

Politics

## Union of Parties warns against using referendums to settle scores



الإتحاد الوطني للحزب الليبي  
National Union of Libyan Parties

The National Union of Libyan Parties stressed that the popular referendum represents an important democratic tool to enable the Libyan people to participate effectively in shaping their future, but warned against exploiting referendums to settle personal scores, noting that dissolving the House of Representatives and the High Council of State would not end the Libyan crisis.

The Union said in a statement on Wednesday that the Libyan people have the right to hold referendums on issues that affect their future, such as the form of the state, its political and administrative systems, and the identity of its economy, as well as a comprehensive national charter that guarantees peaceful coexistence among all components of the people.

The Union warned against exploiting referendums "for narrow political purposes

or to settle personal scores," stressing that the referendum should be a means of unifying ranks, not deepening divisions, stressing the need for a stable and secure political environment to conduct successful referendums that express the true will of the people, and called for a comprehensive national dialogue to determine the issues that will be put forward for the referendum and the mechanisms for conducting it.

They expressed the vision of "reasonableness and correctness" in the move toward dissolving the House of Representatives and the High Council of State, "due to the weak performance of the two institutions and their failure to realize the seriousness of the stage as well as their loss of successive opportunities to get out of the bitter crisis that our country is experiencing."

The Union added that this

would not be the best solution to get out of the Libyan crisis, as it could lead to the exacerbation of political divisions and delay the national construction process, noting the importance of serious and responsible dialogue and negotiation between the Libyan parties to reach consensual solutions that preserve the interests of the country and the citizen.

It is noteworthy that sources close to Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah and the Head of the Presidential Council Mohammed Menfi reported that the two men agreed on the necessity of holding a popular referendum to dissolve the House of Representatives and the High Council of State due to their failure to find a solution to the political crisis that has been exhausting the country for more than ten years, in addition to sitting at the top of the power pyramid for this entire period.

Politics

## UNSC extends UNSMIL mandate until January 31, 2025



United Nations Support Mission in Libya  
بعثة الأمم المتحدة للدعم في ليبيا

The UN Security Council has extended the mandate of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) until January 31, 2025, which expired on October 31.

The resolution stipulated that the UNSMIL mandate would be automatically extended for an additional 9 months if a special representative of the Secretary-General was appointed to head the UNSMIL.

The new UN resolution reaffirms the legitimacy of the Libyan Political Agreement signed in Skhirat on December 17, 2015, as well as the road map approved by the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum during its meetings in No-

vember 2020 and Geneva 2021, as well as the updated electoral laws prepared by the joint committee of the House of Representatives and the High Council of State (6+6).

The new UN Security Council resolution also calls for sanctions to be imposed on those who undermine peace efforts in Libya, and demands that the UNSMIL conduct a dialogue between actors to prevent violence and escalation of conflicts.

The UN Security Council also called on the Libyan political institutions to resolve the outstanding contentious political issues related to the elections as soon as possible, to partici-

pate fully and transparently in good faith and without preconditions, and to make the necessary concessions to advance negotiations facilitated by the United Nations mission in order to hold free, fair and transparent national presidential and parliamentary elections.

The UNSC stressed the need to hold elections on the basis of applicable electoral laws, with the aim of forming a unified Libyan government capable of ruling throughout the country, and also called for taking steps to reunite Libyan political, economic, military and security institutions, and to protect the independence of the judiciary.



Politics

## Turkish Ambassador confirms consulate opening and Turkish Airlines' return to Benghazi

Turkey's Ambassador to Libya, Güven Begeç, has announced that Turkey will soon open a consulate in Benghazi and is actively working on resuming Turkish Airlines flights to the city. The statement came after Ambassador Begeç met with Saqr Boujwari, the head of Benghazi's Municipal Council, marking a significant step in Turkish-Libyan rela-

tions. In addition to discussing the consulate and airline plans, the two sides explored areas of cooperation, including the restoration of historical buildings, infrastructure projects, and opportunities for Turkish expertise to aid in human resource development for Benghazi. Ambassador Begeç emphasized Turkey's

commitment to mutual economic growth and shared prosperity. Meanwhile, Boujwari welcomed the ambassador's visit, stressing the importance of Turkish-Libyan collaboration in both the private and municipal sectors, highlighting the significance of opening the Turkish consulate in Benghazi, according to the Municipal Council statement.

