

# Putin Seeks Global Anti-Terrorism Fight after 19 Killed in Mali Attack

BAMAKO - Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Saturday he wanted global cooperation to combat terrorism in the wake of an Islamist militant attack on a luxury hotel in Mali that killed 19 people including six Russians. Friday's assault came a week after militants killed 130 people in gun and bomb attacks in Paris claimed by Islamic State, and three weeks after a Russian airliner was downed over Egypt's Sinai Peninsula by what Moscow and Western governments say was a bomb, killing 224 all people aboard. The bloodshed at the Radisson Blu



hotel in Mali, a former French colony, evoked the problems French troops

and U.N. peacekeepers face in restoring security and order in a West African

state that has battled rebels and militants in its weakly governed desert

north for years. Jihadist groups Al Mourabitoun and al Qaeda in the Is-

lamic Maghreb (AQIM) claimed responsibility for the attack, which ended when Malian commandos stormed the building and rescued 170 people, many of them foreigners. President Ibrahim Bou-bacar Keita said two militants were killed in the commando operation. His government increased security at strategic points around Bamako at the start of a declared 10-day state of emergency. "Mali will not shut down because of this attack. Paris and New York were not shut down and Mali won't be. Terrorism will not win," ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

## Nieghbor News

### Drone Crashes in Iran Near Iraqi Border



DUBAI - A drone crashed in southwestern Iran near the Iraqi border on Saturday, media reported, though there were differing accounts on whether it was a foreign or a domestic aircraft. Fars news agency quoted the governor of Shush county in Khuzestan province saying a foreign surveillance drone had come

down near the city of Shush. Later, state news agency IRNA quoted the same official, Reza Nejadi, saying it was an Iranian machine and denying he had ever said otherwise. "This drone was flying a daily route inside the country," Nejadi was quoted as saying by IRNA. He said technical issues brought it down. *(Reuters)*

### Britain should Cooperate with Russia over Syria Strikes: Moscow

MOSCOW - Britain should cooperate with Russia in any air strikes it carries out in Syria, Russian foreign ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said in an interview broadcast on Saturday, underlining Moscow's growing assertiveness in the region. Britain has already launched air strikes against Islamic State militants in Iraq. But Prime Minister David Cameron wants to fol-

low allies by extending the operation to militant positions in neighboring Syria, and has said he will submit a plan to parliament to do so. "Undoubtedly, it (any British action) should be a matter of cooperation, so that the steps are not directed at destroying the statehood of Syria," Zakharova told current affairs program Vesti on Saturday. Zakharova cited remarks by the ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

### Britain's Cameron Sees U.N. Resolution on Syria Action as Key Moment

LONDON - British Prime Minister David Cameron said the United Nations Security Council's resolution to redouble action against Islamic State in Syria was an important moment, strengthening his bid to start air strikes against the militant group there. The Security Council unanimously adopted a resolution on Friday drafted by France after a series of attacks in Paris a week ago that killed 130 people and were claimed by Islamic State. "This is an important moment," said Cameron in a statement soon afterwards. "The international community has come together and has resolved to defeat this evil, which threatens people of every country

and every religion." Britain is already involved in air strikes against Islamic State militants in Iraq. Cameron wants to extend the operation to hit Islamic State in Syria to fall into line with allies, and has said he will submit a plan to parliament to do so. He will meet French President Francois Hollande on Monday to discuss the fight against terrorism in Syria and Iraq, his spokesman said on Saturday. Islamic State has seized large areas of territory in Syria and neighbouring Iraq. A U.S.-led coalition has been bombing the militants for more than a year and Russia started air strikes in Syria in September. *(Reuters)*

## Obama Visits Refugees in Malaysia to Highlight Global Crisis

KUALA LUMPUR - U.S. President Barack Obama visited a refugee centre in Malaysia on Saturday to highlight his call for more compassion at home to deal with a global migrant crisis, as Republicans seek to block U.S. acceptance of Syrian refugees. Speaking of the children he met at the Dignity for Children Foundation in Kuala Lumpur, Obama said "that's the face of not only children from Myanmar, that's the face of Syrian children and Iraqi children". Many of the children at the centre were Muslim Rohingyas who have fled persecution in Myanmar. Alluding to Republican critics

who are trying to halt the flow of Syrian refugees to the United States, Obama said: "The notion that somehow we would be fearful of them, that our politics would somehow leave us to turn our sights away from their plight is not representative of the best of who we are." Obama's visit to the refugee centre came a week after attacks by Islamic State militants in Paris renewed debate over his plan to bring more than 10,000 Syrian refugees into the United States over the next year. U.S. lawmakers have called for Obama to pause or stop the program altogether, citing concerns it could lead to



infiltration of militants who could launch Paris-style attacks. "Apparently they're scared of widows and orphans coming into the United States of America," Obama said on Wednesday in Manila, where he was attending the Asia-Pacific Economic

