

Schnellrecherche der SFH-Länderanalyse vom 9. November 2017 zu Libyen: Situation in Tripolis

Fragen an die SFH-Länderanalyse:

- Welche Informationen gibt es über die Situation in der libyschen Hauptstadt Tripolis seit Mitte Oktober 2017?
- Welche Informationen gibt es über die Sicherheitslage in Libyen seit Mitte Oktober 2017?

Die Informationen beruhen auf einer zeitlich begrenzten Recherche (Schnellrecherche) in öffentlich zugänglichen Dokumenten, die uns derzeit zur Verfügung stehen.

1 Situation in Tripolis

Mehrere Teile der Hauptstadt Tripolis waren Mitte Oktober von Kämpfen betroffen, Schliessung des Flughafens Mitte Oktober infolge von Kämpfen. *Jane's* und *Reuters* berichteten im Oktober 2017 von der Schliessung des Flughafens von Tripolis, Mitiga, am 17. Oktober 2017 infolge von Kämpfen im Distrikt Ghararat zwischen rivalisierenden bewaffneten Gruppen. Laut *Jane's* waren neben dem Distrikt Ghararat auch der Distrikt Souk al-Juma und das Zentrum von Tripolis von schweren Kämpfen zwischen rivalisierenden Milizen betroffen, die am 16. und 17. Oktober 2017 unabhängig voneinander ausbrachen.

Tripolis ist zwischen bewaffneten Gruppen aufgeteilt. Es gibt dort weiterhin bewaffnete Zusammenstösse, Entführungen und andere kriminelle Aktivitäten. Laut *Reuters* ist Tripolis zwischen verschiedenen bewaffneten Gruppen aufgeteilt, die sich seit der libyschen Revolution von 2011 lokale Machtzentren aufgebaut haben. In der Hauptstadt habe es weniger schwere Zusammenstösse gegeben, seit solche Gruppen, die mit einer ehemaligen, selbst erklärten Regierung in Zusammenhang standen, 2017 aus der Stadt vertrieben wurden. Jedoch gebe es weiterhin bewaffnete Zusammenstösse, Entführungen und andere kriminelle Aktivitäten.

Schwierige wirtschaftliche Lage in Tripolis und in Libyen allgemein. *Reuters* berichtete Anfang November 2017, die Bevölkerung von Tripolis sei gemäss Experten infolge des Zustroms von Flüchtlingen auf inzwischen drei Millionen Menschen angewachsen. Die Versorgungslage einschliesslich der Gesundheitsversorgung und der Wasserversorgung habe sich weiter verschlechtert. Die Inflation sei drastisch angestiegen, und die instabile Sicherheitslage habe zu einem Rückgang der Öleinnahmen geführt. Ein Grossteil des staatlichen Budgets würde für die Bezahlung von Beamten verwendet, einschliesslich ehemaliger Rebellen, «die ihre Aufnahme auf die Gehaltslisten erzwungen haben».



Jane's, 19. Oktober 2017:

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«In Tripoli, rival militias engaged in unconnected outbreaks of heavy fighting on 16 and 17 October in the city centre, and in the eastern Ghararat and Souk al-Juma districts. The fighting began when a neighbourhood militia from Ghararat attacked Mitiga airport in an apparent attempt to free one of their number from a detention facility at the site. They were beaten off by the RADA Special Deterrence Force which controls the airport, although fire was exchanged within the airport's perimeter. This included at least one rocket-propelled grenade, which killed a senior RADA commander.» Quelle: Jane's, Localised fighting between rival militias in Libya's capital indicates vulnerability of airport and seaport to collateral damage, 19. Oktober 2017: www.janes.com/article/75056/localised-fighting-between-rival-militias-in-libya-s-capital-indicates-vulnerability-of-airport-and-seaport-to-collateral-damage.

Reuters, 17. Oktober 2017:

«The Libyan capital's Mitiga airport was evacuated on Tuesday and civilian flights were repeatedly suspended as rival armed groups clashed nearby, officials said. Flights had restarted around midday on Tuesday after being suspended for several hours during the morning and the previous evening, Mitiga spokesman Khaled Abukhrais said. But by late afternoon heavy gunfire resumed and the airport was shut. "Unfortunately the air space has closed again and the airport has been evacuated for the safety and security of passengers and workers, due to renewed clashes," an airport statement said. Mitiga is a military air base near the center of Tripoli that has also hosted civilian flights since the international airport was largely destroyed by fighting in 2014.

