

Country/entity	Libya
Region	Middle East and North Africa
Agreement name	STATEMENT BY THE 5+5 JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION (JMC) MEETING WITH MILITARY AND SECURITY LEADERS IN BENGHAZI
Date	7 Apr 2023
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict

Libyan Conflicts (1969 - 1994) (2011 -)

Agreements relate to two distinct conflict dyads.

Libya-Chad. Since the 1970s, Libya under Colonel Muammar Gaddafi had a tense relationship with its neighbour Chad, predominantly focused on the resource-rich Aouzou Strip in northern Chad. Libyan claims of the Aouzou Strip were held in an unratified treaty between France and Italy in 1935, similarly Chadian claims of the Strip were argued with support of a 1955 treaty between Libya and France. In 1973, Libya effectively annexed the Strip to gain access to natural resources. This spurred cross-border clashes between 1979 until 1987 until escalated to a brief war known as the Toyota War, wherein Chadian government troops succeeded in repelling Libyan forces. A brief and repeatedly violated ceasefire was held from 1987-88, followed by a series of unsuccessful negotiations, until an International Court of Justice ruling in 1994, which granted sovereignty of the Strip to Chad.

Libya post-Gaddafi. Gaddafi's downfall following the Libyan Civil War in 2011-2012, led to several factions fighting for the country's leadership. Since 2013, the country effectively split into three entities, with the National Army controlling the east including the city of Benghazi, and the New General National Congress and their militias such as the Golden Dawn controlling the northwest including the capital of Tripoli. Significant portions of the country in the south-west are currently held by Tuareg forces. The civil war and chaos continued into 2014 as the General National Congress refused to disband after the expiry of its mandate, resulting in eruption of mass protests. The UN efforts continue to broker peace between the Libyan Army and the Libya Dawn factions, and a partial ceasefire was declared in January 2015. A new interim-government (Tunisia-based) called 'Government of National Accord' is formed with the backing of UN despite the refusal of the other forces to recognise its authority and arrived to Tripoli with the UN in 2016. A state of emergency was declared by the UN backed government amid clashed between rival militia in Tripoli's southern suburbs. Since April 2019 there has been sustained fighting between the Libyan National Army and the UN-backed government in Tripoli as the Libyan National Army aims to seize Tripoli.

Close

Libyan Conflicts (1969 - 1994) (2011 -

)

Stage	Implementation/renegotiation
Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	Libyan peace process
Parties	Not signed, agreement mentions the following parties as having produced it: 5+5 Joint Military Committee (JMC) military and security leaders from the western, eastern, and southern regions Special Representative of the Secretary General in Libya
Third parties	-
Description	The 5+5 Joint Military Commission (JMC) convened a meeting in Benghazi on April 7, 2023, with military and security leaders from various Libyan regions, aiming to enhance confidence and support the political process. The meeting resulted in an agreement that emphasized commitment to previous dialogue conclusions, readiness to secure electoral stages, support for the withdrawal of mercenaries and foreign fighters, and the initiation of measures to address internally displaced persons and missing persons. Additionally, the agreement included exchanging information on detainees and taking practical steps for detainee exchanges, with the next meeting scheduled in Sabha after the holy month of Ramadan. This agreement primarily contributes to the Libyan Peace Process, while also positively impacting the Libyan Transitional Process.

Agreement document [LY_230407_Statement by the 5+5 Joint Military Commission \(JMC\) Meeting with Military and Security Leaders in Benghazi \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Groups

Children/youth	No specific mention.
Disabled persons	No specific mention.
Elderly/age	No specific mention.
Migrant workers	No specific mention.
Racial/ethnic/ national group	No specific mention.
Religious groups	No specific mention.
Indigenous people	No specific mention.
Other groups	No specific mention.

Refugees/displaced persons Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Rhetorical
The meeting agreed on the following:

...

