



## **Libya: Berlin II Conference must prioritize accountability and transitional justice**

The [Second Berlin Conference](#) on Libya, taking place on 23 June 2021, should focus on ensuring accountability for crimes under international law and guaranteeing that the transitional justice process is fully consistent with international law and standards as its [key priorities](#), the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) said today.

“The Berlin II Conference must bring accountability to the top of the political agenda in Libya”, said Saïd Benarbia, the ICJ MENA Director.

“The necessity to hold the 24 December elections cannot sideline the need for the Libyan authorities to hold perpetrators of crimes under international law to account and to end impunity for past and ongoing human rights abuses. Time and again experience from around the world has shown that accountability is crucial for a sustainable political solution.”

The 19 January 2020 [Berlin Conference Conclusions](#) stressed “the need to hold accountable all those who have violated provisions of international law”, and encouraged the Libyan authorities to strengthen “transitional justice institutions, including prosecution initiatives, reparations, truth-seeking and institutional reform.” A dedicated Working Group on human rights and international humanitarian law was created to implement such conclusions.

The Berlin II Conference must follow up on these commitments and give priority to ensuring that crimes under international law committed by all parties in Libya be effectively investigated with a view to holding perpetrators to account.

“The transitional justice process must be prioritized with a view to establishing the truth about past and ongoing gross human rights violations and abuses, upholding victims’ right to remedies and reparations, including by providing guarantees of non-repetition”, Benarbia said.

The Berlin II Conference should also support the work and mandate the [UN Independent Fact-Finding Mission](#) on Libya established by the Human Rights Council in June 2020.

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