The clashes began when the Special Deterrence Force (Rada), a group that controls Mitiga and operates as an anti-crime unit aligned with the U.N.-backed government, conducted raids in the nearby neighborhood of Ghararat. Rada spokesman Ahmed Bin Salem said the group targeted in the raids had tried to attack the airport area after a wanted drug dealer had been killed when he fired on a Rada patrol. "The area of Ghararat is now under the control of our forces and it's being treated as military zone so we can clear any resistance," Bin Salem said. One member of Rada had been killed and two wounded, and there were several casualties among their opponents, he said.

Tripoli is split among various armed groups that have built local power bases since Libya's 2011 revolution. There have been fewer heavy confrontations in the capital since groups linked to a previous, self-declared government were pushed out of the city earlier this year, but armed skirmishes, kidnapping and other criminal activity are still common.» Quelle: Fighting in Libyan capital closes airport, 17. Oktober 2017:

www.reuters.com/article/us-libya-security/fighting-in-libyan-capital-closes-airport-idUSKBN1CM1Q5.

Reuters, 4. November 2017:

«Die Bürger der libyschen Hauptstadt Tripolis sind nach sechs Jahren Bürgerkrieg einiges gewohnt, doch die jüngste Krise stellt sie auf eine harte Probe. Viele Haushalte der Millionenstadt sind ohne fließendes Wasser, seit die Stadtverwaltung

kürzlich die Versorgung unterbrach, um das seit Jahren vernachlässigte Leitungssystem zu flicken. Ein Sabotageakt von Rebellen verschärfte das Problem noch, so dass viele Bürger zur Selbsthilfe griffen: Auf der verzweifelten Suche nach Grundwasser bohren sie überall in der Stadt die Gehsteige auf. (...)

Die Bevölkerung von Tripolis ist durch den Zustrom von Flüchtlingen in den vergangenen Jahren stark angewachsen. Experten gehen davon aus, dass inzwischen rund drei Millionen Menschen hier leben. Die Versorgung wird immer schlechter: Das Gesundheitssystem liegt am Boden, die Inflation ist drastisch gestiegen, und der Beginn des neuen Schuljahrs verzögert sich wegen eines Lehrerstreiks seit Wochen. Die Öleinnahmen sind wegen der schlechten Sicherheitslage stark gesunken. Der Staat gibt einen Grossteil seines Geldes für die Bezahlung seiner Beamten aus - darunter viele frühere Rebellen, die ihre Aufnahme auf die Gehaltslisten erzwungen haben.» Quelle: Reuters, Wasserkrise in Tripolis - Verzweifelte Bürger bohren Brunnen, 4. November 2017:
<https://de.reuters.com/article/libyen-wasser-idDEKBN1D01LF>.

2 Im Oktober 2017 dokumentierte zivile Opfer in Libyen

Von den UN im Oktober 2017 dokumentierte zivile Opfer infolge der Kämpfe in Libyen. Die UN-Unterstützungsmission in Libyen (UNSMIL) hat 38 zivile Opfer – 23 Tote und 15 Verletzte – dokumentiert, die infolge der Kämpfe in Libyen im Oktober 2017 getötet und verletzt worden sind. Die Mehrheit der Betroffenen sind Opfer von Luftanschlägen, die übrigen sind durch explosive Kampfmittelrückstände verletzt oder getötet worden. Betroffen waren die Orte Benghazi, Derna, Kufra, Misrata, Sidi al-Saeh und Tripolis.

UNSMIL, 1. November 2017:

«From 1 October to 31 October 2017, the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) documented 38 civilian casualties - 23 deaths and 15 injuries – during the conduct of hostilities across Libya. Victims included 11 men killed and seven injured, three women killed and three injured, and nine children killed (six boys and three girls) and five injured (three girls and two boys). The majority of civilian casualties were caused by airstrikes (12 deaths and seven injuries), and the rest by explosive remnants of war (ERW, six deaths and seven injuries) and gunfire (five deaths and one injury). UNSMIL documented civilian casualties in Benghazi (seven deaths, seven injuries), Derna (seven deaths, seven injuries), Kufra (one injury), Misrata (two deaths), Sidi al-Saeh (Tarhouna, one injury) and Tripoli (one death), as detailed below.

Civilian Casualty Incidents

On 4 October, an attack on the Misrata Court Complex claimed by the so-called Islamic State (IS), involving the use of explosives and direct gunfire, killed two civilian men and two security personnel, in addition to the three perpetrators. The two civilian men were shot dead. Another 41 men were injured in the attack, but UNSMIL has not been able to ascertain their civilian status.

