

## ISTANBUL PHOTO AWARDS

### ISTANBUL PHOTO AWARDS PUTS SPOTLIGHT ON REGION

The Istanbul Photo Awards have succeeded in drawing global attention to recent developments in the Middle East region, said Georges De Keerle, an executive for Getty Images. A jury of international professionals gathered last week to select the winning photographs of Anadolu Agency's second Istanbul Photo Awards sponsored by Turkish Airlines. A member of the Istanbul Photo Awards jury for the past two years, De Keerle said he was pleased to be involved in the contest once again. >> **COMPORATE NEWS**

### AA INKS COOPERATION DEAL WITH JORDAN'S PETRA NEWS AGENCY



Turkish news provider Anadolu Agency has signed a cooperation agreement with Jordan's official Petra News Agency. Metin Mutanoglu, Anadolu Agency's deputy director-general and editor-in-chief, penned the deal Sunday with Petra Director-General Faisal al-Shboul. The agreement was signed in Amman in the presence of Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu — who visited Jordan's capital on Sunday — and his Jordanian counterpart, Abdullah Ensour. >> **TURKEY**

### TURKISH STREAM COULD HELP BUILD TRUST BTW. ANKARA, MOSCOW



A gas infrastructure like the Turkish Stream pipeline project, in theory, could be a way to build trust and reboot relations between Turkey and Russia, said Tatiana Romanova, an associate professor of St. Petersburg State University on Monday. "However, political relations between Russia and the EU, Russia and Turkey, EU legal provisions, gas and oil prices and global markets do not encourage the Turkish Stream project," said Romanova and added that "nor does Gazprom have resources for it." >> **ENERGY**

WEATHER / ANKARA



# ANADOLU POST

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## Turkish leaders condemn suicide blast in Pakistan

### Suicide bomber blows himself up in crowded park in Lahore Sunday evening, killing at least 72 people and injuring 300 others

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Sunday "strongly" condemned the

suicide blast that killed scores of people and injured hundreds of others in the Pakistani city of Lahore. A suicide bomber blew himself up in a crowded park in Lahore on Sunday evening, killing at least 69 people and injuring 300 others, according to Salman Rafiq, health minister of Pakistan's Punjab province. "I strongly condemn the

terror attack that happened in the Lahore city of Pakistan," said Erdogan in a written statement issued by the presidency. According to police, the bomber detonated his explosive-laden vest in a crowded area of Gulshan-e-Iqbal Park, located in a northern district of Lahore, Pakistan's second largest city and the regional capital of

Punjab province. "The attack, which took place at an amusement park packed with families, especially children, has revealed terror's face, which does not know limits and values," said Erdogan. "This attack is an examination for all countries to provide their sincere stance in the face of terror."

>> **MORE DETAILS**



## Azerbaijani soldiers killed in border clash



Two Azerbaijani soldiers have been killed on the frontier with Armenia, the Azerbaijani Defense Ministry said in a statement on Monday. The soldiers and an unspecified number of Armenian military personnel were killed as the Armenians tried to cross the border into Azerbaijan's Qazax re-

gion on Sunday, the ministry said. Seven Azerbaijani soldiers have been killed so far this year along the border, the statement added. The two countries fought a six-year war over occupied Karabakh in the early 1990s until a 1994 cease-fire. >> **MORE DETAILS**

## Civilian killed, 3 soldiers hurt in PKK attack

A Turkish village headman was killed and three soldiers were slightly injured in a roadside bomb attack in southeastern Sanliurfa province Monday, a security source said. According to the source, PKK terrorists carried out the attack in the province's Siverek district. The injured soldiers were taken to the Siverek State Hospital. Sarioren neighborhood Muhhtar Ibrahim Inco was identified as

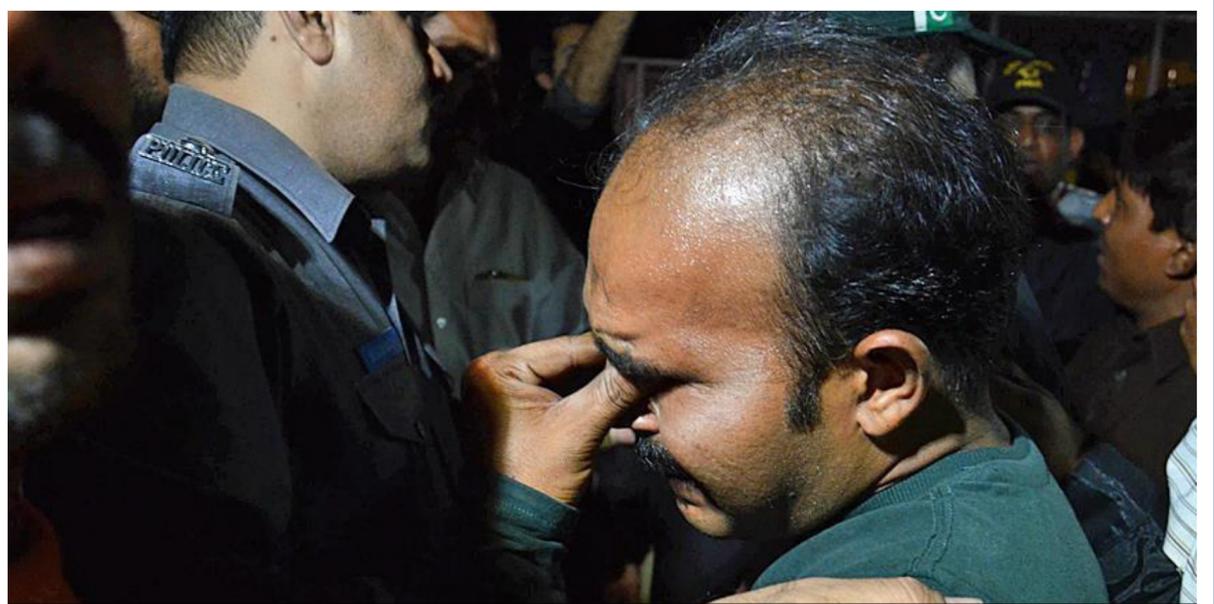
the civilian killed in the attack. An investigation into the incident is now underway. More than 300 security forces' personnel have been martyred since the PKK, which is listed as a terrorist organization by Turkey, the U.S. and the EU, resumed its 30-year armed campaign in July. Thousands of PKK terrorists have also been killed in operations across Turkey and northern Iraq. >> **MORE DETAILS**

