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=Politics

#### Protesters in eastern Libya shut down Es Sider and Ras Lanuf oil ports

Protesters who call themselves the "Oil Crescent Movement" shut down Es Sider and Ras Lanuf ports on Tuesday morning. The protesters prevented the oil tanker "Alpha Finlandia" from loading a shipment of approximately 600,000 barrels at Es Sider port. Two engineers at the port confirmed to Reuters that the protesters blocked the tanker from entering the facility.

Bloomberg also reported that oil loading operations at the Sidra and Ras Lanuf

ports have been halted. A source at Sidra port told Bloomberg that the protesters disrupted the loading process of one of the tankers.

Reuters highlighted that such protests have previously disrupted oil operations, pointing to a similar incident in January of last year when protesters forced workers at the Sharara oil field to halt production. On January 6, the protesters issued a statement under the name of the movement, giving the National Oil Corporation

(NOC) a two-week ultimatum from the date of the statement to meet their demands. They warned of resorting to shutting down oil fields and closing ports in the region if their demands had not been met

The protesters called for fair distribution of resources, improved living conditions for the residents of the Oil Crescent region, and the relocation of the headquarters of five oil companies from Tripoli to the Oil Crescent area.



A state of security tension has prevailed in the city of Shahat following an attack by residents on the Security Directorate in protest against the actions of police officers.

Local sources reported that protesters attacked the traffic department and police patrol vehicles in response to the impoundment of several cars. They also assaulted traffic officers and police personnel. They added that residents of Shahat had become frustrated with the heavy-handed practices of security forces, accusing them of extortion and harassment under flimsy pretexts, without consideration for the deteriorating living conditions and delayed salaries.

Meanwhile, a group of supporters of the so-called "General

Command" issued a statement in the city center, accusing the protesting residents of being "thugs".

The Interior Ministry of the parallel government announced the formation of an investigative committee to disclose the circumstances of the "events that took place in the municipality of Shahat on Tuesday, targeting the Traffic and Licensing Department of Al-Jabal Al-Akhdar Security Directorate."

The Ministry urged all parties to "avoid actions that threaten public security, abide by the law, and exercise restraint in response to any violations that could undermine societal stability," according to a statement published by the ministry's spokesperson on Facebook.



The Ministry of Local Government has officially launched the Winter School initiative in Italy as part of the EU-funded "Rebuild" project. This initiative is aimed at enhancing the quality of drinking water across five Libyan municipalities, including Al-Zawiya, Ssbha, Bani Walid, Zintan, and Gharyan.

The primary objective of the initiative is to strengthen the capabilities of municipal workers in key areas such as water protection, monitoring water distribution networks, managing water resource data, and installing water treatment plants, as outlined in a statement released by the Ministry on its official Facebook page on Tuesday.

Ibrahim bin Dakhil, Director of the Ministry's General Department of Environmental Sanitation Affairs, attended part of the initiative's activities, where he emphasized the Ministry's commitment to strengthening partnerships with Italian entities. He highlighted the importance of leveraging their expertise to enhance the capacity of Libyan municipalities through coordinated efforts and knowledge exchange.



#### PM vows government support for anti-corruption efforts

Prime Minister Abdulhamid Dbeibah has pledged his government's full support for the Public Prosecutor's Office in its fight against corruption and crime.

In a meeting on Wednesday with Public Prosecutor Al-Siddig Al-Sour, Dbeibah praised the judiciary's role in upholding justice and protecting citizens' rights.

The talks, held at the Prime Minister's Office in Tripoli, focused on reinforcing the rule of law and addressing challenges in implementing judicial rulings.

Al-Sour highlighted the need for stronger cooperation between executive and judicial bodies to ensure transparency and fairness in law enforcement. He also stressed the importance of safeguarding human rights in all legal proceedings.



The head of the Oil Workers' Union, Salem Al-Rumaih, stated that the military forces in eastern Libya, referring to Khalifa Haftar's forces, are the ones seeking to close down the oil sector and have ordered the Oil Crescent Movement to organize protests.

