مجلة جامعة الانبار للعلوم القانونية والسياسية

اسم المقال: التدخل التركي في الشأن الليبي وتداعياته السياسية والأمنية بعد 2015
اسم الكاتب: د. جبار اسماعيل عبد
رابط ثابت: https://political-encyclopedia.org/index.php/library/6211
تاريخ الاسترداد: 2026/11/03 12:17 +03

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Turkish Interference In Libyan Affair And It's political And Security Repercutions after 2015:

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Abstract:

The aim of this research is to assess the reasons for and advantages Turkey's involvement in Libya affair and its impacting on political and security aspects in Libya; however this study took a year 2015, as launching point due to this year Turkish government attempts to pass resolution by grand national assembly in order to deploy forces in Libya for one year and it will able to mandate Besides Turkey has also announced its supporting of the Libian National Accord Government representing by Faiez Mustafa Serraj.

The findings of this research shows that Turkish government was looking for achieving some

economic, and geo-political goals in Libya. For example, Turkey and the (LNAG) has signed a Maritime Boundary Treaty in order to establish a private economic zone in the Mediterranean Sea.

Keywords: Turkeys , Intervention, Libian National Accord Government(LNAG).

PS: Political Science

الملخص بالعربي:

الهدف من هذا البحث هو إجراء تقييم شامل للتدخل العسكري التركي في الشأن الليبي وأثره على الجوانب السياسية والأمنية في ليبيا ؛ أتخذت الدراسة من العام ٢٠١٥ ، كنقطة انطلاق وذلك بسبب ان الحكومة التركية في هذا العام قامت بتمرير قرار من قبل الجمعية الوطنية الكبرى من أجل نشر قوات في ليبيا لمدة عام واحد وسوف يكون قابل للتعديل، إلى جانب أعلنت تركيا أيضًا دعمها لـ حكومة الوفاق الوطني الليبي المعترف بها من قبل الأمم المتحدة ممثلة بفايز مصطفى السراج.

أظهرت نتائج البحث أن الحكومة التركية كانت تتطلع الى تحقيق بعض الأهداف الاقتصادية والجيوسياسية في ليبيا. على سبيل المثال ، وقعت تركيا وحكومة الوفاق الوطني الليبية معاهدة الحدود البحرية من أجل إنشاء منطقة اقتصادية خاصة بهما في البحر الأبيض المتوسط.

الكلمات المفتاحية:

تركيا ، التدخل ، حكومة الوفاق الوطني الليبي ، حركة الإخوان ، حكومة رجب طيب أردوغان.

INTRODUCTION

Subsequent to the toppling of Muammar Gaddafi's regime in 2011, it has observed that Turkey's increasing role in Libya, the evidence is that a direct military involvement by Turkish armed groups in Libya. In order to backing some of political factions at the expense of other factions. In other words, for the sake of supporting of the (LNAG) in Tripoli .

However, as the topic "Turkish meddling in Libyan political affair" has triggered a wide argument among researchers, and scholars and those who are interesting in the political affairs of both countries. Given the sensitivity of the topic, which is Turkiye violates sovereignty of Libya. Which meant that Turkish interference in Libya was an opposed with the UN resolutions affirmed that Noninterference in other countries' affairs.

As, the Turkish role was so prominent role in Libya among these are actors in order to take a print-foot and to re-

restore its past in Libya, that led to complex of the political and security scene in Libya, as well as Libya's became an arena for conflict, instead of finding solutions to the Libyan crisis.

1.1. RESEARCH PROBLEM :

With regard the research problem, as the Turkish interference in Libya has revealed some reactions at the internal, regional and international levels. With regarding to the internal level, the reality is that the majority of Libyan people who anti- military Turkey middling in Libyan affairs, and as they described it as "occupation" and illegal and unjustified interference in Libyan political affair by its supporting, to the armed Groups, and militias such the armament and training.

