

France Needs 'Society of Vigilance' Against Islamist 'Hydra': Macron

PARIS - France must develop a "society of vigilance" in its fight against the "Hydra" of Islamist militancy, President Emmanuel Macron said on Tuesday, as he paid homage to the victims of a deadly knife attack at the headquarters of the Paris police.

The assailant, an IT worker at the premises, killed three police officers and an administrative worker with a knife last week, before being shot dead by police.

Initial investigations have revealed that the Martiniq-born man, a convert to Islam, had contacts with individuals likely to



belong to an Islamist Salafist movement, according to prosecutors.

"The administrative services alone, and all

the combined services of the state alone, will not be able to overcome the Islamist 'Hydra,'" said Macron, during the somber

ceremony held in pouring rain at the police headquarters near Notre Dame Cathedral.

"It's up to the entire nation, which needs to unite, mobilize and be ready to act," added Macron, who said France needed to develop a "society of vigilance" where everyone was looking out for any signs of people at risk of being influenced by Islamist extremist networks.

Macron's reference to the Greek mythological monster of the "Hydra" conveyed an image of a threat springing up from multiple sources.

(Reuters)

Neighbor News

China, Pakistan to Advance Military Ties

BEIJING - Xu Qiliang, vice chairman of the Central Military Commission, said Tuesday that China is willing to keep advancing the ties between China and Pakistan and their militaries.

Xu made the remarks when meeting with Pakistan's Chief of Army Staff Qamar Javed Bajwa in Beijing. The friendship between the two countries has weathered the changing international landscape and stayed rock-solid, he said.

China is willing to implement the important consensus reached by the leaders of the two

countries, strengthen pragmatic cooperation with Pakistan in various fields and deal with risks and challenges together with Pakistan, according to Xu.

Bajwa delivered his congratulations on the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, and said the Pakistani military is willing to strengthen strategic communication and pragmatic cooperation with the Chinese military, so as to make contributions to safeguarding regional peace and stability.

(Xinhua)

India Accuses Pakistan of 'Weaponizing' Women's Rights for Political Gain

NEW DELHI - India has lashed out at Pakistan's permanent representative to the UN for "weaponizing women's rights issues through empty rhetoric" for political gain in the flashpoint region of Jammu and Kashmir.

The conflict between India and Pakistan received an unexpected platform at the meeting on the Advancement of Women at the United Nations, becoming a subject of verbal sparring between female

representatives of the two countries.

When Maleeha Lodhi, Pakistan's outgoing representative to the UN, took the floor, she spoke of the "plight of women living under occupation" in the disputed region. The diplomat argued the lockdown, imposed by Indian authorities, has exacerbated women's "pain and suffering."

To prove her point, she referred to the recent front page photograph from the New York Times ...*(More on P4)...(11)*

LONDON - A Number 10 source said German Chancellor Angela Merkel has made it clear that the chances of an agreement are "overwhelmingly unlikely".

Downing Street has accused Brussels of making it "impossible" for Britain to leave the European Union with a deal.

Following a call between Boris Johnson and Angela Merkel, a Number 10 source said the German Chancellor had made it clear that the EU had taken a "new position"

Johnson Accuses EU of Making it Impossible to Leave With a Deal

following the tabling of the latest UK plan last week.

"She made clear a deal is overwhelmingly unlikely and she thinks the EU has a veto on us leaving the customs union," the source, quoted by Sky News, said.

Mrs Merkel is said to have told the Prime Minister that Northern Ireland is the UK's "special problem" and that the Irish Republic must at least have a veto on it leaving the customs union.

"It was a very useful clarifying moment in all



sorts of ways," the source said. "If this represents a new established position, then it means a deal is essentially impossible,

not just now but ever." It also made clear that they are willing to torpedo the Good Friday Agreement." (Belfast Telegraph)

Turkey Says Won't Bow to Trump Threat on Syria Plan, Army Ready to Assault Kurds



ANKARA - Suffering backlash from GOP after enabling attack on US allies, president has warned he'll destroy Ankara's economy if it goes too far

Turkey will not bow to threats over its Syria plans, the Turkish vice president said Tuesday in an apparent response to President Donald Trump's

warning to Ankara the previous day about the scope of its planned military incursion into northeastern Syria.

