The Ministry of Administrative Development, Labour and Social Affairs has launched the third batch of electronic services for ‘Ameri’ application on smart phones in Arabic and English text and images for users - individuals and companies.

The Ministry of Administrative Development, Labour and Social Affairs in Qat has launched a new mobile app called ‘Ameri’ on Sunday in three simple steps, starting today. The app allows users to access a range of services designed to request services and inquire about them, as the user can complete the registration through as many steps as starting with his name, user name, password, and through the national document site, and then log in through the application.

The ‘Ameri’ application includes housing application follow up, rent allowance follow up, house purchase ownership request, title deed request, installment exception request, labor residency extension, establishment owner suspension follow up, and establishment’s inclusive services. Other services are labor approval follow up, labor complaint follow up, job seeker’s registration certificate, municipality license, social security follow up, housing allowance follow up, social security follow up, and social security documents.

The app also offers other services including labor approval details, top-up, license update, social security documents, updating establishment branches’ data, housing allowance, installment exception, and complaints against violating manpower companies, said the Ministry in a post on its website.

All smart phones that support Android OS version 4.3 or higher. All smart phones that support iOS version 8 or higher. Android users, in addition to other services provided by the Labour Relations Department.

One of the most important features of the application is its ease of use. The user is supposed to have an account on the app from the approved Apple Store or Google Play Store for the safety. The app is designed to work on smartphones but also works on tablets.

The Ministry of Administrative Development, Labour and Social Affairs in Qat also allows the user to download the app from the approved Apple Store and Google Play Store for the safety. The user is supposed to have an account on the National Identification system website to use the same username and password in Ameri application www.naq.gov.qa.

When a user clicks on individual it shows services related to individuals. The top of the page shows service categories – employment, labour and business, housing and social and media. When you click any of these categories the services for each category will appear. Also, when a user clicks on corporate it shows services related to corporate. The top of the page shows service categories – recruitment notification, complaints and establishments data. When you click any of these categories, the services for each category will appear.

Erdogan confirms Syrian regime’s violation of truce agreement in Idlib

The Ministry of Interior (MoI) represented by the General Directorate of Tragic, seized 407 vehicles for violating traffic rules yesterday at the Sealine area.

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Traffic has called on all motorists and road users to adhere to the traffic rules yesterday at the Sealine area. According to traffic authorities, major traffic violations at Sealine area include reckless driving, drifting, illegal vehicles' number plates among others, and this behaviour endangers both life and property of road users.

Traffic authorities are referring the matter to the Public Prosecution to take legal actions against them according to the type of violation they committed. The Traffic Department also has taken strict action against a number of vehicles whose drivers committed serious traffic violations in the Sealine area on January 10. The Department on social media accounts, has been saying that it will not hesitate from taking any legal action against reckless drivers advising everyone to respect traffic rules and avoid violating traffic laws and regulations in order to avoid any risks.

Currently, the Traffic Department is carrying out efforts to catch reckless drivers by approaching the violators and seizing their vehicles in the Sealine area. According to traffic authorities, major traffic violations at Sealine area include reckless driving, drifting, illegal vehicles’ number plates among others, and this behaviour endangers both life and property of road users.

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Qu, Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum sign MoU

QNA — DOHA

Quatar University (QU) and the Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF), an international organization affiliated to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen relations between the two parties and establish a joint office to promote and enhance youth cooperation.

The MoU aims to support the nurturing of intellectual and cultural development and promote the capabilities of youth in the OIC member states by linking with other national and international organizations, as part of the ongoing efforts made by the State of Qatar to support young people and enhance their skills at the national and international levels.

The two parties agreed to cooperate in joint activities and events, including holding an annual symposium in cooperation with QIC dealing with youth issues. They also agreed to support each other in organizing scientific symposiums and conferences.

According to QIC’s Secretary General, Dr. Khalid Al Jumaili, the memorandum is an important tool for cooperation in strengthening the relationship between QIC and QUC, adding that the QIC is always looking forward to cooperating with all institutions affiliated with OIC to support the youth from the most remote areas and provide support for them.

The Director of QUC’s Student Affairs, Dr. Khalid Al-Suwaidi, thanked QIC for its support and said that the QUC will strive to contribute in organizing and sponsoring many important activities in favor of the struggle of the youth, the level of the Islamic community, and the world in accordance with the principles of this cooperation.

The President of ICYF, Tahar Naji, thanked QUC and QIC for providing this opportunity and cooperation, appreciating the efforts and quality initiatives from the State of Qatar that are in favor of Islamic cooperation and serve the youth sector.

QF launches conference of engineering and technology

QF — DOHA

Qatar Foundation (QF) announced the launch of the World Congress of Engineering and Technology (WCET), which will be hosted by the Grand Hyatt Doha Hotel from February 2-5, 2020.

The WCET will join both the IEEE International Conference on Informatics, IoT, and Enabling Technologies (IC-IoT 2020) and the International Conference on Green Infrastructure and Construction (CIC2020).

QF 2020 co-organized by Qatar University, the Public Works Authority (Ashghal) and the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, is supported by a number of leading organizations and companies. The sponsors on the platinum category are the Qatar Building Holding Group. Consolidated Cosmetics; and the Qatar National Tourism Council; on the gold category are the OIC, Qatar Rail, Qatar National Tourism Council and the Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF).

This event comes within an ongoing effort to attract various topics related to information and Communication Technology (ICT) in enabling technology and sustainability in the infrastructure and construction sectors. The conference will also present a forum that will bring together providers of the conference, policy makers, specialists and those working in the field.