Politics

## Britain imposes sanctions on individuals and groups linked to Russia in Libya

The British government announced on Thursday the imposition of sanctions on individuals and entities in three African countries: Libya, the Central African Republic and Mali. This is due to their association with the Russian Wagner mercenary group. The British Foreign Office explained in a report that the sanctions target three private mercenary groups linked to the Kremlin, including the Africa Corps, and 11 individuals linked to Russian agents, as it put it. The Foreign Office confirmed that this targeting have direct links to the Kremlin, and have threatened peace and security in Libya, Mali and the Central African Republic, and have committed

widespread human rights violations across the continent. It indicated that these sanctions will affect Russian activity, which it described as malicious in the three countries, and expose and combat Russia's illegal activity in Africa, according to its statement. Russia was accused of trying to exploit fragile security environments and natural resources in these countries to achieve its gains and expand the scope of the Kremlin's influence. According to the British Foreign Office, the government has also imposed 56 new sanctions on Russia, including citizens linked to the Wagner Group.



Politics

## Haftar's forces review military cooperation with Turkey

The "Secretary General of the General Command" of Haftar's forces, Khairi Al-Tamimi, received the Turkish military attaché to Libya and his accompanying delegation at the headquarters of Haftar's forces in Rajma, Benghazi. Al-Tamimi said on his personal Facebook page on Thursday that his meeting with the Turkish military attaché and his accompanying delegation "discussed ways of joint cooperation between the two sides." This is the first announced meeting between the Turkish military attaché to Libya and officials from Haftar's forces in Benghazi. The meeting comes in light of the noticeable rapprochement between

Haftar and Turkey in recent months, and it was preceded by the visit of the Chief of Staff of the Ground Forces, Saddam Khalifa Haftar, to Istanbul and his meeting with the Turkish Minister of Defense during their attendance at the "Saha Expo 2024" International Defense and Space Exhibition on October 22. The meeting also comes two days after the visit of the Turkish Ambassador to Libya to the city of Benghazi and his meeting with the Director General of the Development and Reconstruction Fund of Libya, Belgassim Khalifa Haftar, and the Chairman of the Executive Council of the Benghazi Municipality, Saqr Bujwari.



Politics

## Libya offers help to Spain after devastating floods in Valencia, report says

Spanish magazine "Atalayar" said that the Libyan government expressed its condolences to the victims of the tragic floods, and put itself at Madrid's disposal to provide assistance in the rescue efforts in Valencia.

The tragic floods that occurred last week in various parts of the Spanish Levante region, especially the Valencia region sparked a wave of international solidarity with the victims and those affected, the magazine said, indicating that the Spanish government received a letter from the Ministry of

Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in Libya offering to put its armed forces and military personnel at its disposal. It expressed its appreciation for the commendable efforts made by the Spanish authorities in the rescue and relief operations during the devastating floods that hit the city of Derna and the eastern region of Libya in September 2023.

The Libyan authorities confirmed that "the armed forces were ready to provide support and assistance to the rescue operations, which demonstrated the close

relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries."

The Spanish magazine explained that the Libyan authorities are extremely sensitive to this tragedy that has destroyed many areas.

During the Derna disaster, Madrid responded to requests for help by sending specialized relief teams and several tons of equipment, and directing more than one million euros in humanitarian aid through the Spanish Cooperation Agency and the International Development Agency.

Politics

## British Ambassador says he had useful discussion with Haftar regarding political challenges

The British Ambassador to Libya, Martin Longden, has met with Khalifa Haftar to discuss political and security challenges in Libya.

"A useful and candid discussion with Haftar on the political and security challenges in Libya and the importance of the UN political process for unlocking Libya's true potential", Longden said on his X platform page.

For its part, Haftar's forces said in their statement about the meeting that Haftar and the British ambassador discussed the latest political developments in Libya, reviewing ways to enhance cooperation between the two countries in all fields, to serve common interests.



Politics

## Operation Irimi monitors "suspicious" Libyan-bound ships

EU's Mediterranean naval mission Operation Irimi reported monitoring 22 suspicious maritime journeys out of over 1,600 bound for Libya during October.

The operation, tasked by the United Nations to enforce the arms embargo on Libya, conducted radio checks on 460 commercial vessels and inspected five ships on-site.

Launched on March 31, 2020, following the war on Tripoli in 2019, Operation Irimi operates under the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy. It employs aerial, naval, and satellite resources to monitor the embargo's implementation.





