

Invitation
1st of December 2020
Research Launch &
Expert meeting

LIBYANS AT RISK:
MEASURING THE DAILY SAFETY
FOR EFFECTIVE PEACEBUILDING IN LIBYA

Please register before the 30th of November via this [link](#) (or by sending an email to amber.bel@cordaid.org)



LIBYANS AT RISK:
MEASURING THE DAILY SAFETY FOR EFFECTIVE PEACEBUILDING IN LIYBA
WITH KEY FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Date: Tuesday, 1st of December 2020 | **Time:** 15:00 CET / 09:00 EST / 16.00 (Libya)

Please RSVP before 30th of November 2020 via this [link](#)

This online event seeks to launch the research paper that has been produced by Libyan women and youth organizations in partnership with two international partners. 124 stories on the daily lived realities in Libya have been collected by 32 women and youth activists.

We present to you our report during a pandemic that has brought significant changes to all our lives. Covid-19 has clearly shown us that the 'security' of people and communities, as opposed to the security of states, must include health, food, economic, environmental, personal, community and political security. If we acknowledge that a pandemic does not recognize jurisdictions and borders, and as we respond to the emergency and the immediate needs of the people and communities impacted by it, we must recognize that Human Security is a universal concern.

Our report follows a human security approach and brings in *the lived experiences of Libyans through their own personal stories*. The research report is not intended as a comprehensive analysis of the geo-political situation in Libya since Muammar Gaddafi's government was toppled in 2011. *Instead, this report will exhibit a unique account of how the conflict developed and what it meant for the people experiencing the conflict: the insecurities, the deterioration of services and infrastructure, the increase of weapons and armed groups, and the decrease in jobs. **The people-centred perspective of this report is also unique as it elevates the voices of marginalized groups. Youth and women take center stage.***

During the expert meeting event and launch of the report: *we will bring together Libyan Women and Youth activists from our network to present and discuss the findings of the research, which focuses on the daily safety needs in their communities.* They will share how the situation in Libya has developed in the time after the stories were collected. *They will also share their recommendations to policy decisions makers to support the development of meaningful engagements and interventions in Libya.*

OBJECTIVES :

- Explain the purpose of story collection as a methodology to gain a more in-depth understanding of the daily realities of Libyans, especially women and youth;
- Raise awareness on the current situation in Libya based on the outcomes of the story collection research;
- Reflect on how the underlying themes that came out of the story collection have evolved due to the current developments including the peace negotiations and the COVID19 crisis;
- Provide recommendations to policy decisions makers to better support the development of meaningful engagements and interventions in Libya.

KEY NOTE SPEAKERS:



Asma Khalifa is a Libyan activist and researcher. In 2015 she co-founded Tamazight Women Movement, a think/do tank that aims to research and advocate on women's rights issues in Libya and North Africa. It was the first indigenous women's movement in Libya. In 2016, Asma received the Luxembourg Peace Prize during The World Peace Forum and in 2017 she was named as one of the 100 most influential young Africans by the Africa Youth awards. In 2018 she started her PhD at the German Institute for Global Area Studies, researching the impact of war on agency and inter-gender relations.



Ahmed Ferraj is an active member of the Fezzan Libya Organization (FLO), based in the South of Libya. FLO is a community based organization that carries out peace building work in the region of Sabha. As a member of this organization, Ahmed played a notable role in the story collection process, both in the collection as analyses of the stories. He has also been the driving force behind the Economic Bazar project. The project focusses on empowering and capacitating women and connect these women successfully with business men to sell their products (such as sweets, dress fittings) on the market.



Dr. Rida Altubuly is an activist and Professor of Pharmacology at faculty of Pharmacy, University of Tripoli. After the liberation of Tripoli in 2011, she co-founded "Maan Nabneeha Movement: Together We Build It", an NGO that works towards the promotion of human rights and women's political & economic empowerment. TWBI founded the 1325 network, a collective of civil society organisations that looks to implement UNSCR1325. She co-authored the first civil report on the UNSCR1325. On 16th of October 2019, the BBC named Dr. Rida Altubuly as one of 100 most influential women around the world for 2019.

After the inputs from the key note speakers, a broader group of our Libyan partners will share further reflections on the research in a participatory manner and there will be room for Q&A.