In Ankara, Turkish Vice President Fuat Oktay said Turkey was intent on combating Syrian Kurdish fighters across its border in Syria and on creating a zone that would allow Turkey to resettle Syrian refugees there.

"Where Turkey's security is concerned, we determine our own path but we set our own limits," Oktay said.

Meanwhile Turkey's defense ministry announced that preparations for the offensive have been "completed."

Trump said earlier this week following a phone call with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan that the United States would step aside for an expected Turkish attack on Syrian Kurdish fighters, who have fought alongside Americans for years. But he then threatened to destroy the Turks' economy if they ...*(More on P4)...(12)*

EU Tells British PM Johnson to Stop Playing 'Stupid' Brexit Blame Game

LONDON - The

European Union accused Britain of playing a "stupid blame game" over Brexit on Tuesday after a Downing Street source said a deal was essentially impossible because German Chancellor Angela Merkel had made unacceptable demands.

With just 23 days before the United Kingdom is due to leave the bloc, the future of Brexit remains deeply uncertain and both London and Brussels are positioning themselves to avoid blame for a delay or a disorderly no-deal

Brexit.

In a sign that Johnson's last-ditch proposals to bridge the impasse have failed, a Downing Street source said Merkel and Johnson spoke on Tuesday morning and she made clear that a deal was "overwhelmingly unlikely".

The Downing Street source said that if Merkel's position on Northern Ireland remaining in the EU's customs union was the bloc's position, then a deal was impossible. (Reuters)

Private Pension Funds Could Be Created in Uzbekistan

TASHKENTEN - Uzbekistan plans to form a regulatory framework for creation of private pension funds in the country, said Atabek Nazirov, director of the Capital Market Development Agency.

According to him, at the Oct. 7 meeting chaired by the president was discussed the pension reform, in particular the creation of private pension funds in Uzbekistan by the end of the next year.

"We will work closely with the Ministry of Finance. Based on my experience, I think that by the end of next year some serious developments and the first versions of fundamen-

tal bills will have been drafted," he added.

He noted that all over the world, pension savings are the main driver of private savings.

"We do not have such practice yet and we have been instructed by [the president] to study the best world experience and see what model of pension reform we can offer in Uzbekistan," he noted. According to Tursuna Makhkamova, the head of the agency's department, when private pension funds will be created in Uzbekistan, the public will have a choice where to keep their savings and earn money on them. (Tashkenttimes)

Germany Warns of Repeat of 2015 Migrant Influx into EU

LUXEMBOURG - Germany warned on Tuesday of a repeat of the chaotic influx of migrants that caught the European Union unprepared in 2015, with Greece and Cyprus sounding alarms over a fresh surge of arrivals from neighboring Turkey.

EU ministers were meeting to discuss migration as Greece has again become the main gateway to Europe for people fleeing wars and poverty in the Middle East, Asia and Africa, with U.N. data showing nearly 45,600 arrivals by sea so far this year.

"If we leave all the countries on the EU's external border (to fend for themselves), there will never be a common European asylum policy," German interior minister Horst Seehofer said.

Syrian Kurds Fear 'Ethnic Cleansing' after US Troop Pullout Announcement

DAMASCUS - There's an old Kurdish expression, "no friend but the mountains."

And, in the aftermath of President Trump's surprise announcement Sunday that the U.S. would be withdrawing from the predominantly Kurdish enclave in Northern Syria, those left languishing are sorely voicing the phrase. It's a phrase that has come to define their generations-long struggle, punctured by constant abandonment by foreign leaders.

