

Politics

HoR Speaker warns of the possibility of a new parallel government emerging in the east



possibility of a new parallel government emerging in the east, noting that he does not want to see more division.

In a statement on Tuesday to Reuters, Saleh considered that the Government of National Unity failed to unify the Libyan institutions and turned into a Tripoli government, calling on it to pay attention to the obligations of the two dissolved governments, pointing out that "if the elections are postponed, we will go back to square one and to the turmoil of 2011".

He also considered that the government's proposed budget of 100 billion dinars was too large, and expected approval of 80 billion dinars.

Saleh noted the difficulties facing the unification of the army due to external interference, saying that the elected president is the one who decides the matter of foreign forces and mercenaries in the country.

Commenting on the failure of the Geneva talks to reach the approval of a constitutional basis for the elections, Saleh said: "there is no need for the 75 members of the committee to meet", stressing that they have a constitutional declaration and that they do not need to turn around and waste time or bargain, as he put it.

Politics

Pro-Haftar militia leader Al-Kani assassinated in Benghazi



Mohammad Al-Kani, the leader of the "Al-Kaniyat" militia loyal to the warlord Khalifa Haftar, who was involved in the Tarhuna mass graves, has been murdered while he was resisting an armed group came to arrest him in his residence in Benghazi.

Pro-Haftar Journalist Mahmoud Al-Misrati said that "the storming of Al-Kani's house was based on two warrants that had been issued by the civil and military judiciary due to complaints against the crimes attributed to Al-Kani."

"One of Al-Kani's escorts was arrested and another was killed, in addition to the arrest of a number of his associates in separate areas of Benghazi, Ajdabiya and Tobruk, whose names were mentioned in a warrant from the Civil Prosecutor and the Military Prosecutor", Al-Misrati added on his Facebook page.

Sources from Benghazi said that what happened was a planned assassination of Al-Kani and two of his companions at their residence in a farm in the Bouaatni area of Benghazi, denying what was reported about his resistance to a force that came to arrest him.

Since 2017, the Libyan Public Prosecutor has issued internal arrest warrants against 14 affiliated gunmen with the Al-Kani militia, while international arrest warrants were issued against the brothers Mohammad, Abdul Rahim and Abdul Azim Al-Kani.

It is reported that the dead man is one of the founders of the notorious Al-Kaniyat militia that ruled Tarhuna with an iron fist and caused

the death and disappearance of hundreds of its sons before fleeing from it in June 2020 towards the east of the country after the defeat of their ally Haftar in his last war on Tripoli, in which the Al-Kaniyat militia was one of the most important groups of Haftar's forces.

Observers say that the assassination of Al-Kani is not the first and will not be the last, as it was preceded by the assassination of the wanted criminal Mahmoud Al-Werfalli, and will be followed by the assassination of others accused of war crimes and crimes against humanity in an effort by Haftar to clean his ranks of the internationally wanted persons in preparation for the upcoming elections.

Politics

Menfi from Brazzaville renews PC's commitment to support elections

Libya's Presidential Council Head Muhammad Menfi has restated the council's commitment to supporting the electoral process, the reconciliation project, and the work of the 5+5 Joint Military Committee.

In a meeting with the President of Congo, Denis Sassou Nguesso, Menfi called on the African Union (AU) to increase its support for peace and reconciliation efforts in Libya.

The PC head emphasized the need for the AU to coordinate with the United Nations and international partners to resolve the outstanding issues and promote the results of the neighboring countries' initiatives to end the Libyan crisis.

He underscored that Libya's security will promote stability in the entire African continent.

Menfi arrived on Monday in Congo upon an invitation from President Nguesso to discuss the political and security developments in Libya, according to a statement by the Presidential Council.



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Politics

UNSMIL stresses the need to involve HCS in preparation of electoral laws



The United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) has stressed the importance of conducting an inclusive electoral process that involves the High Council of State (HCS) in the preparation of electoral laws, including during the meeting in Rome, in line with relevant provisions of the Libyan Political Agreement and the Tunis Road-map regarding the preparation of the electoral legislation.

UNSMIL urged the House of Representatives and the HCS to act in goodwill towards these objectives and to coordinate in line with the relevant provisions of the Libyan Political Agreement.

It also said that its role during Rome meeting that will be held from July 26 to 29 is to provide technical support and advice to the HoR's Committee and the HNEC in developing draft electoral laws, on the basis of the United Nations principles for electoral assistance and human rights principles.

