

Politics

Al-Mangoush: Meeting with Israeli Foreign Minister wasn't for normalizing relations



Dismissed Libyan Foreign Minister Najla Al-Mangoush denied that the motive behind the meeting she held with the former Foreign Minister of Israel, Eli Cohen, in Italy was to pave the way for Libya's normalization with Israel.

Al-Mangoush confirmed in an interview with Al Jazeera's Atheer podcast that she was assigned by the Prime Minister of Government of National Unity, Abdul Hamid Dbeibah, to hold the meeting to discuss strategic issues related to the security and stability of the Mediterranean, while announcing that her departure from Tripoli was a political decision, adding that "she is ready for any investigation that reveals the truth of the meeting that sparked a storm of controversy in Libya." She said that she was accused of normalization of relations with Israel and that Libyans did not hear the truth nor did they receive the full picture of what happened, as she was prevented, according to her confirmation to Al Jazeera, from making any statement that would reveal the truth of what happened, and she was asked to leave Tripoli on the basis of her return after days, but her absence lasted for over a year.

Al-Mangoush stressed that at the beginning of the meeting with Cohen, she criticized the extremist policies of the Israeli government and defended the rights of the Palestinians. She indicated that the meeting with Cohen aimed to discuss sensitive strategic issues of concern to Libya, including the stakes related to resources in the Mediterranean Basin, specifically gas and maritime borders, in light of recent discoveries, and to "dot the i's and cross the t's regarding those resources." She pointed out that it was impossible to hold the meeting with the Israeli Foreign Minister, after October 07 and the Israeli war on Gaza, as she stressed that the Palestinian Cause was sensitive to the Libyan people and that they were raised respecting it. She talked about the precise details of the content of the meeting with Cohen, which she reiterated throughout the interview that it was coordinated with Abdul Hamid Dbeibah, whom she criticized for not managing the crisis wisely since the Israeli media leaked the meeting.

"The issue would have been resolved simply if Dbeibah had spoken directly, addressed the Libyan people and revealed the truth." She said, and when asked why she did not reveal the truth directly, Al-Mangoush said that Dbeibah refused this step.

Politics

Libya's acting FM rejects any military presence that's not permitted by GNU's agreement



The Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs, Taher Al-Baour, expressed Libya's rejection of any military presence on its territory without a prior agreement with the Government of National Unity (GNU) and within a framework of bilateral cooperation that serves the country.

Al-Baour said in an interview with Al Jazeera on Wednesday that the internationally recognized government is the Government of National Unity. He added that there was no dealing with the parallel government assigned by the House of Representatives in Tobruk, stressing that it "has no right to sign any international agreements." He said Syrian embassy would reopen in the capital, Tripoli, in the coming period, indicating the presence of a chargé d'affaires and a staff on duty at the Libyan embassy in the capital, Damascus. He also confirmed the position of the GNU and Libyans in sup-

port of the Palestinian Cause, and rejected the Israeli aggression on Gaza, considering that the Palestinian Cause is a central issue for Libyans.

Al-Baour stressed that the GNU has no links with Israel, adding, "We have no reason to have relations with it."

The suspended Foreign Minister, Najla Al-Mangoush, revealed in her first media appearance on Atheer podcast on Al Jazeera 360 that she had traveled to meet with the Israeli Foreign Minister at the request of the GUN to discuss issues of concern to the security and stability of Libya, especially with regard to the territorial waters in the Mediterranean.

Al-Mangoush confirmed that the meeting was a secret for security and strategic purposes related to Libya's resources, and that she was not a party to arranging the meeting's agenda, but was tasked with delivering a specific message from the GUN.

IRINI radio-checked over 400 vessels and 44 dubious flights to Libya in last December



European Union's (EU) Operation IRINI, which is tasked with monitoring ships in the Mediterranean, reported that it had radio-checked 401 commercial ships out of 17,161 suspected of carrying weapons to Libya, as part of monitoring the implementation of the imposed arms embargo.