Ahmed Al-Amari, Director of the Technical Office at Qatar Public Authority, Ashghal, said: "This conference is one of the high value conferences that the QF organizes and we hope to continue organizing it in this conference bi-annually because of the high importance of the infrastructure in the country. This event comes as a result of communications between all parties and will form a building block for the establishment of a permanent conference in the field with the participation of researchers, clients and those working in the field, in order to support urban economic and social development at the state level in cooperation with other executive bodies in the state to support urban economic and social development and solutions, especially new policies and new scientific initiatives."

"The conference will be attended by several experts that are summarized in enhancing the efficiency of comprehensive urban plans of the state and developing strategies that strongly support QF’s vision of Qatar 2020 National Vision 2030.”

"This is achieved through discussions on top international engineering projects, and presenting recent advances in civil infrastructure and construction in Qatar and Jordan at the conference."

Director of Public Security meets Pakistani official

Director of Public Security, H E Staff Major General Saad bin Jassem Al Khulaifi, met with the Minister of State for States and Frontier Regions and Narcotics Control of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Mr. Shehbaz Khan, during a visit to Qatar. During the meeting, they discussed a number of issues of common concern.

Qatarfashion designer inaugurates first exhibition of sports Ayasab

Qatar — DOHA

A Qatari fashion designer, Alia Al Sawaidi, inaugurated her first exhibition of sports Ayasab, which is a unisex collection inspired by the Arab world, in cooperation with Dreama Center for the Empowerment and care of Orphans.

Alia Al-Sawaidi is one of the volunteer initiators of Dreama’s initiative that works to integrate orphans in society and help them in their social and economic development. She initiated the Warm Winter campaign, which reflects the belief in the principle of corporate social responsibility, cooperation with its humanitarian and social organizations concerned with targeted aid, based on the airline’s noble orientation to various parts of the world.

According to Al-Misnad, this initiative is a project that highlights the importance of the cooperation between Qatar and Islamic customs and fostering social development and empowerment of orphans and train them on various projects and initiatives such as entrepreneurship and computer programs.

"The project in order to enable orphans to involve themselves from their reasons of their compiled and the project’s Alia Al-Sawaidi, the designer of the Dreama Center, says that the primary goal of these initiatives is to support all targeted development work and raise the standard of living of those involved in the target groups as we support the children and youth in public markets with new projects and ideas that attract the least privileged groups in society in order to achieve concepts of social justice and equal distribution of opportunities."

According to Al-Misnad, three initiatives are a result of the excellence of Qatar girls and women in the entrepreneurial and investment sector.

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Students experience 'A Day in the Life' at GU-Q

Georgetown University in Qatar (GU-Q) held its annual ‘A Day in the Life’ Open House on January 11, which gave prospective students a chance to experience college life first-hand, and help guide their path to academic success.

The event is a final stop for recruitment drives before the university’s upcoming Feb 11 application deadline, and provided key information about the school’s degree programs and application requirements for the 2020-2021 academic year.

Al Rumaihi praised the high level of the Doha International Book Fair, as it has become an important cultural demonstration.

DIRECTORS of the Qatar Press Centre Saad Al Rumaihi in the presence of a large number of media professionals, intellectuals, and the exhibition’s audience. The dialogue was moderated by media presence Tunison Saad. Al Rumaihi praised the high level of the Doha International Book Fair, as it has become an important cultural demonstration, that contains other artistic, and cultural aspects, appreciating the distinguished presence of the Qatar publishing houses and the high content they offer, and the high production of Qatar literature that promotes of a generation of young writers in the field of literature and media. Al Rumaihi talked about the success of his work in professional experience and his work throughout the entity of the last century in the sports weekly newspapers and Al Arab daily until he took over the editor in-chief of Al Saqqa Magazine, passing through many important mandates and positions in his life until the current presidency of the Qatar Press Centre.

More than 100 artworks exhibited at Katara Global Art Fair preview show

Qatar Red Crescent (QRC) celebrated Graduating of the first class of the Learning Arabic for Non-Native Speakers course, that was held over three weeks, attended by 32 trainees, from the Indian community in a cooperation with the Indian Cultural Centre.

The Executive Director of the Volunteering and Local Development Division at QRCS Muna Fadel Al Sulaiti, congratulated the graduates for attending this course and receiving certificates of passing the course successfully. This event came as part of the Arabic learning courses for foreign communities living in Qatar.

Seminar discusses media’s role in achieving conceptual views at DIBF

A seminar entitled ‘Media and Valuable Concepts’ was held on Thursday evening, within the framework of the cultural program of the 30th Doha International Book Fair (DIBF) at the Doha Exhibition and Convention Center.

During the seminar, Professor of International Relations at Qatar University Dr Mohammed Al Hajri discussed the concept of media, its development and the great impact that media have on societies at the beginning, noting the importance of the media in clarifying the general humanitarian principles and promoting the existence of editorial policies for media institutions. He stressed that even though workers in the media field are subject to the policies of institutions, they should not be absent from logic and reason, and to have a professional conscience as a rule in their visions and ideas.

Dr. Al Hajri said that thanks to the information network and social media, the receiver can discern what is true or false, and propaganda, noting that the recipient has an important role in confronting false media, which does not adhere to the charter or ethics of media work, and that the spectator must search and scrutinize to reach the truth and leave this medium.