The mission expressed its gratitude to the Italian government for hosting this meeting, expressing its hope that this effort and the work of the HOR Committee will be fully guided by the abovementioned principles and objectives and will result in establishing a legal framework and additional momentum for the holding of inclusive, free and fair parliamentary and presidential elections on December 24.

Politics

Al-Mishri: We reject any form of coups against elected bodies



rejection of what he described as a "coup" against the elected bodies in Tunisia, in response to the recent decisions announced by the Tunisian President, Kais Saied.

Earlier on Sunday, Saied suspended the Tunisian parliament and sacked the government of Hisham Al-Mashuri, with a provision that he, himself, assumes the executive authority.

In response, Al-Mishri said, through his official Facebook account: "February 14, 2014, witnessed a coup by Haftar, and July 25, 2021, being the coup by Kais Saied, which follows like night and day."

He went on to say that the HCS rejects any coups against elected bodies and the disruption of democratic paths.

Politics

Norland discusses with PC members security conditions in the south



U.S. Special Envoy and Ambassador to Libya Richard Norland convened a meeting Monday with members of the Presidential Council (PC) Abdullah Al-Lafi and Musa Al-Koni.

The U.S. Embassy talks focused on the security conditions in southern Libya and national reconciliation.

Norland underscored that stability in the south, as well as national reconciliation, are crucial elements for ending conflict and improving the lives of all Libyans.

Norland arrived in Libya Monday, where he met with Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah and other Libyan and international representatives.



Economy

Libya, UAE's General Federation of Chambers of Commerce sign MoU

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of the General Federation of Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture, Mohammed Al-Raeed received on Monday, the Emirati economic delegation headed by the Vice President of the Federation of UAE Chambers, Abdullah Sultan Al-Awais, the Secretary-General of the Federation, Hamid Mohammed bin Salem, and the heads and directors of more than ten major Emirati companies.

During the meeting, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the General Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry in Libya and the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry in the UAE, which included several issues that strengthen the partnership between the two countries.

The agreement also included supporting and encouraging initiatives, commercial activities and industrial linkage between companies and private institutions, and enhancing bilateral cooperation in all economic fields in general, and commercial and industrial fields in particular. The two sides also agreed to enable the chambers of commerce in the two countries to communicate and coordinate among themselves, to create promising business companies and suitable commercial opportunities for the business sectors of the two countries.

The Emirati delegation arrived in Tripoli on Monday morning, to visit the General Federation of Libyan Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture.



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Economy



Dbeibah oversees signing of a contract between Hatif Libya Company and US Infinera Company

The Prime Minister of the Government of National Unity (GNU), Abdel Hamid Dbeibah, on Monday, oversaw the signing of an agreement to develop the national communications network between Hatif Libya Company and the US Infinera Company.

The project aims to provide mobile phone and internet services to areas previously unreachable by the network, along with the improvement of quality of services already provided to customers to ensure the reliability of the network in performing all work efficiently.

Dbeibah considered that the signing of the agreement is a strong step in advancing the Libyan-American economic relationship, as it improves confidence in moving forward towards the integration of state institutions, to provide digital services for all, through which it is hoped that citizens have equal opportunities.

Economy

EWG calls for compromise on budget bill

NEWS

The Economic Working Group of the International Follow-up Committee has called for a compromise on the budget bill, renewing the support of the international community to help advance consensual efforts.

The Co-Chairs of the Economic Working Group (EWG) called on the Government of National Unity (GNU), the House of Representatives (HoR) and other Libyan actors to find realistic compromise solutions and lay the foundations for measures that help move forward in unifying the country and providing services to

to the Libyan people.

This came during a meeting, which was attended by the UN mission coordinator in Libya, Risdon Zeninga, European Union Ambassador, Jose Sabadell, US Special Envoy Ambassador, Richard Norland, and Egyptian Ambassador, Tharwat Selim.

The aforementioned figures met with Prime Minister Abdel Hamid Dbeibah, representatives of the GNU, the HoR and the Central Bank of Libya (CBL), to discuss the budget crisis and discuss options available to meet the urgent needs of the country.

The mission quoted the Co-Chairs as saying that progress in the budget bill could be an important step towards an additional political settlement and consensus within the urgent political needs of the political phase.

Economy

Norland, Dbeibah discuss budget bill and path to elections



The US special envoy and ambassador to Libya, Richard Norland, has discussed with the Prime Minister of the Government of National Unity, Abdel Hamid Dbeibah, the general budget bill, as well as the path to the elections.