IRINI's monthly report stated that it had carried out four visits to ships approved by its commanders, noting that the total number of ships it had inspected since the launch of the operation in March 2020 amounted to 30 suspected ships, and that it had confiscated three shipments that it deemed to be in violation of the imposed arms embargo and diverted them to the

port of a European Union member state. The operation also monitored 44 suspicious flights out of a total of 1,698 flights, in addition to monitoring 25 airports and runways as well as 16 ports and oil terminals during the month of December.

The operation submitted 65 special reports to the UN Panel of Experts on Libya, most of which were related to violations or potential violations of the arms embargo and oil smuggling activities in the western and eastern parts of the country, and issued 92 recommendations for the inspection of suspicious vessels in EU member state ports to police authorities, 72 of which were implemented.

Politics

Protests against Libyan PM Dbeibah after Mangoush's revelations about Israeli meeting

Angry protesters took to the streets on Monday evening and in front of one of the houses of the Government of National Unity's Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah, on Al-Shatt Road in the capital, Tripoli, following statements by dismissed Foreign Minister Najla Al-Mangoush about her meeting with former Israeli Foreign Minister Eli Cohen in Rome in August 2023. Other protests against Dbeibah were seen in the city of Misrata, demanding his removal, after Al-Mangoush linked her meeting with the Israeli minister to the government's approval and arrangement. Activists also reported on social media that protests had taken place in various areas

of the country, during which protesters expressed their rejection of what they called "the collusion of the government and its prime minister" in the meeting of the former foreign minister with the former foreign minister of Israel, and demanded the removal of the prime minister and an investigation into these accusations. In an interview broadcast by Al Jazeera's 360 platform, Al-Mangoush said that the meeting came after "contact and coordination between the Israeli side and the Government of National Unity," explaining: "I was not a party to arranging the meeting's agenda. The government arranged it and I delivered the message."

Mangoush confirmed that the meeting was a secret for security and strategic purposes related to Libya's resources, considering that the Government of National Unity had abstained due to lack of wisdom and inability to address the crisis after the meeting was leaked, and denied that the meeting had anything to do with normalization. She revealed that her meeting with the Israeli side was limited to a specific framework and that she was frank about the Palestinian Cause, saying: "I informed Cohen about the Libyan people's point of view and our feelings in support of the Palestinians and rejection of the Israeli government's policies."



Politics

Ministry of Interior partners with EU to bolster security performance

The Ministry of Interior has announced steps to deepen its cooperation with the European Union to enhance the country's security capabilities.

Major General Nour Eddin Abu Jarida, Director of the Department of Relations and International Cooperation, met with the Head of the European Union Border Assistance Mission (EUBAM) this week. The discussions, attended by Brigadier General Ali Al-Sayed, Director of the Security Planning Department, focused on advancing joint initiatives in training and improving the performance of personnel in the field of security planning. According to a statement from the ministry, the collaboration aims to raise operational standards and expand participation in designing and delivering strategic plans for the Ministry of Interior.

"This meeting reflects our commitment to fostering partnerships with international organizations, ensuring integration in security efforts, and contributing to stability across Libya," the ministry said. The move comes as Libya continues to navigate complex security challenges, with international partnerships playing a critical role in addressing border management and internal stability.



Politics

Al-Baour discusses with his Somali counterpart cooperation in regional and international issues

The Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Government of National Unity (GNU), Taher Al-Baour, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Somalia, Ahmed Moalim Fiqi, highlighted the importance of continuous cooperation and consultation on regional and international issues. This came during a phone call on Wednesday morning, during which Al-Baour congratulated Fiqi on his country's election of non-permanent membership in the UN Security Council during the period 2025-2027, according to the Foreign Ministry's statement on its Facebook page. The two sides renewed their commitment to strengthening bilateral cooperation to achieve security, stability and development, and to enhance relations between the two countries.



Politics

Egypt, Greece stress the need to protect stability of Libya

Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi and Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis stressed, on Wednesday, the necessity of protecting the security, stability, safety and territorial integrity of Libya, alongside Syria and Sudan.

