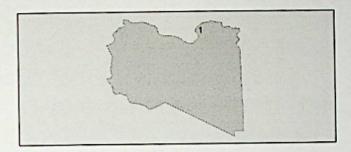


Media Analysis - Libya

18 November 2014

Summary: Italian Foreign Minister reaffirms support for United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) head Bernardino Leon; Council of Representatives reaffirms support for Khalifa Hiftar's coalition; Petroleum Facilities Guards end operations halting demonstration at Hariga oil terminal; Sudanese Foreign Minister invites officials from states neighboring Libya to meeting in Khartoum



Italian Foreign Minister Reaffirms Support for United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) Head Bernadino Leon

Italian Foreign Minister Paolo Gentiloni reaffirmed his support for United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) head Bernadino Leon in remarks made after a 17 November European Union (EU) Foreign Ministers meeting. According to an AGI report cited by al-Wasat, Gentiloni also stated that it is necessary for EU countries to support Leon's effort to forge a ceasefire and facilitate a national dialogue between Libya's various factions. Gentiloni's vocal support for Leon comes shortly after the Misratan-led militia coalition called for the appointment of a new UNSMIL head, claiming that Leon is biased in favor of its opponents and therefore not fit for the position.

Based on media reports in: al-Wasat

Council of Representatives Reaffirms Support For Khalifa Hiftar's Coalition

The Council of Representatives (CoR) issued a statement reaffirming its support for Khalifa Hiftar's coalition. According to the CoR, Hiftar's coalition and its ongoing offensive against the "Revolutionaries Consultation Council of Benghazi(1)" are legitimate and fall under the authority of Libyan Army Chief of Staff Abdel Razzak al-Nadhuri. The CoR also called on members of the international community to make their positions towards Hiftar's coalition's "war against terrorism" clear. The CoR likely issued the strong statement in an attempt to allay fears in the international community that Hiftar's coalition is not affiliated with it and instead acting as a vigilante force.

Based on media reports in: al-Wasat, Libya al-Mustakbal, Libya Herald, Quryna al-Jadeeda

Petroleum Facilities Guards End Operations Halting Demonstration at Hariga Oil Terminal

The Petroleum Facilities Guards (PFGs) at the Hariga oil terminal ended their operations halting demonstration, according to an Arabian Gulf Oil Company official. The PFGs began disrupting exports from the facility a little over a week ago in protest against overdue salary payments. Reports indicate an oil tanker loaded a shipment of 400,000 barrels of oil from the terminal shortly after the PFGs ended their demonstration. The development is positive for the Libyan energy sector, which is currently suffering from shutdowns at the ENI-operated Elephant oil field and Repsol-operated al-Sharara oil field.

Based on media reports in: al-Wasat, Libya Herald