"I met Prime Minister Dbeibah today to discuss our bilateral relationship, and American support to complete the work of the unity government, the budget, and the path to the December elections on which the Libyan people depend", Norland said.

He added: "We encourage all Libyan leaders to work together and make the necessary compromises on behalf of the Libyan people in order to meet Libyans' expectations of free and fair elections on December 24".

On Monday morning, the two sides attended the signing ceremony of a contract between Hatif Libya, a state-run telephone communications operator, and the US Infinera Corporation, to modernize the fiber-optic communications network in Libya.

This came within the framework of the visit of the American Chamber of Commerce to Tripoli to meet with representatives of Libyan companies, during which Norland said that the meeting is an opportunity to understand how American companies can cooperate with their Libyan counterparts and create additional job opportunities for Libyans.

"The American companies represented today employ thousands of Libyans in many sectors, including energy, construc-

Opinions

Another French attempt

By Abdullah Al-Kabir, a Libyan writer



The EU Observer website published a document on a plan that the European Union is studying to deploy military forces in Libya, in a European effort to balance the military presence of a country that the document did not mention by name, only referring to it as the third country. It is understood from the context of the report that it is Turkey, and that the European Union must send military forces to Libya to compete with it, under the cover of assisting the national government in disarming the armed factions, integrating fighters and building the security sector.

The European Union did not take the Libyan crisis seriously and its response was not up to the challenge, and it lacked the initiative to help Libya extend its control over its vast borders, leaving the agenda of European countries competing, wrestling and clashing in Libya, especially Italy and France.

Perhaps the Berlin I conference was the beginning of the European awakening to remedy the misfortunes, returning to the exercise of an active and leading role in the Libyan crisis, especially with the progress of Russia and Turkey, which play the largest role alongside America in the Libyan crisis, and then the reinforcement of the Berlin II Conference. However, the results are limited so far. The main goal of the European agenda is to reduce Russian and Turkish influence by removing their military forces, which would give them an advantage in influencing Libyan politics, controlling oil and gas flows and irregular migration, as well as the strategic threat that Russia poses to some European countries.

The document's focus on Turkey as the third country, without referring to Russia, reveals the French fingerprints on the details of the leaked document, because France sees Turkey as a threat to its interests and influence in the entire region, not only in Libya. Although the real threat in the French spheres of influence, by provoking unrest in Chad and Mali, was behind the Russian Wagner groups, not Turkey.

The document calls on the European Union to support the Libyan authorities in securing the southern borders, which will make it easier for France to besiege the Turkish presence, provide more support to its ally Haftar, and help him extend his control over the south, with the legitimate cover of the internationally recognized Libyan government.

France realizes that it is unable to confront Turkey alone, so it sought during the past year to mobilize NATO countries and failed, then tried to pass its agenda through the European Union, and only succeeded in disrupting the union's adoption of a strong position on the Tripoli war. And here the attempt is repeated through the document leaked to the Observer website, and perhaps the leak is intended by a European country to thwart the scheme, which appears to be neutral between the parties to the conflict, and aims to adopt a plan to protect European security, but among the lines emerges a French agenda that seeks to undermine the Turkish presence in Libya through the use of European Union's force.

France's policy in Libya lacked pragmatism, as French political and economic interests were no longer the compass guiding it, it is a policy that reflects ideological blindness. The current authority in France is governed by Islamic phobia, and sees any Islamic revival in the eastern Mediterranean as an existential threat that must be confronted, while it does not issue any real reaction to the Russian incursion into its former African colonies.

France will do the same, continuing attempts in different ways, with different slogans and methods, to push the European Union to adopt the French agenda in Libya, and because of differing visions, and different interests of countries, and the return of Britain by an independent decision of the Union, with a strong position against the Russian presence in Libya, France will reap more failures, as it is imperative to succumb to the American-British position. The real threat is Russia, not NATO ally and member Turkey. The international consensus at the Berlin Conference and the Security Council is for all foreign fighters to leave Libya, while maintaining the military balance in order to avoid another war.

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

Authorities seek activating more isolation centers amid spike in infections

The head of the Audit Bureau, Khaled Shakshak, discussed with the Military Advocate General completing isolation centers administered by the Military Medicine Service in light of the current rise of covid-19 infections where the highly transmissible Delta variant may be playing a factor.