Economy

## Iron and Steel Company announces near completion of gas cylinder factory

The Libyan Iron and Steel Company announced on Wednesday, the near completion of the construction of a gas cylinder factory. Officials at the factory expect its production to reach 1,200 gas cylinders, with technical specifications and safety requirements approved in accordance with the Brega Oil Marketing Company, according to the company's statement on its Facebook page. The company said that the factory will begin its operational trials soon, and will be able to produce different sizes and types of cylinders.

Economy



## British Petroleum wants to increase investment opportunities in Libyan oil sector

British Petroleum expressed its desire to increase its investment opportunities, support the policies of the National Oil Corporation, and benefit from the available opportunities to develop the oil and gas sector in Libya, according to what was published by the Ministry of Oil and Gas on its Facebook page.

The announcement of this position came during a meeting held by the Minister of Oil and Gas in the Government of National Unity, Khalifa Abdul-Sadiq, with a delegation from British Petroleum as part of his side meetings accompanying the activities of the "ADIPEC" conference in the United Arab Emirates.

The Ministry of Oil and Gas said that Abdul-Sadiq's meeting with the British Petroleum delegation discussed the activities of the British company in Libya and the planned drilling programs in the submerged areas, in addition to investment opportunities in the oil and gas sector in Libya. The meeting was attended by the British company's CEO, Murray Auchincloss, Deputy CEO of the Gas and Low-Emissions Energy Sector, William Lynn, Vice President of Exploration and Development Sectors, Ariel Flores, Deputy CEO of Mergers and Acquisitions Sector, Andy McColson, and Deputy CEO of the Middle East and North Africa Region, Nader Zaki.

On October 26, the National Oil Corporation announced that both the Italian company Eni and the British company British Petroleum had resumed their exploration work in Libya after a halt in drilling operations in the onshore area since 2014.

Economy



## Libya offers new round of bidding for oil and gas exploration

The Minister of Oil and Gas of the Government of National Unity, Khalifa Abdul Sadiq, confirmed the ministry's intention to conduct a new round of bidding for oil and natural gas exploration, the first since 2011, with plans to implement oil projects worth \$17 billion, and raise oil production to two million barrels per day by 2028.

Abdul-Sadiq said, in an interview with Bloomberg, that the authorities in Libya will offer onshore and offshore areas in a new round of bidding, either at the end of this year or early 2025. He explained that these areas will include the Sirte Basin, Murzuq, and Ghadames Basin, indicating that oil production has recovered to more than 1.3 million barrels per day, the highest level in years.

In addition, the development of fields that have already been evaluated may raise this number to 1.6 million by the end of 2025, he said, adding that talks are underway with five international oil companies that have shown great interest in returning and working inside Libya next year, but he refused to reveal the names of those companies. "We are working with Suncor, TotalEnergies, Wintershall and other companies to resume exploration activities in the country. Meanwhile, Algeria's Sonatrach will start drilling sometime this year or early next year," the Minister said.

Regarding the repeated oil shutdowns that have plagued Libya's oil sector, he said: "Oil shutdowns are a nightmare for us. When ports are closed, water seeps in, causing corrosion and weakening the infrastructure."

The minister revealed plans to implement projects worth \$17 billion in the coming years to modernize and build new infrastructure, and develop fields that have been evaluated, which could result in an increase in production by 300,000 barrels per day "Libya aims to produce 1.4 million barrels by the end of this year, 1.7 million by the end of 2027, and 2 million by 2028," he said.