A dialogue session was held for Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Qatar Press Center Saad Al Rumaihi in the presence of a large number of media professionals, intellectuals, and the exhibition’s audience. The dialogue was moderated by media presence Tunison Saad. Al Rumaihi praised the high level of the Doha International Book Fair, as it has become an important cultural demonstration, that contains other artistic, and cultural aspects, appreciating the distinguished presence of the Qatar publishing houses and the high content they offer, and the high production of Qatar literature that promotes of a generation of young writers in the field of literature and media. Al Rumaihi talked about the success of his work in professional experience and his work throughout the entity of the last century in the sports weekly newspapers and Al Arab daily until he took over the editor in-chief of Al Saqqa Magazine, passing through many important mandates and positions in his life until the current presidency of the Qatar Press Centre.

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Erdogan confirms Syrian regime's ceasefire violation in Idlib

ANKARA — Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan confirmed that Syrian regime forces continued to violate the ceasefire that started October 10 in the northeastern Idlib province, following an attack that killed 14 Turkish soldiers. Erdogan confirmed the attack in a televised address following a meeting with his senior officials.

"Today we confirmed that there is an attack on our soldiers in Idlib," Erdogan said.

Erdogan also stressed that Turkey would not allow any region to become a "nursery" for terrorism, and that it would respond to any such threats.

In response to the attack, the Turkish military carried out air strikes on Syrian regime targets in the area.

The attack comes amid ongoing efforts to end the conflict in Syria, where a fragile peace agreement was reached in September. The agreement called for a ceasefire to be implemented across the country, but violations have continued.

Turkey has been a major player in the Syrian conflict, providing support to rebel groups and intervening militarily on several occasions. The country has also been involved in supporting the Idlib region, which is controlled by the Syrian opposition.

The ongoing violence in Idlib raises concerns about the stability of the region and the prospects for a lasting peace in Syria. The conflict has displaced millions of people and led to a humanitarian crisis.

Libya's Haftar in Germany ahead of Berlin Conference

UK: Berlin Conference crucial

The Berlin Conference is an "important step" towards securing a ceasefire in Libya, Britain's foreign secretary said. In a statement, he said: "The Berlin Conference is an important step towards securing a ceasefire and political solution in Libya. It is essential that the agreement is respected and that all parties fully participate in the process."

The UK's Foreign Secretary, Dominic Raab, warned that "there is a real risk of a return to the violence and civil war that we saw recently in Libya." He added that the Berlin Conference is a "decisive moment" to bring about a "new era of stability." The conference is scheduled to be held on January 19, bringing together leaders and representatives from Libya and other countries concerned with the conflict.

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In response to the attack, the Turkish military carried out air strikes on Syrian regime targets in the area.

The attack comes amid ongoing efforts to end the conflict in Syria, where a fragile peace agreement was reached in September. The agreement called for a ceasefire to be implemented across the country, but violations have continued.

Turkey has been a major player in the Syrian conflict, providing support to rebel groups and intervening militarily on several occasions. The country has also been involved in supporting the Idlib region, which is controlled by the Syrian opposition.

The ongoing violence in Idlib raises concerns about the stability of the region and the prospects for a lasting peace in Syria. The conflict has displaced millions of people and led to a humanitarian crisis.

Libya's Haftar in Germany ahead of Berlin Conference

UK: Berlin Conference crucial

The Berlin Conference is an "important step" towards securing a ceasefire in Libya, Britain's foreign secretary said. In a statement, he said: "The Berlin Conference is an important step towards securing a ceasefire and political solution in Libya. It is essential that the agreement is respected and that all parties fully participate in the process."

The UK's Foreign Secretary, Dominic Raab, warned that "there is a real risk of a return to the violence and civil war that we saw recently in Libya." He added that the Berlin Conference is a "decisive moment" to bring about a "new era of stability." The conference is scheduled to be held on January 19, bringing together leaders and representatives from Libya and other countries concerned with the conflict.

Erdogan confirms Syrian regime's ceasefire violation in Idlib

ANKARA — Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan confirmed that Syrian regime forces continued to violate the ceasefire that started October 10 in the northeastern Idlib province, following an attack that killed 14 Turkish soldiers. Erdogan confirmed the attack in a televised address following a meeting with his senior officials.

"Today we confirmed that there is an attack on our soldiers in Idlib," Erdogan said.

Erdogan also stressed that Turkey would not allow any region to become a "nursery" for terrorism, and that it would respond to any such threats.

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Protests against citizenship law continue unabated in India

The nationwide protests have brought tens of thousands of people from different faiths and backgrounds together, in part because the law is seen as part of a larger threat to the pluralistic social fabric of Indian society. Thousands of Hindus, too, have joined the protests to assure minority Muslims that they are not isolated.

Protesters gather outside the Jama Masjid after Friday prayers to demonstrate against India’s new citizenship law, in New Delhi.

Rain brings joy for Australian firefighters and farmers

Drought-breaking storms dumped desperately-needed rain on some bushfire-ravaged parts of eastern Australia yesterday, raising hopes of a reprieve for people who have faced losing properties and livestock. The rains gave a boost to firefighters battling to prevent the worst blaze from burning out of control.

Rain brought joy for Australian firefighters and farmers yesterday, as the country was so lucky. Before this, dams were dry, and we were carrying water and feeding stock for months. Stephanie Sorensen, who lives on a farm in northern New South Wales, said: “This has made life a lot easier on the land, that’s for sure. Now hoping it spreads and can ease the burden of so many farmers who have lost and still dealing with this dreadful drought.”

New South Wales, the eastern state where many of the worst blazes have been raging. Our fires are crossed that this continues over the coming days. However, the rains have not hit all fires in New South Wales, nor in the state of Victoria, which is the south, where many of the worst blazes are raging.