The meeting attended by the Director of the Military Medicine Projects Department reviewed means for accelerating procedures to complete the stalled projects, especially those that have reached advanced stages.

The parties also reviewed the epidemiological situation in the city of Tarhuna and called on the Health Ministry to urgently equip the men's ward in the city's teaching hospital to accommodate Covid-19 patients.



Health

NCDC calls for tighter Covid-19 curbs as cases surge

The National Center for Disease Control (NCDC) has recommended imposing tighter Covid-19 restrictions to contain soaring infections as authorities struggle to tackle a new wave.

The NCDC released Sunday a report indicating an increase in the Covid-19 fatalities and warned that isolation centers are filling up.

The epidemiological indicators are unstable, and the virus is spreading fast, the NCDC report shows.

Most densely populated areas such as Tripoli, Misrata, and Zawia have crossed the line of 400 cases per week for every 100,000 citizens, while cases in six other regions in the west and south surpassed 100 per 100,000 citizens during the past week. The report recommended bringing in tighter coronavirus curbs in areas considered at high risk.

It also called for intensifying vaccination and awareness campaigns and increasing COVID-19 tests in Sabha, Al Shati, Al Jabal Al Gharbi, and Al Jufra.

The NCDC also underscored the need to equip isolation centers with more beds, provide support for the infection control program, and monitoring the work of infection control committees.

وزارة الصحة Ministry of Health



Health

Ministry of Health declares public health state of emergency in Libya

The Ministry of Health has declared a public health state of emergency in Libya, requesting measures be taken to punish violators of the quarantine in accordance with the Libyan health law, the spokesman for the Ministry, Faraj Tayeb Hassan said.

This came in accordance with the recommendation of an emergency meeting of the Minister of Health, Ali Al-Zanati, with the Epidemiology and Community Medicine Committee, the National Center for Disease Control and the committees and departments in the ministry, to discuss the increase in the number of infections with the Coronavirus, as a result of the spread of the mutated strain of the pandemic.

During the meeting, they stressed that the Department of Health Affairs is an inherent competence by the force of law of the Ministry of Health, with no party outside it taking decisions or measures in the health matter.

Hassan explained that the meeting recommended urgently equipping the isolation centers, providing the necessary needs for them, allocating a hospital in every major city as an isolation center in case of necessity, providing the needs of health workers in the fight against Coronavirus, and emphasizing that the closure of educational institutions is determined by the Epidemiology Committee without other.

The Epidemiology Committee recommended closing cafes, social event halls, summer resorts, restaurants and public parties. The meeting also stressed the need to educate citizens about the importance of vaccines, methods of prevention and treatment of the Coronavirus through government platforms, various media outlets, and community organizations.



Health

Food and Drug Control Center releases 500,000 doses of the Sputnik V vaccine

The Food and Drug Control Center released Monday shipments of the Sputnik V vaccine, estimated to be approximately half a million doses.

According to a statement by the Director of the Media Office of the center, Mohamed Al-Zayat, the shipment was supplied on July 19 arriving through Mitiga International Airport.

Al-Zayat stated that the shipment was released having undergone laboratory procedures at the center's drug control laboratories for physical, chemical, and bacterial analysis, following approval of its conformity to the specifications and was suitable for consumption by humans.



Libyan athletes suffer losses in Tokyo 2020 Olympics

The opening ceremony of Tokyo Olympics 2020 welcomed Friday the Libyan squad along with 205 other teams from all around the globe, to mark the start of the biggest sporting event in the world, after a one-year delay due to the coronavirus.

The national team marched into the stadium raising the Libyan flag, while the show began with a mourning dance and a minute of silence in honor of the Covid-19 victims.

The athletes were greeted by President of the International Olympic Committee Thomas Bach and Japanese Emperor Naruhito. Due to the Covid-19-related measures spectators were not allowed to attend the grand show.

Libya has sent a team of five athletes to Japan, including Al-Hussein Qanbour for canoeing, Ali Omar for judo, Uday Hassouna for the men's 200m freestyle, Hadeel Abboud for the 100-m sprint for women, and Mohammed Al-Huraizi, who will be competing in the marathon.

The games are officially underway, but unfortunately, Libya suffered a series of disappointments on day two of the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.

Swimmer Uday Hassouna was knocked out of the men's 200m freestyle, finishing in the last place with a time of 1:56:27.

In the canoe slalom medal racing, Hussein Qanbour also finished last, while Hadeel Abboud will join the women's 100m sprint race set to get underway.