1.2 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

This study aims to fill the gap in the understanding about the negatives impacts of Turkish interfere on Libia. However there are regional and international concerns from Turkish interfere in Libian affiars, that this may empower Turkey's to play an influntial role in the region, and at the same time, as is to pose a threat to the National Security to the neighboring countries of the region and also the weastern countries presence in Libia as well, this will be answering via the following research questions:

The main research question is that, " *What are the most important motives that led to the Turkish military in interference the Libyan crisis line*"? This is sub-divided into two specific research questions: " *What are the Political Consequences of the Turkish intervention on Libya* "*?*. And *What are the Security Repercutions of the Turkish intervention on Libia?*.

1.3 RESAERCH SIGNIFIGANCE:

The rationale underpinning this research is to address the repercussions of Turkish interfere on Libya, The reasons for conducting this research. are to inform action, gather evidence, and contribute to developing knowledge in a field of study. Also, in order to give the reader more understand about the repercussions and the impacting of Turkish interfere at levels political and security in Libya. As the rational of research that is to fill the gaps in knowledge that we cannot find in other researches, in other words, in order to identify the gaps in the literature and emphasize why it's important to address those gaps.

1.4. THE AIMS OF STUDY:

This study seeks to achieve the following objectives:

- The main aim of this research is to asses the overall state of "Turkish meddling in Libyan affair" in terms of political, security, and economic consequnces, as well as to identify the nagtive aspects have had left by Turkish interference on Turkey.
- To identify the reasons " why Turkey's seeks to involve in Libian crisis.
- To understand the consequences of Turkish interference in Libian affairs
- In order to gather evidence, and contribute to developing knowledge in a field of study. Also, in order to give the reader more understand about the impacting of Turkish interfere at levels political and security in Libia.

1.5. HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY:

The study seeks to prove that the Turky's interference in Libyia had left serious consequences on political and security aspects in Libya , indeed any solution to settle the matter that Turky's intervention will need to curb the role of Turky's in the Libia affairs via the direct withdrawal from Libia .. This conclusion will be asserted by the findings of this research.

1.6. STRUCTURE OF THE RESEARCH:

This research will consist of four main sections. The first section highlights on a study a historical background in the context of research in order to give the reader better understand about the nature of relation between Turky's and Libiyia before interference . The second section highlights on advantages have attained by Turkiye The third section aims to present the key conclusions and some findings of the research concerning that the Turkia interference in Libia affairs.

I. Historical Background in the Research Context

First of all, the roots of relations between Tukey's and Libya dates back to the year 1552, Libya at the time was a fragment of the Ottoman Empire, so the Turkish-Libyan relations had been developed. till 1911[(1)].

However, the relations between Turkey-Libya have been frozen later to 1911, the year that ended with the Italian invasion of Libya, when Sultan Abd al-Hamid was removed by the federalists, as the Union and Promotion government reached an agreement that included ceding Libya to Italy and this took

(1) Ali Elmaloul, "Turkey-Libya Relations: Potential Economic and Strategic Impact of Turkey"'s Role in Libya, ULISA Commentary for publication , 2021. Article PDF, Accssed 2 June, 2022., https://aybu.edu.tr/GetFile?id=de8afa6e-17dc-40fb-be06-2bc9bd65b37a.pdf

place in Lausanne, Switzerland, where it was known as After the Lausanne Agreement in 1912[1].

During the rule of former leader President Muammar Gaddafi between 1969-2011, as the track of relations between Libay and Tureky's witnessed a good relations at the political and economy levels, on the political level there stability in the relation between them and economically the operations of trade exchange has developed increaslly till 2010[2].

