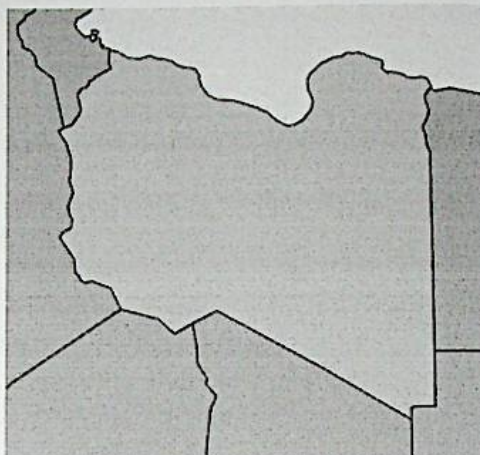

Libya**Nov 9-15****Summary**

Dispute continues over the lack of security in the country. The political and diplomatic situation is stalling and the preliminary agreement between Tobruk and Tripoli that seemed close in October now seems further than ever.



Diplomacy

Delegations from the Tobruk Parliament and the Tripoli Congress will meet in Tunis over the next few days. According to a political source, an official announcement will be made only if the summit is successful. The meeting will be held without a pre-established agenda, each delegation will be made up of three members and the presidents of the two chambers will participate only in the case of an agreement. This week, Tripoli Interior Ministry forces arrested a United Arab Emirates citizen on charges of espionage. Libyan press agency "Press Solidarity" reports that Yusuf Saqr al Wilaiati, a police officer from Dubai, is accused of "carrying out activities of espionage for a foreign state". Al Wilaiati had been filming foreign embassies for over half an hour and is accused of revealing sensitive information for national security. According to "Press Solidarity", this is proof that the UAE is linked to terrorist attacks in the country. Over recent days, the UAE has been at the centre of further dispute with Tripoli due to the nomination of former UN Envoy Bernardino Leon as Head of the Diplomatic Academy in Abu Dhabi. Tripoli authorities have accused Leon of being biased during his mediation. Serbian Ambassador to Libya Oliver Potezica has been wounded in the area of Sebrata, west of Tripoli, while attempting to leave the country with his family and embassy staff. According to the reconstruction by "Al Tadamoun", the militia's aim was to kidnap the ambassador but, after a shoot-out in which he was injured, he was able to reach the Tunisian border. The militants captured two Serbian diplomatic officials. A few days later, a group of Libyan students in Serbia was arrested by Belgrade authorities, said Hussein al Daud, Sebrata's Mayor. Speaking to "Libya al Hurra", al Daud said that "Serbian authorities have arrested several Libyan students in one of their airports while they were leaving the country to come home". He said he was astonished by "the reaction of the Serbian authorities, knowing that we are doing all we can to find their diplomats in our country". Al Daud added that "there is no link between us and the kidnapping; the blame lies with the Serbian ambassador who drove through Sebrata without advising us. Not even the security authorities had been warned. Our city would have protected them".

Politics

Dozens of Libyans together with a group of MPs that have boycotted the Tobruk parliament since the beginning, held a demonstration in Tripoli yesterday. According to "Al Tadamoun", the initiative was promoted in a show of support for Tripoli's Congress President Nuri Abu Sahimin. MP Hanan Shalum said that "the sit-in was organised in favour of Abu Sahimin who must not lose his role as head of the armed forces". The protesters said they were in favour of dialogue with Tobruk as long as it was held in Libya. Nuri

Abu Sahimin holds both the role of pro-Islamist parliament chief in Tripoli as well as the head of the armed forces in Tripolitania. Sebrata tribal chiefs have called on the Tripoli General National Congress to abandon talks with Tobruk. In a statement released to the Libyan media, local militia and tribal chiefs said "in light of the revelations concerning UN Envoy Bernardino Leon and his relations with the United Arab Emirates, the Congress must leave the talks". Well-known citizens of the city have also called on Tobruk MPs who signed the first draft of the agreement proposed by Leon to "apologise to the Libyan people for failing to defend the principles of the revolution".

Security

A NOC director who was kidnapped by the Islamic State last week in a village 50 kilometres from al Nawafiliya, an area controlled by jihads in eastern Libya, has been released. According to "Al Tadhmon", his release is part of a prison exchange between Misrata militia and the Islamic State. The NOC director was released together with four drivers kidnapped by the Islamic State and taken to Sirte in exchange for the liberation of several terrorists held in Misrata. The drivers were kidnapped a month ago while attempting to transport fuel to southern Libya. Two journalists have been captured over the past few days in Tripoli. According to "Al Wasat", Libyan sports journalist Motaz el Kharif was kidnapped yesterday by armed militants while he was travelling to work, while no news has been heard of Mohammed el Naely, a correspondent for a foreign agency, since Nov. 5. El Kharif's kidnapping was reported by his family to local press and it is not yet clear who is responsible. Likewise, nobody has claimed responsibility for el Naely's capture.

Based on news from the following Libyan newspaper and websites: Ean Libia, Al-Wasat, Libya Al-Mustakbal, Libya Herald, Libyan News Agency LANA, Al Hayat, Al Quds Al Arabi, Al Arabiya, Sky Arabia, Al Youm.