Cooperation summit. He insisted that the process for screening refugees for possible entry into the United States was rigorous and said the United States didn't make good decisions "based on hysteria" or exaggerated risk. *(Reuters)*

## Migrant Flow into Sweden Drops after Border Checks Brought Back

STOCKHOLM - The number of new migrant arrivals in Sweden has dropped by a third since it reinstated border controls earlier this month, the country's migration agency said Saturday. "The number of (new) asylum seekers has decreased from 1,500 a day to some 900 since border controls were reintroduced" on November 12, the Swedish Migration Agency said in a statement. Worsening weather conditions may have also



contributed to the decline, it added. Short-staffed authori-

ties still face a backlog of applications submitted before the controls were

reintroduced, the agency said. The restrictions are likely to be extended to December 11, the interior ministry has said. Long a preferred destination for people fleeing war and poverty, Sweden like several other EU countries reinstated border controls in a bid to gain control over the unprecedented influx. A country of 9.8 million people, Sweden has taken in more refugees as a proportion of its population than any other country in Europe. *(AFP)*

### India Seeks to Tap into Connections with ASEAN Nations: PM

KUALA LUMPUR - India will extend credit of up to 1 billion U.S. dollars to fund physical and digital links with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Prime Minister Narendra Modi said here on Saturday. The finance was one of a series of measures to deepen India's connections to the 10 member states of ASEAN, Modi told ASEAN leaders at the ASEAN-India Summit. It would also expand its partnership in capacity-building projects with the four least developed ASEAN nations - Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV), said Modi. "In addition, we intend to



create a Project Development Fund to develop manufacturing hubs in CLMV countries," he said. The ASEAN-India Science and Technology Development Fund would be expanded from 1 million U.S. dollars to 5 million U.S. dollars. "We also intend to set up an ASEAN-India Innovation Platform to facili-

tate commercialization of low-cost technologies, technology transfer and collaborative R&D projects," said Modi. "I also propose that we cooperate in sustainable development of ocean or blue economy. This will be an increasingly important driver of our future economy and a source of food ...*(More on P4)...(19)*

### 10 Years in Office and no Signs of Stopping: Merkel

BERLIN - Angela Merkel marks her 10th anniversary at the helm of Germany on Sunday, becoming only the third post-World War II chancellor to hit that milestone. Over Merkel's decade in charge, she has presided over Germany's strong re-emergence on the world scene - showing leadership in the European financial crisis, pioneering the use of renewable energies and embracing a role as a key negotiator in the Ukraine conflict and a moral authority in Europe's migrant crisis.

At home, the European Union's most populous country has seen plenty of change, but Merkel has won over voters with an aura of reassuring stability that has earned her the nickname "Mutti" or "mom." Even amid turbulence over her welcoming attitude toward refugees, there's little sign of an alternative to Merkel. Under Merkel, Germany has found a new assertiveness - at least in economic diplomacy - since the Eurozone debt crisis erupted in Greece. Berlin has been key to designing the response, a combination of aid in exchange for budget cuts and economic reforms, and has shown determination in applying it, despite widespread criticism abroad for what many view as a damaging focus on austerity. Since Merkel's third-term government took office in 2013, Germany also has shown signs of playing a more active diplomatic role - in particular...*(More on P4)...(21)*

### Serbia Stages Successful Anti-Terrorist Exercise

BELGRADE - Serbian Security Services on Saturday demonstrated their capability of dealing with potential terrorist attacks at a public exercise. The exercise named "Shield 2015" was attended by Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic, chief of Serbian armed forces Ljubisa Dikovic, interior minister Nebojsa Stefanovic and defense minister Bratislav Gasic as well as several hundred citizens. The demonstration included 700 members of the anti-terrorist battalion "Hawks," special military police unit...*(More on P4)...(22)*

