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## **CAN THE EU'S NEW ARMS-EMBARGO MISSION TO LIBYA BE EFFECTIVE?**

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18.02.2020

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Deutsche Welle (18 February 2020)

Barbara Wesel

EU foreign ministers have agreed on naval and air measures to try and stop weapon flows to Libya. Critics say it's a toothless deal that will fail to stabilize the country riven by civil war.

After intense debate, EU foreign ministers in Brussels agreed Monday to launch a new mission to enforce the weapons embargo against Libya.

After meeting his European counterparts, German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas announced that a decision had been reached, adding that the new Libya mission would entail a "maritime component," meaning dispatched naval vessels. It will also include aerial and satellite assets.

As agreed at the Libya peace conference in Berlin this January, the mission will form one pillar of the EU's revamped overall strategy aimed at stabilizing the North African country.

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