



# MIDDLE EAST DAILY BULLETIN

## GÜNLÜK ORTADOĐU BÜLTENİ

**Domestic Policy in the Middle East Countries**

Bölge Ülkelerinde İç Siyaset

**The Restructuring Procces of Iraq**

Irak'ın Yeniden Yapılanma Süreci

**Energy Security**

Enerji Güvenliđi

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**Non State Actors**

Devlet-dıő Aktörler

**Relations with the West**

Batı'yla İliőkiler

**MIDDLE EAST DAILY BULLETIN**

**29 MAY 2017**

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## 1. IRAQ

- **Civilians lack food, water, medicine as Mosul battle mounts – U.N.**

Baghdad (Reuters) Tens of thousands of civilians in parts of Mosul held by Islamic State are struggling to get food, water and medicine, the United Nations said, days into a new push by U.S.-backed Iraqi government troops to take the northern city.

More Details

<http://www.iraqnews.com/features/civilians-lack-food-water-medicine-mosul-battle-mounts-u-n/>

- **US to Equip and Train Two Peshmerga Brigades**

After the US equipped and trained two brigades of the Kurdistan Region Peshmerga forces, it is expected to fully arm and train two more brigades with the Peshmerga's share of the \$1 billion US loan to Iraq.

More Details

<http://www.basnews.com/index.php/en/news/kurdistan/353744>

- **Begard Talabani: Kurdistan Parliament Should Reactivate with the Participation of All Blocs**

Begard Talabani, head of the Kurdistan Patriotic Union bloc in the parliament of Kurdistan on Sunday, reports denial of the bloc approving to activate the parliament without the participation of the blocs of Gorran and the Islamic Group.

More Details

[http://www.pukmedia.com/EN/EN\\_Direje.aspx?Jimare=40439](http://www.pukmedia.com/EN/EN_Direje.aspx?Jimare=40439)

- **Police kill 26 ISIS terrorists, advance to Mosul's Zanjili**

Federal police announced on Monday that security forces killed 26 ISIS militants in Zanjili district north of Old City district of Mosul city in Nineveh governorate. In a press release, the police said they advanced 400 meters in Zanjili neighborhood, pointing out that the forces are controlling buildings and crossroads in the district.

More Details

<http://www.thebaghdadpost.com/en/story/11276/Police-kill-26-ISIS-terrorists-advance-to-Mosul-s-Zanjili>

- **Iraqi Army storms last Mosul districts remaining under ISIS control**

On Saturday morning, Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) started a powerful assault on the last areas in West Mosul remaining under control of the so-called “Islamic State” (IS, formerly ISIL/ISIS).

More Details

<https://www.almasdarnews.com/article/iraqi-army-storms-last-mosul-districts-remaining-isis-control-video/>

- **Iraq's slow grind to retake ISIS-held Mosul**

Iraq's fight to retake Mosul from the Islamic State group has been the largest and the longest operation against the extremists in the nearly three years since they overran a third of the country.

More Deetails

<https://www.stripes.com/news/middle-east/iraq-s-slow-grind-to-retake-isis-held-mosul-1.470948#.WSvy4-uLSUk>

- **Iraq Paramilitaries move on key town near Syrian border**

A spokesman for the Iraqi government-sanctioned paramilitary force says the troops are moving to capture a key town beyond the city of Mosul, near the Syrian border.

More Details

[http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/M/ML\\_IRAQ?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2017-05-29-05-41-52](http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/M/ML_IRAQ?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2017-05-29-05-41-52)

- **More than \$5 million paid in ransom for release of Yezidis**

The Kurdistan Regional Government has paid more than \$5 million in ransom to secure the release of 3004 Yezidi people from ISIS captivity since 2014, according to the Yezidi activist and lawmaker Vian Dakhil

More Details

<http://www.rudaw.net/english/kurdistan/29052017>

- **Iraqi forces close in on ISIL fighters in Mosul's Old City**

As Iraqi forces close in on ISIL in one of the group's last remaining strongholds in Mosul - the Old City, much needed aid is arriving in areas that were under the fighters' control. But just streets away from food drops, fierce clashes are taking place between the armed group and Iraqi security forces.

More Details

<http://www.aljazeera.com/video/news/2017/05/iraqi-forces-close-isil-fighters-mosuls-city-170529084534903.html>

- **Hawija Citizens in Kirkuk Governorate Face ‘Humanitarian Crisis’**

The Iraqi Observatory for Human Rights (IOHR) said that residents in Hawija, west Kirkuk Governorate, and other villages in the governorate that are still under ISIS control, have been facing a humanitarian crisis amidst complete silence from the Iraqi Government. The Observatory has documented through the past 10 days the execution of at least 10 people from Hawija by ISIS for different accusations, including “communicating with security forces.”

More Details

<http://english.aawsat.com/theaawsat/news-middle-east/hawija-citizens-kirkuk-governorate-face-humanitarian-crisis>

- **Hostages Executed at Mosul Hospital; 176 Killed in Iraq**

In Mosul, 12 civilians were executed at a hospital that was then set aflame; 30 militants were killed at this or another hospital. Airstrikes killed 20 civilians and wounded 25 more. Militants also killed 13 soldiers. At least six suicide bombers were killed, but many more militants were reported dead.

More Details

<http://original.antiwar.com/updates/2017/05/28/hostages-executed-at-mosul-hospital-176-killed-in-iraq/>

- **Aust link to Iraq casualties investigated**

An investigation is underway to determine if there was any Australian involvement in an air strike that caused civilian casualties in Iraq. Defence force chief Mark Binskin said no Australian aircraft were involved in the March incident.

More Details

<http://www.sbs.com.au/news/article/2017/05/29/aust-link-iraq-casualties-investigated>

- **UN warns Daesh directly targeting civilians in Iraq’s Mosul**

On Sunday, the UN’s humanitarian relief coordinator, Lise Grande, stressed that the Takfiri terrorists were killing families as Iraqi forces entered the final stages of their operations to liberate the city.

