



TURKEY, SWEDEN TO PLAY FRIENDLY FOOTBALL GAME IN ANTALYA

Turkey will play a friendly football match with Sweden in southern Antalya province at 8.45 p.m. (18.45GMT) local time Thursday. Turkey's team manager Fatih Terim said the match against Sweden will be a serious rehearsal for the team in the next big tournaments. "Not much time left for the tournament [UEFA Euro 2016]. Thus, the camps and friendlies are very important," Terim said, according to the matchbook published by Turkish Football Federation early Wednesday. >>>SPORTS

TURKEY'S TIKA TO BUILD HOUSING UNITS IN WAR-BATTERED GAZA



\$13-million project to include construction of 20 buildings for Gazans affected by Israel's 2014 military onslaught. The Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) on Wednesday announced plans to build 320 housing units for Palestinians affected by Israel's 2014 military offensive against the Gaza Strip. The \$13-million project will include construction of 20 buildings. TIKA representative Bulent Korkmaz said at a project signing ceremony on Wednesday. >>>TURKEY

AA OFFICIAL MEETS QATARI MEDIA EXECUTIVES IN DOHA



Bahadır Saraçgil, member of AA's executive board, discusses potential for greater cooperation with Qatari media officials. Bahadır Saraçgil, a member of Anadolu Agency's executive board, met Wednesday with Qatari media executives in Doha, where he attended the 10th Al Jazeera Forum. The forum, held by Qatar's Al Jazeera television news network on March 21 and 22, was held under the banner, "Regional and International Struggle in the Middle East". >>>CORPORATE NEWS

WEATHER / ANKARA

Friday
HEAVY RAIN
14°C

Saturday
HEAVY RAIN
10°C



ANADOLU POST

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Turkey earlier deported Brussels airport attacker

According to Turkish Foreign Ministry sources, Turkey earlier deported Brussels airport attacker Ibrahim el-Bakroui

Turkey earlier deported Brussels airport attacker Ibrahim el-Bakroui, Turkish Foreign Ministry sources said Wednesday. El-Bakroui, who reportedly carried out the attack at Zaventem airport Tuesday, was deported by Turkey earlier, the sources said on condition of anonymity. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said Wednesday that Turkey

deported one of the attackers involved in Tuesday's Brussels explosions in June 2015. Without naming the suspect, Erdogan said Belgium was warned that the attacker captured in Turkey's southeastern Gaziantep province in 2015 was a foreign militant. At least 31 people were killed and more than 100 others were injured in multiple explosions

at Zaventem airport and a metro station in Brussels Tuesday morning. According to Belgian media, two suspected suicide bombers were involved in the airport blast, identified as brothers Khalid and Ibrahim el-Bakroui. A news agency linked to Daesh claimed responsibility for the Brussels attack. >>>MORE DETAILS



PKK, PYD 'same thing', says KRG's Barzani

In interview with Washington-based website, KRG President Massoud Barzani praises Turkish president's perspective on Kurdish issue

The terrorist PKK organization and its Syrian affiliate, the PYD, are the "same thing", Massoud Barzani, president of northern Iraq's Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG), said in a recent interview with Washington-based website Al-Monitor. "Any support to the PYD means support for the PKK. They are exactly one and the same thing," Barzani said. The Kurdish leader's remarks came in response to

a question about deepening military -- and perhaps political -- ties between the YPG, the PYD's armed wing, and the U.S., the latter of which has described the PYD as a "reliable partner" against the Daesh terrorist group. Asked whether the U.S. administration, too, viewed the PKK and PYD as "one and the same", Barzani said: "They know very well, but they don't want to say they know very

well... The top priority for us and the Americans is the fight against [Daesh], so they might turn a blind eye." Barzani also commented on a recently declared Kurdish "federation" in northern Syria, saying the concept suited the situation in the region. Last Thursday, the PYD declared a "federal system" in northern Syria's PYD-held Hasake, Afrin and Kobani regions. >>>MORE DETAILS

Turkish FM, US senior envoy discuss fight against terror

Turkish foreign minister met the U.S. deputy secretary of state in the Turkish capital Ankara Wednesday during which both sides emphasized on enhancing cooperation in the fight against terrorism, diplomatic sources told Anadolu Agency. Mevlut Cavusoglu and Antony Blinken also discussed bilateral ties, regional and global developments as well as Syria, Iraq and Cyprus issues in the meeting. Recent terrorist attacks in Turkey and Belgium

also came up during the exchange of views, sources added. Tuesday's Brussels bombings at Zaventem airport and Maelbeek metro station killed 31 people and injured 260 others. Earlier in the day, Cavusoglu told TGRT Haber private broadcast channel that two Turkish citizens injured in the Brussels attack were now in good condition. On March 13, a car bomb attack in Ankara left 36 people dead. >>>MORE DETAILS

