

## Britain's New Leader Johnson Vows to Get Brexit Done

LONDON - Boris Johnson, the Brexititeer who has promised to lead Britain out of the European Union with or without a deal by the end of October, will replace Theresa May as prime minister after winning the leadership of the Conservative Party on Tuesday.

His convincing victory catapults the United Kingdom towards a showdown with the EU and towards a constitutional crisis at home, as British lawmakers have vowed to bring down any government that tries to leave the bloc without a divorce deal.

Johnson, the face of the 2016 Brexit referendum, won the votes of 92,153 members of the Conservative party, al-



most twice the 46,656 won by his rival, Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt. May will leave office on Wednesday after going to Buckingham Palace to see Queen Elizabeth, who will formally appoint Johnson before he enters Downing Street.

"We are going to get Brexit done on Oct. 31, and we are going to take advantage of all the opportunities it will bring in a new spirit of 'can do,'" Johnson, 55, said after the result was announced.

"Like some slumbering giant, we are going to rise and ping off the guy-ropes of self-doubt and negativity." Johnson said the mantra of his leadership campaign had been to "deliver Brexit, unite the country and defeat (opposition Labour leader) Jeremy Corbyn - and that is what we are going to do". Within half an hour of his victory, U.S. President Donald Trump had tweeted his congratulations, adding: "He will be great!". The men have recently been complimentary about each other - yet Trump is one of the many world leaders, including Russian President Vladimir Putin and Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan, about ...*(More on P4)...(5)*

### Israeli Forces Laugh and Cheer as They Blow Up West Bank Building

JERUSALEM - Israeli police and military were filmed laughing and cheering as they blew up a Palestinian building in the West Bank district of Wadi Hummus in East Jerusalem on Monday. The footage shows three men looking down on the area where Israel began demolition of 13 buildings, after a High Court ruled against an appeal to stop the demolition ordered by the Defense Ministry, which said the buildings were too close

to the separation barrier Israel constructed around and inside the West Bank in the 2000s. A man wearing a balaclava holds the controls to set off the explosions inside the building below. Once it starts to explode, the men laugh and celebrate as other people can be heard cheering and whistling. The buildings are located on the outskirts of Sur Baher in Wadi Hummus, which is in Area A of the West Bank, meaning it is under ...*(More on P4)...(9)*

### 'He'll Be Great': Trump Tweets His Congratulations after Boris Johnson Chosen as Prime Minister

WASHINGTON - Donald Trump has relayed his congratulations after Boris Johnson was selected as the next prime minister of the UK. The US president has described Johnson as a friend, but the pair's relationship hasn't always been rosy. Johnson "will be great" as the next UK leader, Trump tweeted on Tuesday, shortly after Johnson was appointed the new head of the Conservative Party and thus, the next prime minister.

Trump reportedly told Johnson that he would "do a great job" as prime minister in a phone call last week, predicting that they would have a "great relationship." Trump and Johnson do have a colorful relationship. The US president considers Johnson a "friend" and a "very talented guy," but the newly-anointed prime minister stirred up media speculation after turning down a face-to-face meeting with Trump during his state visit to the UK in June.



Instead, they reportedly exchanged pleasantries in a 20-minute phone call, which an aide for Johnson described as "friendly and productive." Johnson's feelings about Trump have been less ...*(More on P4)...(6)*

### Europeans, China, Russia to Meet Iran in Vienna on July 28

BRUSSELS - Britain, France, Germany, Russia and China will meet Iran in Vienna on July 28 to discuss how to save the 2015 nuclear deal, the EU's foreign policy service said in a statement on Tuesday.

"The meeting has been convened at the request of France, Germany, the United Kingdom, and Iran, and will examine issues linked to the implementation of the JCPOA in all its aspects," the statement said.