A statement issued by the official spokesman for the Egyptian presidency stated that El-Sisi and Mitsotakis stressed the necessity of starting comprehensive political processes that lead to achieving the desired peace and stability, in a way that ensures the preservation of the capabilities of those countries and their peoples. Both sides also discussed developments in the regional situation, particularly the situation in Palestine, expressing their keenness to achieve a ceasefire and facilitate humanitarian aid to the Gaza Strip, while emphasizing the importance of working towards implementing the two-state solution.



Economy

Zallaf Oil launches production at Al-Shadar Field

Zallaf Oil and Gas Company has begun production at the Al-Shadar oil field, with output reaching 1,500 barrels of crude oil and over 7.5 million cubic feet of natural gas daily from its first operational well, A1/A.

The field, located in the Sirte Basin southeast of Ajdabiya, is part of the National Oil Corporation's strategic push to increase oil production and strengthen Libya's economy. Zallaf described the launch as a "milestone achievement" in its efforts to boost national energy output, which remains vital to Libya's economic recovery following years of conflict.

It is worth mentioning that the Al-Shadar oil field is located in the Sirte Basin, southeast of Ajdabiya, within the NC-126 oil concession.

Economy

Masla Oil Field Airport reopened after completing maintenance



شركة الخليج العربي للنفط
ARABIAN GULF OIL COMPANY

Chairman of the Management Committee of the Arabian Gulf Oil Company, Mohammed Bin Shatwan, has inaugurated the Masla Oil Field Airport after completing maintenance. Bin Shatwan stressed that this project came to enhance the company's ability to handle operations in the oil field more efficiently, and also improve air transport services in the region in general, and it is an important step in developing the company's infrastructure, according to the National Oil Corporation.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by members of the company's management committee, a number of department directors, and representatives of the company implementing the maintenance and development work.

Economy



شركة البرق لتسيير النفط

Brega Company gears up to boost daily gas supply to 400 tons

Brega Oil and Gas Marketing Company has announced plans to increase its daily supply of liquefied gas to 400 tons. The move aims to accelerate the filling process and enhance the company's supply capacity to meet rising demand.

The announcement followed a high-level meeting between Brega board member Milad Abdullah and Youssef Quwider, Acting Chairman of Mellitah Oil and Gas. Senior executives from both companies participated, focusing on improving cooperation in liquefied gas transportation and delivery.

During the discussions, both parties agreed to establish a framework to ensure road safety for drivers, streamline transport procedures, and create a safer working environment. The measures are intended to improve the efficiency of operations while addressing the growing demand for liquefied petroleum gas.

Plans to build the Mellitah Gas Depot were also discussed. Brega is set to lead the project, with liquefied gas supplies provided by Mellitah. A joint task force will be formed to oversee the engineering aspects of the initiative.

Economy



المصرف الليبي الخارجي
Libyan Foreign Bank

Libyan Foreign Bank achieves net profit worth \$440 million

The Libyan Foreign Bank announced settling all of its accumulated losses before 2022, indicating that it had achieved net profits exceeding \$440 million, after the necessary provisions were made to show the fair financial position of the bank.

According to a statement issued by the bank, its net profits exceeded \$1.2 billion between 2022 and 2024.

Last August, the Libyan Foreign Bank's Management Committee revealed that the net profits during the years 2022 and 2023 amounted to \$804 million.

Economy

Minister of Economy, SG of Arab-German Chamber review preparations for economic forum in Tripoli



The Minister of Economy and Trade of the Government of National Unity, Mohammed Al-Huweij, followed up with the Secretary-General of the Arab-German Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Abdul Aziz Al-Mikhlaifi; the ongoing preparations for holding the fourth Libyan-German Economic Forum in the

capital, Tripoli, next May. The media office of the ministry indicated that the meeting discussed capacity building, which aims to develop the institutional performance of Libyan chambers of commerce, and enhance their contribution to supporting economic growth. He explained that they

had discussed the importance of implementing the joint cooperation program between the General Union of Libyan Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture and the Arab-German Chamber of Commerce and Industry, in a way that enhances efforts for recovery and economic growth in Libya.