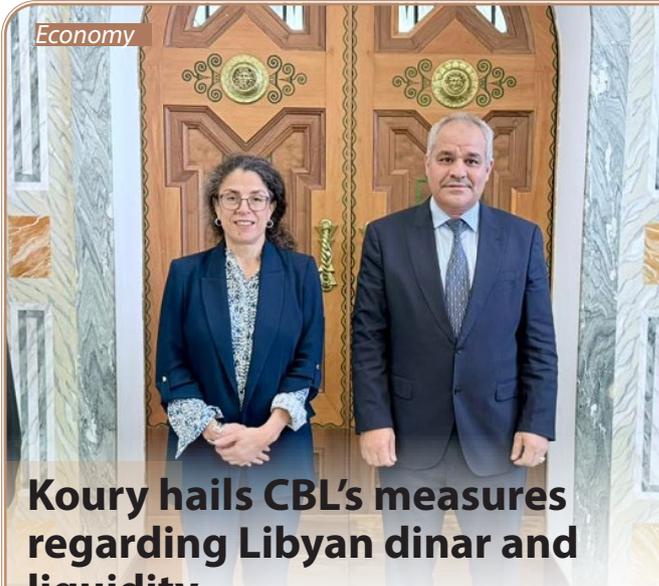


Economy

## Audit Bureau, CBL review importance of closing bank's final accounts

The head of the Audit Bureau and the Governor of the Central Bank of Libya (CBL) have discussed the results and recommendations of the work teams concerned with final closing accounts over the past years, and the importance of this step in facilitating various control operations.

The two parties discussed the economic and financial situation of the Libyan state, especially the issue of financial sustainability, reviewing the file of public revenues and spending, in addition to discussing cooperation and coordination between the two parts.



Economy

## Koury hails CBL's measures regarding Libyan dinar and liquidity

The Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Acting Head of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya, Stephanie Koury, commended the measures taken by the Central Bank of Libya (CBL) to stabilize the dinar and alleviate the liquidity crisis, according to a post she published on X on Monday.

Koury said that on Sunday she held her first meeting with the Governor of the Central Bank of Libya, Naji Issa, since he assumed his position last month; and she congratulated him "on the trust placed in him during this delicate period."

She explained that the meeting, which was held at the headquarters of the Central Bank of Libya, also discussed future plans to ensure the effective and accountable management of the Central Bank of Libya's resources, and to create a stable economic climate.

Koury added that the Governor of the Central Bank of Libya reaffirmed the commitment of the CBL's board of directors to adopting the highest standards of professionalism and good governance, in addition to avoiding any conflict of interest.

A few days ago, the CBL began distributing cash shipments through commercial bank branches and ATMs in order to address the cash shortage crisis within a set of economic measures that included opening credits, enhancing liquidity, and selling foreign currency in double quantities.



Economy

## Minister of Economy discusses with Turkey agreement to cancel food, medicine customs

The Minister of Economy and Trade in the Government of National Unity, Mohammed Al-Huweij, reviewed a draft agreement that the ministry referred to its Turkish counterpart to cancel customs' tariffs on food and pharmaceutical products to facilitate trade between the two countries.

This came in his speech during the 40th meeting of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (COMCEC) on Monday in Istanbul, where Al-Huweij stressed that the field is open to the rest of the member states of the committee to prepare similar agreements, according to a statement by the Ministry of Economy on its Facebook page.

Al-Huweij referred to the aggression and genocide that the Palestinian people are exposed to, noting the expansion of the scope of this crisis and its effects on a number of member states of the organization, in addition to the global geopolitical variables that are emerging again and the new economic challenges they impose, calling for updating the method of preparing the agenda to be more flexible and responsive to urgent changes.

The meeting sessions also discussed the reports of the technical committees on enhancing intra-trade among member states, deepening trade cooperation, improving the transportation and communications sectors, developing the tourism sector in a sustainable and competitive manner, increasing the productivity of the agricultural sector, alleviating poverty, in addition to cooperation in the field of digital transformation, and exchanging views on digital payment systems in member states.

The meeting also stressed the importance of supporting the private sector and discussing developments in the trade preference system. The work of the 40th session of COMCEC is scheduled to continue until Wednesday.



Health

## NCDC launches nationwide child vaccination campaign

The National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) has announced a nationwide vaccination campaign for children, set to begin on November 9 and continue through November 14.

The campaign aims to vaccinate over 1.32 million children against polio, measles, and rubella, providing immunization services across health centres in cities and regions nationwide. The initiative targets children

from birth to six years old, covering Libyan and non-Libyan residents. The Director General of the centre, Haidar Al-Sayeh, described the campaign as “exceptional” and assured it would not interfere with the routine vaccination program.

Al-Sayeh urged families to support the campaign, citing the importance of vaccinations for preventing infectious diseases and protecting public health.



Health

## UNICEF supports vaccination campaign in Libya

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has trained 90 volunteers to support the vaccination campaign in Libya, in cooperation with the National Center for Disease Control (NCDC).