Turkish minister says PKK same terror category as Daesh



The PKK and Daesh are similar in their aims and methods so should be considered in the same category of terrorist organizations, Turkey's EU Minister Volkan Bozkir has said. Addressing a joint press conference with Finnish Foreign Minister Timo Soini in the Finnish capital Helsinki Wednesday, Bozkir said the international community should work together to combat terrorism. "[After Brussels attacks], we have learnt that all terrorist organizations need to be put in the same category, we cannot discriminate among them.

We have to work together," he said. Since all terror organizations are being fed by the same resources and use the same financial means, all countries should act together against terrorism, the minister said. About why Turkey does not help the terrorist PKK's Syrian affiliate PYD fight Daesh, he said Turkey considers the PYD as a terrorist organization. He also said the PKK was using the PYD in Syria. The PKK terrorist group prefers to use the YPG, the PYD's armed wing, he added. >>>MORE DETAILS

In PKK guise, Daesh terrorists sneak into Europe



Daesh exploits European countries' lax attitude towards the PKK, though officially it is a terrorist group. Exploiting European security gaps, Daesh has been sending their terrorists to European countries in the guise of PKK terrorist or-

ganization members, Turkish security sources told Anadolu Agency. An unnamed police source -- who spoke on condition of anonymity -- said that many Daesh terrorists were found after they first infiltrated the terrorist PKK and then traveled easily to several European countries under this PKK guise. Those Daesh members, poised to commit bloody terrorist attacks in Europe, were trained in PKK/PYD encampments in Syria and Iraq, the source claimed. >>>MORE DETAILS

Belgium refusing Turkey's extradition requests

Justice Ministry source says Brussels has declined two-thirds of extraditions against terror suspects. The Belgian government has repeatedly ignored Turkish requests to extradite suspects wanted for terrorism offenses, a source at the Turkish Justice Ministry said Wednesday. Of 30 extradition requests for terrorists from terrorist groups such as the PKK and the far-left Revolutionary People's

Liberation Party-Front (DHKP-C), Belgium has turned down 20, the source said on condition of anonymity due to restrictions on speaking publicly. The source did not give a timeframe for the requests but both groups have been active since the 1980s. Among the requests turned down by Brussels was one for Zubeyir Aydar, the PKK's so-called political leader. >>>MORE DETAILS

Turkey blames West's 'wrong Syria policy' for attacks

Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu has blamed wrong policies of the West on Syria for the spate of recent terror attacks in Turkey and Europe. Addressing a meeting of regional party heads at the Justice and Development (AK) Party headquarters in the Turkish capital Ankara, Davutoglu said: "Unfortunately, the wrong Syrian policy of the West and the international community in general is behind the cowardly

attacks in Europe and in Turkey". Turkish premier said the Syrian tragedy had now reached European shores. "It is now essential for Europe to go towards a very serious policy change," he said. Davutoglu warned that if Europe did not fight terrorism in cooperation with Turkey, terror organizations like the PKK and the PYD in cooperation with Daesh would continue their attacks in Turkey and Europe. >>>MORE DETAILS

Six suspected Daesh militants arrested in SE Turkey

Turkish police arrested six suspected Daesh militants, including a Japanese national, in the southeastern province of Gaziantep on Wednesday. Five people - non-Turkish - were arrested near the border as they tried to cross into the war-torn country, a security source said on condition of anonymity. Separately, a 24-year-old Japanese citizen, only known by his initials M.M., was arrested at a police checkpoint near the Turkish-Syria border, security sources said. Police determined that the Japanese national has been in touch with a known Daesh militant inside Syria through social media. According to security officials, the radical militant convinced him to join the terrorist organization. >>>MORE DETAILS

Romanian leader: Turkey can't carry migrant burden alone

Visiting Ankara, Romania's president on Wednesday praised Turkey's humanitarian treatment of Syrian refugees and called on the international community to take "collective responsibility" for the crisis. At the start of his official visit, Romanian President Klaus Iohannis gave an exclusive interview to Anadolu Agency, hailing last week's EU-Turkey agreement under which refugees reaching Greece from Turkey will be sent back. Last Friday's agreement will also see the opening of a new chapter, or policy area, in Turkey's accession process in exchange for it taking back refugees who traveled from Turkey to Greece. The deal took effect on Sunday. >>>MORE DETAILS