More Details

<http://www.presstv.com/Detail/2017/05/28/523504/un-iraq-mosul-civilians-daesh>

- **Iraq looking to hedge its crude production**

"It is in our strategy in the future that maybe we will consider hedging part of Iraqi crude ... Somo is floating an idea now and this is yet to be studied," Falah Al Amri, who is also Iraq's Opec governor, told Reuters in an interview.

More Details

<http://timesofoman.com/article/110020/Business/Iraq-looking-to-hedging-its-crude-production>

- **Central Bank of Iraq to open two branches in Erbil and Sulaimani**

The Central Bank of Iraq (CBI) has decided to open two branches in Erbil and Sulaimani respectively from next month after a year-long talk with the Kurdish government.

More Details

<http://www.rudaw.net/english/business/29052017>

- **Gorran official refutes reports over filling leader's vacancy**

Gorran (Change) Movement has not assigned anyone yet to replace Nawshirwan Mustafa, the former general coordinator of the party, a senior Gorran official confirmed on Sunday. Salh Zhazhlayi, a member of Gorran's General Council, also refuted the reports which alleged Jamal Mohammad, the secretary for Gorran's National Council has taken over as the general coordinator.

More nDetails

<http://ekurd.net/iraqi-kurdistan-news-in-brief-may-29-2017-2017-05-29>

- **Hungary signs accord with Archbishop to support Iraqi clinic**

The Hungarian government is donating 145 million forints (\$525,000) to Saint Joseph's Clinic in Erbil, Iraq, which provides services for mainly Christian refugees living in the city.

More Details

[http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/E/EU\\_HUNGARY\\_IRAQ\\_CHRISTIANS?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2017-05-29-05-56-57](http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/E/EU_HUNGARY_IRAQ_CHRISTIANS?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2017-05-29-05-56-57)

- **How Iraq Makes Combat Pilots**

During the occupation that followed the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in 2003, most Iraqi combat aircraft — MiG-23s, MiG-25s and Su-25s — were discovered by coalition forces in poor condition on various air bases, while others were discovered buried outside their bases or in nearby towns and villages where they had been abandoned.

More Details

<https://warisboring.com/how-iraq-makes-combat-pilots/>

- **Daesh snipers, suicide bombers slow advance in Mosul**

The advance of government troops slowed on Sunday in the last push to drive Daesh terrorists from remaining pockets of Mosul, two Iraqi military officers said.

More Details

<http://www.arabnews.com/node/1106616/middle-east>

- **Iraq's PMF Advancing towards Syrian Border near Sinjar**

Among the liberated villages is Kojo, where ISIL militants abducted hundreds of Ezadi women in 2014, including Nadia Murad and Lamiya Aji Bashar, both recipients of the European Parliament's Sakharov Prize for freedom of thought, Bas News reported.

More Details

<http://en.farsnews.com/newstext.aspx?nn=13960308001011>

## 2. SYRIA

- **Civilian deaths in war against Islamic State inevitable: Pentagon head**

U.S. Defense Secretary James Mattis on Sunday said that civilian casualties in the fight against the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) are inevitable even as the U.S. forces "do everything humanly possible" to prevent them. "Civilian casualties are a fact of life in this sort of situation. We do everything humanly possible consistent with military necessity, taking many chances to avoid civilian casualties at all costs," Mattis told CBS.

More Details:

<http://www.aninews.in/newsdetail-NA/MzE2NzMO/civilian-deaths-in-war-against-islamic-state-inevitable-pentagon-head.html>

- **Syria: Damascus Demands End to US Air Strikes**

Damascus called on the UN to stop US air raids on Syrian territory on Saturday as 20 more civilians were killed near Raqqa. The Foreign Ministry wrote to UN secretary-general Antonio Guterres and security council president Elbio Rosselli of Uruguay to protest at the US-led coalition air strike on Mayadeen early Friday, killing 35 civilians.

More Details:

<http://www.morningstaronline.co.uk/a-53e8-Syria-Damascus-demands-end-to-US-air-strikes#.WSu4ZNSLSmU>

- **G7 Urges Russia, Iran to Ensure Syria Truce**

The leaders of G7 industrial countries called on Russia and Iran to exert their influence on Damascus to ensure implementation of the Syrian ceasefire, the joint communiqué of G7 meeting in Italy's Taormina on Saturday read, according to Sputnik. The statement said, "Those with influence over the Syrian regime, in particular Russia and Iran, must do their utmost to use that influence to stop this tragedy, beginning with the enforcement of a real ceasefire, stopping the [alleged] use of chemical weapons, ensuring safe, immediate and unhindered humanitarian access to all people in need, and releasing any arbitrarily detained persons, as well as allowing free access to its prisons."

More Details:

<https://financialtribune.com/articles/national/65442/g7-urges-russia-iran-to-ensure-syria-truce>

- **US, UK withdraw forces from Al-Tanf border-crossing in Southern Syria**

The Arabic-language al-Hadath news quoted field sources as saying that the US and Britain have evacuated half of their forces that were deployed in Syria's al-Tanf border region, relocating them to Jordan. In the meantime, social networks affiliated to the Syrian Army reported that the US and British forces that are backing the terrorists of Aswad al-Sharqiyeh and Jeish al-Thowreh have left their bases in the two regions of Hamimeh and Sukri in Eastern Homs.

More Details:

[http://en.abna24.com/news/middle-east/us-uk-withdraw-forces-from-al-tanf-border-crossing-in-southern-syria\\_832554.html](http://en.abna24.com/news/middle-east/us-uk-withdraw-forces-from-al-tanf-border-crossing-in-southern-syria_832554.html)

- **Violent clashes in the vicinity of Deir Ezzor city and shelling targets some of its areas**

Deir Ezzor province, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights: the violent clashes continue between the regime forces and militiamen loyal to them against the "Islamic State" organization in the vicinity of Deir Ezzor airbase and the perimeter of the Brigade 137, which killed one member of the regime

forces at least, accompanied by shelling by the regime forces on the clash areas and on places in Al-Bogeleyah area at the outskirts of the city.

More Details:

<http://www.syriahr.com/en/?p=67265>

- **Syrian Gov't Troops Take Control of More Regions in Eastern Aleppo**

The Syrian Army forces' heavy attacks on ISIL's defense lines in Eastern Aleppo forced the terrorists to retreat from 10 villages after leaving behind a large number of fighters dead.