The training, which included volunteers from civil society organizations, the Libyan Red Crescent, and the Scout Movement, aims to qualify these volunteers to support and implement the vaccination campaign in three major cities in Libya: Tripoli, Benghazi, and Misrata. According to UNICEF, this train-

ing is an important step towards ensuring the readiness of volunteers and providing them with the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively contribute to protecting the health of Libyan society, and increasing awareness of the importance of vaccination and the necessity of receiving vaccines.

The NCDC will launch on November 9 a national campaign for vaccinations against diseases: polio, measles and rubella from the age of one day to 6 years, and this campaign will continue until November 14.

Sports

## Libyan Football Federation appoints Al-Shahoumi as Head of Competitions Committee

The Secretary General of the Libyan Football Federation, Abdul Nasser Al-Suwayee, appointed Abdullah Al-Shahoumi as Chairman of the General Competitions Committee, ahead of determining the final form of the Premier League in the new season which would be the biggest challenge in light of the sharp division among the 36 participating clubs.

Local sports reports pointed to the structure of four groups, with two groups in each of the eastern and western regions, being the closest to implementation, and two teams from each group qualifying for the final round.

The Libyan Football Federation announced that the season would start on November 25, as the General Assembly is preparing to elect a new Board of Directors on December 14 to succeed the resigned board headed by Abdul Hakim Al-Shalmani.



Opinions

# Lessons from Libya's Independence for the present

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We can learn rich lessons from Adriaan Pelt's narrative of the journey towards Libya's independence. Lessons which have new salience amidst the armed conflicts, political disputes, social tensions, and regional differences which today put the existence and unity of Libya in real and imminent danger.

Many of the political and constitutional debates which divide Libyans today, are not new. To overcome them we can learn from our forefathers who shepherded Libya in the years leading up to independence.

From 1949 until Libya's independence on 1 January 1952, Mr. Adriaan Pelt served as United Nations High Commissioner for Libya. He wrote a book called *Libyan independence and the United Nations. A case of planned decolonization* (1970) published by Yale University.

My Arabic translation, in four volumes, was published in 2020 by the Libya Institute for Advanced Studies and Kalam Research & Media. In my introduction to the Arabic translation, I emphasized that the book held valuable les-

sons which remain current to this day.

There are many rich lessons that we can learn from Pelt's narrative of the journey towards Libya's independence. Lessons which have new salience amidst the armed conflicts, political disputes, social tensions, and regional differences which today put the existence and unity of Libya in real and imminent danger.

Mainly, we should learn how at that time a group of Libyans emerged whose political wisdom and vision for the future enabled them to look at their country's problems and its internal and external contexts with clear and open minds.

United by their shared goal of achieving independence and building a single Libyan state, these founding fathers overcame their differences, reduced tensions, and resolved conflicts.

The memoir of High Commissioner Pelt suggests that Libya's independence and unity were only achieved because the powerful people at the time were willing to make mutual concessions