In New South Wales, the eastern state where many of the worst blazes have been raging, the state government announced an emergency power and fuel use plan. The plan includes a ban on public assemblies and a ban on the use of fireworks and other pyrotechnic devices.

The courts ordered the government to suspend its plans to ban public assemblies and to allow people to continue to gather in public spaces. The court also ordered the government to provide a mechanism for people to appeal decisions made by the courts.

The convicts will be hanged at 6am. The move came after the rejection of the mercy plea against the four death row convicts, who were convicted of the Nirbhaya gang rape case.

Nirbhaya convicts to go to the gallows on February 1

A court yesterday issued fresh death warrants against the four convicts — Akshay Singh, Pawan Gupta, Mukesh and Vinay Sharma — in the Nirbhaya murder case.

“Having received the mercy plea from the convicts, the court will now proceed with the execution of the death warrants of the convicts,” Additional Sessions Judge Sant Kamar Arora told the court.

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Pakistan: US must remain engaged in Afghanistan even after troops leave

APRIL 15
WASHINGTON

Pakistan said that the United States must remain engaged in Afghanistan’s reconstruction even if it succeeds in withdrawing its forces from the war-torn nation.

Pakistan’s Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi met US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and talked on the growing momentum toward a deal between the United States and the Taliban.

"There are more than 11,000 US troops remaining in Afghanistan who have a vested interest in terms of their costs," Qureshi said at a news conference.

The two sides have been engaged in talks in recent negotiations with the US, he added, the aim of which is to build up momentum toward a deal with the US to begin the process of withdrawal of US troops.

"Pakistan for peace and we will do whatever we can do to promote and facilitate peace," Qureshi said, adding that the US must play a constructive role in the Middle East.

The Foreign Office said that the senators agreed with Qureshi on the need for continued cooperation between the two countries. They believe that cooperation is needed to achieve each other’s common objectives on the bilateral and regional fronts.

The meeting was attended by the Pakistan’s permanent representative to the United Nations and the US embassy officials.

The Foreign Minister in his meeting with the US Senate leadership discussed Pakistan’s national security and the situation in Afghanistan with the US Senator, the US Ambassador to Afghanistan, and the US Secretary of State.

The US senators lauded Pakistan’s role in the Afghan peace process and reaffirmed their commitment to continue their support.

The Foreign Minister assured the senators that Pakistan was committed to the Afghan political process.

Qureshi raised the question of US-US relations from the US perspective in the US, and the US senators assured their commitment to continue their support.

The Foreign Minister also held separate meetings with members of the US Foreign Relations Committee and the US Pakistan Caucus in the US Congress.

In a separate meeting with the US Congress colleagues, the US senators reaffirmed their commitment to continue their support for Pakistan.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee also discussed the importance of Pakistan-US relations and the need for continued cooperation between the two countries.

The US senators also expressed their support for Pakistan’s efforts to combat terrorism and support peace processes in the region.

In conclusion, the US senators welcomed the recent progress in the Afghanistan peace process and expressed their commitment to continue their support for Pakistan’s efforts to achieve peace in the region.

The US senators also emphasized the importance of continued cooperation between the two countries on a range of issues, including economic and trade relations, security and counterterrorism, and regional stability and security.

The senators also acknowledged the role of the US Congress in supporting Pakistan and urged the US administration to continue its commitment to Pakistan.

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China’s Xi vows ‘new era’ of Myanmar ties

Xi told Myanmar leaders he was “convinced that the concerted efforts of our two sides will make this visit a success and take the bilateral ties to a new level and into a new era”, Xinhua reported.

Chinese President Xi Jinping vowed to work in a “new era” of ties with Myanmar after a rare visit on Saturday to a state visited at arms length by Beijing in the 10th visit of Aung San Suu Kyi and his drive through multi-billion-dollar infrastructure deals.

The president is expected to stop off in Yangon to sign a series of mammoth infrastructure deals with the country’s de facto leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, on Sunday, the final day of his four-day visit.

Washington regularly carries out so-called “routine mission” on Thursday, AFP — 07SUNDAY

US warship sails through Taiwan Strait

A US warship has sailed through the Taiwan Strait, a move that Beijing described yesterday as a “provocation”.

The warship was on a “routine mission” as part of Taiwan’s defence ministry said, adding that the US has been asked to stop.

A Hong Kong airline forced a woman to take pregnancy test before allowing her on a flight to a Pacific island, reports suggest it was for their child.

Koizumi seemed to still be adjusting to his new role. “I would be doing them more good if I let them return to their homes,” Reyes said. “The help we’re providing today is aimed at ensuring that the affected population is safe, healthy and able to return to their livelihoods.”

Residents affected by the eruption of Taal Volcano gather at an evacuation centre in Tagaytay City, south of Manila on Sunday because of a heavy ashfall. AFP — 07SUNDAY

Volcano: Philippine town residents receive belongings

Over 40,000 residents of Agoncillo have abandoned their homes, according to a statement. “We have to try to help residents get their belongings back on track,” Reyes said.

Many residents of homes were born to tourists in the local town. “The help they are getting now is only temporary,” Xinhua reported.

It’s a boy! Paternity leave looms for Japanese minister Koizumi

Koizumi told reporters he had come straight from the hospital and had been by his wife’s side throughout the birth of his first child. A boy.

The Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has been trying to encourage more men to take paternity leave, and for businesses to allow a better work-life balance, as part of “Wom- enomics” programmes of helping women’s empowerment.

The institute said yesterday that the total number of individuals who will be affected by the volcano is likely to be between 3.06bn and 4.97bn, according to the latest volcanic ash dispersal model.