More Details:

<http://en.alalam.ir/news/1974676>

- **Syria: Rival Terrorists Restart Infighting in Idlib Province**

The sources said that Tahrir al-Sham Hay'at (the Levant Liberation Board) stormed one of the positions of Faylaq al-Sham in the town of Ma'ara Shourin on the pretext that the targeted region was an unflaged land between the territories ruled by the two sides. The sources said that all forces of Faylaq al-Sham and Tahrir al-Sham in the region have gone on alert after the clashes.

More Details:

<http://en.farsnews.com/newstext.aspx?nn=13960307001432>

- **Al-Nusra Clashes with ISIS Forces in Syria**

Al-Nusra militants launched an attack against ISIS forces at the Syrian-Lebanese border, slaying scores of terrorists. The attack occurred in the border area between Syria and Lebanon's Aarsal region, as al-Nusra forces mounted an assault against ISIS entrenched there.

More Details:

<https://en.insidesyriamc.com/2017/05/28/al-nusra-clashes-with-isis-forces-in-syria/>

- **Syria strongly condemns terrorist attack on Egyptian pilgrims**

The Foreign and Expatriates Ministry said in a statement on Saturday that Syria condemns the "appalling" and "barbaric" terrorist attack in the strongest terms. The attackers fired on a bus carrying Egyptian pilgrims who were heading for St. Samuel Monastery in Minya region. The Foreign Ministry's statement voiced the Syrian government's heartfelt condolences for the families of the victims and wishes of speedy recovery for the injured.

More Details:

<http://en.mehrnews.com/news/125619/Syria-strongly-condemns-terrorist-attack-on-Egyptian-pilgrims>

### 3. IRAN

- **Iran foils cyber attacks on its official websites**

Iran has foiled a recent round of cyber attacks which targeted the country's various official websites, Iran's Computer Emergency Response Team Coordination Center (CERTCC), affiliated to the ICT ministry said May 29.

More Details:

<http://en.trend.az/iran/society/2760173.html>

- **Tender for Iran's key oilfield 'within days'**

A tender to develop the Azadegan oilfield in the southwestern province of Khouzestan in Iran will be held 'within days,' reported Press TV, citing a top government official.

More Details:

[http://www.tradearabia.com/news/CONS\\_325619.html](http://www.tradearabia.com/news/CONS_325619.html)

- **Iran: Trump's accusations in Riyadh 'unbelievable'**

Iran says US President Donald Trump's accusations of Iranian support for terrorism are "unbelievable" and "unacceptable", made in a country which is known for being "a haven and a promoter of violence and terrorism". Trump's claims were made during his recent visit to Saudi Arabia where he accused Iran of destabilizing the Middle East and supporting terrorist groups, meaning Hezbollah which is fighting Takfiri terrorists backed by Riyadh in Syria.

More Details:

<http://www.presstv.com/Detail/2017/05/29/523538/Iran-Trump-US-Saudi>

- **US Acts to Infiltrate the 'Iranian Crescent'**

As US and Russian officials resume their military and diplomatic talks in Oman in the next few days with an aim to establish a "safe zone" southern Syria, Washington continue protecting factions of the Free Syrian Army in al-Tanf near the border with Iraq and to support Democratic Syrian Forces (SDF) that are liberating Raqqa from ISIS, as part of the new strategy of President Donald Trump's administration to infiltrate the "Iranian Crescent" in Syria.

More Details:

<http://english.aawsat.com/ibrahimhomeidi/news-middle-east/us-acts-infiltrate-iranian-crescent>

- **Iran's supreme leader: Saudis face 'certain downfall'**

Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei claimed Saturday that Saudi Arabia's monarchy faces "certain downfall" for aligning itself with the US and that its regime can be toppled sooner rather than later.

More Details:

<http://www.timesofisrael.com/irans-supreme-leader-saudis-face-certain-downfall/>

- **Will Iran be permitted to complete its corridor to the Mediterranean?**

The creation of Israel almost 70 years ago physically severed the Arab world's Maghreb from its Mashreq, creating a wound that continues to fester. Today the Arab world is being bisected once again.

More Details:

<http://www.arabnews.com/node/1106761>

- **Global oil giants invited to tender for Iran's major oil projects**

The National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) announced Sunday that it will hold an international tender for the development of major oil field in southwest of the country, Press TV reported.

More Details:

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-05/28/c\\_136322752.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-05/28/c_136322752.htm)

- **Iran: Widespread Clashes of Looted Depositors of a State Affiliated Financial Institution**

Looted depositors of a state affiliated development financial institution protested in different parts of the Khorramabad city in Western Iran, including in front of governor's office, on Sunday morning May 28th.

More Details:

<http://www.ncr-iran.org/en/news/iran-protests/22896-iran-widespread-clashes-of-looted-depositors-of-a-state-affiliated-financial-institution>

- **Iran, Russia to remove barriers to handmade carpets export**

Head of Russia-Iran Joint Chamber of Commerce Vladimir Obidnov called for holding a specialized exhibition of Iranian hand-woven carpets in Russia.

More Details:

<http://en.mehrnews.com/news/125641/Iran-Russia-to-remove-barriers-to-handmade-carpets-export>

- **Trade With China Up 49%**

Trade between Iran and China stood at \$12.1 billion during the first four months of 2017, up from \$8.1 billion in the corresponding period of 2016, registering an increase of over 49%, the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China said.

More Details;

<https://financialtribune.com/articles/economy-domestic-economy/65463/trade-with-china-up-49>

## 4. ISRAEL – PALESTINE

- **Army Abducts Five Palestinians in Hebron, One in Jenin**

Israeli soldiers abducted, Sunday, five Palestinians, including a wounded teenage boy and two former political prisoners, from Beit Ummar town, and one in Hebron city, in the southern part of the occupied West Bank, in addition to one Palestinian near Jenin, in northern West Bank.