The Joint Commission of the Joint Comprehensive



Plan of Action (JCPOA), will be chaired by the EU Secretary General Helga foreign policy service's Schmid. (Reuters)

### Trump to Host State Dinner for Australian Prime Minister

WASHINGTON - President Donald Trump and first lady Melania Trump are hosting an official visit and state dinner in September for the prime minister of Australia, a conservative, who like Trump, defied public opinion polls and won his first full term in office last May. It's only the second state dinner Trump has held since he became president. The first was for French President Emmanuel Macron in April 2018.

The White House announced Monday that Prime Minister Scott Morrison and his wife, Jenny, have been invited to the Sept. 20 dinner. Morrison was only installed the previous August by government colleagues who had lost confidence in his predecessor Malcolm Turnbull. His tenure was expected to be a short one, but his conservative coalition won a surprise victory. Trump and Morrison had ...*(More on P4)...(10)*

### Hong Kong Protests Could Push China to Intervene

BEIJING - While China doesn't want to intervene in the summer-long protests that have shaken Hong Kong, that doesn't mean it won't.

The movement, now in its seventh week, has veered into more dangerous territory on two fronts.

Protesters, who had previously besieged the city's legislature and police headquarters, directed their ire at China itself on Sunday, defacing the central government's official emblem and pelting its building in Hong Kong with eggs. Needless to say, their actions were not well-received in Beijing.

In an escalation on the other side, a group armed ...*(More on P4)...(11)*

### India's Top Court Allows a Month Longer for Citizens' List in Assam

NEW DELHI - India's Supreme Court on Tuesday gave authorities in a northeastern state an extra month to complete a citizenship list to identify illegal immigrants in an exercise that has stoked concern for millions of people, most of them Muslim.

Residents of state of Assam, which borders Bangladesh, have to produce documents proving that they or their families lived in the country before March 24, 1971 - the year that hundreds of thousands of people fled Bangladesh during its India-backed war of independence from Pakistan.

"We extend the deadline for final publication of National Register for Citizens in Assam from July 31 to August 31," chief justice Ranjan Gogoi said, adding that floods in Assam made work on the list difficult. ...*(More on P4)...(12)*

### South Korea Says It Fired 360 Warning Rounds at Russian Jets Who Entered Its Airspace, Moscow Disputes Incident

SEOUL - South Korean air force jets fired 360 rounds of warning shots Tuesday in response to "multiple" Russian military planes that entered into the South's airspace, officials said. Seoul officials said three Russian military planes - two Tu-95 bombers and one A-50 airborne early warning and control aircraft - entered the South's air defense identification zone off its east coast before the A-50 intruded in South Korean airspace.



An unspecified number of South Korean fighter jets, including F-16s, scrambled to the area

and fired 10 flares and 80 rounds from machine guns as warning shots. South Korean defense officials said the Russian aircrafts left the area three minutes later, but later returned and violated the country's airspace again for four

minutes. Again, South Korean fighter jets responded by firing 10 flares and 280 rounds from machine guns as warning shots. Russia quickly disputed the incident, saying ...*(More on P4)...(7)*

### Kim Jong-Un Tours 'Powerful Submarine' to be Deployed East of N. Korea's Coast

PYONGYANG - The "newly-built submarine" was presented to Kim Jong-un who gave "special attention" to the underwater vessel, according to the state-run Korean Central News Agency (KCNA). An array of photos, it released on Tuesday, shows the North Korean leader walking around the submarine's hull and talking to his aides.

KCNA's visuals make it challenging to guess the actual proportions of the

craft, and its report was not heavy on detail, other than to say that the date it will set sail "is near at hand." Kim, in turn, stated that the submarine is likely to see deployment off North Korea's eastern coast. The tight-lipped release also did not mention what types of weapons systems could be installed on board. North Korea still has a brown-water navy which operates mainly within its own ...*(More on P4)...(8)*

## Neighbor News

### 'Nuclear War Is Not an Option': Pakistani PM Says He'd Give Up Nukes If India Did So Too

ISLAMABAD - In a stunning statement, Pakistan's Prime Minister Imran Khan said that he would be willing to give up his nation's nuclear weapons if its rival India vowed to do the same. He also urged New Delhi to come to the negotiating table.