Economy

Libya Trade Network signed agreement to improve maritime business operations



The Libya Trade Network and the Ports and Maritime Transport Authority and the Ministry of Transport of the Government of National Unity in Tripoli signed a joint cooperation agreement aimed at improving the efficiency of commercial and logistical operations in the country and enhancing integration between the commercial and maritime sectors. The agreement also aims to develop

electronic systems and improve the exchange of information between the two parties, thus contributing to facilitating the movement of goods. It also aims to reduce costs and achieve transparency in commercial operations, as a step to support the national economy, achieve sustainable development, and enhance Libya's role as an international commercial and logistics center.

Economy

Ministry of Economy reviews new sources for importing meat ahead of Ramadan



The Minister of Economy and Trade in the Government of National Unity, Mohammed Al-Huweij, discussed adopting new sources for importing meat, in order to meet the demand in the local market during the month of Ramadan. This came during Al-Huweij's meeting on Tuesday with a number of companies supplying meat and poultry, in the presence of the Undersecretary of the Ministry and the Directors of the Departments of Internal Trade, Foreign Trade and International Cooperation, and representatives of the Libyan Fat-

wa House, the Food and Drug Control Center, and the National Center for Animal Health, according to a statement by the Ministry on its Facebook page. The meeting discussed the progress of meat and poultry supply operations from approved sources through banking operations; where company owners discussed the procedures followed in the meat supply process, including obtaining approval from the Animal Health Center, and adhering to health requirements and Islamic controls. Al-Huweij confirmed that the Ministry was working to organize and develop

the trade policy according to the import budget, in coordination with the Central Bank of Libya. He called for listing the companies supplying meat through banking operations during the year 2024, in coordination with the Central Bank, and to arrange a meeting with all relevant parties to organize the supply of meat and poultry and approve additional import sources, which contribute to supplying the local market with meat products in a way that ensures the stability of their prices during the month of Ramadan.



Health

Dbeibah awards medics of Tripoli Eye Hospital

Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah honored on Saturday the medical, paramedical and administrative personnel at the Eye Hospital in Tripoli, in appreciation of the exceptional efforts they made during 2024.

Dbeibah hailed in a speech during a ceremony celebrating Tripoli Eye Hospital as one of the most prominent medical institutions in Libya what he described as the achievements made by the hospital, which included examining 200,000 patients and performing 12,000 surgeries in 2024.

He also praised the efforts of the medical convoys that visited 12 Libyan cities, provided examination and care services to more than 30,000 patients, and performed 3,500 surgeries, in addition to the achievements of the Corneal Transplant Authority, which succeeded in performing 1000 corneal transplants in various cities of Libya, considering these efforts a model of dedication and teamwork.

Dbeibah pointed out that "this occasion is not only to celebrate achievements, but also to confirm the government's commitment to supporting initiatives that contribute to developing the health sector and raising the level of health care."

At the end of the ceremony, the medical and administrative teams were honored, and the "Millennium Shield" was presented to the team that performed the corneal transplant operations, in appreciation of their distinguished efforts in providing exceptional medical services.



Health

20 sheep died from foot-and-mouth disease in Al-Ajailat

The Agricultural Police Service has announced the death of 20 sheep out of 200 infected with foot-and-mouth disease in the city of Al-Ajailat.

The Agricultural Police Station of the Al-Ajailat Branch received a report from a citizen about a sheep barn containing 200 sheep being infected with foot-and-mouth.

The Animal Health Center sprayed the barns with preventive pesticides to limit the spread of the disease.



Health

Libya International Forum for Mental Health kicks off in Tripoli

The Libya International Forum for Mental Health kicked off on Tuesday, in the presence of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister-designate of Health, Ramadan Abu Jannah, and a number of health care officials and psychologists at the Ministry of Health.

In a speech during the forum, Abu Jannah stressed the importance of mental health as an essential part of individual well-being and community stability, and its pivotal role in promoting economic and social development.