Subsequent, to the collapsed of Al-Gadhafi regime on August 2011, and the outbreak of the Libyan revolution, the Turkish government adopted a new strategy in its relationship with Libya, rather Turkey has expressed its desire to help and support of the Libyan people[3] and this was embodied via the first visit made by the Turkish Prime Minister Recap Tayyip Erdogan to the capital, Tripoli, who met with Libyan personalities, such the head of Libyan National Transitional Council, Mustafa Abdel Jalil, and a number of Libyan officials

(1) "End of Tripoli siege raises fears of full-scale proxy war in Libya". *The Guardian*. Accessed 26 June 2022.
(2) Ali Elmaloul, "Turkey-Libya Relations: Potential Economic and Strategic Impact of Turkey's Role in Libya", op, cit, pp 1-4. See more: "Turkey recognises Libyan rebels". France 24. 3 July 2011.
(3) "Turkey and France clash over Libya air campaign" – via Traynor, Ian (March 24, 2011). www.theguardian.com, Accssed date, 2 January, 2022.

after Gaddafi's fall, as this council was recognized as a legitimate representative of Libya by the Turkish government[1].

By mid the year 2015, as Turkey endeavors to support and to assist the (LNAG) led by Fayez al-Sarraj[2], was formed after reached of an agreement between Libyan parties were sponsored by the Turkey president Recep Tayyip Erdogan[3] in order to put an end to the conflict in Libya. On contrast of that and an attack that targeted the Libia by the military commander Khalifa Haftar which reveals reactions of Erdogan government, The latter has empowered of gaining' a foothold in Libya by the singing of a two aggreements between two sides was on November 27, 2019. The first included the reinforcement of security and military cooperation, while the second included defining areas of influence in the Mediterranean, that the Turkish government was planning for this since the events of the "Arab Spring" on Libya.[4].

(1) "Turkey's Vice President Oktay storms out of Libya conference in Italy - Turkey News".. Hürriyet Daily News.
(2) "Support grows for Libya's new unity government". (AFP). 1 April 2016. Retrieved 27 April 2016.
(3) . "Libyan National Army Continues Steady March on Tripoli". *Asharq AL-awsat.* Archived *from the original on 2019-04-30*. Retrieved 2019-04-30 .
(4) Turkey-Libya maritime deal triggers Mediterranean tensions DW. 29 Novembe .٢٠١٩ Archived from the original on 30 November 2019. Accessed Date, 1 December 2019.

Furthermore, Turkey has adopted the project of direct military interference in Libya, by sending military forces to support the (LNAG) led byFayez al-Sarraj, which was formed with the support of the United Nations for the purpose to confront threats by the National Army of Libyan under the leadership of retired General Commander Khalifa Hafter. Besides that the draft to send Turkish forces came after the approval of the Turkish Parliament on this in order to understand the most important motives and reasons that led the Turkish government to interfere military in the Libyan affair, will be presented in the context of the following topic[1].

I.I. Advantage of Turkish Interference in Libya.

The most significant causes and factors that motivated Turkiye administration to take serouse steps in Libyia for example direct military interference in Libiay affair.

Due there were political, economic and strategy motives have taken into account by the decision-maker in Turkey.

(1) Turkey-Libya maritime deal triggers Mediterranean tensions, DW, MIDDLE EAST, available at the link,https://www.dw.com/en/turkey-libya-maritime-deal-triggers-mediterranean-tensions/a-51477783, Accessed Date, 3 June 2022 . See more, " Libya's Tripoli- based government and a rival parliament take steps to end hostilities. Reuters. 21 August 2020. Accessed date 3 July 2021 .

I.I.1. Turkish Economic Ambitions

It is worth noting that, qil was on the agendas of Turkish decision maker to involve in Libya, in order to get on gains, especially, as Turkey pursues to reach the largest amount of huge reserves of natural gas in the eastern Mediterranean basin;(1) However, the main goal is that Turkey was trying to make a compensation advantage of the neighboring countries in the Mediterranean and under the division of gas exploration and extraction areas. In this regards, Turkey has reached the agreement signed with the Tripoli government in 2019. This was announced by the he Turkey's energy minister, Faith Donmez.

He added also, *"Turkish Petroleum (TPAO) had applied for exploration permits in the eastern Mediterranean and would start operating in the areas under its licence once the process was completed*".