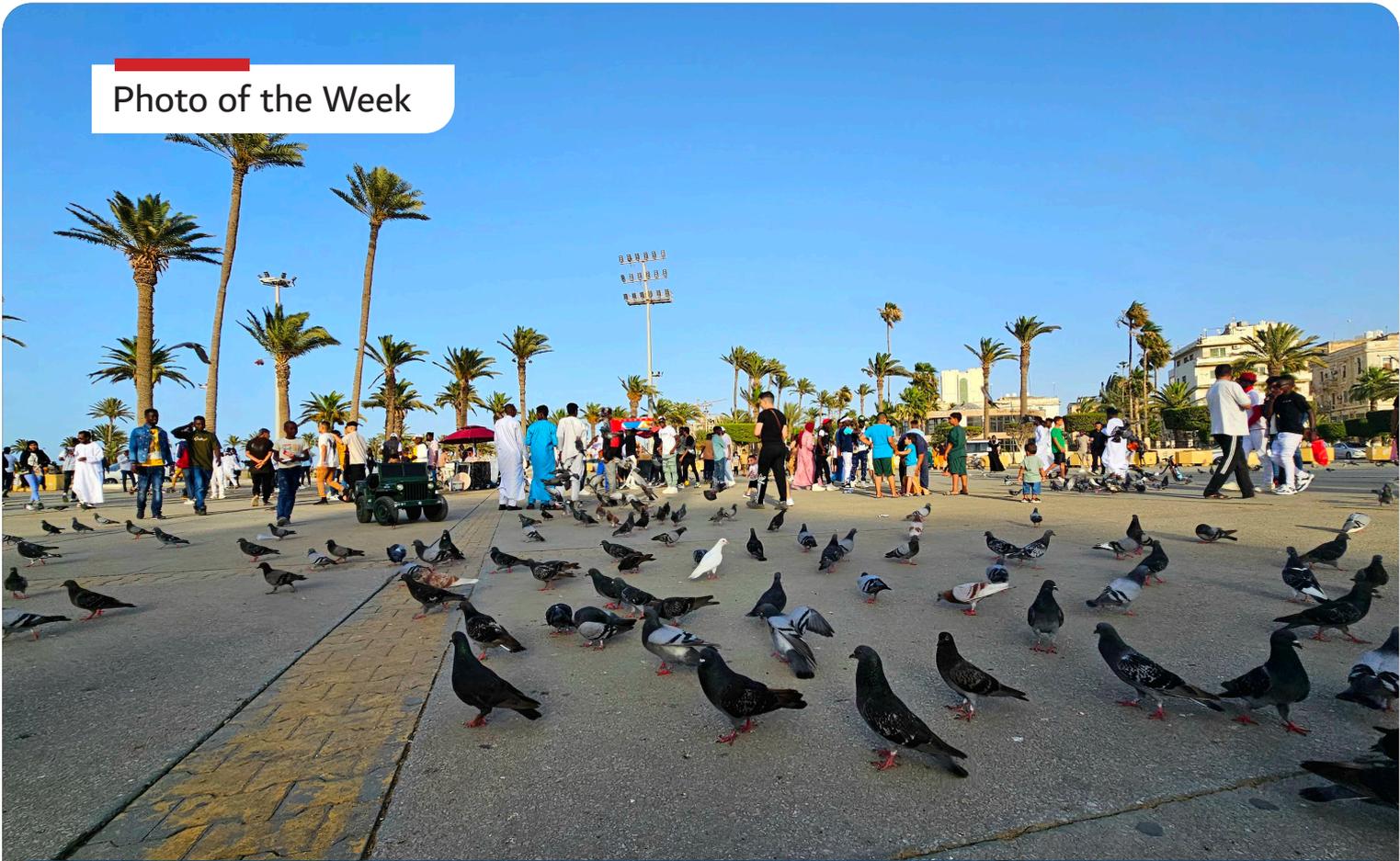
and compromises.

This applied to the Committee of Twenty-One, the National Constituent Assembly, the opposition parties and groups, and the wise and skillful Mr. Idris Amir of Cyrenaica. They were willing and able to act in this way because they shared the aspirations of the majority of Libyans.

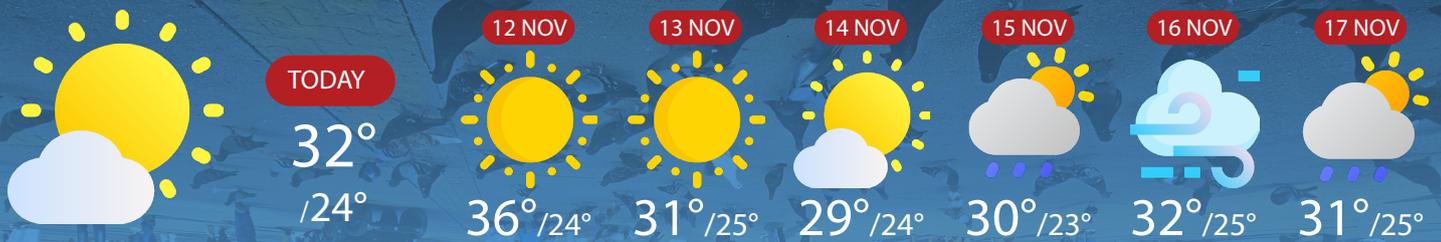
What does this lesson mean to us now that the ship of the homeland is sailing in rough seas and stormy weather which almost sink the ship, including everyone on it?

It means, once again, that if we want to take the ship of the homeland to safety, we need to take the example of these ancestors and realize that nation-building and the establishment of states are based primarily on dialogue, exchange of views, acceptance of the other, mutual concessions, and reaching compromise solutions that are acceptable to all even if they are not completely satisfactory to everyone. These are exactly the attitudes and actions which characterized our forefathers, and which we are definitely missing now.

### Photo of the Week



### Tripoli Weather Forecast



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