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للدراستات الأمنية والعسكرية

LIBYAN CENTER FOR SECURITY AND MILITARY STUDIES



# Draft Document for Libyan National Security

National Security Studies Unit  
Libyan Center for Security and Military Studies

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مركز بحثي مستقل تأسس في أغسطس 2021 يعمل في إطار البحث العلمي والدراسات والأبحاث والتحليلات الأمنية والعسكرية ذات العلاقة بالدولة الليبية وفقاً للرؤية الشاملة لمفهوم الأمن، ونضع علي رأس أولوياتنا العمل علي دعم البحث وصناع القرار من خلال نقل صورة واضحة عن مجريات الأحداث الليبية ومايرتبط بها من تفاعلات دولية و أقليمية.

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جميع الحقوق محفوظة للمركز الليبي للدراسات الأمنية والعسكرية - 2023

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## Draft Document for Libyan National Security

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#### Introduction

In line with the role of the Libyan Center for Security and Military Studies in raising awareness about national security, which has increasing importance for countries amid a strategic environment characterized by volatility, suspicion, ambiguity, and complexity, the Center has prepared a draft for the Libyan National Security Document. This document is intended for the executive and legislative authorities in Libya and all stakeholders in Libyan affairs for discussion and debate. The Libyan Center for Security and Military Studies suggests that the National Security Council and the Libyan Parliament issue a national security document that acts as a compass for formulating strategies and security policies.

Libya, with its strategic geographic location in North Africa, its long Mediterranean coastline, and its rich natural resources, faces significant security and political challenges. This document aims to provide a comprehensive framework for Libyan national security, considering the local, regional, and international strategic environment, including the Russian-Western competition for influence in Libya, geopolitical challenges, and security vulnerabilities threatening the division of the state.

#### Section I: Local Strategic Environment

##### 1. Internal Security Challenges

- Spread of armed groups in western Libya.
- Structural deficiencies in the military institution in eastern Libya, including issues in military doctrine, command and control, organizational structure, and its relationship with the parliament and government.
- Lack of objective criteria for public and sovereign positions, especially in security and military fields.
- Absence of governmental control over large parts of the country.

##### 2. Economic Challenges

- Heavy reliance on the oil and gas sector, with fluctuations in prices and production posing significant threats to the national budget and foreign currency reserves.
- Urgent need to diversify the economy, utilizing other human and natural resources to enhance economic security, stability, and the strength of the Libyan dinar.

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### **3. Social Challenges**

- Urgent need to promote national reconciliation and implement transitional justice to maintain social cohesion and civil peace.
- Address social issues, particularly unemployment, poverty, and education.

## **Section II: Regional Strategic Environment**

### **Regional Challenges**

- Political tensions in the region and their impact on Libya.
- Security and political instability in the Middle East and the African Sahel, contributing to regional security vulnerabilities affecting Libya, including cross-border armed opposition groups, illegal migration, organized crime, and terrorism.

### **Illegal Migration**

- Influx of migrants from African and Asian countries through Libya's southern, eastern, and western borders, negatively impacting the country's demographics.
- Need for regional security cooperation with neighboring countries like Egypt, Tunisia, Algeria, Sudan, Chad, and Niger to combat terrorism, organized crime, and illegal migration.
- Developing regional economic partnerships for mutual growth.

## **Section III: International Strategic Environment**

### **1. Russian-Western Competition for Influence**

- Managing relations with major powers to benefit Libya through active public diplomacy and mutual interests.
- Developing balanced foreign policies that protect Libya's sovereignty and leverage international support.

### **2. Cooperation with International Organizations**

- Strengthening relations with the UN, African Union, and EU, and activating regional agreements like the Sahel-Saharan and Maghreb agreements, and the 5+5 Dialogue for regional cooperation and political dialogue.

## **Strategic Objectives**

### **1. Achieving Internal Political and Security Stability**

- Restoring government legitimacy and rebuilding state institutions.
- Integrating armed groups into the official security structures of the state, including the Ministry of Defense, General Staff, Ministry of Interior, Intelligence Service, and Presidential Guard.
- Comprehensive security sector reform, including training and professional development based on legal standards and best practices.

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## ***2. Geopolitical Challenges***

- Preventing the geographic and political division of Libya.
- Addressing emerging threats from regional and local ambitions affecting Libya's internal and foreign policy.

## ***3. Enhancing Security Resilience***

- Countering terrorism and armed groups with a strong, professional, and law-abiding security and intelligence infrastructure.
- Improving the efficiency and effectiveness of security and intelligence institutions.

## **Implementation Policies**

### ***1. Security Sector Reform***

- Implementing training and qualification programs for armed forces and police.
- Enhancing intelligence capabilities and updating security technology.

### ***2. Economic Stability***

- Diversifying the economy by developing agriculture, industry, and tourism.
- Attracting foreign investments and enhancing infrastructure.

### ***3. Promoting Good Governance***

- Combating corruption and promoting transparency in government institutions.
- Engaging civil society in decision-making and policy development.

### ***4. International and Regional Cooperation***

- Activating bilateral and multilateral agreements for information exchange and security and economic cooperation.
- Strengthening Libya's role in regional and international organizations for security and sustainable development.

## **Conclusion**

This document aims to establish a comprehensive framework for Libyan national security, addressing various challenges and enhancing the state's capacity for stability and development. The strategy is based on continuous assessment of local, regional, and international environments to ensure flexibility and adaptability. By promoting regional and international cooperation, addressing security vulnerabilities, and adopting inclusive development policies, Libya can restore its position as a stable, unified, and prosperous state.



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