On 6 October, in Kufra, the body of a Tebu man was found bearing gunshot wounds. The man, who suffers from a mental illness and went missing the day before his body was found, is reported to have inadvertently crossed the “division line” separating the Tebu areas from the Zway areas established following armed clashes between the two communities in recent years.

Between 16 and 22 October, in Tripoli, during the armed clashes in al-Ghrrarat area, an 81-year-old Sufi imam was killed by gunfire. The clashes were between the Special Deterrence Force (SDF) armed group and members of the al-Mungar family, who were allegedly involved in drug smuggling. The victim was unrelated to the al-Mungar family. Other casualties were reported during the clashes in al-Ghrrarat, but UNSMIL was unable to ascertain their civilian status.

On 21 October, in Sidi al-Saeh, a Tawerghan woman IDP sustained multiple gunshot wounds to her legs and shoulder during an attack on the IDP camp by the al-Kani armed group.

On 30 October, in Derna, three women and 9 children (six boys and three girls) were killed, and another two women, one man, and four children (three girls and one boy) were injured when unidentified aircraft struck a farmhouse in the al-Fataeh area, east of Derna, during a family gathering, reportedly celebrating the arrival of a newborn boy. The newborn, his mother and five siblings were among those killed. UNSMIL was unable to ascertain the civilian status of three other casualties in airstrikes carried out on the same night targeting another location south of Derna. According to reports, ambulances carrying injured civilians were denied passage at the Martouba and Kirsra checkpoints, where armed men allied to the LNA were stationed.

In terms of ERW, they killed five men and injured six men and one boy in Benghazi, demonstrating the threats posed by landmines and ERW on civilians accessing conflict-affected areas. On 4 October, a 10 year-old-boy was injured by an ERW inside his house in the area of Bousnib in Benghazi. On 16 October 2017, two men, including a Palestinian national, were killed and three others injured in an ERW explosion in Qasr Hamad street. In two separate incidents in the neighbourhood of al-Sabri, on 22 and 24 October, two men, including an Egyptian worker, were killed and three others injured, reportedly while cleaning residences for the first time after the end of hostilities in the area.

Civilian Facilities

The attack on the Misrata Court Complex on 4 October caused damage to the first and second floors of the building.

During fighting in al-Ghrrarat, a 700-year-old Sufi shrine was, reportedly, deliberately destroyed by members of the SDF. On 20 October, the SDF denied its involvement in the destruction of the shrine on its official Facebook page.

On 24 October, unknown assailants fired at the gates of the Obari hospital, without causing damage. (...)

Other Casualties

During October, Benghazi witnessed a number of casualties from gunfire in unclear circumstances. For instance, on 4 October, a woman and a 17-year-old boy were injured as a result of stray bullets, respectively, in al-Salmani and Ard Zawawa neighbourhoods, while on 11 October, a man was injured by a stray bullet in al-Majori. In all incidents, there was no active fighting in the vicinity.

On 5 October, clashes between members of al-Warfalla and al-Barassi tribes in al-Majori neighborhood in Benghazi – reportedly due to a family dispute – resulted in the death of one man. On 16 October, two men were killed, including an Egyptian national, and seven others injured when unidentified armed men raided a restaurant in the al-Gewarsha neighborhood. It was reported that, the incident was related to a dispute over a land.

On 11 October, a Qadhafi-era military officer was gunned down inside his car in Wershefana by unknown perpetrators. In a separate incident in Wershefana, unknown gunmen killed a man near his store on 16 October, reportedly in a carjacking attempt.

Three men, believed to have been captured alive by the SDF in al-Ghrarat on 19 October, were later found dead with gunshot wounds.

Between 15 and 24 October, the bodies of two residents from Ajdabiya and members of the Magharba tribe were found in a Benghazi street. Both were seized from Ajdabiya in July by an armed men allied to the LNA. One of the victims was found with his limbs bound and gunshot wounds to his head. The other, who appeared in a video, seen by UNSMIL, following his capture “confessing” to carrying-out terrorist attacks, was found with gunshot wounds to the head and visible signs of torture.

On 26 October, the bodies of 36 men were found in the area of al-Abyar, east of Benghazi. Several bore visible marks of torture and gunshot wounds, and had their hands tied. The General Prosecution based in Tripoli announced investigations, while the LNA’s leadership ordered the General Military Prosecutor in the east to carry out investigations into the incident.» Quelle: United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL), Human Rights Report on Civilian Casualties – October 2017, 1. November 2017:

<https://unsmil.unmissions.org/human-rights-report-civilian-casualties-october-2017>.