He pointed to the government's commitment to developing health policies and strengthening local and international partnerships, announcing initiatives including integrating mental health services into primary health care centers and preparing legislation to classify psychologists as medical professions.



Health

12 successful brain catheterization operations performed at Tripoli University Hospital

The Therapeutic Services Support and Development Agency has announced the success of 12 brain catheterization operations inside Tripoli University Hospital during two consecutive days.

The agency said in a brief statement on its official Facebook page that these operations were carried out using the latest medical technologies, with the participation of a specialized team of doctors and technicians.

This comes within the efforts that the agency seeks to enhance and develop health care for citizens and alleviate the suffering of patients, according to the same statement.



Sports

Abdul Mowla Al-Maghrabi named president of Libyan Football Federation for 4 years

Abdul Mowla Al-Maghrabi - Tripoli Football Association's Head - was elected president of the Libyan Football Federation on Saturday by recommendation from the members of the General Assembly, bringing an end to the controversy over the vacant position since the resignation of Abdul Hakim Al-Shalmani from this position in mid-October.

Al-Maghrabi was elected during the electoral session held on Saturday in Benghazi with a large attendance by the members of the General Assembly, which has the right to vote in the Libyan Football Federation elections: 125 clubs. The General Assembly of the Libyan Football Federation chose the only advanced list in the Football Association elections headed by Al-Maghrabi with 95 votes from 100 clubs that attended the General Assembly meeting out of 125 clubs.



Sports

Libyan Sailing and Marine Sports Federation signs cooperation agreement with its Turkish counterpart

The Libyan Sailing and Marine Sports Federation has signed a full cooperation agreement with its Turkish counterpart. This agreement aims at joint cooperation by developing the level of coaches and referees and supporting and encouraging Libyan athletes to participate in sports tournaments and festivals organized by Turkey and Libya. The President of the Turkish Federation welcomed cooperation between Turkey and Libya in the sports field, especially marine sports.



Travel

Afriqiyah Airways denies plane crash rumours

Afriqiyah Airways has firmly denied reports of a plane crash at Tripoli International Airport following speculation on social media.

Moez Ben Ismail, the airline's Director of International Relations, clarified that the aircraft in question was heavily damaged during the 2014 conflict and has been out of service since then.

He attributed the plane's movement at the airport to strong winds, noting that the aircraft is awaiting dismantling for spare parts.

The airline urged media outlets to verify facts before publishing and stated that all official updates would be issued solely through its verified Facebook page.



Crimes

One million narcotic tablets seized in Amsaad

The Narcotics and Psychotropic Drugs Control Agency in Tobruk has seized a huge quantity of narcotic tablets, estimated at one million bearing the Taj "Crown" mark.

The agency explained in a statement that the Taj mark was linked to boxes of the drug Tramadol, adding that the seizure took place after receiving information about a drug store in the Amsaad area.

After a joint force raided the site, it turned out that it was a large warehouse containing more than twenty internal warehouses containing bags and ropes used by smugglers. The raid resulted in the arrest of three people, two Egyptians and a Libyan, between the ages of 22 and 40, and all legal measures were taken against the accused.

Opinions

In 2025, will people get help and be united?

By Omar Swehli, a political activist



This will not happen while Haftar is among us. So why is it impossible to establish a successful state in Libya under Khalifa Haftar's control?

Libya is now classified as a failed state, and the USA classifies Libya as a threat to its security, as do European countries, which place Libya in level 4 in terms of travel warnings.

Libya faces a state of division and political stalemate, with Khalifa Haftar representing the greatest obstacle to building a stable state, with his military and intelligence control over the eastern and southern regions, and his oppressive rule, Haftar rejects democracy and obstructs any efforts to establish a civil state.

His Control of the House of Representatives

Haftar uses the House of Representatives to implement his agenda, with the help of its Speaker, Agila Saleh, who is subject to his influence. The repression and assassinations, such as the assassinations of MPs Siham Sergiwa and Ibrahim Al-Drisi, have spread terror among the members, which has thwarted any attempts at change within the House of Representatives.