More details:

<http://imemc.org/article/army-abducts-five-palestinians-in-hebron-one-in-jenin/>

- **140.000 Palestinians to Be Pushed Out of Jerusalem**

The Palestinian Shuafat Refugee Camp, in Occupied East Jerusalem, and the town of Kofr Aqab, in the north of the city, will no longer be considered as falling within Jerusalem's municipal boundaries, Israeli security sources told Jewish Channel 10 on Sunday.

More details:

<http://www.albawaba.com/news/140000-palestinians-be-pushed-out-jerusalem-979602>

- **Israeli commander orders new settlement in West Bank**

The chief of the Israeli military's central command, Maj. Gen. Roni Numa, issued the order for the residents of the Amona outpost on Sunday, Israeli paper Ha'aretz reported.

More details:

<http://www.presstv.com/Detail/2017/05/29/523521/Israel-Amona-Western-Wall-West-Bank-East-Jerusalem>

- **Netanyahu appoints new minister to oversee Israel telecom reforms**

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu appointed on Sunday Ayoob Kara, a minister in his Likud party, as communications minister, who will oversee Israel's telecom market as it undergoes significant reforms.

More details:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-israel-telecom-idUSKBN1800E2>

- **Israel's government angers Palestinians by meeting near Jerusalem holy site**

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu took the unusual step Sunday of convening his Cabinet at a sensitive Jerusalem holy site, spurring howls of protest by Palestinians who claim the area where it is located for the capital of a future state.

More details:

<http://www.latimes.com/world/middleeast/la-fg-israel-palestinians-20170528-story.html>

- **Hunger Strike Off After 80% of Demands Met**

Hundreds of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails ended their 40-day hunger strike on Saturday after "80 per cent" of their demands were met.

More details:

<http://www.morningstaronline.co.uk/a-550e-Hunger-strike-off-after-80-of-demands-met#.WSvCQtSLRiw>

- **20,000 Israeli Demonstrators Listen to Peace Message from Abbas**

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas sent a direct message to the Israeli people and leadership, voicing his commitment to and desire for real peace. He made his call before some 20,000 Israelis who were rallying in support of a Palestinian state ahead of the 50th anniversary of Israel's occupation of Palestinian land.

More details:

<https://www.dotemirates.com/en/details/3479494?from=dot>

- **6-day war begets 50 years of conflict for Israel**

It may well be remembered as a pyrrhic victory for Israel: in six days it stunned the world by vanquishing several Arab armies, only to be saddled with a deeply corrosive 50-year fight with the Palestinians for the Holy Land.

More details:

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle\\_east/6-day-war-begets-50-years-of-conflict-for-israel/2017/05/29/10749b92-4439-11e7-8de1-cec59a9bf4b1\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.a74b378c1ce0](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle_east/6-day-war-begets-50-years-of-conflict-for-israel/2017/05/29/10749b92-4439-11e7-8de1-cec59a9bf4b1_story.html?utm_term=.a74b378c1ce0)

- **How Israel has failed Palestinian victims**

A recent plea deal for an Israeli police officer who killed a Palestinian teenager has highlighted a broader policy of leniency in Israel for offences committed against Palestinians, analysts say.

More details:

<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2017/04/israel-failed-palestinian-victims-170419072021521.html>

- **Palestinian Forces among Those Arrested for Shooting Attack on IDF**

The Shin Bet, together with IDF and Border Police forces, has arrested a terror cell suspected of carrying out a shooting attack against an IDF force at the Jabara checkpoint near Taybeh and Tulkarm, it was cleared for publication on Sunday.

More details:

<http://www.breitbart.com/jerusalem/2017/05/29/palestinian-forces-among-arrested-shooting-attack-idf/>

## 5. JORDAN and LEBANON

- **Syrian refugees help solve Jordan's rubbish crisis**

The Jordanian government is struggling to contain a mounting rubbish crisis as garbage dumps across the country start to reach capacity. A new initiative to encourage recycling is looking to Syrian refugees to help lead the way out of the problem.

More Details:

<http://www.aljazeera.com/video/news/2017/05/syrian-refugees-solve-jordans-rubbish-crisis-170529050535108.html>

- **Early indicators of economic reform progress**

Most recent data by the Ministry of Finance indicates that Jordan's gross domestic debt has risen during the first quarter of this year by JD76 million only. The government has withdrawn JD100.4 million from its deposits with banks, which raised net public debt to JD176.4 million. Data shows also that foreign debt rose during the first quarter of this year by the equivalent of JD282.9 million.

More Details:

<http://dailytimes.com.pk/business/29-May-17/early-indicators-of-economic-reform-progress>

- **King Abdullah offers his condolences to Egypt after Minya attack**

Jordanian King Abdullah II offered his condolences in a phone call to President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi following the recent attack in Minya which left 28 dead and 25 injured. The King expressed his support toward Egypt as well as his complete solidarity against terrorism.

More Details:

<http://www.egyptindependent.com/king-condolences-egypt-minya/>

- **Berri Says Redistribution of Parliamentary Seats 'Unacceptable'**

Speaker Nabih Berri emphasized that a proposal to reallocate Maronite seats from Muslim-majority to Christian-majority districts is completely "unacceptable," al-Joumhouria daily reported on Monday. "We can never accept such a proposal and a major questions arises here: What is the purpose of this concept? Winds of division are blowing in the region and here we are amid these atmospheres going for a sectarian separation. This is totally unacceptable," Berri told the daily.

More Details:

<http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/230639-berri-says-redistribution-of-parliamentary-seats-unacceptable>

- **Surgeons in Lebanon offer hope to wounded Syrian refugees**

Six operations have failed to cure the constant pain that Ismael Moustafa suffers since he was wounded in an air strike on his village in Syria three years ago. The 28-year-old former construction worker hobbled on crutches after the shrapnel tore through his right hip and leg, with painkillers offering no relief. A recurring infection made further operations too complex for some surgeons, as well as out of reach for him financially, until the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in

Lebanon accepted the challenge of getting him walking again."It has been a long and hard journey to get here, and the pain in my leg never goes away. There is always pain, I cannot walk," Moustafa said, lying on a hospital bed awaiting surgery to remove an infected section of bone in his leg.

