

## INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT AND CRISIS MANAGEMENT

- 25.07: Libya's two main rival leaders, the president of the Presidential Council (PC), Fayiz al-Sarradsch and the head of the Libyan National Army (LNA), Khalifa Haftar, have agreed on a **10-point plan at a meeting in Paris**.
- 03.08: The **arrival of two Italian naval vessels in the Tripoli to support the Libyan coast guard** has been heavily criticised by the House of Representatives (HoR) and various militias. Haftar has threatened to confront non-commercial Italian navals ships. Meanwhile, the EU extended the naval mission *Sophia* and the border assistance mission EUBAM until the end of 2018. Mid August Haftar proposed to halt the migrant flow through Libya if the EU grants the eastern-based government 20 billion USD.
- 05.08: **Ghassan Salamé** has been appointed as the **new UN envoy for Libya**. During his visit to Tripoli he announced the gradual return of the UN support mission UNSMIL to the capital. 14.08: Deputy Head of the PC,

- Ahmed Maiteeq, has criticized the **countries which support commander Haftar**, among them **France, Great Britain, UAE, Egypt** and **Russia**. According to media reports, **Israel** also supported the LNA with weapons.
- 22.08: **Egyptian air force destroyed** once again **convoys loaded with weapons** attempting to enter Egypt. After a meeting in Cairo, Egypt and Algeria agreed to support a political solution in Libya through mediation efforts, despite their support of different stakeholders in the conflict. **Algeria** also declared the **launch of a training program** for the presidential guards in Tripoli.
  - 23.08: Chad ordered Qatari diplomats to leave the country, **accusing Qatar of financing Chadian mercenaries in Libya**. The LNA spokesman al-Mesmary also condemned the deployment and financing of militant forces in Benghazi by Qatar.

## MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

- 22-23.7: The LNA hit Derna with several airstrikes on positions of the Derna Mujahedeen Shura Council (DMSC), one plane was shot down on 29.7. As a result the **LNA announced the total siege of Derna**. According to the LNA, former Ansar al-Sharia and IS fighters fight in the ranks of the DMSC.
- 23.7: Bunyan al-Marsous forces in **Sirte** were put on high alert due to the reported **presence of IS elements** east and south of the city. 28.7: Militias from Zintan, al-Jamil and Raqdaleen drove Ahmad Debbashis al-Amu militia out of Sabrata. **Increased activity of Italy** could be observed around Sabrata. Since then the **number of boats leaving Libya dropped**

- dramatically. On 29.7 an Anti-IS Operations Room under Omar Abdul Jalil was established in Sabrata.
- 14.8: The LNA launched a **new Operations Room in Ain Mara** for operations in Derna. Three days later clashes among LNA-forces occurred due to a discussion about opening the road to Martouba for Derna citizens.
  - 23.8: In the province of Jufra, at the crossroad to al-Fugha a **LNA checkpoint was attacked by IS** killing 9 soldiers and 2 civilians. On 27.8 IS released a video showing an **improvised IS checkpoint** on the road between al-Jufra and Abu Ghrein in central Libya.

## DOMESTIC POLITICS

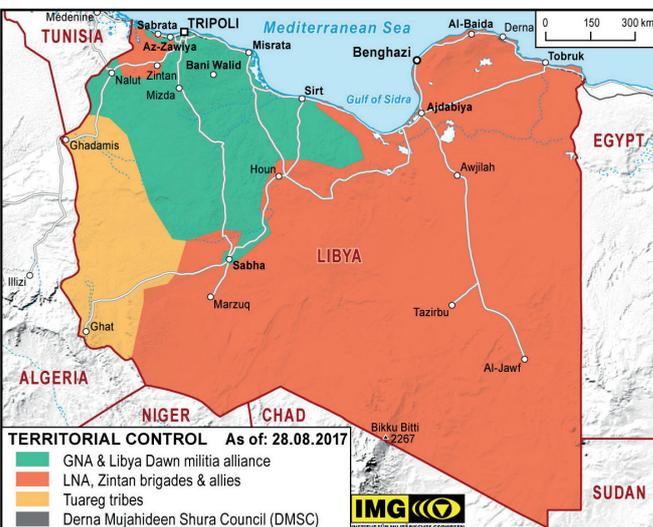
- 16.7: Sarradsch proposed a **road map**, which includes **new presidential and parliamentary elections in March 2018**, a nationwide ceasefire, the establishment of a High Council of National Reconciliation, an extension of the UN-proposed government and the unification of the military institutions.
- 29.07: The vote on a **constitutional draft** by a Committee in al-Baida escalated into armed threats by pro Haftar forces. There have been contradicting reports on the outcome of the incident. Al-Sarraj and UNSMIL

- welcomed the acceptance of the constitutional draft. Whether a law regarding the referendum will be passed remains uncertain.
- 27.07: Khalifa Haftar expressed that he can imagine a prospective, **political role for the son of Muammar Gaddafi Saif al-Islam**, who is based in the west of Tripoli.
  - 10.08: **Eastern tribes** promised their **support for the political reconciliation** in the country at a meeting with Sarradsch. He told military leaders about the imminent lifting of the arms import ban imposed by the UN.

## HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

- 01.8: UNSMIL reported that in July 15 civilians were killed and 21 were injured, culminating in a total of **111 dead and 120 injured civilians in 2017**.
- The siege conducted by Haftar's forces has severely impacted the **humanitarian situation in Derna** given the lack of supply of food, fuel and medical care.
- While many migrants live in official GNA-led camps, there are still significant numbers who are forced to live in **camps which are managed by militias and human traffickers**. Violence, insufficient supply and inhuman treatment shape people's day-to-day life.

- 10.08: The **coastguard enhanced their presence in the Mediterranean** and imposed a Search- and Rescue Zone. There have been a number of **conflicts** regarding questions of jurisdictions **between the coastguard and the NGOs**. According to Frontex the **number of arrivals in Italy has dropped by 50 %** in comparison with the previous month.
- 15.08: The International Court of Justice issued an **international warrant** for the execution of dozens of detainees for Mahmoud al-Werfalli, a commander of a special unit of the LNA. The LNA arrested him later but confirmed he would not be extradited.



## MAP ANALYSIS

In the east and south of Libya Haftar's Libyan National Army (LNA) allied with local militias and therefore was able to extend their sphere of influence. The Zintan brigades in the west are LNA's most powerful allies. In the centre and west of Libya the Unity Government (GNA) was able to shift a large number of former militias of the Libya Dawn Alliance to its own side, while others are still fighting the GNA. The west and southwest is under the influence of various Tuareg tribes, partly representing a unity. The Islamist Derna Mujahideen Shura Council (DMSC) controls the former IS stronghold in Derna.

## FORECAST

Changes in territorial control are expected around Derna, Sirte and Sabrata. In Derna the LNA is on the rise against the DMSC and they recently advanced from the East to Sirte. Furthermore, IS is still present in the area. In Sabrata and the surroundings the issues do not only revolve around the control of migrant flows, but also oil terminals and pipelines. It is expected that the increased involvement in Sabrata will move the departure points of tug boats to the east of Tripoli and Morocco.

SOURCES MEDIA ANALYSIS COMPILED BY IFK MENA-Team (Jasmina RUPP, Viktoria PICHLER, David FUSSI); LAYOUT: REF III/Medien, IMG