## Turkey holding Myanmar migrants caught traveling to EU



A Turkish official has confirmed that a group of migrants from Myanmar were among more than 350 people picked up at sea by the coast-guard over the weekend as they attempted to travel to Europe. The local governor -- who did not wish to be named as he was not authorized to talk to media -- told Anadolu Agency by phone Monday that the migrants are presently being housed in Izmir province on Turkey's west-

ern Aegean coast. When asked how many were from Myanmar, whether they were men, women, or children, and where they had set off from the man said that he could not give out that information. "They are not allowed to see any aid agencies or other institutions because the Turkish government is handling the situation right now," he added. "It is a normal legal procedure. We do it all the time." >> **MORE DETAILS**



## Pakistanis mourn victims of deadly Lahore blast

Death toll hits at least 72 with over 300 injured, many critically

Grieving Pakistanis held special prayers and memorial services on Monday to mourn the victims of Sunday's massive suicide blast in Lahore, as expressions of solidarity poured in from around the world. A suicide bomber blew himself up in a park packed with men, women and children on Sunday evening, leaving at least 72 people dead — including 29 children — and over 300 injured, many of them critically. With the national flag flying at half-mast on all government buildings as part of a three-day mourning period, most of the dead were buried on Monday in different parts of Lahore.

Over two dozen bodies were sent to their hometowns for burial, Mohammad Osman, Lahore's deputy commissioner, told reporters. Emotional scenes were seen at many of the funerals, as female friends and relatives of the slain wailed loudly as the men carried the coffins to the graveyards. Most educational institutions remained closed across Pakistan, while major markets and trade and business centers were shut in Lahore. Municipal administrations in major cities, meanwhile, closed several parks to the public, fearing further attacks. Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, along with his

brother and chief minister of Punjab province (of which Lahore is the regional capital) Shahbaz Sharif, paid a visit to the injured at Lahore's Jinnah Hospital. Meanwhile, security agencies have detained the relatives of the suspected suicide bomber from a remote village in the Dera Ghazi Khan district, located some 450 kilometers from Lahore. Those detained included three brothers of the suspected bomber, all of whom were taken to Lahore for questioning, the local ARY news channel reported. >> **MORE DETAILS**

## Assad regime forces retake Daesh-held Palmyra

Syrian regime forces with Russian air support have recaptured the city of Tadmur (ancient Palmyra) in Syria's western Homs province from the Daesh terrorist group, local sources have said. Regime forces and allied militias seized control of the city on Sunday following fierce clashes with Daesh militants, the sources told Anadolu Agency. According to the same sources, Russian warplanes carried out more than 200 airstrikes against Daesh positions in the city, forcing the terrorist group to retreat further east. Clashes have also been reported between regime forces and Daesh militants in the eastern part of the city, the sources said. Hundreds of Shia militiamen, including members of Lebanon's Hezbollah group, took part in the offensive to retake Tadmur. >> **MORE DETAILS**



Turkish Presidency spokesman Ibrahim Kalin said on Monday that sharing of intelligence was crucial in order to tackle terrorism. In a press conference in Ankara, Kalin condemned Sunday's suicide bomb attack in Pakistan's northwestern city of Lahore, which left at least 72 people dead and over 300 injured. He said that an attack like this, which was claimed by Jamaat ul-Ahrar, a group affiliated with the Pakistani

## 'Intelligence-sharing crucial for fighting terror'

Taliban, could never be excused nor legitimized. "We want to express one more time that intelligence-sharing is of great importance especially at this point. This issue came to the forefront, especially after the Brussels attack. Unfortunately, we saw once more what kind of results the weakness of intelligence-sharing brought, the follow-up of shared intelligence and the taking of necessary steps," he said. Kalin reminded that Turkey earlier deported Brussels airport attacker and mentioned the importance of intelligence

sharing for the fight against terrorism. At least 31 people were killed and 260 injured on Tuesday in multiple explosions at Brussels's Zaventem Airport and in a subway station. The Brussels attacks came in the wake of a March 13 car bomb attack at a major Ankara public transportation hub, killing 36 and injuring dozens of civilians. "There is no such thing as good terrorist or bad terrorist. Terrorism is terrorism everywhere in the world, no matter what is its reason." >> **MORE DETAILS**