows are starting to laugh at the theatrics of the global media. This immorality and unscrupulousness cannot be sustainable because we live in the age of social media.

We're living in the days before the Cold War, witnessing the end of a unipolar world. For a long time, the United States has not directly confronted China and Russia regarding any conflict. Putin spoke of hypersonic missiles reaching the Mediterranean. China sent aircraft carriers to the Mediterranean.

What can Muslim countries do: After World War I, the design of Muslim lands was done with today in mind. The fragmented geography allows them to fight each other if possible, be enemies to each other, and the colonial empire continues to exploit Muslims skillfully.

The desire of young people, who make up the Arab street during the Arab Spring, for a better life and a free state led to the destabilization of Syria and Libya through the hands of the global gang. Türkiye's support for the Libyan government has prevented Libya from disintegrating.

Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC): In 2017, Türkiye held the rotating chairmanship of the organization. On December 6, Trump declared Jerusalem the capital of Israel. On December 13, the OIC convened and recognized Jerusalem as the capital of Palestine, vetoed by the US in the UN Security Council. With Erdogan's intensive diplomatic efforts, the resolution was presented to the UN General Assembly for a vote and passed against the US and Israel, despite 128 yes votes and 9 no votes in the General Assembly. This diplomatic effort sentenced the US and Israel to oblivion.

First and foremost, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation should initiate a discussion to resolve disputes among Muslim countries through their arbitration.

Especially major countries such as Türkiye, Egypt, Iran, and Saudi Arabia should sign a non-aggression pact among themselves. China's involvement has brought Saudi Arabia and Iran closer. Imagine the peace between these two countries; it means the little doomsday for the United States.

After the Karabakh war, the Turkic Council gained meaning and identity.

The genocide of the perverted Zionist religious terrorism has shown that Muslim states are in grave danger. Wars are either won or lost with allies.

An extraordinary global public opinion in favor of Palestine has emerged worldwide. In contrast, it is evident that Western states have surrendered to Jewish religious terrorism as a whole. Türkiye, with an imperial past, and major powers need to instill identity and spirit into the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. Establishing a security organization and army is not an impossible task.

Because the United Nations has effectively declared its own bankruptcy.

Credit: This opinion was first published by Yeni Safak daily newspaper

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the writer, and do not necessarily reflect those of the Libya Observer

Health

Dbeibah: Medicine for oncology patients will be sent to their houses in 2024



The Libyan Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah said that patients with cancerous tumors will receive treatment in their houses after making phone calls in that regard starting next year.

Dbeibah's remarks came in a speech during the opening of six new departments at the Misrata Medical Center, in the presence of the Acting Minister of Health, Ramadan Abu Janah, and the Director of the Misrata Medical Center, Dr. Mohammed Bayou.

Dbeibah said the government launched national medical programs, including the National Program for Corneal, Heart and Kidney Transplantation, the National Treatment System, and the National Cancer Control Authority, adding that Libyans

will see the results soon, vowing that the beginning of next year, every patient with tumor will have the medicine delivered to their house with just a phone call.

The Libyan PM spoke about his government taking basic steps to localize treatment, and raise the efficiency of health facilities, to reform the health sector, which he said had witnessed corruption over the years until medical treatment of Libyans abroad became the prevailing option, while treating them inside the country was the exception.

Dbeibah pointed to the launching of a large-scale campaign for early detection of tumors, adding that every day, they will establish a new medical facility in every

town and neighborhood, to provide decent healthcare.

Last Wednesday, the National Cancer Control Authority launched the system for registering patients with tumors, which will manage therapeutic and pharmaceutical services according to an electronic system linked to the national database, as well as the medical supply and treatment systems abroad.

The electronic system allows oncology patients to determine the patient's medication needs, distribute them to centers and oncology treatment units according to the patient's specific treatment quota, and also recycle the stock between centers and units.

Health



WHO confirms support for Ministry of Health

The World Health Organization (WHO) has renewed its support for the Libyan Ministry of Health projects and continued developing and enriching areas of partnership.

This came during a meeting with the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Health, Samir Koko, on Tuesday, with the WHO representative, Ahmed Zuwaiten.

