

## Turkey's Erdogan Urges Saudis to Say Who Ordered Khashoggi's Killing

ISTANBUL - Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan urged Saudi Arabia on Friday to disclose who ordered the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi in Istanbul, as well as the location of his body, heightening international pressure on the kingdom to come clean on the case.

Erdogan said Turkey had more information than it had shared so far about the killing of Khashoggi, a prominent U.S.-based critic of powerful Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, that has pitched the world's top oil exporter and pivotal Middle East strategic partner of the West into a serious crisis.

The kingdom, Erdogan added, also must reveal the identity of the "local cooper" whom Saudi officials earlier said had taken charge of Khashoggi's



body from Saudi agents after his killing inside the Saudi consulate in Istanbul on Oct. 2.

Saudi Arabia's public prosecutor said on Thursday the killing of Khashoggi, a Wash-

ington Post columnist, was premeditated, reversing a previous official statement that it happened accidentally during a tussle in the consulate.

The kingdom's shifting explanations of what happened to Khashoggi when he entered the consulate to get papers for his divorce have stirred scepticism and calls for Saudi transparency to determine who was ultimately responsible for the murder.

"Who gave this order?" Erdogan said in a speech to members of his AK Party in Ankara. "Who gave the order for 15 people to come to Turkey?" he said, referring to a 15-man Saudi security team Turkey said flew into Istanbul hours before the killing. (Reuters)

## Neighbor News

### Iran Urges Countries to Abide By ICJ Ruling against US

TEHRAN - Iran's ambassador to the United Nations urges the international community to abide by an order issued by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) earlier this month against US sanctions on the Islamic Republic.

Addressing the UN General Assembly on Thursday, Gholamali Khoshroo called on the US "to implement the provisional measure, including refraining from measures such as wrongful sanctions which will aggravate the disputes."

"Moreover, to help preserve the primary role of the International Court of Justice as the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, other states are also expected

to refrain from assisting the US in imposing any impediments in transactions involving specified items, which would amount to violation of the court's order and would be tantamount to providing assistance to the wrongdoer," the Iranian envoy added.

On October 3, the UN's top court issued a ruling, reprimanding the US over its re-imposition of sanctions on Iran and ordering Washington to lift restrictive measures linked to humanitarian trade, food, medicine and civil aviation.

The court's "unanimous order was a clear testament to the illegality of the US sanctions against our country and its people," the Iranian diplomat said. (Press TV)

### Asian Shares Mostly Lower despite US Markets Rally

TOKYO - Asian shares have turned lower after early gains, despite the overnight jump on Wall Street. Worries over corporate earnings, trade and the outlook for growth weighed on sentiment.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 lost 1.1 percent to 21,026.97 on Friday, while South Korea's Kospi plunged 2.6 percent to 2,010.46. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 gave up 0.4 percent to 5,640.60. Hong Kong's Hang Seng sank 1.5

percent to 24,609.81 and the Shanghai Composite shed 0.5 percent to 2,589.65. Shares rose in Indonesia but fell in Taiwan and elsewhere in Southeast Asia.

WALL STREET: The rally wiped out a large part of the market's plunge from the day before. The S&P 500 index jumped 1.9 percent to 2,705.57. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 1.6 percent to 24,984.55 and the Nasdaq surged 3 percent to 7,318.34 after its biggest drop in seven years. (AP)

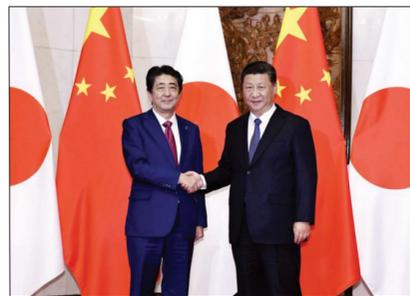
BEIJING - Shared trade friction with the U.S. appears to be drawing long-time Asian rivals China and Japan closer, with Chinese President Xi Jinping telling Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on Friday that the two countries are "sharing more common interests and concerns."

China-Japan relations have undergone turbulence but are now "back to a normal track," Xi told Abe during the first formal visit to Beijing by a Japanese leader in nearly seven years.

### China-Japan Drawing Closer amid Trade Pressure from US

"Under the new situation, our interdependence with each other has deepened. Also, we are sharing more common interests and concerns in multilateral and wider areas," Xi said. Abe's visit highlights the improvement in ties after they hit a low in 2012 during a dispute over East China Sea islands controlled by key U.S. ally Japan but claimed by China.