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About a total of 66,000 individuals sheltering in evacuation centres Taal has shown signs of calming down since Thursday and Reyes said the local government intends to allow residents to return to their homes.

The volcano has erupted previously, spewing ash and lava into the sky, causing damage to crops, livestock and fish farms.

The president is expected to sign a series of mammoth infrastructure deals with the country’s de facto leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, on Sunday, the final day of his four-day visit.

A couple of earthquakes in the islands earlier in the week caused the evacuation of close to 60,000 residents and dozens of earthquakes in the area was a move for a Japanese mass media to report on Sunday that the birth of his first child. A boy.

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EU under pressure to prepare for Libya peace force

CHRISTIAN SPLIKMAN

If this weekend’s Berlin summit on the Libyan crisis goes wrong, then Europe’s Union members must come under pressure to provide forces to help monitor any truce.

The bloc’s chief diplomat, Josep Borrell, has made it clear that Brussels does not want to be sidelined while Moscow and Jordanian move boldly to oversee an end to the conflict on their terms. But the European Union has no army of its own, and diplomats warned Friday that EU member states have limited means to put together an operation, even one so close to their southern coastline.

If there is a ceasefire in Libya, then the EU must be prepared to help implement and monitor this ceasefire, possibly with GNA forces, for example as part of an EU mission. Borrell told Der Spiegel magazine: “We take the arms embargo seriously. Nobody controls anything here.”

German news weekly.

CNN TURK

Earlier this week, at the European Parliament, Borrell — the former Spanish foreign minister who serves as the EU’s foreign policy representative — said the parliament must learn from the experience of Syria. There — as in Libya — Turkey and Russia have deployed troops in support of local actors in the conflict, and now would greater influence on the outcome than the more caustic Europeans.

“We Europeans, since we don’t want to participate in a military solution, we have realized ourselves in the belief that there is no military solution,” he told MEPs in Strasbourg.

In Libya, it has been a military solution, brought by the Turks and the Basmah, and this has changed the equilibrum on the eastern part of the Mediterranean,” he warned. And he placed to European politicians fear of a new wave of migrants from North Africa. In his report, he said that the policy will lose influence on the Libyan conflict.

Borrell added that Russia and Turkey have been in a turmoil since the defeat of the Islamic State in 2016 and the end of the Islamic State in the hands of the United States of America.

But elsewhere, the Mediterranean could be a real risk for European countries, as migrants from the Middle East could try to reach Europe.

The important thing to remember is that the EU has a mandate from the UN General Assembly to provide forces, to provide services to the African Union and other partners, and to establish in the West Bank and Gaza.

Last month, the UN General Assembly renewed UNRWA’s mandate for another three years. The agency with more than 5 million registered refugees in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Eastern Jerusalem, as well as in Jordan, Lebanon and Syria.

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We live in an age of climate disaster. Now what?

Anything less than immediately ceasing these investments in the fossil fuel industry would be a betrayal of life itself,” Thunberg wrote.

“Today’s business as usual is turning into a crime against humanity.”

OPINION | 09

From the fraught situation in Iran to controversy over Chinese telecoms giant Huawei, Johnson has been accused of trying to avoid aggravating Britain’s historic ally and US President Donald Trump.

At the same time, the British premier, who wants future trade deals with both Washington and Brussels, has stopped short of breaking from the European bloc’s positions on key global issues.

Brexit throws up foreign policy balancing act for Britain

As the US becomes more protectionist, with Presidents Donald Trump and Joe Biden both in the White House, the question for prime minister Johnson is to chart Britain’s course in the world.

In his address to the US Congress this week, Johnson said replacing the accord with a “Trump deal” would be “a great mistake.”

“If we are going to get rid of the plan, let’s replace it with the Trump deal. That’s what we need to do,” he said.

But Johnson is under intense pressure from the US to maintain maximum commitment to the nuclear deal and to join Paris and Berlin in the Iranian nuclear deal, a key test for “global Britain” after Brexit.

At the same time, the British premier is in a permanent moving towards Brexit, what are you going to do post 31st January as you come to the end of the transition period?” track trade deal with the US on the global stage could be more rhetoric than substance.

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At the same time, the British premier is in a permanent moving towards Brexit, what are you going to do post 31st January as you come to the end of the transition period?” track trade deal with the US on the global stage could be more rhetoric than substance.
Ukrainian Prime Minister Oleksiy Gонcharuk (centre) addressing the Parliamentary session, in Kiev, yesterday. Ukrinform: "To remove any doubts about our respect for and trust in the Prime Minister, I have written a resignation letter," wrote Goncharuk. Zelenskiy's office said it had received the letter of resignation and would consider it. The president later ordered that the people involved in recording conversations between officials be identified. "I demand that in two weeks, as soon as possible, you receive information regarding who recorded the negotiations," said Zelenskiy during a meeting with law enforcers. Goncharuk, 35, became Ukraine's youngest prime minister after Zelenskiy nominated him in August, but he vowed to reshuffle the entire cabinet, sending his letter directly to the president. Zelenskiy came to power in April 2019, promising to steer the country back on track after years of corruption and mismanagement, including the ill-fated missile defense system known as Aegis Ashore. However, the system has cost it around $78m in lost revenue. It was unclear whether Zelenskiy would accept Oleksiy Honcharuk's letter, considering the position of the prime minister and asking for the formation of a new cabinet. The government has long been beset by corruption and a lack of transparency, and Zelenskiy has sought to push through reforms to tackle the problem. The recent increase in corruption has raised concerns about the effectiveness of the government's anti-corruption efforts. The prime minister has promised to implement a number of measures to address the issue, including strengthening the prosecution service and making it easier to investigate suspected corrupt officials. However, critics have accused the government of moving too slowly and of being more interested in preserving its own power than in actually addressing the problem. Zelenskiy's decision to dissolve parliament and call new elections is seen by some as a way to avoid the problems that have plagued the current government, including a lack of progress on the anti-corruption front. Zelenskiy has faced criticism for his handling of the coronavirus pandemic, which has claimed tens of thousands of lives in Ukraine. He has been praised for his leadership and his efforts to bring the country back on track, but he has also faced criticism for his handling of the economy and his foreign policy. The prime minister has sought to improve relations with Europe and the United States, but he has also faced criticism for his pro-Russian leanings and his support for Moscow's annexation of Crimea. The recent increase in tensions with Russia has raised concerns about the security of the country and the stability of its government.
Canada provides money to families of crash victims

