

Forum on Libyan media
Libyan Media: Reality, Challenges and Means of
Development
Tunisia 28 May 2016

The severe political and military polarization in Libya has extended to the media, which aggravated the situation and negatively impacted efforts of reconciliation and peace in the country. The media has become a tool for the conflict instead of a tool that helps in leading the country towards a state of general consensus. Thus, the CMI has convened a meeting on the topic with the participation of the following:

1. Mr. Izziddin Qweireb, Libyan Member of Parliament
2. Mrs. Zainab Al Zayidi, Member of the Founding Commission to Produce the Draft Constitution
3. Mrs. Awatef Al Tashani, former Undersecretary of the Ministry of Culture and consultant for the formal channel
4. Mr. Mousa Hareem, former Undersecretary of the Ministry of Culture
5. Mr. Tarek Al Quzairi, Chair of the Board of Television Tobactos
6. Mr. Masoud Al Tayeb, Chair of the Media Section at the Higher Studies Academy in Janzour
7. Mr. Izziddin Abdul Kareem, media expert
8. Mr. Mohammad Al Najem, President of the Libyan Press Freedom Center
9. Mr. Mohammad Younes, legal consultant
10. Mr. Ahmad Al Beibas, President of Mumkin Awareness and Media Organization
11. Mr. Abdul Salam Al Rajihi, official at Panorama Television
12. Mr. Mustafa Khalifeh Mohammad, television correspondent in southern Libya

After an extensive discussion on the topics of the meeting, the attendees came up with the following recommendations:

- The participants of the forum valued the constitutional draft in terms of guarantees for the freedom of media and the press, especially the provisions in Part Seven on establishing a Higher Media and Press Council, which will form an umbrella for the media in Libya
- It is important to support all efforts to implement Article 29 of the political agreement signed on 17 December 2015, which calls for halting all forms of inciting violence and adopting a media rhetoric that supports reconciliation and tolerance.
- It is important to have an umbrella for the Libyan media, represented by a Media Law, in addition to media codes of honor, especially those previously concluded. In this context, we urge the legislative authority to create a regulatory and legal framework for the media and to give this priority
- Demand support for all efforts aimed at building the professional capacities of the media professionals, taking into account increasing the salaries of those working in the public media outlets and prohibiting the arbitrary detention of those working in the private media sphere.
- The right of media professionals to access information and present it to the recipients who have full rights to knowledge, according to legal controls
- Support the national identity and highlight it in the media as an alternative to narrow area and tribal identities
- The state must transparently study the sources of media financing

At the conclusion of the recommendations, the participants thank the CMI for its hospitality and management of the Forum.