Libya has sent athletes to 13 Games since it joined the Olympics community in 1964 also in Tokyo.



Al-Ittihad defeats Olympic Al-Zawia 2-0, tops group B of Libyan League

Al-Ittihad team has topped group B of the Libyan Football League after defeating Olympic Al-Zawia team 2-0 at the Tripoli International Stadium on Saturday.

Al-Ittihad will meet Swehli on Tuesday, but the results are of far less significance to the team after gaining four points and expanding the difference between them and their traditional rival Al-Ahly. The two teams will play in the semi-finals scheduled to take place on August 1.

Al-Ittihad will meet the second team of group A (east Libya) yet to be determined, between Al-Akhdhar and Al-Hilal at the Misrata International Stadium.

Meanwhile, the second semi-final will bring together Al-Ahly Benghazi team, who secured his place at the top of group A with Al-Ahly Tripoli, second in group B. The final match for the Libyan Football League title will take place on August 7.



Migration

57 illegal migrants drown off the Libyan coast

At least 57 illegal immigrants drowned when their boat capsized off the Libyan coast, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) confirmed on Monday.

The IOM spokeswoman, Safaa Meshali, said in a press statement that a boat carrying illegal immigrants capsized off the coast of Khums city east of Tripoli.

According to testimonies gathered by the IOM from survivors, fishermen, and the coast guard, among the victims were at least 20 women and two children.

Since the start of this year, more than 630 illegal immigrants have died at sea while trying to reach Europe from Africa, according to UN figures.



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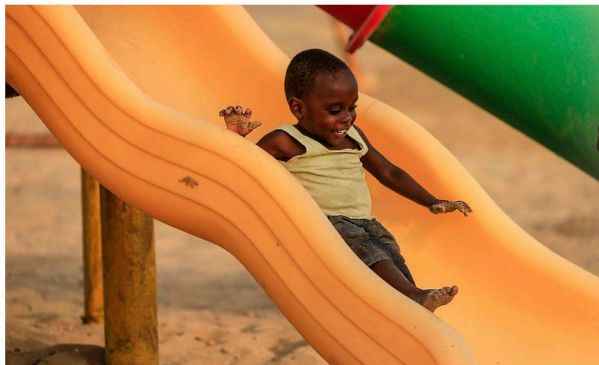
Fri 30	35°/26°		Sunny	1%	NNE 16 km/h
Sat 31	39°/27°		Sunny	0%	WNW 16 km/h
Sun 01	39°/27°		Sunny	0%	NW 17 km/h
Mon 02	36°/27°		Sunny	1%	ENE 21 km/h
Tue 03	38°/29°		Sunny	0%	E 22 km/h
Wed 04	40°/29°		Sunny	0%	ESE 20 km/h
Thu 05	40°/28°		Sunny	0%	E 20 km/h

Cartoon

Libya outages



Photo of the Week



Features

The City of Al-Rujban



Al-Rujban is a city in the western mountain (Nafousa Mountain) Libya. It is located southwest of Tripoli, about 162 km away from it. It is bordered on the west by the city of Jadu (Fasato), on the east by the city of Zintan, on the south by Hamada Al-Hamra, and on the north by the Jafara plain.

Its population is about 15,000.

There are many educational and religious institutions, including the Faculty of Economics (University of Western Mountain) and the religious corner founded by "Sheikh Abu Al-Qasim Muhammad Al-Issawi" in 1882, and his tomb is there till present.

Origin of the Name

Al-Rujban seems that it is a new name that does not appear in the ancient sources as a place name or affiliation to the population, as the ancient inhabitants of the region were known by the names of their tribes such as Tardite, Al-Zamouri, Miri, Al-Santoti, Al-Asherni or Al-Ashfi and others.

There are several conflicting accounts about the origin of the name, there are those who claim that Al-Rujban is related to Rajab, and there is a legend that says that the name is in relation to a ruler who came to Libya five centuries ago, called Ahmed bin Abdullah Al-Rujbani, who is of Yemeni origin and belongs to King Amr bin Amer, King of Sheba!! And there are those who believe that Al-Rujban is related to the Al-Rujban tribe in Saudi Arabia, and they are a branch of the Al-Dawasir tribe.

Economy

Al-Rujban depended on raising livestock such as sheep, goats, camels and cows, and they relied on the trees of olives which they inherited from their Libyan ancestors. This blessed tree dates back to its presence in North Africa and the Nafusa Mountains for thousands of years.



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