Al-Rumaih further explained in an interview with Sada newspaper that the forces in eastern Libya aim to control all oil resources and companies, as was the case with the Gulf Oil Company. He accused these forces of stealing over 30% of oil production for their own benefit, noting that they use the companies they wish to transfer as a leverage to benefit from smuggling and theft.



# in Benghazi

Khalifa Haftar has received the President of Guinea-Bissau, Umaro Sissoco Embaló, and his accompanying delegation at Benina International Airport in Benghazi.

A formal reception ceremony was held for the Guinean president at Benina Airport before both sides held a joint discussion, as reported by Haftar's media office on its official Facebook page.

Both sides held a meeting that addressed the latest developments on both the local and regional levels, in addition to discussing the African Union's efforts and its role in supporting and assisting the proposed solutions to the Libyan crisis.



The head of the Presidential Council, Mohammed Menfi, has participated in the African Heads of State Summit held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, on Tuesday.

Menfi arrived in Tanzania on Monday, where he was welcomed by the country's President, Samia Suluhu.

The summit was organized in line with commitments made by the African Development Bank and the World Bank to provide electricity to 300 million people across the continent by 2030.

The summit brought together heads of state and government, ministers, representatives from international and regional organizations, as well as private sector representatives, to discuss a set of joint reforms necessary to achieve the goal of universal access to modern, reliable, and sustainable energy at affordable prices by 2030.



The UN Deputy Special Representative for Political Affairs, Stephanie Koury, held talks with Attorney General Al-Siddiq Al-Sour on Wednesday to discuss strengthening human rights protections in the country.

In a post on X, Koury described the discussion as "constructive," noting that it focused on accountability, the recent arrest warrant issued by the International Criminal Court (ICC), and concerns over arbitrary detention and corruption.

She reaffirmed the UN mission's commitment to supporting Libya in addressing these challenges.



#### **Central Bank of Libya convenes** meeting first 2025 Derna

The Board of Directors of the Central Bank of Libya held its first meeting in 2025 in the city of Derna. The meeting was chaired by the Governor Naji Issa and attended by his Deputy and all members of the Board.

The Central Bank of Libya made a number of decisions at the meeting, including developing a mechanism to start establishing investment funds to improve the business environment and involve the banking and private sectors in financing development projects. It also discussed the public spending policy for the year 2024 and its impact on the exchange rate and the unprecedented increase in demand for foreign currency.

The meeting saw an agreement on communicating with the relevant authorities to approve a unified budget for the year 2025 in accordance with a law issued by the House of Representatives, and to implement reforms in public spending policies and other economic policies. On the sidelines of the meeting, "the Board conducted an inspection tour inside the city of Derna to see the latest developments in reconstruction efforts and the latest steps taken in this regard, and to meet with the Director General of the Development and Reconstruction Fund and his team to review the projects completed by the Fund and those planned to be completed."



#### **NOC confirms operations at oil ports** are going well

The National Oil Corporation (NOC) has confirmed that production and export operations are continuing normally at all oil fields and ports, explaining that it had engaged with protesters who organized a demonstration on Tuesday morning at Es Sider and Ras Lanuf ports.

The NOC reassured Libyans and its local and international partners that production operations were still proceeding according to the strategic plan, just like export operations through all oil ports without exception.

Meanwhile, Reuters reported that oil prices declined on Wednesday due to several factors, including easing concerns over Libyan supply and an increase in US crude inventories. The chief analyst at Japan's Sunward Trading, Chiyuki Chen, told Reuters that the resolution of supply concerns in Libya added pressure to the market. Reuters also confirmed that concerns eased after the NOC announced on Tuesday that export activities were proceeding normally following negotiations with protesters who had disrupted tanker shipments at two key ports.

On Tuesday morning, protesters from the "Oil Crescent Movement" announced their control of Es Sider and Ras Lanuf ports. This came days after they had issued a video statement giving the NOC a two-week ultimatum to meet their demands, which included relocating the headquarters of major oil companies to their region and promoting its development. They also hinted at resorting to shutting down oil fields and ports in the Oil Crescent region.



