



Illustrative image of a sinking boat — AI-generated

Monthly Report ^{No. 71}

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN LIBYA DURING OCTOBER 2025



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This monthly report represents the culmination of sustained, cumulative efforts, issued consistently at the beginning of each month since 2019. These efforts are made possible by the invaluable trust placed in us by victims, survivors, and witnesses, who have allowed us to document and amplify their stories

The report is a testament to the extraordinary dedication of our field monitoring and documentation team, who operate under extremely challenging conditions to reach victims, gather information, and verify it with the utmost precision and professionalism. It also reflects the unwavering commitment of our entire team, who work diligently to draft, refine, and publish this report with the highest standards of quality and timeliness, despite limited resources. This work aims to shed light on the state of human rights in Libya, bolster accountability efforts, and confront the pervasive culture of impunity.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to everyone who contributed to this endeavour, whether by providing information, offering support, or making any other effort. We affirm that this work could not continue without the dedication, sacrifice, and determination of our team, who remain steadfast in fulfilling their noble mission in a risk-laden environment, despite significant challenges.

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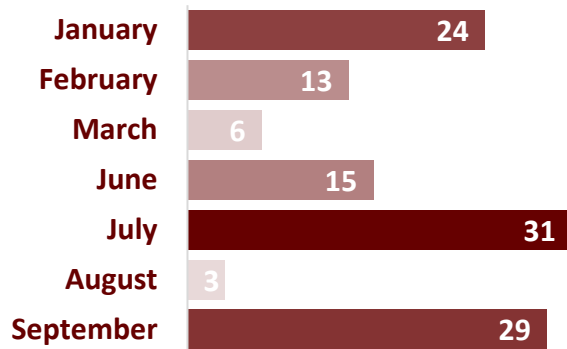
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**Donate, be a
voice for the
victims!**

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VICTIMS
In October



Migrant deaths at sea between January and October 2025

**According to the LCW's Field Team Statistics*

I. INTRODUCTION

The month of October 2025 witnessed the continuation of grave violations against civilians across Libya, perpetrated by security agencies and armed groups affiliated with the authorities in both the east and west of the country. These included extrajudicial killings, arbitrary detention, torture, and enforced disappearance, alongside the ongoing indiscriminate attacks on civilian infrastructure and residential areas, amid a continued absence of any serious or effective measures for investigation and accountability.

During October, the LCW field team documented the killing of three (3) civilians, including one child, in the cities of Benghazi, Kufra, and Zawiya, in the context of military and security operations. The field team also documented the injury of fifteen (15) civilians in Misrata and Zawiya as a result of indiscriminate shelling within residential areas or during armed clashes, as well as one (1) case of arbitrary arrest of a civilian in the city of Al-Khums.

In the context of migration, the field team recorded a worsening of the humanitarian situation for migrants. Thirty-seven (37) migrants, including thirteen from Bangladesh and three Libyans, were killed following the explosion of their boat off the coast of Zawiya. In addition, thirty-nine (39) bodies, believed to belong to migrants, including one woman, were found washed ashore in the cities of Sabratha, Zuwara, and Sorman. Several migrants were also injured during these incidents.

Libya Crimes Watch (LCW) holds the Public Morality Protection Agency – Benghazi Branch, and the Criminal Investigation Department in Kufra, both affiliated with the government accredited by the House of Representatives (HoR), as well as the Joint Operations Force (JOF) and Battalion 24, affiliated with the Government of National Unity (GNU), and the local authorities in the western coastal cities, legally responsible for the documented violations.

These entities bear direct or indirect responsibility for committing, or failing to prevent and hold perpetrators accountable for, these violations.

LCW emphasises that this report does not reflect all violations committed during October. It is limited to the cases the LCW field team documented and verified in accordance with the organisation's established documentation methodology, taking into account confidentiality, the informed consent of victims and their families, and risk assessment regarding the publication of information.