More Details:

<http://jordantimes.com/news/region/surgeons-lebanon-offer-hope-wounded-syrian-refugees>

- **Two enemy warplanes circle over various Lebanese regions**

Two Israeli warplanes violated the Lebanese airspace over the Southern town of Kfarkila at 12:20 p.m. on Sunday, effecting circular flights over various Lebanese regions, which ended at 1:30 p.m. as they flew over Alma el-Shaeb in the South, an Army communiqué indicated.

More Details:

<http://nna-leb.gov.lb/en/show-news/79739/Two-enemy-warplanes-circle-over-various-Lebanese-regions>

- **King of Jordan, US House committee team discuss cooperation**

King Abdullah II of Jordan on Sunday welcomed a delegation of the US House Foreign Affairs Committee, led by Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, and discussed further boosting the US-Jordanian partnership and cooperation ties as well as current region developments. According to the Petra News Agency, the discussion during the meeting dealt with challenges posed by regional crises to the Jordanian economy, particularly the Syrian refugee crisis. King Abdullah said he appreciated US economic aid, which enabled the Kingdom to face such burdens and carry out developmental programmes.

More Details:

<http://wam.ae/en/details/1395302616516>

- **Lebanese MP: Ongoing Progress in Discussions over Electoral Law**

Lebanese MP Nabil de Freige has signaled some progress in the ongoing discussions over the adoption of a new electoral law, noting however that a final agreement has not yet been reached. During an interview with Voice of Lebanon radio station on Sunday, De Freige urged politicians to offer compromises to solve the electoral law crisis and proposed increasing the number of deputies in the Lebanese parliament in order to "adjust the representation of minorities."

More Details:

<http://english.aawsat.com/theaawsat/news-middle-east/lebanese-mp-ongoing-progress-discussions-electoral-law>

- **Abu Dhabi Fund for Development finances 31 projects in Jordan worth AED5.7 billion**

Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD) and the Government of Jordan have enjoyed close ties dating back to 1974. Their constructive cooperation aims to achieve sustainable development goals in vital economic sectors that benefit the Jordanian population. In a report issued by ADFD to mark Jordan's 71st Independence Day, the Fund announced that by end-2016, it provided financing for 31 development projects with a cumulative value of AED5.7 billion through government grants and concessionary loans. The projects covered several sectors, namely mining, water and irrigation, transport, housing, agriculture, energy, education and healthcare.

More Details:

<http://www.albawaba.com/business/pr/abu-dhabi-fund-development-finances-31-projects-jordan-worth-aed57-billion-979164>

- **Aoun welcomes Ambassador of France**

President Michel Aoun received at the Presidential Palace in Baabda the French Ambassador, Emmanuel Bonne, who came on a farewell visit during which, the President awarded him the National Cedar Medal for the rank of senior officer in recognition of his efforts.

More Details

[http://mtv.com.lb/EN/News/Local/710527/Aoun\\_welcomes\\_Ambassador\\_of\\_France](http://mtv.com.lb/EN/News/Local/710527/Aoun_welcomes_Ambassador_of_France)

## 6. ARABIAN PENINSULA AND THE GULF OF BASRA

- **Bahraini Regime Still Laying Siege to Sheikh Qassim's House: Activists**

Bahraini activists said the house of Sheikh Isa Qassim, the spiritual leader the Shiite majority in the kingdom, in Diraz, west of Manama, is still under siege by the regime's security forces. The supporters of Sheikh Qassim could not get close to his house because of the siege, the activists said, according to the Arabic-language Al Mayadeen TV.

More Details:

<https://www.tasnimnews.com/en/news/2017/05/29/1422315/bahraini-regime-still-laying-siege-to-sheikh-qassim-s-house-activists>

- **Saudi Reliance on Trump's US to Yield No Results**

Parliament official Hossein Amir-Abdollahian said the reliance of Saudi Arabia and Bahrain on Donald Trump's America will yield no beneficial results for them. General Director for International Affairs

Hossein Amir-Abdollahian made the remark in a meeting with representative of the Palestinian Resistance Movement Hamas in Iran, Khaled Qaddoumi, on Sunday in Tehran.

More Details:

<http://en.mehrnews.com/news/125637/Saudi-reliance-on-Trump-s-US-to-yield-no-results>

- **700 Killed by Mines Planted by Houthis**

More than 700 people have been killed by landmines planted by Houthi rebels and supporters of ousted president Ali Abdullah Saleh in Yemen. The Arab Federation for Human Rights has revealed in a recent report that the Houthis have planted more than half a million antipersonnel mines in different parts of Yemen.

More Details:

<http://saudigazette.com.sa/saudi-arabia/700-killed-mines-planted-houthis/>

- **Emir of Qatar Stresses Enhancing Relations with Iran**

In less than a week, Emir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani has said his country enjoyed deep and historical ties with Iran, and said during a phone conversation with Iranian President Hassan Rouhani on Saturday, that he wanted the ties with Tehran to be “stronger than ever before.”

More Details:

<http://english.aawsat.com/abdollah-al-haida/news-middle-east/emir-qatar-stresses-enhancing-relations-iran>

- **Kuwaiti Emir Congratulates Rouhani on Reelection**

Kuwaiti Emir Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah on Sunday congratulated incumbent President Hassan Rouhani on his re-election in May 19 presidential election. He extended his congratulations in a meeting with Iran’s Ambassador to Kuwait Ali Reza Enayati. The meeting was held on the occasion of the beginning of the fasting month of Ramadan which began on May 27 in Iran and a number of regional states.

More Details:

<http://www.irna.ir/en/News/82547790/>

- **Saudis Take Aim at Swollen US Oil Stockpiles in Strategy Shift**

After sparing its prized US market from oil-output cuts, Saudi Arabia plans to "markedly" reduce exports to its political ally in the coming weeks in an effort to reduce swollen and highly visible crude inventories in the world's biggest consumer.

More Details:

<http://www.arabianbusiness.com/saudis-take-aim-at-swollen-us-oil-stockpiles-in-strategy-shift--675825.html>

- **Iran's Leader Calls Saudi Leadership 'Idiots' Over Closeness With US**

Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has lashed out at Riyadh for its "cordial" relations with the United States, calling Saudis "milking cows for the Americans." Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the supreme leader of Iran, criticized the recent multi-billion arms deal between Washington and Riyadh, saying Saudi leaders were "idiots" and "milking cows for the Americans," according to Deutsche Welle.