Economy

#### US Chargé d'Affaires says independence of NOC critical to increasing oil production

The United States (US) US Chargé d'Affaires Jeremy Berndt met Thursday with the Acting Chairman of the National Oil Corporation (NOC) Masoud Suleiman in Tunis, and he congratulated him on reaching 1.4 million barrels per day (bpd) in oil production.

According to the US embassy on X,

the two sides discussed strengthening US-Libya cooperation in the energy sector to advance prosperity in both our countries.

"The NOC is a key partner whose independence and integrity are critical to growing oil production for the benefit of the Libyan people." Berndt said.

Economy -

# Minister of Economy urges for activating joint Libya-Serbia economic committee



The Minister of Economy and Trade Mohammed Al-Huweij discussed with the Minister of State at the Serbian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Nikola Stojanović aspects of economic and trade cooperation between Libya and Serbia.

According to the Ministry of Economy and Trade, the two parties reviewed the results of the Libyan-Serbian Forum that was held recently, stressing the importance of building on what was achieved to enhance economic and trade relations between the two countries.

Al-Huweij stressed the importance of developing trade and investment relations between Libya and Serbia, expressing the ministry's readiness to provide all facilities to Serbian companies and investors wishing to enter the Libyan market. He called for activating the joint committee between the two countries, reviewing the agreements signed between the two sides, and signing new ones.

He stressed the importance of encouraging businesspeople and companies from both sides to explore available investment opportunities, open new channels for

trade exchange, and expand opportunities for economic cooperation. He also reaffirmed that Libya and Serbia can play an important role in linking Europe and Africa by exploiting their geographical location, which would contribute to creating trade routes that link the continents and enhance global economy.

Al-Huweij also called for the establishment of a joint Libyan-Serbian training center, aiming to keep pace with technological development and enhance the exchange of expertise between the two countries in various fields, noting that this cooperation will contribute to the development of Libyan cadres in line with international standards. He called for organizing an exhibition that brings together Libyan and Serbian companies in cooperation with the General Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture and the Chambers of Commerce in the two countries.

On Tuesday, Al-Huweij and Stojanović inaugurated the Libyan-Serbian Economic Forum, which was organized by the Ministry of Economy and Trade and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Tripoli.



#### Labour minister attends global employment forum in Riyadh

Minister of Labour and Rehabilitation, Ali Al-Abed, is attending the second Global Labour Market Conference (GLMC 2025) in Riyadh, where labour ministers from 45 countries are discussing the future of work.

Key topics at the forum include creating sustainable work environments, developing workforce skills, empowering women economically, and digital transformation in labour markets.

In his opening remarks, Al-Abed highlighted Libya's efforts to regulate its labour market through initiatives like the Wafid platform and a labour housing project. He emphasized the importance of international collaboration in shaping labour policies and ensuring decent work opportunities.



# US Solar Turbines presents training program for NOC employees to enhance operational capabilities

The American company Solar Turbines has presented its training program for employees of the National Oil Corporation (NOC) and its affiliated companies during a meeting with the Director-General of the NOC's Training Department and officials from the maintenance departments of the oil companies.

The attendees provided a range of technical observations regarding the implementation mechanisms and the program's timeline, according to a statement from the NOC Facebook page on Wednesday.

This comes within the framework of the NOC plan to build and develop capabilities by engaging with manufacturing companies and working on creating a second tier of young professional cadres to take over the management of oil operations in all its forms, the statement read.





Iealth

## NCDC reports 70% of cold cases in Al-Bayda linked to RSV

The National Center for Disease Control (NCDC) has revealed that 70% of cold-related cases in the city of Al-Bayda were caused by the respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), while 30% were attributed to Influenza B.

In a statement, the NCDC clarified that 95% of RSV cases were among children,

whereas 50% of Influenza B cases were found in adults, with the remaining cases affecting children.

The center also noted, based on observations from its monitoring and investigation team, that none of the affected individuals had received the seasonal flu vaccine.



<u>H</u>ealth

## WHO concludes workshop for health workers in Souq al-Juma

World Health Organization (WHO) concluded Thursday, a workshop for community health workers from several areas. The workshop was convened in the municipality of Soug al-Juma.