II. DETAILS

October 2

On 2 October, Libya Crimes Watch (LCW) documented the death of thirty-seven (37) migrants, including thirteen from Bangladesh and three Libyans, following the explosion of a boat under unclear circumstances while carrying forty-two migrants departing from the city of Al-Zawiya towards Europe. The explosion completely burned the boat. The bodies were transferred to Al-Zawiya Teaching Hospital for legal procedures, while the injured were taken for the necessary medical treatment.

October 6

On 6 October, LCW documented the recovery of one (1) unidentified body from the seashore in the city of Sabratha, believed to belong to a migrant. The body was retrieved by the Libyan Red Crescent – Sabratha branch and transferred to Sabratha Teaching Hospital to complete legal procedures.

October 7

On 7 October, LCW documented the killing of **Mousa Abdel Karim Zagi** (34 years old) in the city of Al-Kufra, south-eastern Libya, after he was shot by members of the Criminal Investigation Department of the Al-Kufra Security Directorate, affiliated with the government accredited by the House of Representatives (HoR).

October 11

Between 5 and 11 October, LCW documented the discovery of fifteen (15) unidentified bodies along the coastline stretching between central Zuwara and the Mellitah area, believed to belong to migrants. The bodies were recovered by the Emergency Medicine and Support Centre and transferred to the hospital to complete legal procedures before being buried in Abu Kammash cemetery in the city of Zaltan.

October 12

On 12 October, LCW documented the killing of a child, **Moaz Marwan Al-Marghani** (12 years old), and the serious injury of his brother, **Abdulrahman** (6 years old), along with three (3) other civilians who sustained minor injuries, after a random shell of unknown origin fell on a residential neighbourhood in the Al-Shurafa area of Al-Zawiya city.

October 22

On 22 October, LCW documented the arbitrary arrest of the Head of the Local Youth Council in the Municipality of Al-Khums, **Ali Nasser Abu Rzayza** (34 years old), by five unidentified armed men driving civilian vehicles south of Al-Khums city. He was taken to an undisclosed

location, and contact with him has been lost since, with his fate remaining unknown at the time of publication.¹

October 23

On 23 October, LCW documented the injury of at least eleven (11) civilians, including four migrants and one child, with varying degrees of wounds, in addition to damage to several civilian buildings. The incident occurred during armed clashes that broke out within residential neighbourhoods in the Al-Sikt and Al-Ghiran areas, south of Misrata, between the JOF and the 24th Battalion, both affiliated with the GNU.²

October 27

On 27 October, LCW documented the death of **Mahmoud Aoun Al-Farjani**, an employee in the Security and Safety Department at Benghazi Medical Centre, who died as a result of injuries sustained from torture while in detention at the Public Morality Protection Agency – Benghazi Branch, under the Ministry of Interior of the government accredited by the HoR. A verified video reviewed by LCW showed clear signs of torture on his body, which led to renal and circulatory failure resulting in his death.³

October 30

Between 28 and 30 October, LCW documented the discovery of twenty-two (22) unidentified bodies, including that of one woman, on the shoreline near Sorman Port. The bodies belonged to migrants whose boat had sunk while attempting to reach Europe. At least ninety people were rescued, while the bodies were recovered by the Libyan Red Crescent – Sabratha branch and transferred to the hospital to complete legal procedures.

On the same date, 30 October, LCW also documented the discovery of one (1) unidentified body on the beach of the Al-Wadi area in Sabratha, believed to belong to a migrant. The body was recovered by the Libyan Red Crescent and taken to the hospital for legal procedures.

¹ [Arrest of the Head of the Youth Council in Al-Khums](#). Libya Crimes Watch (LCW), 30 October 2025.

² [At least 11 civilians injured in armed clashes in Misrata](#). Libya Crimes Watch (LCW), 24 October 2025.

