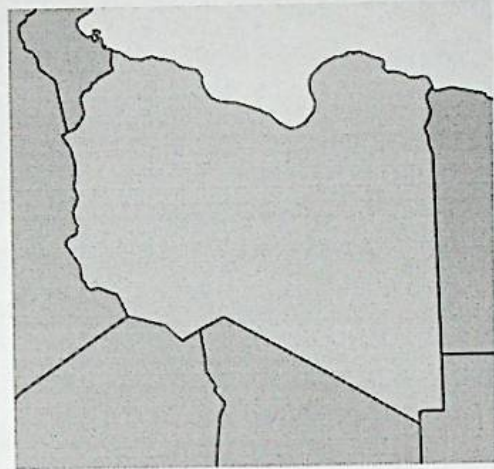


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**Libya****Nov 16-22****Summary**

This week, the first joint attack was carried out against the Islamic State by Tobruk and Derna militia. There is division within the "Libya Dawn" between Tripoli and Misrata militia.



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**Diplomacy**

UN Envoy to Libya Martin Kobler, who has recently taken over from Bernardino Leon, "will arrive in Tripoli in the next few days to begin his mission and will be faced with serious security issues". According to an editorial by Omar al Kadi published in "Al-Wasat", "apart from imposing a national reconciliation government, the German diplomat will also have to deal with the results of the work carried out by his predecessor that 'collapsed' Libya Dawn's alliance and forced lunatics like Abdel Rahman al Sahwili to put down their guns and attend the Morocco talks". According to al Kadi, "after the clashes between Tripoli and Misrata militia, Kobler will be forced to ask for the intervention of UN peace forces led by the Italian General Paolo Serra, his appointed military advisor, who led UNIFIL troops in Lebanon while Leon had thought to entrust Misrata and Zintan militia with the task of protecting the national unity government".

**Politics**

There have been clashes between Misrata militia and Tripoli fighters, directly linked to the Libya National Congress and the "Libya Dawn" operation. The fighting continued for several hours and involved heavy artillery. Tripoli militia deployed tanks arounds the Congress and in the streets of the Abu Salim district as well as the road leading to the airport and set up road blocks to prevent Misrata citizens from entering the city. The clashes began after the al Burkan (volcano) brigade raided the offices of the Tripoli militia used as a prison and freed those held inside. As justification for the raid, Misrata militia said they had released seven people kidnapped by Tripoli brigade leader Ghaniu al Kakli, and released a photograph of the Libyan militant portrayed as an outlaw. The spokesman of the Misrata military council Ibrahim Beit al Mal announced that his fighters had freed seven people, including several foreigners, who had been held for over three months by al Kakli's militia. Tripoli hospital sources say five were wounded. Chiefs of the Tripoli militia have announced the end of the "Libya Dawn" coalition which was established in opposition to General Khalifa Haftar's army. After recent fighting with Misrata militia, Tripoli released a statement saying: "We will not allow any party to impose laws on the other. The responsibility of Tripoli's security is ours and we will not accept our buildings to be besieged". In the statement, Tripoli militia reiterated their refusal to tolerate Misrata militia in the capital: "We do not want division or war, but we are men capable of making it". While divisions continue in Tripoli, new alliances are arising in Cyrenaica. Al Fataih militia have called on groups who fought against Muammar Gaddafi to reach a united agreement in view of the fight against the Islamic State. According to Libyan news agency "Al Tadhamaoun", al Fataih has urged all other militia to unite to "cut the Islamic State's supply lines and prevent them from receiving ammunition". The move was driven by the



deaths of two high-ranking representatives of revolutionary groups in fighting outside Derna over the weekend.

**Security**

A command made up of Tobruk and al Baydha militia, loyal to the Libyan transitional government, and Derna militia, linked to Tripoli authorities, has carried out an attack against the Islamic State in eastern Libya. This is the first time that militia loyal to both Libyan governments have organised a joint operation against the Islamic State. According to "Al Jazeera", the attack was launched in three directions with forces advancing in the area of the al Daqia factory, east of Derna. The offensive comes after the rebellion against the Islamic State by the citizens of Derna that has led the terrorists to kill two leaders of the Mujahideen Council. Col. Mohammed Abu Ghafur, chief of the Alo Hasan al Jabari brigade made up of armed civilians and soldiers from al Baydha and Tobruk, was killed by Islamic State fighters during the clashes. The brigade, in alliance with the Mujahideen Council, had surrounded a group of Islamic State fighters near Derna.

*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.*