4. Initiated practical measures to start addressing the problems of internally displaced persons and missing persons and ensure their safe return through coordination among the concerned security agencies in the various regions of Libya.

Social class No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender No specific mention.

Men and boys No specific mention.

LGBTI No specific mention.

Family No specific mention.

State definition

Nature of state (general) No specific mention.

State configuration No specific mention.

Self determination No specific mention.

Referendum No specific mention.

State symbols No specific mention.

Independence/secession No specific mention.

Accession/unification No specific mention.

Border delimitation No specific mention.

Cross-border provision No specific mention.

Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed) No specific mention.

Elections The purpose of the meeting was to enhance confidence among the military and security leaders in support of the political process and to move forward with creating a conducive environment for holding free and fair elections during this year (2023) and the acceptance of the results by all parties.

The meeting agreed on the following:

...

2. Re-affirmed the readiness of the attendees to provide all forms of support to secure all stages of the elections.

Electoral commission No specific mention.

Political parties reform No specific mention.

Civil society No specific mention.

Traditional/religious leaders No specific mention.

Public administration No specific mention.

Constitution No specific mention.

Power sharing

Political power sharing No specific mention.

Territorial power sharing No specific mention.

Economic power sharing No specific mention.

Military power sharing No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general No specific mention.

Bill of rights/similar No specific mention.

Treaty incorporation No specific mention.

Civil and political rights No specific mention.

Socio-economic rights No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship No specific mention.

Democracy No specific mention.

Detention procedures No specific mention.

Media and communication No specific mention.

Mobility/access No specific mention.

Protection measures No specific mention.

Other No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI No specific mention.

Regional or international human rights institutions No specific mention.

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law No specific mention.

State of emergency provisions No specific mention.

Judiciary and courts No specific mention.

Prisons and detention No specific mention.

Traditional Laws No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction No specific mention.

National economic plan No specific mention.

Natural resources No specific mention.

International funds No specific mention.

Business No specific mention.

Taxation No specific mention.

Banks No specific mention.

Land, property and environment

Land reform/rights No specific mention.

Pastoralist/nomadism rights No specific mention.

Cultural heritage No specific mention.

Environment No specific mention.

Water or riparian rights or access No specific mention.

Security sector

Security Guarantees No specific mention.

Ceasefire No specific mention.

Police No specific mention.

Armed forces No specific mention.

DDR No specific mention.

Intelligence services No specific mention.

Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces **The meeting agreed on the following:**
...
3. Supported the efforts of the 5+5 JMC and its Libyan Liaison Committees on the withdrawal of mercenaries and foreign fighters.

Withdrawal of foreign forces **The meeting agreed on the following:**
...
3. Supported the efforts of the 5+5 JMC and its Libyan Liaison Committees on the withdrawal of mercenaries and foreign fighters.

Corruption No specific mention.

Crime/organised crime No specific mention.

Drugs No specific mention.

Terrorism No specific mention.

Transitional justice

Transitional justice general No specific mention.

Amnesty/pardon No specific mention.

Courts No specific mention.

Mechanism No specific mention.

Prisoner release **The meeting agreed on the following:**
...
5. Exchanged information on the detainees held by both sides and considered practical steps to exchange detainees as soon as possible.
6. Expressed appreciation for the initiative of the General Command to release six detainees from the western region who are held in custody for security issues.

Vetting No specific mention.

Victims No specific mention.

Missing persons **The meeting agreed on the following:**
...
4. Initiated practical measures to start addressing the problems of internally displaced persons and missing persons and ensure their safe return through coordination among the concerned security agencies in the various regions of Libya.

Reparations No specific mention.

Reconciliation No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory In presence of the Special Representative of the Secretary General in Libya, the 5+5 Joint Military Commission (JMC) organized a meeting in Benghazi bringing together several military and security leaders from the western, eastern, and southern regions.

Other international signatory No specific mention.

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar

No specific mention.

Enforcement mechanism

No specific mention.