AP – TORONTO

Canadians are providing $200,000 to families of each of the 32 Canadians and 29 permanent residents who perished in the crashing of a Ukrainian jet in Iran last week.

Justin Trudeau said that he still expects Iran to compensate the families but said they need help now for funerals, travel to Iran and bills.

The prime minister also said that the “black boxes” have been retrieved and Iran does not have the expertise or equipment needed to read all of the data that they said they had retrieved it and thus no to the Canadian government.

“In the absence of closure we expect Iran to compensate these families for money that they have lost or money that they will lose. They can’t wait. They need support now.”

Asked if the US bears any responsibility after US President Donald Trump accused Iran of protecting a 176-seat civilian flight that was thrown out of control by a US airstrike in Baghdad, Trudeau said he would not place a statement for having shot down a civilian plane with 176 people aboard.

“Today, as we would tomorrow, I would say that the facts are important. Today, our focus remains on the ongoing investigation — which has been ongoing for two and a half years.”

Canadians suspended diplomatic relations with Iran in 2012, but Trudeau and Canada’s foreign minister have been in touch with their Iranian counterparts since the plane was shot down.

Iran denied the flight as being forced for possible military reasons after halting their own planes at two bases in Iraq because of US forces. The missile attack, which caused an US civilian, was a response to the killing of Iran’s top general and US troops have been consumed of downsing a Canadian tragedy.

Trudeau confirmed for the first time that he still expects permanent residents of Canada.

They included students, teachers, doctors and parents. The youngest was a 1-year-old. Two other families with 176 people have been campaign for two years.

“Minister Zarif expressed his support for Iran continuing to work with Canada and all growing nations in these respects.”

Canada suspended diplomatic relations with Iran in 2012, but Trudeau and Canada’s foreign minister have been in touch with their Iranian counterparts since the plane was shot down.

With a second round was held on Aug. 10, to select the President, Congress and local councils.

Since no candidate won a majority in the first round, a second round was held on Aug. 10, to select the President, Congress and local councils.

Trudeau has called the election in the urgent aspirations of our country.”

“Certainly this government will be more than just a bad taste, and live on for the next generation.”

“Trudeau expressed his respect and admiration for the legitimate leader of the South American nation.

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Pentagon denies trying to underplay injuries from Iran attack

The Pentagon said yesterday that there had been no effort to cover up information on consequent casualties from Iran's January 8 attack on a base hosting US forces in Iraq, after leaked documents revealed that the administration had marked down the numbers of those killed or wounded. US President Donald Trump denied that the US military had tried to hide the number of casualties from its forces in Iraq, saying that he had been informed that the rate of injuries was not as high as had been reported.

The Pentagon's statement follows a flurry of reports in recent days that the US military had tried to downplay the number of injuries from the attack, which was said to have killed at least 20 Americans and wounded around 50. The reports were based on leaked documents from the US military's Central Command, which had been circulating among US officials and had been obtained by the New York Times.

The documents reportedly showed that the US military had been trying to downplay the number of casualties from the attack, with one report saying that the number of injured had been reduced from 50 to 20. The reports were said to have been circulating among senior US officials, including Defense Secretary Mark Esper and National Security Adviser Robert O'Brien.

In a statement, the Pentagon said that there had been no effort to cover up information on the number of casualties from the attack. "We do not, nor has anyone on our staff, downplayed the number of casualties or injuries in any way," the statement said.

The statement came after US President Donald Trump had said earlier that the number of injuries from the attack was "way down" from what had been reported. "We're not seeing that many injuries," he said.

However, the leaked documents reportedly showed that the US military had been trying to downplay the number of casualties from the attack, with one report saying that the number of injured had been reduced from 50 to 20. The reports were said to have been circulating among senior US officials, including Defense Secretary Mark Esper and National Security Adviser Robert O'Brien.

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US-China trade deal to ease global uncertainty: IMF chief

WASHINGTON

The US-China trade deal announced last week is expected to ease global uncertainty, according to the International Monetary Fund (IMF). IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva said at a news conference on Monday that the deal would boost confidence in the global economy.

“Unfortunately, this is not the first major economic disruption we’ve faced in recent years, and it’s not the first major disruption we’ve faced in recent years,” she said. “But the US-China trade deal is a positive sign that the world is moving away from protectionism.”

The deal, which covers a range of issues including intellectual property, agriculture, telecommunications and financial services, is expected to provide a boost to the global economy. The IMF has raised its global growth forecast for 2020 to 3.3%, up from 2.9% in its October report.