### DPRK Rejects "Politicization of Human Rights"

PYONGYANG - The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) on Saturday rejected a human rights resolution passed Thursday by the 70th UN General Assembly, accusing hostile forces of seeking to subvert its social system. The official KCNA news agency reported, citing an unnamed foreign ministry spokesman, that the resolution adopted on human rights records in the DPRK was "a vivid expression of the U.S. hostile policy toward the DPRK and a typical example of politicization of human rights." The spokesman blasted the resolution, saying it was drafted by Japan and the European Union with U.S. manipulation and that it is "a politically-motivated provocative document." The resolution was in large part based on testimonies of "defectors from the north," but Pyongyang has denied the truth...*(More on P4)...(23)*

### Belgium Taking all Possible Measures to Minimize Terrorist Risks: FM

BRUSSELS - Belgian Foreign Minister Didier Reynders told Xinhua in an interview late Friday night that Belgium is taking all possible measures to minimize the risks of being a target of terrorist attacks. "Following recent terrorist attacks in Paris, the Belgian restricted cabinet has agreed to put in place additional important actions to tackle the terrorist threat, while respecting citizens' funda-

mental rights," said Reynders. He said that Belgium had already strengthened border controls and deployed military to reinforce security and the new measures will reinforce and complement the already existing comprehensive strategy. He briefed that new judicial measures will be implemented, such as the 24hrs/day house searches and the revision of the code of...*(More on P4)...(20)*

### China-CEEC Agricultural Cooperation Highly Promising: Gelev

SOFIA - Agricultural cooperation between China and Central and Eastern European countries (CEEC) is highly promising, and team play is the key to success, an official told Xinhua in a recent interview. Vasil Gelev, Executive Director of the Association for the Promotion of Agricultural Cooperation between China and the Central and Eastern European Countries (APACC-CEEC) said that there is a demand in China for agricultural products from CEEC, and CEEC have the opportunity to provide Chinese consumers with the necessary quantity of products with the required quality. At the same time, CEEC are hungry for Chinese investment in agriculture, Gelev said on the eve of the fourth lead-

ers' meeting of China and the 16 CEEC that will be held in China's Suzhou city from Nov. 24 to 25. Strengthening contacts and coordination between the parties involved, with the team play as a key element, is the right way to success, Gelev said. That is why, APACCCEEC was established at intergovernmental level this June to coordinate the activities of the ministries on the one hand, and the businesses on the other hand, Gelev said. To facilitate business contacts between real business subjects in China and CEEC, and attract significant investment by providing Chinese investors with summarized, easily accessible and updated information, his association is in the process of creating a unified database, Gelev said. *(Xinhua)*

### Pakistan Strongly Condemns Mali Hotel Attack

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan on Saturday strongly condemned the attack at a hotel in Mali, which killed 27 people, including three Chinese nationals. The Jihadist Al-Murabitoun group had claimed responsibility for the attack on the Radisson Blu hotel in Bamako, Mali, on Friday. More than 100 other hostages were rescued by Malian forces at the hotel. "Pakistan strongly condemns the terrorist attack and hostage-taking at Radisson-Blu Hotel in Bamako, Mali, yesterday morning which has resulted

in the loss of precious lives," the Foreign Ministry said. "The people and Government of Pakistan share the pain and anguish of the people and Government of Mali over this terrorist attack and wish to convey their heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims," a Foreign Ministry statement said. The statement said terrorism is a common enemy of mankind and that Pakistan reiterates its condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. *(Xinhua)*

### Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan Set to Mull Economic Co-Op

ASHGABAT - A meeting of the Turkmenistan-Kazakhstan Intergovernmental Commission for Economic, Scientific, Technical and Cultural Cooperation opened in Ashgabat on Friday, according to a message from Turkmen government. It is expected that talks will be held Nov. 21 as part of the event between the Turkmen minister of oil and gas industry and mineral resources, Muhametnur Halylov and Kazakh minister of energy, Vladimir Shkolnik. "During the two-day meeting the parties will exchange views on a wide range of issues reflecting the current level of cooperation between

Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan," read the message. Representatives of the ministries and agencies of the two countries will particularly discuss prospects for trade and economic cooperation. They will also mull cooperation in gas sector, agriculture, development of transboundary mineral deposits, transportation, ecology and fishery. Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan are involved in a major project to deliver the Central Asian gas to China. The China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC) has been buying gas from the Central Asia since 2009. *(Agencies)*