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What's Next for Libya?

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What's Next for Libya?

10.20.2011 | Hot Topics, International A University of Dayton political science, transitional justice and terrorism expert said the transitional government in Libya and the international community need to be on guard for "a civil war after the civil war."

"The transitional government needs to guard against fissures along religious, tribal and sectarian lines," said Mark Ensalaco, director of the University of Dayton's human rights studies program and author of *Middle Eastern Terrorism: From Black September to September 11*. "We could have a civil war after the civil war, and we really need to work on avoiding that."

To guard against another civil war, Ensalaco told his political violence class today that the international community must help Libya establish a rule of law, show mercy and respect basic human rights for all of its citizens, regardless of their allegiances.

"I don't know what the future will be for Libya. There is real work ahead. It's a mess. For the U.S. and European governments, this is a serious matter," Ensalaco said. "The U.S role, with its European partners is to help Libya with its transition to democracy and the rule of law. We hope the pockets of fighting are over and there won't be any bloodletting in the form of vengeance killings or mercenaries coming into the country."

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