As, Turkey has faced challenge by European countries regarding the arena of exploration. However, Turkey finds that it is obliged to reach an agreement with government of Fayez al-Sarraj in Tripoli, regarding the talks that hapened on the coastal

(1) Ahmed Diafullah Alguri, "Turkeys Influnce in Libya's Crisis: Political and Security Implication Insid and Outside Libya". PDF Article, available at link : https://rasanah-iiis.org/english/centre-for-researches-and-studies/turkeys-influence-in-libyas-crisis-political-and-security-implications-inside-and-outside-libya/Accessed date: 15 July, 2022.

basin of the Mediterranean, and at the same time to restrict the Greek domination on the region(1).

Therefore, Turkey will be able to reach an agreement with Al-Saraj government in order to define its maritime boundaries, the purpose is that to confront pressure arising from the "Egyptian Group - Greek - Greek Cypriot and at the same time increase its economic influence for more than 190 thousand km, which will exceed the areas of Greece and Cyprus together(2).

Not to mention that issue of an immigrant card was on the Turkish agendas that Turkey trys to achieve through its interference in the Libyan affairs, in order to exploit this issue through the pressure on Europe to take an advantage from the reconstruction contracts in Libya, moreover and the Mediterranean energy was also one of the main concerns of Turkey's decision maker(3).

(1) "Turkey-Libya maritime deal triggers Mediterranean tensions", *DW, MIDDLE EAST*, available at the link,https://www.dw.com/en/turkey-libya-maritime-deal-triggers-mediterranean-tensions/a-51477783, Accessed Date, 3 June 2022. See more, " Libya's Tripoli- based government and a rival parliament take steps to end hostilities". Reuters. 21 August 2020. Accessed date 3 July 2021.

(2) "Ahmed Diafullah Alguri, Turkeys Influence in Libya's Crisis: Political and Security Implication Inside and Outside Libya". PDF Article, available at link : https://rasanah-iiis.org/english/centre-for-researches-and-studies/turkeys-influence-in-libyas-crisis-political-and-security-implications-inside-and-outside-libya/Accessed date: 15 July, 2022.

(3) "Turkey-Libya maritime deal triggers Mediterranean tensions", op,cit

I.I.2. Turkish Strategic Motives in Libya.

The most important reasons that led Turkey to involve in Libya, from the perspective is the strategic interests that Turkey went to achieve it. As well as, one of the reasons that lead Turkey to interfere in the conflict in Libya, is to gain on political, security benefits and significant geopolitical location(1). in an attempt to pressure Europe. And this can be achieved by using the card of illegal immigrants to pressure Europe(2), on the grounds that Libya is currently the main gateway to their arrival in Europe; Note that Turkey used it before through the Syrian immigrants. Therefore, the issue of migrants is a strategic tool for Turkey to achieve its goals, and perhaps the most important of which is the effort to join the European Union.

Moreover, Turkish pressure on Europe to receive immigrants via opened its border for immigrants flood into Turkey and then into Europe, and at the same time Libya, strives to exploit of this illegal card in order to gain on advantages form Europe side (3). It is for the purpose of facing criticisms of Turkey's policies

(1) Ahmed Diafullah Alguri, Turkeys Influence in Libya's Crisis: Political and Security Implication Insid and Outside Libya, op, cit, p. 9-15.
(2) ibid,. p, 6-9.
(3) Jassim Mohammed, "Does Erdogan Blackmail Europe?" *EER*, May 11, 2020, accessed June 21, 2022, https://bit.ly/3egId2u.

by the members of European Council states, and possibly the most significant of these policies is Turkey's attempts to accomplish it is to explore natural gas, that implemented nearby the coast of Cyprus, indeed European countries have criticized these policies that practiced by Turkey and they declared their solidarity with Cyprus,(1)

It is not ignored that the strategic reasons that led Turkey to intervene in Libyan affair is that Turkey has a strategically for Europe and America, as it is a member of the *"North Atlantic Treaty Organization*", "but Turkey has faced challenges and threats by the member states of the above-mentioned organization After developing a strategic partenership between Turkey and Russh to divide the shferes of influence and ensure respective interests in Libya(2) this caused resentment and anger in these countries, especially the United States of America. Therefore, Turkey finds itself a sphere of influence on the western side of the Libyan territories, via its support for the (LNAG) led by Al-Sarraj and Turkey has also sought to maintain the Muslim"Brotherhood" as was one of its agandas in