While that feud remains unresolved, trade and investment have recovered and companies from the two sides are exploring



joint investments in third countries such as Thailand. China has come under increasing pressure from U.S. President Donald Trump's move to im-

pose punitive tariffs on \$250 billion in Chinese products and attempt to limit Chinese access to American technology. (AP)

### U.S. Exit from Nuclear Arms Pact Increases Risks of War: Gorbachev



MOSCOW - Mikhail Gorbachev, the last Soviet leader, denounced on Friday a U.S. decision to leave an arms control treaty that helped end the Cold War, saying it

heralded a new arms race which increased the risk of nuclear conflict.

President Donald Trump has said Washington plans to quit the Intermediate-Range Nuclear

Forces (INF) treaty which Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan signed in 1987. The pact eliminated all short- and intermediate-range land-based nuclear and conventional missiles held by both countries in Europe.

Gorbachev, in a column for the New York Times newspaper, said the U.S. move was "a dire threat to peace" that he still hoped might be reversed through negotiations.

"I am being asked whether I feel bitter watching the demise of what I worked so hard to achieve. But this

is not a personal matter. Much more is at stake," he wrote. "A new arms race has been announced."

Washington has cited Russia's alleged violation of the treaty as its reason for leaving it, a charge Moscow denies. Russia in turn accuses Washington of breaking the pact. If the United States made good on its pledge to leave the treaty, Gorbachev said he hoped that U.S. allies would refuse to be what he called launchpads for American missiles which Trump has spoken of developing. (Reuters)

### India's Foreign Minister to Visit Qatar, Kuwait

NEW DELHI - India's External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj will visit Qatar and Kuwait on Oct. 28-31, it was announced on Friday.

During her visit to Qatar, the Indian minister will interact with Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs of Qatar. She will also call on Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani, the Emir of Qatar.

Bilateral trade between India and Qatar in 2017-18 was 9.9 billion U.S. dol-

lars, according to official figures.

In Kuwait the Indian minister will hold a bilateral meeting with her counterpart Sheikh Sabah Al Khalid Al Sabah, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs of Kuwait. She will also call on the Emir of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

Kuwait hosts about 1 million Indians, forming the largest expatriate community. Bilateral trade between India and Kuwait in 2017-18 was 8.5 billion U.S. dollars. (Xinhua)

### Rival Leaders Agree to Open New Crossings over Cyprus Divide

NICOSIA - Rival Cypriot leaders agreed Friday to open the first new crossing points in eight years across the island's divide in a move to improve the climate of the deadlocked talks process, the UN said. It was the first formal meeting between the two leaders since a UN-backed peace conference in Switzerland also involving the main outside powers collapsed in acrimony in July last year.

"The leaders are pleased to announce that on November 12, 2018, crossing points at Lefka/Aplici (in the northwest) and Dherynia/Derinya (in the east) will be open," a UN statement said after the leaders' meeting. (AFP)

### Italians Face Disruption as Transport Workers Go on Strike

ROME - Travelers and commuters in Italy faced delays on Friday as several national trade unions staged a 24-hour strike, disrupting transport services as well as some public schools.

Rome and Italy's financial capital Milan were hardest hit, with buses, trams and underground services set to operate a full service only during the morning and evening rush hour. In Rome, many rubbish collection workers also walked off the job.

Unions called the strike to demand better working conditions, more hirings and increased public sector investment. One union said it was protesting about the 2019 budget, accusing the government of not doing enough for ordinary workers. (Reuters)

### 2 Koreas to Destroy 22 Front-Line Guard Posts by November

SEOUL, South Korea - The North and South Korean militaries agreed Friday to completely destroy 22 front-line guard posts by the end of November as they discussed their next steps in implementing a wide-ranging military agreement signed last month to reduce tensions.

They also agreed to conduct a joint survey early next month of a 70-kilometer (43-mile)-long waterway near their western border where civilian vessels from both countries eventually will be allowed to pass freely, according to a statement released after the general-level talks at



the border village of Panmunjom.

The plans to remove the guard posts and jointly use the Han River estuary were among the commitments spelled out in the military agreement reached last month on the sidelines of a summit between North Korean

leader Kim Jong Un and South Korean President Moon Jae-in.

Friday's talks came a day after the Koreans and the U.S.-led U.N. Command completed removing firearms and troops from a jointly controlled area at the border village. (AP)

### Malaysian Drug Trafficker Hanged in Singapore

SINGAPORE - A convicted Malaysian drug trafficker was hanged in Singapore on Friday, officials said, after the city-state rejected last minute efforts to save him.

