

82 Pct of Europeans Want EU to do More Against Terrorism: Survey

BRUSSELS - Eighty-two percent of European citizens want the European Union to do more in the fight against terrorism, it was revealed Tuesday according to the latest Eurobarometer poll commissioned by the European Parliament.

The highest support for more significant EU involvement was seen in Cyprus, Portugal and Italy, all around 90 percent. In Austria, Croatia and Poland where support was relatively the lowest, the rate was as high as three quarters. The survey also found the perceived threat



of terrorist attacks varied from 7 percent in Slovenia to 64 percent in France.

Differences between the opinions of women and men on this issue were

almost non-existent, and older generations demonstrated only slightly

stronger support for increased EU involvement against terror compared to

the younger generations. However, the survey found that the fight against terrorism is an area with an explicit and very strong perception of a gap between the expectations of EU citizens and the actual level of the union's involvement - 69 percent considered the current EU involvement to be insufficient. Eurobarometer said measures perceived as the most urgent were blocking the financing of terrorist groups, studying the roots of terrorism and radicalization, and strengthened control of external EU borders. (Xinhua)

Trump Hones in on Sluggish U.S. Economy to Bolster Struggling Campaign

WASHINGTON - Amid tumbling polling numbers, U. S. Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump on Monday zeroed in on the U.S. economy in a bid to convince voters that he can bring the lackluster economy back to life. In a televised speech made in Detroit, Michigan on Monday, Trump said he would focus on tax cuts, job growth and deregulation in a bid to force the government to step aside and unleash

the power of the U.S. economy. While the U.S. economy has improved since the 2007-2008 economic nosedive that sent the global economy reeling, millions of Americans continue to struggle. While the official jobless rate is low, that figure does not paint a full and accurate picture of the job market's health as it does not count the millions of Americans who have given up looking for work... (More on P4)...(22)

UN Chief Calls for "Shared Responsibility" in Dealing with Refugee Crisis

BUENOS AIRES - Visiting UN chief Ban Ki-moon on Monday asked members of the international community to share responsibility in dealing with the refugee crisis. "It is a situation that is uncontrollable and unsustainable and we are working on it to see how we can, on a global level, attend to it based on shared responsibility," said Ban, addressing the Argentine Council for International Relations. To that end, the UN is organizing a high-level meet-



ing to map out a blueprint for a better international response, Ban said. The

meeting is expected to take place in September. The UN chief noted that

Argentina has taken a step in that direction with a... (More on P4)...(23)

Clinton Challenges Donald Trump to Three Scheduled Debates

NEW YORK - Hillary Clinton is challenging Donald Trump to attend all three presidential debates that are scheduled for this fall. "Secretary Clinton looks forward to participating in all three presidential debates scheduled by the independent debate commission. With so much at stake in the fall elections, she believes these debates will provide the American people with an important opportunity to hear from the candidates on issues critical to the

country's future," Clinton campaign chairman John Podesta said in a statement Monday. Podesta continued by blasting the GOP presidential nominee for recently complaining about the scheduling of the debates and how they might conflict with NFL games. "It is concerning that the Trump campaign is already engaged in shenanigans around these debates. It is not clear if he is trying to avoid debates... (More on P4)...(24)

Desirable for S. Korean Gov't to Hear Dissenting Voice over THAAD

SEOUL - South Koreans opposing the deployment of Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) in the country are being reviled as blind followers of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) or sycophant betrayers. Such seditious moves are being driven by some of conservative local media outlets. South Korean President Park Geun-hye appeared to decide on Monday to join the move by criticizing opposition lawmakers visiting Beijing as sympathizers with China and describing other



THAAD dissenters as pro-DPRK followers. Branding those unfavor-

able to government policies as traitors or pro-DPRK followers, seen in a few

cases under the past military dictatorships, seems not... (More on P4)...(25)

India's Central Bank Keeps Key Repo Rates Unchanged

NEW DELHI - India's central bank Tuesday kept the country's key policy interest rates unchanged in the wake of increasing inflationary trend in the economy. The outgoing governor of the Reserve Bank of India, Raghuram Rajan, kept the repo rate intact at a five-year low of 6.5 percent. Repo rate is the rate at which the central bank lends money to banks in the short-term.

"It is appropriate for the Reserve Bank to keep the policy repo rate unchanged at this juncture, while awaiting space for policy action. The stance of monetary policy remains accommodative and will continue to emphasise the adequate provision of liquidity," Rajan said. The Reserve Bank of India also kept the reverse repo rate unchanged at 6 percent and the cash reserve ratio of scheduled banks steady at 4 percent of net demand and time liabilities, in Rajan's last monetary policy meet before his three-year term ends on September 4. (Xinhua)

Erdogan Renews Ties with Putin During Moscow Visit

MOSCOW - Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan met with Russian President Vladimir Putin Tuesday in St. Petersburg, beginning the process of restoring economic ties damaged after Turkey shot down a Russian warplane in November. The pair shook hands and exchanged pleasantries at Konstantin Palace, with Erdogan thanking Putin for calling him soon after a failed coup attempt in Turkey last month. The Russian leader also praised his counterpart's commitment to restoring ties, according to the BBC. "Your visit means that all of us want the dialogue to be resumed," Putin said,



the BBC reported. Economic relations were fractured between the nations after the shoot-down. It occurred at a time when ties between Turkey and Russia were already strained because of the Syrian civil war.