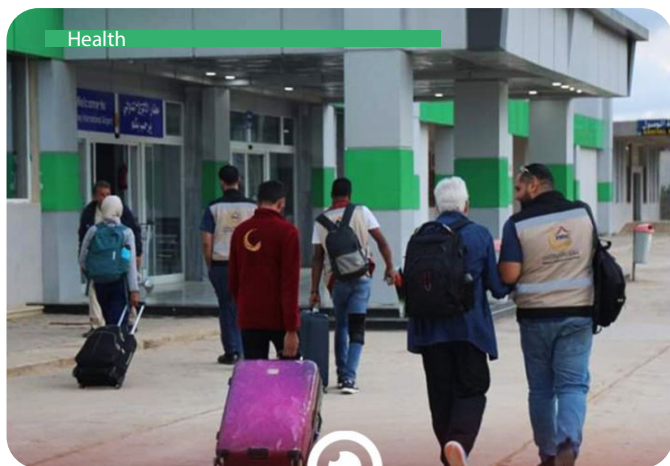
The meeting discussed ways of joint cooperation between the two sides through specific and integrated action plans to imple-

ment the strategic plan for health emergencies 2024-2025, within the framework of working to advance and improve the health system.

Both sides also discussed joint plans to train health workers, enhance intensive care services, and mental health services, according to the Health Ministry.

For his part, Koko expressed the Ministry of Health's keenness to strengthen the partnership with the WHO in implementing health projects and focusing on needs

Health



US medical team ends visit to flood-hit Derna

An American medical team concluded its visit to Libya, conducting physical therapy for about 63 cases and examining 329 patients at Al-Wahda Hospital in Derna following the catastrophic floods in September.

The Emergency Medicine and Support Centre said the initiative was carried out in cooperation with its team as part of a strategy to localize treatment in Libya.

According to the centre, the examinations mainly targeted those affected by the floods in the field of internal medicine and physical therapy, in addition to other diseases.



Sports

Libyan Football Federation threatens to reinstate stadium ban on fans

The Libyan Football Federation (LFF) announced that it would enforce the regulations and laws on violators in stadiums attending Premier League matches, adding that it would reconsider reinstating the ban on fans to ensure the safety of everyone.

In a statement published on Wednesday, the LFF confirmed that it was in the process of issuing new decisions to deter those who violate the regulations in stadiums, calling on the referees and observers to be accurate in their reports, as they are the legal reference for implementing the regulations.

The LFF indicated that it had asked the security apparatuses in charge of securing football stadiums to take all necessary measures to prevent the entry of fireworks to avoid what happened in the three previous rounds.

Education



University of Benghazi receives WFME team, seeking international accreditation for medical colleges

A team from the World Federation for Medical Education (WFME) conducted a visit to the Faculty of Human Medicine at the University of Benghazi to learn about the procedures followed by the National Centre for Quality Assurance in accrediting educational institutions.

The government said the visit comes within the context of its efforts to obtain international accreditation for Libyan medical colleges.

According to Abdullah Abdul Jalil, the director of the National Centre for Quality Assurance, the audit conducted

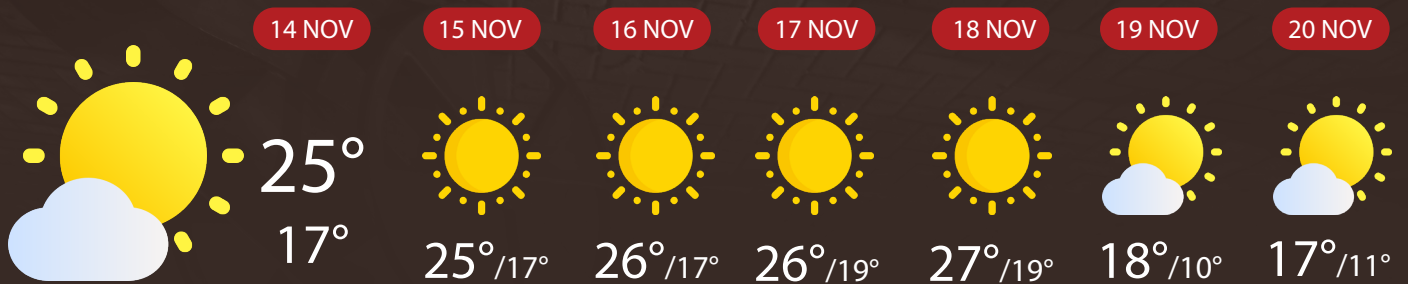
by the WFME will grant accreditation to the medical centre and colleges in Libya. This accreditation will enable graduates of these institutions to join medical colleges around the world, he explained.

Of note, the National Centre for Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Educational and Training Institutions recently completed its audit of the medicine and surgery program at the College of Medicine at the Libyan International University of Medical Sciences in Benghazi, in preparation for obtaining program accreditation by WFME standards.



Photo of the Week

Tripoli Weather Forecast



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