A RESEARCH PAPER BASED ON COLLECTED STORIES

*Libya has undergone tremendous political, economic and social changes in the past 10 years. **Instability and violence has escalated. Armed groups deeply affect the daily lives of men, women and children throughout the country.** Many civilians have found themselves trapped between fighting forces and have been forced to evacuate their houses and run for their safety.*

*To generate a better understanding of the daily realities of women and youth, and the main issues that affect the daily safety in their communities, eight local Libyan CSO's together with two International NGOs, Cordaid and Human Security Collective started a Story Collection research. **The research reflects on the lived experiences of what the developments in Libya have meant for people experiencing the conflict, the insecurities, the deterioration of services and infrastructure, the increase of weapons and armed groups, and the decrease in jobs. It shows how they perceive security and what they identify as threats to their human security.** In the time since the stories were collected, the conflict has worsened and with the current threat of COVID19 many existing inequalities and threats to human security have also intensified.*

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ORGANIZERS:

Story collection was part of the program ‘Women and youth as bridge builders, strengthening resilience in Libya’, supported through the Women, Peace and Security Framework 2016 – 2019 and 2020. The story collection process was conducted in full partnership with our Libyan partner network.

Al Nour was founded in 2012 in the city of Sabha and focusses on raising awareness on human and women rights among Libyan legislative authorities. They organize workshops on women’s political participation and awareness raising on Violence Against Women and the CEDAW convention. In 2013, Al Nour played a significant role in the political movement at the onset of the new political process during which they organized the Libyan Women’s Conference.

Fezzan Libya Organization is an organization based in Sebha, the South of Libya. They consist of a network of activists who work together with the local community to launch initiatives to support community development. They also support women, youth, minorities and local activists to become more active in regional politics and local institutions. In addition, since 2012, Fezzan Libya Organization advocates for the protection of Libyan activists on social media and offers a connection between the South and the rest of Libya.

Goodness has Brought us Together was founded in 2014 in Al Bayda City. The organization is active in many fields but focuses primarily on humanitarian interventions and community development. By cooperating with local organizations and authorities they organize activities to build capacities of youth and women and strengthen their role in project development. Currently they have more than 50 members, both male and female.

Makers of Hope are a regional youth-led organization founded in 2013. The members of the organization are young male and female community leaders from various backgrounds, who are active in the field of human rights, environmental issues, minority rights and women’s rights. The work of Makers of Hope focuses on empowering youth and increasing their role in decision-making processes at the international level in relation to UNSCR 2250.

I am Libyan, but my Child is Not is a civil rights and charity organization based in Ghat, South-Western Libya. Its goal is to defend the rights of children of Libyan women who are married to non-Libyan citizens as well as to consolidate and enforce their citizenship rights. By working side by side with NGO’s, governments, and (inter)national human rights organizations, they provide support, charity, humanitarian aid and civil assistance to this group of citizens. They conduct studies and research on problems that Libyan women who are married to non-Libyans and their children face. Based on their findings they develop and implement workable and suitable solutions to eliminate all forms of discrimination within society.

Tamazight Women Movement (TWM) is an indigenous women’s civil society organization that focuses on gender equality, youth, women, peace and security issues. These core areas are addressed through an intersectional approach in conducting research, capacity building and advocacy at the local, national and international levels. The organization has an extensive experience in engaging on the international level and in mobilizing for (intersectional) gender-inclusive peace process and implementation of UNSCR 1325 and its subsequent resolutions.

Together We Build It (TWBI) is an intergenerational non-profit organization that was founded to support a peaceful democratic transition in Libya, through empowering women and youth to participate in political life. TWBI believes in the important role of an inter-generational gender approach to formal and non-formal peace building. Since it was founded in 2011, TWBI has been working on women and youth peace and security agenda. TWBI is working on a national level through founding the 1325 Network in Libya.

Cordaid is an international organization for relief and development with its Global Office based in The Hague. Cordaid has been fighting poverty and exclusion in the world’s most fragile societies and conflict-stricken areas for a century. Cordaid supports people in vulnerable regions and areas of conflict to build flourishing communities by creating opportunities and delivering innovative solutions to complex problems. Cordaid positions to include women and youth not just as beneficiaries, but as partners and leaders in the process of building peace, development and enhancing security within their community.

Human Security Collective (HSC) works to improve human security, human rights and human dignity. Its work specifically focuses on disadvantaged communities and people in contexts that are characterized by complex systemic conflicts, social exclusion of minority groups, and/or potential crises that may erupt as a consequence of violent extremism and lack of governance and leadership to deal with those.