Turkey supported rebel fighters while Putin, in September 2015, sent military forces to intervene on behalf of embattled Syrian President Bashar Assad. The Russian warplane was shot down a month later. (Agencies)

Russia Delivers Half of S-300 Missile Systems to Iran: Deputy PM

MOSCOW - Russia has delivered half of the S-300 surface-to-air missile systems to Iran in accordance with a weapon sales contract signed between the two countries in 2007, Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin has said. Rogozin made the statement Monday at the Russia-Iran-Azerbaijan summit in Baku, capital of Azerbaijan. The 2007 weapon sales contract between Russia and Iran is valued at about 900 million U.S. dollars. Russia is planning to complete the... (More on P4)...(26)

Republican National Security Officials Reject Trump

WASHINGTON - Fifty senior Republican national security officials have issued a stinging rejection of their party's White House nominee Donald Trump, warning if elected he would be "the most reckless president in American history". The group, some of whom had already announced they would not vote for Trump, included former homeland security chiefs, intelligence directors, senior presidential advisers and a former US trade representative. They served... (More on P4)...(27)

NATO Boosts Aerial Refueling Capability

BRUSSELS - NATO is boosting its ability to refuel aircraft in mid-air with equipping new air-to-air refueling tankers, the organization said Tuesday. NATO allies, the Netherlands and Luxembourg, have decided to purchase two Airbus A330 multi-role tanker transport aircraft recently, according to a NATO press release. The aircraft will be NATO property and be stationed at Eindhoven Air Base for pooling and sharing, said the Dutch Ministry of Defense. Air-to-air re-

fueling tankers are critical to long-distance deployments in support of other aircraft. The Airbus tankers will be able to refuel a wide range of NATO aircraft. They will also support European capabilities in strategic passenger transport, cargo transport and medical emergency transport. Two aircraft will be assembled in Toulouse, France, and converted into tankers in Spain. They will be delivered to NATO in 2020, the statement added. (Xinhua)

Turkey Warns US Not to 'Sacrifice' Relations for Sake of Gulen

ANKARA - Turkey warned the United States (US) on Tuesday not to sacrifice bilateral ties over Pennsylvania-based preacher Fethullah Gulen, whom Ankara blames for the July 15 failed coup and wants to see extradited to face trial. "If the US does not deliver (Gulen), they will sacrifice relations with Turkey for the sake of a terrorist," Justice Minister Bekir Bozdag told reporters

during a televised briefing in the capital Ankara. Turkey has repeatedly pressed Washington to extradite the 75-year-old cleric to face trial over the attempted putsch, which saw a rogue military faction try to oust President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. Gulen strongly denies Ankara's accusations and his lawyer on Friday said Turkey had failed to provide "a scintilla" of proof to... (More on P4)...(28)

Neighbor News

Pakistani Taliban Group Claims Responsibility for Quetta Massacre

ISLAMABAD - A splinter group of the Pakistani Taliban claimed responsibility for the suicide bombing in Quetta that killed over 70 people and injured more than 100 on Monday. "We claim the responsibility for the Quetta martyrdom attack," the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan Jamaat-ul-Ahrar (TTP JA) said. "The TTP JA first targeted Bilal Anwar Kasi, president of the local lawyers association, and then a bomber struck

the protesting lawyers and the gov't officials," the TTP JA spokesman Ehsanullah Ehsan said in a statement sent to the local media. He warned of more such attacks. TTP JA is a splinter group mainly comprised of the Taliban militants from Mohmand tribal region that border Afghanistan. The group is considered more hardliner within the Taliban and routinely claims responsibility for attacks in the country. (Xinhua)

Chinese Vice Premier Inaugurates New Confucius Classroom in Mexico



CANCUN, Mexico - A new Confucius Classroom was inaugurated at the Universidad del Caribe (Unicaribe) by visiting Chinese Vice Premier Liu Yandong on Sunday in Cancun, in the southeast Mexican state of Quintana Roo. During the inauguration ceremony, Liu said that Mexican students' fluent Chinese and great performances made her feel the charm of cultural exchange, and see the bright future of friendly ties between the two countries. The bilateral relationship between China and Mexico was upgraded to a comprehensive strategic partnership during Chinese

President Xi Jinping's visit to Mexico in June 2013. Liu said that China hopes to work together with Mexico to deepen pragmatic cooperation in various fields and bring more benefits to the two peoples. As the year 2017 will mark the 45th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries, Liu said her visit aimed to implement important agreements reached by the two presidents, by enhancing political mutual trust, expanding economic cooperation, and deepening cultural and people-to-people exchanges to further nourish China-Mexico ties. (Xinhua)

Iran will Never Compromise on Distance from US: Leader

TEHRAN - Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei says Iran will never back down from distancing itself from the United States. "Keeping a distance from the head of the arrogant movement, i.e. the US, is one of the most important definitive principles of the great founder of the Islamic Republic (the late Imam Khomeini) and there is no room for any compromise or negligence in this regard," Ayatollah Khamenei said in a meeting with Iran's Intelligence Minister Mahmoud Alavi and other senior personnel of the ministry

on Tuesday. Ayatollah Khamenei hailed the relentless efforts of the ministry, describing it as a "very important and crucial bastion" and "the wakeful and observant eye of the Islamic establishment." "The Intelligence Ministry is the hard shell of the Islamic establishment and should never become vulnerable," the Leader added. The Leader further called for the presence and operation of the ministry anywhere suspected of becoming a hideout for the enemy to deal a blow to the Islamic Republic. (Presstv)

Int'l Water Symposium Involving Experts from 90 States Opened in Tajikistan

ALMATY - The international symposium for water and sanitary has been opened in Tajikistan, reports the Tajikistan Telegraph Agency (TajikTA). "The international symposium on the high level on the 6th goal of sustainable development and target task "Achievement of comprehensive access to water and sanitary" will be opened today in

Dushanbe, conducted by the UN representation under support of the UN, OSCE and other organizations," said the department. The forum will involve about 500 experts from 90 states, including from 47 international and regional organizations, such as SCO, CIS, ECO, the World Bank and Red Cross. (Monitoring Desk)