More Details:

<https://sputniknews.com/middleeast/201705291054077113-iran-saudi-arabia-idiots/>

- **Oman Oil Company Signs Agreement with Eni of Italy**

Oman Oil Co (OOC) and Eni have finalised a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to explore cooperation opportunities in the oil and gas sector. An agreement was signed last week in Milano City by Eng. Isam bin Saud Al Zadjali, CEO of Oman Oil Co and Claudio Descalzi, CEO of Eni, in Milan, Italy, according to a press statement issued by Eni.

More Details:

<http://timesofoman.com/article/110005/Oman/Oman-Oil-Company-signs-agreement-with-Eni-of-Italy>

- **Yemeni Forces Kill 13 Saudi Troops in Retaliation**

Yemeni troops have carried out major retaliatory attacks against separate locations in southwestern Saudi Arabia, killing as many as 13 Saudi forces. Six of the fatalities occurred at the al-Fuaz military base in the Saudi region of Najran, Yemen's al-Masirah television network reported on Sunday.

More Details:

[http://en.abna24.com/news/middle-east/yemeni-forces-kill-13-saudi-troops-in-retaliation\\_832502.html](http://en.abna24.com/news/middle-east/yemeni-forces-kill-13-saudi-troops-in-retaliation_832502.html)

## 7. EGYPT

- **Egyptian Army: Our Strikes Not Limited to Derna**

While Egypt continued its air assaults in Libya for the third consecutive day on Sunday, Egyptian army spokesman Tamer al-Rifai told Asharq Al-Awsat that the wave of strikes against terrorists attacking Egypt were successful.

More Details:

<http://english.aawsat.com/abdul-sattar-hatita/news-middle-east/egyptian-army-strikes-not-limited-derna>

- **Egypt blocks newspaper website over 'support for terrorism'**

Egypt on Sunday blocked the website of one of its most prominent financial newspapers, the paper's owner said, according to Reuters. The block expands a media blackout initiated last week to curb what authorities called support for terrorism and fake news.

More Details:

<http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/230305>

- **Sudan's foreign minister cancels visit to Egypt**

Sudanese Foreign Minister Ibrahim Ghandour on Sunday cancelled a planned trip to Cairo several days after accusations by President Omer al-Bashir that Egypt provided weapons to Darfur rebels used during a recent attack.

More Details:

<http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article62580>

- **Egyptian planes may have attacked 2 new Libyan sites**

After carrying out six attacks on the city of Derna in Libya the other day, Egyptian planes may have carried out attacks on the Jufra air base held by Mistratan forces together with members of the Benghazi Defense Brigades (BDB).

More Details:

<http://www.digitaljournal.com/news/world/op-ed-egyptian-planes-may-have-attacked-2-new-libyan-sites/article/493736>

- **Russian FM arrives in Cairo to discuss bilateral relations with Egyptian counterpart**

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov arrived in Cairo on Sunday to discuss bilateral relations with Egyptian counterpart Sameh Shoukry and other top Egyptian officials, state news agency MENA reported.

More Details:

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/269723/-.aspx>

- **FMs of Algeria, Egypt and Tunisia to meet on Libya**

The foreign ministers of Algeria, Egypt and Tunisia are to meet in Algiers on June 5-6 to assess the situation in Libya "in light of the recent developments on the level of politics and security", Algerian foreign ministry spokesman Abdelaziz Benali Chérif said.

More Details:

[http://www.ansamed.info/ansamed/en/news/sections/politics/2017/05/29/fms-of-algeria-egypt-and-tunisia-to-meet-on-libya\\_0f2d5dd8-9d51-4b17-be47-c47a29614430.html](http://www.ansamed.info/ansamed/en/news/sections/politics/2017/05/29/fms-of-algeria-egypt-and-tunisia-to-meet-on-libya_0f2d5dd8-9d51-4b17-be47-c47a29614430.html)

- **UAE's MBR Humanitarian and Charity Establishment distributes Ramadan meals in Egypt**

The Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Humanitarian and Charity Establishment has completed the first phase of its Ramadan programme with the distribution of iftar food packages and beverages to the underprivileged in the villages and townships of Aswan governorate.

More Details:

<http://wam.ae/en/details/1395302616481>

- **Egypt says foreign currency inflows into banking system at \$25 bln since float -MENA**

Egyptian Central Bank Governor Tarek Amer said foreign currency inflows into the banking system reached about \$25 billion since the central bank floated the pound currency in November, state news agency MENA said on Sunday.

More Details:

[http://af.reuters.com/article/egyptNews/idAFC6N1GF00B?feedType=RSS&feedName=egyptNews&utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+reuters%2FAfricaEgyptNews+%28News+%2F+Africa+%2F+Egypt+News%29&&rpc=401](http://af.reuters.com/article/egyptNews/idAFC6N1GF00B?feedType=RSS&feedName=egyptNews&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+reuters%2FAfricaEgyptNews+%28News+%2F+Africa+%2F+Egypt+News%29&&rpc=401)

- **Egypt pledges right to self-defence before UNSC by Libya airstrikes**

Egypt's delegate to the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) notified on Saturday the council that Egypt's airstrikes on Libya targeted terrorist groups and described the attack as the right of the country for self defence which the UN charters stipulate, according to a press statement.

More Details:

<http://www.dailynewsegypt.com/2017/05/28/egypt-pledges-right-self-defence-UNSC-libya-airstrikes/>

- **Terrorist attack on Copts in Egypt**

The Australian Government is appalled by the brutal attack on a group of Coptic Christians in Egypt on 26 May, killing many including children.

More Details:

<http://www.africa-newsroom.com/press/terrorist-attack-on-copts-in-egypt?lang=en>

## 8. NORTH AFRICA

- **UK's Petrofac resumes Tunisia gas production**

British energy firm Petrofac has resumed production at gas plant in Tunisia after a stoppage that lasted several months, the company and a trade union said on Saturday. "Yesterday (Friday) natural gas was brought by pipeline to Sfax" from the Chergui field operated by Petrofac, Abdelhadi Ben Jemaa, secretary general of the powerful UGTT trade union in second city Sfax, told AFP.

