

[Statement by the Spokesperson on the latest developments in Libya](#)

The clashes and escalation of violence in the south of Libya endanger the political process and put Libyan citizens' lives at risk.

Libyans deserve peace and stability, and expect all sides to refrain from violence and take measures to de-escalate the tense situation. Libya's political crisis can only be solved through negotiation between all stakeholders based on a willingness to compromise and by putting the interests of Libyans first.

The United Nations remains the framework through which the international community continues to support Libya's political settlement. The European Union is determined to continue supporting this process, including through the Libya Quartet with the United Nations as well as the African Union and the Arab League.

[The Tories are living up to nasty party reputation](#)

The last few days have exposed the full horror of [the rape clause](#), the wider issues around the cap on child tax credits and the complicity of Scottish Tories in the utterly immoral policies of their Westminster colleagues.

[Big regional disparities in net job creation across the UK since 2010](#)

Labour analysis of Government figures shows:

- London and the South-East have accounted for almost half of all net jobs created in the UK since 2010, despite accounting for only a quarter of the population

The rest of the country has lagged behind with just one net job in 200 created in the North East under the Conservatives.

Rebecca Long-Bailey MP, Labour's Shadow Secretary for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, commenting, said:

"New figures show that seven years of failure under the Conservatives is holding most of this country back. Boasts about job creation will ring hollow when there are few jobs being created across most of the country and even then too many are poorly paid and insecure.

"The reality of Conservative failure is that with investment falling and real wages still lower than before the crash, but chief executive pay up 24% to over £5m since 2010, it's the wealthy elite who are winning out in the Tories' rigged economy.

"Only Labour has the ambition needed to deliver investment across the whole country and create decent, well-paid jobs so that people in every part of our country can live richer lives."

Tory failure on living standards sees real earnings fall by £1,200

Labour

analysis, using House of Common's Library endorsed modelling, shows that:

Average real earnings are set to fall by £1,200 as a result of rising inflation and lower wage growth

At the

Budget last month we saw inflation forecast up this year and average earnings forecasts lowered next year and for the next two years.

The

combination of higher prices and lower wages is that living standards are set to be squeezed.

This time

last year, at the Budget 2016, the OBR was forecasting real average earnings growth of 9 per cent between 2015 and 2020 (average earnings adjusted for CPI inflation). However, at this year's Budget, this was revised down to growth of

5 per cent between 2015 and 2020.

Converting

this to income values, Budget 2016 was forecasting that real average earnings would be almost £2,500 higher in 2020 than in 2015. However, at Budget 2017 this was revised down to £1,300. This is a difference of £1,200.

Today's analysis comes on the back of IFS analysis last year which showed that the "outlook for living standards has deteriorated rather sharply", describing the prospects for real earnings growth as "dreadful".

The Resolution Foundation has also said that the "outlook for living standards in 21st century Britain does not look promising" and that "weak and regressive nature of income growth in the years ahead should concern us all".

This analysis looks at the effect on living standards resulting from changes to OBR forecasts at this year's Budget.

Tax and benefit changes, as well as previous OBR forecasts will impact on living standards; however, this analysis focuses just on inflation and earnings outlook.

John

McDonnell MP, Labour's Shadow Chancellor, commenting, said:

"Today's analysis shows the impact of seven years of Tory economic failure.

"Living standards are being squeezed and working people are being hit hard. This is despite the Tories promising at the last General Election that they would raise living standards.

"The truth is that Theresa May has failed working people and the Tories are taking the country backwards. Labour would make different choices and stand up for ordinary working families.

"Only Labour will take the action needed to end the Tories' economic failure by introducing a Real Living Wage of £10 an hour by 2020 and by investing in our regions and our local communities."

Cyberspace governance leads to more freedom



Prof. Shen Yi, director of the Research Center of Cyberspace Governance at Fudan University [Photo provided to China.org.cn]

Governance and freedom on the internet go hand in hand rather than being incompatible elements, an expert reiterated ahead of the one-year anniversary of Chinese President Xi Jinping's speech during a symposium on cyber security and informatization in Beijing on April 19, 2016.

At the symposium, President Xi, who also heads the Central Internet Security and Informatization Leading Group, called for comprehensive development of the internet and ensuring it could be harnessed for the benefit of the country and the people.

Xi made the call as cybersecurity security has become so vital that all countries agree better governance of cyberspace is essential for a prosperous shared future for all.

Most countries applauded President Xi's proposal for building a community of shared future in cyberspace.

"The proposal features the greatest common divisor. It is inclusive enough so

that no one stands out to oppose it," said Prof. Shen Yi, director of the Research Center of Cyberspace Governance at Fudan University in Shanghai, adding that many countries hoped that "community of shared future" be more tangible and practical.

"In his speech, President Xi Jinping outlined the framework for cyber security and informatization development, which in essence is to shape a new order in cyberspace based on respecting the principle of cyberspace sovereign equality as the core," he said. "China has been contributing to the promotion of this new order. Xi's speech was one of the cases in point."

He explained that the freedom in cyberspace, in a broader sense, refers to the aspect that all countries, big or small, have equal rights to enjoy resources in cyberspace to serve their own development, to implement independent policies on internet management and to participate in the formulation of a new order for global cyberspace.

Cyberspace should be governed in line with the concept of a three-level structure, stressed Shen. He noted that the three levels were physical facility, logic codes and digital personality, all requiring good management.

On the bottom level is the physical facility, including access devices, wires and physical storage space. "These facilities surely have property attributes and are naturally under the jurisdiction of a government," said Shen. "You can't tamper with the servers of others or copy data from them without authorization."

Regarding the middle level of logic codes, the relevant national watchdog should monitor the flow of codes and detect malware. "Malware isn't necessarily computer viruses. The damages they are capable of causing range from the theft of personal financial information to the breach of a country's network security," said Shen.

The "emailgate" controversy affecting Hillary Clinton during the 2016 U.S. presidential elections showed that even the United States, a superpower in cyberspace, was not exempted from cyberattack. "As for another conclusion, a responsible country should prohibit such activities [hacking another country's network] in cyberspace," said Shen.

Digital personality, the top level, refers to how individuals act on the internet. At the 2016 symposium, Xi required officials to welcome well-meant criticism raised on the internet, "be it gentle or harsh-sounding."

However, disciplining people's online behavior does not contradict President Xi's demand for more tolerance and patience to internet users. Shen stressed that internet users' behavior should also be subjected to supervision, the same as people's offline behavior.

He was confident that Chinese leaders have the courage and political responsibility to innovate the approach to cyberspace governance.

"The best way to clarify online rumors is to line them up with the true facts and let people reach their own conclusions," he said. "However, for

professional rumormongers, those who spread unfounded, false rumors for profit, we should crack down because they are destroying society's trust and their gains are at the cost of society's injury."