Microsoft to erase its carbon footprint, past and future, in climate push

SAN FRANCISCO

Microsoft Corp said on Tuesday it would achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2030, setting a new goal for the tech industry amid growing pressure to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The company, which has faced criticism for its large carbon footprint, said it would use a combination of strategies to reach its goal, including investing in renewable energy, improving energy efficiency in its data centers, and offsetting remaining emissions.

“With this plan, we’re setting a new standard for what’s possible,” said Satya Nadella, Microsoft’s CEO. “We’re not just committed to doing our part, but we’re also committed to playing a leadership role in driving this change.”

Cover Image: Microsoft's new carbon reduction goal

US to introduce 20-year bond to finance substantial debt

WASHINGTON

The US Treasury said on Tuesday it would introduce a new 20-year bond to finance the country’s growing deficit, which has already reached $1.5 trillion this year.

The new bond, which would replace the current 10-year bond, would allow investors to lock in a fixed rate for a longer period, reducing the risk of interest rate volatility.

“Introducing a new 20-year bond is a smart move for the US economy,” said Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin. “It will help us manage our debt more effectively and ensure that our future generations are not saddled with an unsustainable level of debt.”

Cover Image: US Treasury logo

Green Week

Green Week 2020

Gernser Messe fuer Forst und Achatbrushm, Jutta Kessler. (Photo: a photo reality) "The European green deal" at the Berlin Energy at the opening of the International Agriculture fair "Green Week". (Photo: Berlin) Berlin, Germany, January 20, 2020 from January 11, 2020 to January 25, 2020 at the Berlin Messe with Castro as partner country.
**European Union warns of WTO challenge if China-US deal creates ‘distortions’**

The European Union warned on Monday that a trade deal being discussed by the United States and China that excluded the European Union could create distortions in global markets and violate WTO rules.

The EU has been negotiating with China for a trade deal since early last year, after President Donald Trump imposed tariffs on Chinese goods. The US and China are due to complete a “phase one” deal by the end of December, according to US officials.

**Indonesia says SoftBank offering to invest up to $40bn in new capital**

Indonesia has previously said it wanted to attract $33bn, but Luhut put the cost of moving the capital to the region in terms of lost productive time at $40bn.

**Economic optimism**

People queue to buy Christmas presents at a popular shop in Beijing, China's trade surplus with the United States narrowed last year as both sides suffered the biggest economies to export goods and services to the global economy.

**Pound reverses gains after bleak retail sales**

The pound gave up early gains yesterday after UK retail sales data came in weaker than expected, prompting investors to revise expectations of price in a greater chance interest rates would be cut at the end of this month.

**US industrial output falls**

The output of US industries fell 1 percent in December last year compared to the same month of 2018, driven by a drop in manufacturing output.

**Troubled UK airline Flybe says seeking govt aid**

Flybe, which claims it has already been weakened by a series of losses related to Brexit, carried around 2,000 passengers annually and flew from 48 destinations around the world, but the company has collapsed since it was purchased a year ago by the UK government.

**Morgan Stanley bond trading revenue surges**

Morgan Stanley wrapped up the earnings season by bigging up 136 billion on a revenue, which will be shared among 40 traders, and the bank’s fixed-income and derivatives business.

**APR – LONDON**

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China’s economy grew 6% in fourth quarter as demand stabilises

China’s economy stabilised last quarter after slowing to the weakest pace in almost three decades, with the first acceleration in two years, according to preliminary data on Wednesday, a sign that a recovery could be underway. Gross domestic product rose 6.1% year-on-year in the final quarter of 2019 from a year earlier, after expanding 6% in the previous three months, and the 6.1% pace was the same as in the previous quarter, according to data published by the National Bureau of Statistics.

The world’s second-largest economy expanded by 6.1% in 2019, slower than 6.9% the previous year but in line with the government’s target. The signing of the phase-one trade deal with the United States this week combined with recovering global demand has improved the outlook for Chinese factories and consumers in 2020, though uncertain implementation of that deal and domestic financial support remain a risk.

“The latest GDP and IP data offers significant relief for the Chinese New Year for ‘China’s economy,’ said Rajee Bowsa, Asia-Pacific chief economist at the HSBC Market in Singapore. “The outlook for 2020 is for continued robust growth, boosted by the Phase One trade deal with the US and the continued positive impact of government monetary and fiscal policy stimulus measures.”

The revised growth rate ticked up to 5.2% from 5.1% in December, signifying that the manufacturing sector is filtering through to the labor market. Industrial output rose 6.9 percent in December from the same period the previous year, versus the median forecast of 5.9 percent. Retail sales rose 8% versus an estimate of 7.9%.

Policy makers have signalled they are promoting economic stability in 2020, with stimulus to be kept basically unchanged. Data released Thursday showed that overall credit growth held up in December and a gauge of borrowing costs fell, indicating that policy makers are beginning to see some progress in channeling credit to the economy.

“All we can say is that China’s economy is stabilising. It’s hard to forecast if the trend will continue in 2020 and if there will be a rebound,” said Betty Wang, HSBC’s chief economist at Australia & New Zealand Banking Group. “The trade deal provided some short-term support for the economy, but there still exists great uncertainty in the long run.”

Asia stocks edged up yesterday, with the Nikkei 225 0.9% higher and the Shanghai Composite also up, as more profit reports roll in, she said.
Barty eyes home party as Serena continues chase

Ash Barty faces the double burden of being world number one and team captain of the defending women’s tennis champion "Fed Cup" team. She will be leading her team into the World Cup of Fed Cup, which features 12 nations, to compete for the title. A win for Australia would see them become the world champions for the first time since 1978.