This comes within the framework of efforts made by the organization in cooperation with the health authorities in Libya; to activating the role of the health visitor in disseminate concepts of promoting and preserving health in society.

The health systems officer at WHO's office in Libya, Mohamed Hashem, said that this training took 4 days and focused on enhancing personal communication skills to provide health advice in the community, how to identify major health problems in families, especially women and children, and how to deal with simple medical conditions.



Sports

## Libya Cup returns after two-season hiatus

The Libyan Football Federation's (LFF) Competition Committee has announced the return of the Libya Cup, marking the 24th edition of the tournament after a two-season break.

In a circular addressed to registered clubs, the committee confirmed that participation is mandatory for all 35 Premier League teams.

Meanwhile, clubs in the first, second, and third divisions have been given a three-day window to voluntarily confirm their involvement.

The Libya Cup, which first debuted in the 1975/76 season with Al-Ahly Tripoli as champions, was last held in the 2021/22 season. In that edition, Al-Ahly Tripoli secured the title with a decisive 3-0 victory over Al-Akhdar in the final, held at Rades Stadium in Tunisia's capital.

Details regarding the format of the revived tournament have yet to be disclosed.



Prime Minister Abdulhamid Dbeibah joined a grand graduation ceremony at the University of Tripoli on Saturday, honoring the achievements of approximately 2,500 graduates from various faculties.

The event also saw the attendance of several senior officials, including Minister of Higher Education Omran Al-Qeeb, Minister of State for Communication and Political Affairs Walid Al-Lafi, Minister of Cabinet Affairs Adel Jumaa, University President Khaled Aoun, faculty deans, and members of the teaching staff.

In his address, Prime Minister Dbeibah congratulated the graduates and their families, praising the university's administration, student union, and teaching staff for fostering academic success. Dbeibah encouraged the graduates to actively contribute to Libya's development and stability, urging them to embrace roles in rebuilding the nation through innovation and hard work. He emphasized that Libya's future depends on the educated youth to lead progress across all sectors.

The ceremony marked the graduation of 160 master's degree holders and 100 doctoral students among the class of 2023.



## Ministry of Education launches school vaccination campaign

The Ministry of Education of the Government of National Unity has launched a school vaccination campaign for the current academic year in cooperation with the National Center for Disease Control. The Ministry explained in a statement that the campaign aims to protect students from infectious diseases that can be prevented through vaccinations.

The campaign includes vaccinating first-grade, seventh-grade, and ninth-grade students with the regular vaccines, in addition to the girls' human papillomavirus "HPV" vaccine and the triple bacterial vaccine "Tdap", in addition to the seasonal influenza vaccines for all students from kindergarten to ninth grade.



#### Libyan Premier League: Al-Ahli Tripoli and Al-Akhdar maintain dominance as round 7 concludes

The seventh round of the Libyan Premier League wrapped up on Friday, showcasing thrilling action and decisive victories across all groups. As the first leg of the season nears its conclusion, the competition's frontrunners have begun to pull ahead.

In Group A, Al-Akhdar continued their dominant run with a resounding 4-1 victory over Khalij Sert, solidifying their place at the top of the table with a perfect 18 points. Wifaq Ajdabiya also secured a 2-1 win against Al-Ansar, while Al-Anwar and Al-Buroq played out a 1-1 draw. Meanwhile, the clash between Al-Nasr and Al-Tahaddi ended in a goalless stalemate, leaving Al-Nasr five points behind the group leaders.

Over in Group B, Al-Ahli Benghazi delivered an emphatic 4-0 victory against Al-Baranis to extend their lead at the top with 16 points. Al-Hilal, currently in second place with 12 points, edged past Al-Murooj with a narrow 1-0 win. Elsewhere, Al-Tawoun claimed a 1-0 victory over Al-Andalus, while Al-Sadaqa triumphed 2-1 against Al-Mahdiyah.