More Detail:

<http://www.news24.com/Africa/News/uks-petrofac-resumes-tunisia-gas-production-20170527>

- **54 Dead, Some 10,000 Migrants Rescued Off Libya Coast In 4 Days**

About 10,000 migrants were rescued off the coast of Libya over the previous four days but at least 54 others died, Libyan and Italian officials said Saturday. On Saturday, the Tunisian army also rescued 126 migrants from sub-Saharan Africa hoping to reach Italian shores, officials said. They were aboard a flimsy inflatable boat off the coastal town of Ben Gardane, near the Libyan border. On Friday, more than 1,200 migrants were rescued by Libyan ships and taken to Tripoli or Zawiya, about 50 kilometres (30 miles) west, while the Italian coastguard and commercial boats rescued 2,200 others and took them to Italy.

More Detail:

<http://www.ndtv.com/world-news/54-dead-some-10-000-migrants-rescued-off-libya-coast-in-4-days-1704812>

- **Rajoy Congratulates New Algerian Prime Minister**

The president of the Spanish Government, Mariano Rajoy, sent a congratulatory message on Sunday to the new prime minister of Algeria, Abdelmadjid Tebboune, who was appointed for that post recently. Rajoy said that he was convinced that with Tebboune 'the tight and loyal cooperation that presides over the strategic relationship between the two countries will be reinforced' in aspects such as security, energy or the joint management of migration, he noted.

More Detail:

<http://plenglish.com/index.php?o=rn&id=13448&SEO=rajoy-congratulates-new-algerian-prime-minister>

- **OIC Secretary General congratulates people of Algeria for successful Presidential Election**

The Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), Iyad Ameen Madani, has congratulated the people of Algeria on the successful conduct of transparent and democratic Presidential election which was held on 17 April 2014. The OIC in a statement said that its observers monitored the election process in Algiers and other Provinces and had noted with satisfaction that the electoral process was conducted in a free, fair, democratic and transparent manner, in conformity with the Algerian election rules and regulations as well as with the internationally accepted norms.

More Detail:

<http://wam.ae/en/details/1395242832564>

- **Libya's Extremist Ansar al-Sharia dissolves itself**

The map of terrorist and extremist groups in Libya is being redrawn, six years after the fall of the Gadhafi regime after the Ansar al-Sharia group linked announced that it was formally dissolving itself. The al-Qaeda-linked group said in a statement on Saturday that its decision came on the back of heavy losses that have wiped out its leadership and decimated its fighters. Groups such as Ansar al-Sharia, which had tried to maintain a stronghold in the country's east, have inserted themselves into the larger war, creating a fractious battleground overlaid by a multitude of militias.

More Detail:

<http://english.aawsat.com/asharq-al-awsat-english/news-middle-east/libyas-extremist-ansar-al-sharia-dissolves>

- **Presidential Guard moves into Tripoli International Airport: report**

It is reported that Tripoli International Airport is for the first time in almost three years back under recognised government control. The Presidential Guard – the military force directly under the orders of the Presidency Council – is said to have taken it over from Tarhouna’s Kani militia. A letter issued by Presidency Council head Faiez Serraj instructed the guard’s commander, Colonel Najmi Al-Nakua, and the interior ministry to do all it could to secure and protect and ruined airport.

More Details:

<https://www.libyaherald.com/2017/05/29/presidential-guard-moves-into-tripoli-international-airport-report/>

- **Son of Lockerbie bomber Megrahi warns of new terror strikes**

THE son of the Lockerbie bomber Abdelbaset Ali Mohmed al-Megrahi is warning the UK faces an unprecedented wave of terror from Libya. Khaled al-Megrahi said his homeland had been deserted by western powers allowing terror groups to seize control of much of the country. In a chilling warning from his home in Tripoli, while fighting between Islamic State (IS) and government troops raged outside his window, he said the UK brought the Manchester Arena attack on itself by leaving a power vacuum after ridding Libya of despot Colonel Gaddafi in 2011.

More Details:

[http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15314877.Son\\_of\\_Lockerbie\\_bomber\\_Megrahi\\_warns\\_of\\_new\\_terror\\_strikes/](http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15314877.Son_of_Lockerbie_bomber_Megrahi_warns_of_new_terror_strikes/)

- **Morocco and Nigeria to construct gas pipeline**

Morocco and Nigeria have taken a major step forward to construct an over 4,000-km gas pipeline that will carry Nigerian gas through six West African countries to Morocco, improving access to energy across the nations. The two sides concluded an agreement for the Gazoduc pipeline project and another one for cooperation in the field of fertilisers at a ceremony in Rabat. The agreements were concluded five months after the visit of Morocco’s King Mohammed VI to Nigeria in December last year during which both sides signed a joint venture for the pipeline project. It will speed up electrification projects in West Africa and benefit over 300 million people.

More Details:

<http://gulftoday.ae/portal/224f7de5-8895-40ba-931a-443f76e525b8.aspx>

- **Morocco authorities arrest 20 after clashes in north**

Moroccan authorities have arrested 20 people following violent clashes between police and protesters in the northern city of Al-Hoceima on Friday evening, the local prosecutor said on

Saturday. Clashes erupted in Al-Hoceima after authorities sought to arrest a well-known activist who led recent demonstrations and who interrupted a Friday prayer sermon, activists and local residents said, Reuters reported.

More Details:

<http://en.trend.az/world/other/2759973.html>

- **India and Morocco call for closer cooperation in trade sectors**

During the 5th India Morocco Joint Commission Meeting (JCM) held in Rabat on 25 and 26 May 2017, both countries intensified the strong bilateral relations and provided an impetus for closer cooperation between the two countries in the political, commercial, cultural, and trade sectors. Nirmala Sitharaman, Commerce and Industry Minister gave keynote address at the Industry Day of Morocco in Casablanca, organised by the Ministry of Industry, Investment, Trade and Digital Economy of the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco.