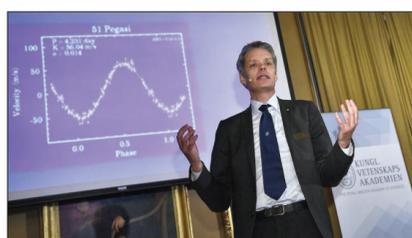
cleansing, whether by the Turkish Army or the Free Syrian Army, or a process of demographic ...*(More on P4)...(13)*

The Latest: Nobel Winners' Work Illustrated with Coffee Cup

STOCKHOLM - The Latest on the Nobel Prize in Physics (all times local): 2 p.m.

A member of the Swedish Science Academy has recited the first lines of the theme song of TV show "The Big Bang Theory" that "our whole universe was in a hot, dense state. Then nearly 14 billion years ago expansion started ..."

At a news conference where the winners were announced, professor Ulf Danielsson used a transparent cup with



black coffee, poured milk in it and added a pinch of sugar to illustrate the work of the laureates of the 2019 Nobel Prize in Physics - James Peebles, Michel Mayor and Didier Queloz.

He added, "This is the

dark energy, then a fair amount of cream, this is the dark matter, and then just a tiny little bit of sugar. This is the ordinary matter, this is what science has been all about for thousands of years."

Hong Kong's Leader Warns 'No Options Ruled Out' if Protests Continue

BEIJING - Hong Kong's leader has issued a veiled warning that Beijing could intervene with force to quell the territory's violent anti-government protests, but after months of unrest, she said she still believes "we should find solutions ourselves."

Chief Executive Carrie Lam spoke at a news conference on Tuesday days after invoking a colonial-era law to prohibit the wearing of face masks during protests, which are now in their 18th week. She said she has no plans to enact further emergency powers despite "limitless and lawless" acts of violence by

demonstrators over the weekend.

"I still strongly feel that we should find the solutions ourselves," Lam said.

"That is also the position of the central government that Hong Kong should tackle the problem on her own but if the situation becomes so bad, then no options could be ruled out if we want Hong Kong to at least have another chance," she said.

Thousands of Chinese troops are stationed throughout Hong Kong, but so far have not left their barracks, allowing instead the territory's police to put down the protests. (NPR)

China Urges U.S. to Stop Interfering in Internal Affairs

BEIJING - A Foreign Ministry spokesperson on Tuesday urged the U.S. side to stop interfering in China's internal affairs, after the U.S. Department of Commerce announced that it would add 28 Chinese organizations to its entity list.

"Xinjiang affairs are purely China's internal affairs and brook no interference from any country," spokesperson Geng Shuang said at a press briefing.

Geng said that the United States' actions of adding 28 Chinese governmental and commercial organizations to the Entity List and constricting the export of items severely violate the basic norms governing international relations, interfere in China's internal affairs and undermine China's interests.

China expresses strong dissatisfaction and firm opposition, he said.

There is no so-called "human rights issue" in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, and the United States' accusations are merely excuses deliberately created to interfere in China's internal affairs, he said.

The purpose of anti-terrorism and deradicalization measures in Xinjiang is to prevent extremism and terrorism from the root, which accords with China's laws as well as international practice, according to Geng.

"China will continue to take firm and forceful measures to resolutely safeguard sovereignty, security and development interests," he said. (Xinhua)

Uzbekistan, Japan May Launch Electric Buses

TASHKENTEN - Uzbekistan and Japan are in talks to launch the production of electric buses. This became known as a result of the meeting held on the eve chaired by Shavkat Mirziyoyev, the presidential press service said in a statement.

The visit of the Uzbek President to Japan is scheduled in the year-end. As part of the preparations for the visit, agreements were reached on the implementation of energy, transport, agriculture and services sectors projects. Negotiations are also underway on projects aimed at the production of chemical products and the construction of a power plant using Japanese technologies,

modernization of the water treatment and supply system, production of urban electric buses".

Earlier that Tashkent-shahartransport (local government body responsible for Tashkent transport) may purchase a batch of Belarusian electric buses in the near future, subject to the first Belarusian electric bus, already delivered to Tashkent, successfully passing operational tests.

In addition, Uzbekistan and the Japanese Itochu are discussing the possibility of expanding the production of new cars.

Shavkat Mirziyoyev's visit to Japan is scheduled for December this year. (Tashkenttimes)