



Libya - Researched and compiled by the Refugee Documentation Centre of Ireland on Thursday 26 April 2018

Information on current indiscriminate conflict

In February 2018 *Amnesty International* issued a report reviewing events of the preceding year including noting that:

“Armed clashes between rival forces continued to take place sporadically throughout the country, with armed groups and militias carrying out indiscriminate attacks in heavily populated areas leading to the deaths of civilians” (*Amnesty International* (22 February 2018) *Amnesty International Report 2017/18 – Libya*).

A report released in April 2018 by the *United States Department of State* reviewing events of 2017 states that:

“Civil society and media reports claimed both pro-GNA, anti-GNA, and nonaligned militia groups committed human rights abuses, including indiscriminate attacks on civilians, kidnapping, torture, burning houses, and forced expulsions based on political belief or tribal affiliation” (*United States Department of State* (20 April 2018) *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2017: Libya*, p.3).

The *United Nations Human Rights Council* in February 2018 notes that:

“Information obtained by UNSMIL/OHCHR shows that, throughout 2017, armed groups and other actors continued to carry out indiscriminate attacks, often in civilian and residential areas, heedless of their impact on civilians or civilian objects. Such attacks included the use of mortars, artillery, Grad rockets, mines, booby traps and improvised explosive devices. Such attacks, resulting in civilian casualties, were conducted across Libya, including in Al-Zawiya, Benghazi, Derna, Tripoli and Sabratha” (*United Nations Human Rights Council* (21 February 2018) *Situation of human rights in Libya, and the effectiveness of technical assistance and capacity-building measures received by the Government of Libya*, p.4).

In March 2018 the *UNHCR* states in a report that:

“Internally displaced persons in Libya have many times suffered from human rights violations leading to their displacement as well as violations after displacement. Affected populations across Libya continue to face critical protection challenges, including risk of death and injury due to indiscriminate use of weapons, restricted access to safety and freedom of movement, high contamination by explosive hazards affecting human security and conflict-related psychological trauma” (*UNHCR* (15 March 2018) *Libya: Protection - Situation Overview, January-February 2018*, p.2).

In April 2018 the *United Nations Support Mission in Libya* points out that:

“Between 6 and 24 March, intermittent clashes in Sabha between Awlad Suleiman and Tebu tribal armed groups and their allies claimed at least four civilian lives and eight civilian injuries. Casualties occurred as a result of the use of indiscriminate fire in densely populated areas, as well as reports of sniper shootings at civilians or

civilian vehicles” (United Nations Support Mission in Libya (1 April 2018) *Libya Human Rights Report on Civilian Casualties - March 2018*).

References

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This response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Refugee Documentation Centre within time constraints. This response is not and does not purport to be conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to refugee status or asylum. Please read in full all documents referred to.

Sources Consulted

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European Country of Origin Information Network

Freedom House

Google

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Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada
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