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Friday, November 24, 2017



Seven requests made to US for Gulen extradition

Justice Minister Gul says Turkey continues to wait for progress on extradition requests



Anadolu Agency Photo

ANKARA - Turkey has so far sent seven extradition requests to the U.S. for the head of Fetullah Terrorist Organization (FETO), Fetullah Gulen, according to Justice Minister Abdulhamit Gul on Thursday. Speaking before the parliament's Planning and Budget Committee in capital Ankara, Gul told lawmakers that Turkey was continuing with its efforts to extradite Gulen from the U.S. The minister also said the judicial process against Gulen

was continuing in Turkey. Since Nov. 3, 2017, "seven extradition requests and a separate request for provisional arrest [for Gulen] have been sent to the U.S." Gul added the Turkish nation was awaiting the extradition of Gulen as its legal right under international law and bilateral agreements. "If necessary steps are not taken in this issue, it means a guilty person is being protected," the minister said. Gulen has been a resident of the U.S. state... [MORE DETAILS](#)



Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan

First presidential visit to Greece in 65 years

Recep Tayyip Erdogan will be first president visiting Athens since Celal Bayar in 1952

Recep Tayyip Erdogan will be the first Turkish president to visit Greece in 65 years, Deputy Prime Minister Hakan Cavusoglu said Thursday. The visit, the date of which has yet to be confirmed, will be made during the upcoming days, and further improve the bilateral ties between Turkey

and Greece, he said. "Our president will be the first Turkish president visiting Greece in 65 years. I think this visit will yield significant results," he added. Pointing to the recent high-level visits to Greece from Turkey, Cavusoglu said Erdogan's... [MORE DETAILS](#)

Over 300 undocumented migrants held nationwide



Anadolu Agency Photo

IZMIR/ERZINCAN - More than 300 undocumented migrants, including women and children were held on Thursday during anti-human trafficking operations across Turkey, according to Turkish officials. Gendarme units found 171 migrants, including women

and children stowed away in the back of a lorry on the road between Erzincan and Erzurum provinces near Tercan district, Erzincan Governor's Office said. The main organizer of the illegal trip was arrested while driver and owner of the lorry were fined 44,833... [MORE DETAILS](#)



Anadolu Agency Photo

Syriacs in Turkey welcome monastery's return

MARDIN - Turkey's Syriac minority in Mardin province welcomes the imminent return of legal ownership of the Mor Gabriel Monastery to their community, a monastery official told Anadolu Agency on Wednesday. Deputy Prime Minister Hakan Cavusoglu said earlier that an Assyrian Christian cemetery belonging to the monastery had been mistakenly transferred to the state treasury. "We are now transferring this cemetery back to its owners,"

Cavusoglu added. Kuryakos Ergun, head of the foundation for Mor Gabriel Monastery, said the problem arose when Mardin Municipality's status was changed to a metropolitan municipality in 2014 and the title deeds of the monastery, church and cemeteries belonging to the Foundation of the Monastery of Mor Gabriel were handed to the Turkish state treasury. Following intense opposition, the properties were first transferred to the Directorate... [MORE DETAILS](#)

Myanmar, Bangladesh agree on return of Rohingya

More than 620,000 Rohingya Muslims have fled to Bangladesh since military crackdown on Aug. 25

By Kyaw Ye Lynn

YANGON - Myanmar and Bangladesh on Thursday signed an agreement for the return of Rohingya Muslims who have crossed the border to escape a brutal military crackdown in Myanmar's western Rakhine state since late August. The memorandum of agreement titled "Arrangement on Return of Displaced Persons from Rakhine State" was signed after a two-day meeting in Myanmar's capital, Nay Pyi Taw. "Myanmar signed the deal with visiting Bangladeshi delegations today [Thursday]," Kyaw Zeya, permanent secretary of Myanmar's Foreign

Ministry told Anadolu Agency on the phone. "We are ready to take them back. We can start the repatriation process very soon," he said. Myint Kyaing, permanent secretary of Ministry of Labor, Immigration and Population said the deal was based on a 1993 agreement reached by the respective governments on the repatriation of Rohingya refugees from Bangladesh. The 1993 agreement includes a major point that says refugees must prove their nationality to Myanmar government by presenting valid documentations such as White Cards and the receipts given by

authorities after returning White Cards. "However, we made some amendments to the 1993 agreement this time," Kyaing told Anadolu Agency without giving any details. "We will also accept anyone who is able to clearly state his/her name and the village they lived in even if they lost relevant documents in fire or violence," he said. The secretary added that Myanmar had already sent registration forms to the Bangladeshi government to be filled in by refugees. "The repatriation can be started shortly after the forms are sent back to us," he said. [MORE DETAILS](#)