(1) "Turkey-Libya maritime deal triggers Mediterranean tensions", *DW, MIDDLE EAST*, available at the link ‹https://www.dw.com/en/turkey-libya-maritime-deal-triggers-mediterranean-tensions/a-51477783, Accessed Date, 3 June 2022.

(2) " What to Expect From Entente Between Moscow, Ankra in Libay " Al-Monitor, June 5, 2020, accssed December, 2022, Via link https://bit.ly/3q CCrPa.

North Africa when its influnce decclined in some countries such Egept, Tunis and Algeria ,([1]that may be make Turkey play an important role in political and economic decisions as well as use of this influence in confront or possibly negotiating with the neighboring countries of Libya.

The question arises here, to what extent that Turkey seeks to gain on strategy gains?

The reality is that there is a strategic purposes behind the Turkish involvement in Libya , as Turkey considers Libya part of the wider isolated areas in the eastern Mediterranean , as well as it is an important economic advantage that linked Turkey via Africa, indeed Turkey has empowered of establishing partnership with Africa[2].

However, Turkey is looking for to gain on a position, in Libya as well as its support for armed groups[3] that Turkey has used them to enhance its presence in Libya,[4]so that it can participate in determining the future of this country, or at least benefit from potential construction contracts in the future. In

(1) . Ahmed Diafullah Alguri, Turkeys Influence in Libya's Crisis: Political and Security Implication Inside and Outside Libya, op, cit, p. 15-20.
(2) ibid,. p, 7-10.
(3) Libya: Is Erdogan embarking on an adventure fuelled by Syrians?", BBC, June 9, 2020, June 22, 2022, https://bbc.in/2V87JiP [Arabic].
(4) Anadolu Agency: Libyan-Turkish Memorndum of understanding for security and military cooperation Comes into Force", Spuntik Arabic, December 25. 2019. accessed June 7, 2022. Via link: https://bit.ly/3q CCrPa,.

addition Turkey is trying to influence on neighboring countries, by gaining a foothold in a strategic and vital region as well.

Moreover, as Turkey takes into account that Libya, which considered as the largest oil reserves country in the African continent, is a subject of concern for Turkey, as Turkey is aware of Libyan oil investment by supporting Libya with military equipment(1). Accordingly, the Libyian defense industries are receiving the attention of the Turkish government, as there are approximately $ 1.3 billion in the annual budget allocated to support the military industry in Libia . Therefore, achieving a balance between the conflicting forces on the Libyan stage is important for Ankara, in that the support of the forces loyal to the (LNAG) led by Al-Saraj, and whoever stands with it.

Conclusion:

Overall, Turkish military interference in the Libyia affair had left serious consequences on Libya .The findings of this research reveals that there some reasons behind the Turkish interference in Libya. via its backing to the "LNAG" led by Fayez al-Sarraj in a region considered to be a vital, strategic and oil-rich region in the world. that made recognized global and territorial attention especially by countries are opposing to the

(1) Ahmed Diafullah Alguri, Turkeys Influence in Libya's Crisis: Political and Security Implication Insid and Outside Libya, op, cit, p. 9-15.

occupation such the U.S , European Union and Russia as well as it triggers some attitudes of the Arab countries for example Saudi Arabia and the UAE, as well as the Turkish interference was considered by those countries as an incompatible with their policies existing regimes .

The research findings show that there are economic, political and strategic benefits for Turkey as a result of its interference in Libya, not to mention that the protecting of Turkish interests in the Middle East region on the agendas of decision-maker.

This research shows that the Turkish interference in the Libyan might lead to the deterioration of the situation at the levels political and economic and it would make Libya a region of conflict rather it leads to stability in the region.

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