Rejection of democracy and elections

Khalifa Haftar declares his explicit rejection of democracy and publicly mocks it, stressing his rejection of any laws regulating elections or referendums on the constitution. He seeks to establish a military family rule that keeps him and his sons in power, and he has even gone beyond rejecting democracy to banning it in the areas he controls, he has worked to abolish elected municipal councils, replacing them with people loyal to him. He also

ordered his security services and militias to destroy polling stations in areas under his influence, with the aim of preventing any municipal elections from taking place.

In the latest example, the city of Derna witnessed direct security interventions, where independent candidates were threatened and forced to withdraw, confirming his repressive approach to preventing any manifestations of democracy or free local governance.

Tyranny in the Eastern Region

Haftar rules the areas under his control by force, with serious human rights violations and his prisons filled with opponents of opinion with the help of external intelligence support, he carries out a systematic repression against any opposition, with his bloody record extending from the Chad war to internal conflicts. In his attack on Tripoli, he caused the killing of ten thousand of his soldiers, defenders of Tripoli, and innocent civilians, and left behind after his departure mines that claim lives and do not distinguish between children, women, and innocents. Despite being over 85 years old, Haftar has a bloody past and present par excellence, and after this age, no change in his bloody criminal behavior can be expected from him.

His military ambition

Haftar seeks to impose his control over all of Libya, although he currently controls the eastern region and part of the south, while the western region, which includes the majority of the population (60%), remains outside his control. His military ambition and his criminal past undermine any efforts to

establish a democratic and civil state.

The presence of Khalifa Haftar constitutes a major obstacle to the stability of Libya and the unification of its institutions, as his practices reflect an authoritarian tendency and an explicit rejection of democratic principles. His military and political control is hampering efforts to form a unified, internationally recognized government and preventing it from extending its sovereignty over the entire country.

Haftar has established a parallel government and almost placed a central bank outside the control of the state. He has also pressured the House of Representatives to enact a law establishing a constitutional court based in Benghazi, with the aim of circumventing the rulings of the High Court in Tripoli, in addition to printing Libyan currency without the approval of the legitimate central bank in Tripoli, which has further complicated the economic and institutional crisis. He is now stealing oil and exporting it through the Hariga port in the far east of Libya, which he exchanges for military purchases that fulfill his ambition to control Libya.

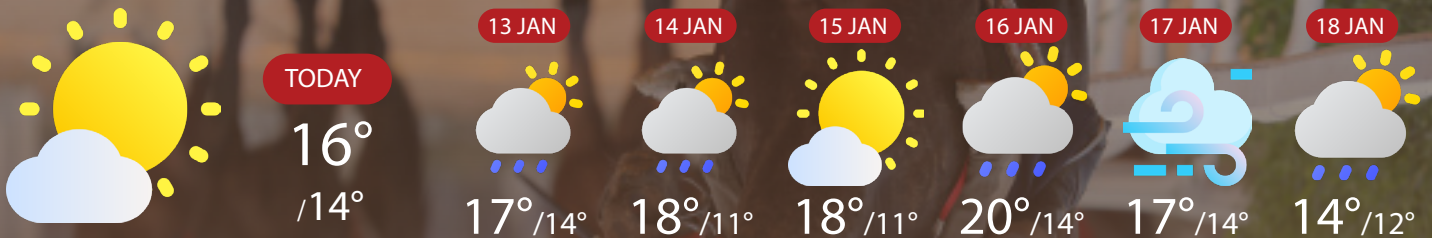
Salvaging Libya requires a new revolution that avoids the mistakes of the past, establishes a just rule that holds criminals against the people accountable, and builds a political system based on respect for human rights and justice, which ensures a unified and stable future for the country.

Perhaps relief will come from Allah prompting Haftar's disappearance from political life, Allah's willing, and perhaps the hope is that 2025 will bring us this good news.



Photo of the Week

Tripoli Weather Forecast



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