³ [Killing of a detainee under torture in Benghazi](#). Libya Crimes Watch (LCW), 29 October 2025.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS

- Libya Crimes Watch (LCW) urges the authorities in both eastern and western Libya to take all necessary measures to prevent renewed clashes and indiscriminate attacks within populated areas. LCW also calls on the Office of the Attorney General to open independent and transparent investigations into indiscriminate attacks on residential areas and civilian infrastructure that endanger the lives of civilians, to make the findings public, and to ensure that those responsible are held accountable in line with international fair trial standards.
- LCW further calls on the Libyan Attorney General to open independent and transparent investigations into all serious human rights violations, including extrajudicial and unlawful killings, arbitrary detention, enforced disappearance, abduction, and torture in official and unofficial detention facilities, and to ensure accountability in accordance with international fair trial standards.
- LCW reiterates its call on the Libyan authorities to fulfil their responsibilities in protecting the lives of migrants along desert and maritime routes, and to cooperate with relevant international organisations to establish effective search and rescue mechanisms, determine the fate of the missing, and ensure the identification of human remains. LCW also calls for an independent and transparent investigation into shipwreck incidents and human trafficking–related violations, and for those responsible to be held accountable in line with international standards.
- LCW urges the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC) to reconsider its decision to conclude investigations in Libya by the end of 2025, as such a step risk entrenching impunity amid the absence of political will, capacity, and effectiveness within domestic justice mechanisms, which remain unable to meet their obligations under the principle of complementarity enshrined in the Rome Statute.
- LCW renews its call on the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) and Member States to establish an independent international investigative mechanism as a successor to the former Fact-Finding Mission (FFM), to investigate serious human rights violations in Libya, identify those responsible, and support accountability processes and efforts to end impunity.
- Finally, LCW calls on the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) and international stakeholders to intensify pressure on all parties to respect human rights, advance transitional justice efforts, uncover the truth, ensure redress for victims, and put an end to the entrenched culture of impunity that continues to fuel violations.

MONITORING AND DOCUMENTATION METHODOLOGY

At LCW, our work primarily revolves around comprehensive monitoring and documentation. We gather information through our field monitoring and documentation team, which specialises in monitoring, documenting, and tracking human rights violations and international crimes. Our team comprises experts in monitoring and documenting violations, with diverse professional, gender, sexual, religious and ethnic backgrounds, working in fields such as law, journalism, and civil society activism. They operate across all regions of Libya, including hard-to-reach areas, as well as relevant countries abroad.

Principles

Our monitoring and documentation team has a deep understanding of Libyan and international contexts and continuously keeps track of developments. The team consults experts across various fields, including legal, security, political, social, and psychological disciplines. They conduct risk analyses at every stage of their work to identify threats to victims, survivors, witnesses, team members, partners, and collaborators, including threats to physical, psychological, and digital safety.

The team is committed to obtaining informed and renewed consent from victims, survivors, witnesses, and collaborators—ensuring they are fully aware of the risks and purposes of each action taken. They adhere to principles of objectivity, aligning exclusively with victims and survivors, treating them equally, and maintaining their privacy and confidentiality. The team integrates an intersectional perspective throughout all stages of its work.

Tools

To access and verify information, the monitoring and documentation team collects initial signs of violations through field sources, LCW's reporting channels, and available open-source information. Team members then organise preliminary data, establish contact with victims, survivors, or witnesses, and assess the validity of their accounts. Verification is conducted using multiple sources, including official documents, testimonies from other victims and witnesses, local collaborators, and open-source analysis.

The team creates detailed documentation files based on verified testimonies and information, categorising and archiving them securely. Data is analysed by gender, age group, geographic location, type of violation, and victim needs, and stored in a secure and central database.

Scope

At LCW, we dedicate our efforts to violations and international crimes against civilians. Our work highlights critical issues such as extrajudicial killings, civilian harm caused by armed conflict, torture, ill-treatment, arbitrary arrests and detentions, and enforced disappearances. We also focus on violations linked to human trafficking and smuggling, as well as abuses targeting civil society and vulnerable groups, including women, LGBTQIA+, religious and ethnic minorities. In addition, we pay close attention to violations perpetrated by parties involved in the armed conflict and other influential forces in Libya.



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Libya Crimes Watch (LCW) is a non-profit, non-governmental organisation. Its legal name is LCW NGO. It is registered as a limited by guarantee company without share capital, which is the most common structure for non-profit organisations in the United Kingdom. The registration number is 12685067. The registered office is 124 City Road, London, England, EC1V 2NX, United Kingdom.