When asked by Fox News' Bret Baier if India offered to relinquish its nuclear arsenal, would Pakistan, Khan answered with an emphatic "yes."

"Because nuclear war is not an option. And between Pakistan and India, the idea of nuclear war is actually self-destruction, because we have two and a half thousand-mile border," Khan said.

ed that the recent escalation in tensions between the two nuclear rivals, following sporadic outbreaks of violence in the aftermath of a major terrorist attack, was unnecessary. Khan said he had asked US President Donald Trump to mediate between the two regional powers over the Kashmir issue, which Khan said was the only reason for which, over the past "70 years that we have not been able to act like civilized neighbors."

Khan played down India's fiery response to reports of potential talks mediated by the US, in which New Delhi insisted that negotiations could only take place bilaterally. (RT)

### Iran Has Intercontinental Drones, Will Use Them If Necessary: Navy Chief

TEHRAN - Navy Commander Rear Admiral Hossein Khanzadi says Iran is in possession of intercontinental drones and will definitely put them to use if the need for a long-haul mission arises.

Elaborating on Iran's drone capabilities in an interview with the Young Journalists Club (YJC) published on Tuesday, Khanzadi said the country monitors American ships in the Persian Gulf and has "complete images and a large archive of the daily and moment-by-moment movements" of the vessels belonging to the US and its allies. "We can bravely declare that we observe all

enemy ships, particularly Americans, point-by-point from their origin until the moment they enter the region," he said, adding that Iran's Armed Forces also possess information about the type of their missions and their conduct in the region. Khanzadi also complained that enemy ships create "severe insecurity" by "aimless sailing and hypocritical behavior" in the region. "Our drones monitor their ships and warships from their entry moment and the monitoring process continues until they sail into the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman. (Press TV)

### Turkmenistan, Argentina Mull Prospects for Co-Op in Energy Sector

ASHGABAT - The Turkmen Foreign Ministry hosted a meeting with Ambassador of Argentina (with residence in Moscow) Ricardo Ernesto Lagorio, Trend reports with reference to Turkmen Foreign Ministry.

The diplomat noted that Argentina is committed to expanding mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries, the report said. The parties discussed the development of trade and economic re-

lations, having considered the possibilities of establishing exports and imports between the two countries. It was noted that Argentina has extensive experience in the areas of agriculture, cattle breeding and energy. In this regard, the topic of organizing business meetings was raised. In recent years, Turkmenistan has been developing cooperation with Latin American countries, including Brazil, Mexico and Venezuela. (Trend)

### ADB to Support Energy Reforms in Uzbekistan

TASHKENT - Asian Development Bank (ADB) will continue to provide strong support in the Uzbek government's energy reform program through both its public and private sector operations, Trend reports with reference to ADB. Energy Division Director in ADB's Central and West Asia Department Ashok Bhargava discussed this topic at the roundtable organized by the Government of Uzbekistan, attended by various international financial institutions (IFIs) including the ADB.

Modernizing and reforming the energy sector is the centerpiece of the government's ambitious program to transition Uzbekistan to an industrialized and upper middle-income country by 2030.

"ADB has initiated key reform actions to achieve financial sustainability in the power sector and has supported successful structural reforms in the largest state-owned enterprise in oil and gas sector. We are very much encouraged by the government's plan to further intensify reforms and actively seek private investments in the sector," Bhargava said. ADB has been the largest investor among IFIs in Uzbekistan's energy sector with a \$1.7 billion portfolio spanning generation, transmission, and distribution subsectors. Aside from infrastructure investments, ADB has also been supporting the power sector through various technical assistance grants for more than a decade. (Trend)