Saudite Arabia - Saudi women should not have to wear the long, loose-fitting, head-to-toe garments known as abayas, a woman said Tuesday in a forum calling for liberalizing dress rules. "More than 90% of women in our country's cities do not wear abayas," said Shabul Al-Madall, a member of the council of senior scholars – the kingdom's highest religious body. "If we cannot force people to wear abayas," she said at a television program broadcast on Friday, "then Saudi Arabia, which has some of the world's highest illiteracy rates, requires them to wear the abayas year round." The government has not said whether it will change the law.

Saudia Cleric Says Women Need Not Wear Abaya Robe in Public

ANAKA/ISTANBUL - A decision by the United Nations to fund the Syrian Kurdish YPG militia will affect Turkish foreign policy, the country's foreign minister said Tuesday.

"We already have a decision," Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said. "But the UN General Assembly will have to decide in the near future about the aid." He did not say who would contribute to the aid fund.

Syria's extreme Sunni group is waging a war against the government and rebel groups in Syria. (Reuters)