More Details:

<http://knnindia.co.in/news/newsdetails/global/india-and-morocco-call-for-closer-cooperation-in-trade-sectors>

## 9. AFGHANISTAN – PAKISTAN

- **Taliban Commanders among 19 Killed in Kunduz**

As many as nineteen Taliban insurgents including their commanders were killed in a series of ground and air raids in Northern Kunduz province. The provincial governor's spokesman Nematullah Temori said at least seventeen of the insurgents were killed during the clearance operations conducted in the vicinity of Taloka area in the center of Kunduz.

More Details:

<http://thekabultimes.gov.af/index.php/newsnational/14086-taliban-commanders-among-19-killed-in-kunduz.html>

- **Pakistan Reopens Afghanistan Border Crossing**

Pakistan has reopened a major border crossing with Afghanistan more than three weeks after several people were killed when troops from both sides exchanged fire for several hours. The Pakistani military said in a recent statement that the Chaman crossing into Afghanistan's Kandahar province had been reopened on "humanitarian grounds" after Afghan officials submitted a request.

More Details:

<http://www.presstv.com/Detail/2017/05/28/523481/Pakistan--Chaman-Balochistan-Kandahar-Torkham>

- **ISIS Militants among 50 Killed in Joint Operations of Afghan Forces: MoD**

At least fifty insurgents including four loyalists of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) terrorist group were killed during the joint operations of the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces (ANDSF) personnel, the Ministry of Defense (MoD) said Sunday.

More Details:

<http://www.khaama.com/isis-militants-among-50-killed-in-joint-operations-of-afghan-forces-mod-02813>

- **Ghani Suspends Herat Mayor Over Residents' Complaints**

President Ashraf Ghani has suspended Herat Mayor Farhad Niyayesh from his duty over complaints lodged by Herat residents against the mayor, said Munira Yusufzada, a spokesperson for the Independent Directorate of Local Governance (IDLG).

More Details:

<http://www.tolonews.com/afghanistan/ghani-suspends-herat-mayor-over-residents%E2%80%99-complaints>

- **Australia to Send 30 Additional Troops to Afghanistan**

Australia will increase its troop presence in Afghanistan following a formal request from the US, Canberra has said. The 30 new military advisers will raise Australia's total deployment to 300, Defence Minister Marise Payne said.

More Details:

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-australia-40081169>

- **India and Pakistan Must Stop Warmongering Over Kashmir**

Tensions are simmering, yet again, on the India-Pakistan border. In the latest iteration of a long-running conflict, the two South Asian neighbors are engaged in a media war, each claiming to "expose" the other's "lies".

More Details:

<http://www.atimes.com/article/india-pakistan-must-stop-warmongering-kashmir/>

- **Islamabad does not want Heavy Indian Influence in Afghanistan: US intelligence**

The US intelligence community, in a rare acknowledgement of Pakistan’s concerns, has informed Congress that Islamabad does not want heavy Indian influence in Afghanistan and will likely turn to China to offset New Delhi’s sway on its western borders.

More Details:

<http://paktribune.com/news/Islamabad-does-not-want-heavy-Indian-influence-in-Afghanistan-US-intelligence-278848.html>

- **Ministries, Trade Agencies in Dire Need to Work Together**

Pakistan’s federal government has ten core economic ministries, other than the Ministry of Finance. There are special agencies under some of these ministries while some such as the Board of Investment (BoI) reports directly to the Prime Minister’s Secretariat.

More Details:

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/1421664/ministries-trade-agencies-dire-need-work-together/>

- **One Dead as Protests Against Loadshedding Turn Violent in KP**

At least one person has been killed and six others injured as protests against prolonged power outages turned violent in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Malakand district on Monday. Clashes between the protesters and law enforcement agencies left one person dead after enraged protestors burned the local police station.

More Details:

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1336125/one-dead-as-protests-against-loadshedding-turn-violent-in-kp>

- **Condolence Message**

President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Mohammad Ashraf Ghani in a message expressed his deep regret over the death of Halima Gharmal, one of the experienced teachers and women activists, who passed away recently. The president in the message said: “Mrs. Gharmal had tried her best to educate the country’s young generation and serve the country’s education and his death was a great loss.”

More Details:

<http://www.bakhtarnews.com.af/eng/politics/item/28722-condolence-message.html>

## 10. TURKEY AND THE MIDDLE EAST

- **Turkey condemns deadly Taliban attack in Afghanistan**

Turkey on Sunday condemned a recent Taliban-claimed suicide car bombing in southeastern Afghanistan which left 18 people dead. Saturday's terrorist attack, which according to the locals, apparently targeted the Afghan security forces' convoy in Khost City, the provincial capital of Khost, also left six others injured including two children.

More Details:

<http://www.worldbulletin.net/turkey/190149/turkey-remembers-1993-racist-attack-victims-in-germany>

- **Turkish airstrikes kill 26 PKK terrorists in N. Iraq**

29 PKK terrorists were killed in several air operations in northern Iraq and southeastern Turkey on Sunday, a military source and the local governorate said. Thirteen PKK terrorists were killed in northern Iraq's Avasin-Basyan regions in an airstrike early Sunday while they were preparing to launch an armed attack, a military source, speaking on condition of anonymity due to restrictions on talking to the media, said.

More Details:

<http://aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/turkish-airstrikes-kill-26-pkk-terrorists-in-n-iraq/827725>

- **Turkey calls for nationwide ceasefire in Libya**

The Turkish Foreign Ministry expressed its concern Saturday over clashes and the escalation of violence in the Libyan capital of Tripoli and called for a nationwide ceasefire. In a statement released on the ministry's website, the MFA "called on all Libyans to refrain from resorting to violent actions that will damage the security and stability of the country and its capital in particular."

More Details:

<https://www.dailysabah.com/diplomacy/2017/05/27/turkey-calls-for-nationwide-ceasefire-in-libya>

*\*This media summary is prepared by **ORSAM Middle East Research Assistant Firuze Yağmur Gökler**. It covers news and commentaries as reported by the national media sources publishing in the Middle Eastern countries. The views expressed are not those of ORSAM and their inclusion does not imply factual accuracy.*

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