The competition in Group C saw Al-Olympi maintain their lead with a hard-fought 2-1 win against Al-Majd, taking their tally to 17 points with one game left in the first leg. Close on their heels, Al-Swehli also claimed a 2-1 victory over Shabab Al-Ghar, bringing their total to 16 points with two matches remaining. Al-Ittihad returned to winning ways with a dominant 4-0 result against Al-Nahda, and Abu Salim narrowly defeated Al-Bashaer 1-0 in a closely contested match. In Group D, Al-Ahli Tripoli maintained their perfect record with an impressive 3-0 victory over Al-Watan, topping the group with 18 points. Al-Madina continued their strong form by beating Al-Khoms 2-0, while Al-Ittihad Misrati secured an identical scoreline against Abi Al-Ashhar. In another tightly fought contest, Asaria edged past Al-Malaab Al-Liby 2-1.

As the league heads into the final two rounds of the first leg, clear leaders are emerging in each group. Al-Akhdar, Al-Ahli Benghazi, Al-Olympi, and Al-Ahli Tripoli have established themselves as dominant forces, setting the stage for an intense battle in the coming matches.



The UN Security Council has approved the appointment of Ghanaian diplomat, Hannah Serwaa Tetteh as the UN Special Envoy to Libya. A long time passed behind the scenes of the Security Council before the dispute over who would succeed the former envoy, Abdoulaye Bathily, was resolved between Russia on the one hand and America and Britain on the other. After the name of the Ghanaian candidate was put forward to the Council by the UN Secretary-General, the members voted in approval, but the Russian delegate asked for some time to study before announcing his country's approval of Ms. Tetteh.

The UN envoy appointed by the Security Council has broad powers, compared to the limited and narrow powers of the acting envoy, as is the case with Ms. Stephanie Koury, who took over the task after Bathily, and did not succeed in mobilizing international support for any political initiative that could yield some results, and break the political stalemate and the blocked horizon towards holding elections, which prompted her to announce the formation of an advisory committee to review the election laws, and put forward proposals regarding the formation of a new executive authority. However, it does not appear that this committee has any powers other than submitting proposals, with no guarantees that they will be accepted by the de facto authorities.

Ms. Hanna, the new UN envoy, has extensive experience in political and diplomatic work. According to her resume, she has held several tasks and responsibilities both in her country and at the United Nations. However, the task entrusted to her does not only require experience, competence, and diplomatic skill. The envoys who preceded her did not lack experience, because the Libyan crisis is becoming more complex with the passing of days, and foreign interventions with conflicting interests are increasing, in addition to the absence of national will among the internal parties, who are always ready to undermine any initiative that will inevitably lead to them losing their authority and in-

The problem has never been in the personality and nationality of the UN envoy, but rather in the international and regional conflict. Perhaps the declared differences in the Security Council between the major powers, which sometimes reach the point of verbal abuse and exchange of accusations, are the main dilemma in the Libyan crisis, and there are no indications of the possibility of reaching a minimum level of consensus that translates into clear and binding decisions that put the country on the path to a solution. Russia continues its penetration into Libya to be its main base in Africa, and a supply center for fighters, weapons and ammunition for the rest of the countries in which Russia has influence, as well as security and military agreements. This prompts America and Britain to move to confront the Russian expansion, and prevent the establishment of long-term military bases in Libya.

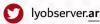
In addition to the Russian-Western conflict, there are other less intense conflicts because they are rather competitions than conflicts such as those between France and Italy, and between Egypt and Turkey, but they affect the Libyan situation, and any of these countries can thwart any change that does not serve its interests.

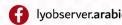
In this situation, the UN envoy finds herself/himself like someone walking on a tightrope suspended in space. S/he must walk carefully and maintain her/his balance so as not to fall into the void. Balance here means taking into account the interests of all countries involved in the conflict. Can the new envoy, or any envoy, satisfy all these countries, despite their different and sometimes contradictory interests? Therefore, it is no exaggeration to say that the mission of the UN envoy in facilitating consensus among the various conflicting parties is almost impossible, because the international and regional climate is turbulent and does not lead to calming the conflict zones or resolving the escalating crises on all continents.





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