The Malaysian government - which decided earlier this month to abolish the death penalty - had asked neighboring Singapore to spare the 31-year-old man from the gallows on humanitarian grounds.

But Malaysia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a statement late Friday that Prabu N Pathmanathan was executed in Singapore's Changi Prison earlier in the day, in the presence of family members and a representative from the Malaysian embassy.

The ministry said the Malaysian government had asked Singapore to spare the man on humanitarian grounds but respects the city-state's laws. (AFP)

### Israeli Scientists Develop Method to Produce Fuel from Olive Waste

JERUSALEM - Israeli researchers have discovered a method to turn the waste generated by olive oil production into fuel used by vehicles, the news website Ynet published Friday.

During the olive oil production process, of every 1,000 kg of olives squeezed in the olive press, only 200 kg of olive oil are produced.

The rest becomes solid waste. About 6 million tons of olive waste are produced every year worldwide, of which about 30,000 tons are in Israel.

The new study, led by the University of Haifa in northern Israel and financed by the state's Ministry of Environmental Protection, shows a technique that will enable the transformation of solid waste into ethanol.

Several kinds of engines are fueled with ethanol. Even a regular gasoline engine can operate normally with up to 10 percent ethanol.

One of the advantages of using biofuels, such as bioethanol, is to reduce the dependence on fossil fuels such as coal, oil and natural gas, whose reserves are decreasing, use of which generates extensive emissions of greenhouse gas such as carbon dioxide. (Xinhua)

### Foreign Ministries of Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan Discuss Introduction of Silk Road Visas

TASHKENT - The Kazakhstan delegation was headed by Tauboldy Umbetbaev, Director of the Consular Services Department, and the Uzbek delegation was headed by the Deputy Director of the Consular and Legal Department Fariddin Nasriev.

"During the consultations held in a constructive atmosphere, the parties discussed in detail the state of bilateral relations in the consular sphere, which resulted in the signing of the relevant protocol," the press service of the Foreign Ministry of Kazakhstan said in a statement.

One of the issues raised during the bilateral meetings was the intro-

duction of a Silk Road visa, which will contribute to the development of tourism sectors of the two countries.

Earlier, the Kazakhstan's Senator Dariga Nazarbayeva proposed to create an Asian Schengen - Silk visa.

"It is important not only to stimulate the development of tourism of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, but also visiting of tourists from far abroad to our states who want to see all attractions of Central Asia at once, and to this end a unified visa is necessary," said Nazarbayeva. In addition, the chairman of the committee stated the necessity of creation of a transparent, open and friendly border. (Trend)

### Gov't Taking Measures for Better Economic Policy Making: Makhдум Khusro

ISLAMABAD - Minister for Planning, Development and Reform Makhдум Khusro

Bakhtyar has underscored the need for carrying out quality and policy-focused research for effective development and economic policy making to enable the policymakers to devise sound strategies for achieving desired development results.

The Federal Minister expressed these views while chairing the 12th Senate Meeting of Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) here at Islamabad on Friday.

It may be noted that the Minister in his capacity as Deputy Chairman Planning Commission

is the Chancellor of PIDE.

MNA Shandana Gulzar, Vice Chancellor PIDE Dr. Asad Zaman, members PIDE Senate and senior officials of the Ministry were also present in the meeting.

The Minister said that PIDE is an important research institution which should be further strengthened and equipped to make it a state of the art centre of excellence for research and academic purposes.

The Minister underlined the importance of establishing educational linkages with leading world research institutions to benefit from latest research and expertise in relevant fields. (Monitoring Desk)

### Turkmenistan, US Hold Political Consultations

ASHGABAT - A meeting with Emilia A. Puma, the Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary in the State Department's Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs, overseeing Central Asia and press and public diplomacy, has been held at the Foreign Ministry of Turkmenistan, the Ministry said in a statement.

The sides discussed the issues of political and regional cooperation, various areas of bilateral relations.

The two countries discussed the trade and economic partnership

and the humanitarian interaction, the development of social and cultural ties, and the protection of human rights, a commentary by the state news agency Turkmen Döwlet Khabarлары reads.

An important aspect of bilateral relations between Turkmenistan and the United States is the partnership in ensuring universal peace, security and stability, and countering global challenges and threats, the "Neutral Turkmenistan" newspaper wrote. (Trend)