Barty, who reached world number one earlier this year, will lead a team that includes Ashleigh Barty, Alex De Minaur, and Alexei Popyrin. The team will face Japan in the first round, with a victory over the Japanese team likely to put them into the semi-finals.

Barty, who turned 26 in January, said: "This is the biggest moment in Australian tennis for a very long time, and the team is really excited." She added: "We are looking forward to the challenge of facing Japan, who are a very strong team."

The match will be played in Queensland, with the venue yet to be confirmed. Barty, who is coming off a successful Australian Open, said: "We are really excited to be playing in Queensland, and we are looking forward to playing in front of our home crowd." She added: "We are really excited to be playing in Queensland, and we are looking forward to playing in front of our home crowd."
Al Ghazali guides What A Pleasure to win

Nasser Al Ghazali guided What A Pleasure to victory in the Mediolanum Tour at Hartham Series Round Six at the Al Shagaf Arena yesterday.

For the first time in the 12-year history of the Hartham Series, the winner of the tournament was confirmed before the final round, with Al Ghazali's team securing the title two rounds early.

What A Pleasure, ridden by Matias Zabala, was the first red-light starter and finished the day in the lead, with a score of 143, six strokes ahead of the nearest competitor.

The victory was the first for Al Ghazali in the Mediolanum Tour and came after a string of runner-up finishes in recent years.

Sam Curran c Rahul b Saini 44
S Dhawan c Starc b Richardson 96
Z Hamza c Pope b Bess 10
M Starc c Rahul b Saini 6
A Zampa c Rahul b Bumrah 6
M Smith c and b Maharaj 1
S Buttler c and b Maharaj 1
M Hafeez c and b Maharaj 1
S Curran c Raham barge 44

South Africa (I Innings)

Total: 340

Extras

Four: 15, Six: 4

England declared on 499 for 9 in the 1st innings and 419 for 9 in the 2nd innings.

A total of 1,909 runs were scored in the match, with 247 five-wicket hauls and 108 four-wicket hauls.

Pakistan's Hafeez to retire after Twenty20 World Cup

Recalled Pakistan allrounder Mohammad Hafeez confirmed on Thursday that he would retire after the Twenty20 World Cup later this year.

Hafeez, 38, was called up to the Pakistan team for the T20 World Cup after being dropped from the squad for the 2019 World Cup.

He has played 202 one-day internationals and 58 Twenty20 internationals, scoring 9,246 and 1,429 runs respectively.

India beat Australia to level one-day series

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Top ANOC body receives positive feedback on World Beach Games in Qatar

The ANOC Executive Council met in Lausanne with the blessing of the ANOC World Beach Games Qatar 2019 key item on a full agenda focused on important initiatives developed in the framework of National Olympic Committees (NOCs). ANOC conducted a comprehensive debrief with the participating NOCs and International Federations (IFs) as well as with the Qatari National Committee and Organising Committee staff.

The feedback from the 10th to 13th November was very positive. A total of 68 NOCs from 13 IFs took part in the debrief along with all 13 IFs.

ANOC Executive Council members pose for a group photo after Lausanne meeting yesterday.

Sainz wins Dakar Rally for third time

Veteran Spanish driver Carlos Sainz won the Dakar Rally for the third time today, finishing with a comfortable winning margin in the first running of the event in Saudi Arabia.

The 57-year-old crossed the line in 15th and final stage 6min 21sec ahead of nearest challenger and reigning champion Nasser Al Attiyah of Qatar, who had managed to cut Sainz’s lead to just 24 seconds on Tuesday but fell back after hitting navigation blunders.

“The best Dakar race since the beginning was fantastic, it was fantastic, a first time in Saudi Arabia, of course you can always improve but it was a fantastic effort: Carlos Sainz

Sainz won the Dakar Rally for third time

The Dakar Rally is a 117-stage rally race around central and northern Argentina, which started in 1978. It is one of the world’s premier rallies, and is known for its difficult terrain and harsh weather conditions.

Sainz, the father of F1 driver Carlos Sainz Jr., secured control of the race from the third stage to the end.

Sainz has now won the Dakar Rally for third time with three different manufacturers, having previously triumphed with Volkswagen in 2010 and Peugeot in 2018.

Sainz wins Dakar Rally for third time

Sainz is a world champion in both car and motorcycle categories, and has won numerous races in his career.

Sainz’s lead to just 24 seconds was a snapshot of a remarkable effort on Wednesday morning, when in full flight on the blue Norwegian Commando

Sainz won the Dakar Rally for third time

It has been a flat out rally since the beginning. It was fantastic, it was a first time in Saudi Arabia, of course you can always improve but it was a fantastic effort: Carlos Sainz.
Al Sadd lifted their seventh Qatar Cup trophy, towering Al Duhail 4-0 after a ruthless performance in the final on their home turf yesterday.

As coach Xavi said prior to the title clash that Al Sadd will go into the match with an extra motivation, to avenge their 1-4 QNB Stars League (QSL) defeat last November. Jim Wyllys didn’t let him down with a clinical performance.

Al Sadd’s intention to dominate Al Duhail – the current QSL points leaders – were obvious right from the start and they sustained the aggressive approach till the final whistle as they rejoiced their comprehensive win with fans at the packed Al Sadd Stadium.

South Korean star Nam Tae-hoe put Al Sadd ahead in the fifth minute before their goal-machine Baghdad Boundejah struck a brace to goal-machine Baghdad Boundejah a goal yesterday.

Soon after the move, Al Sadd was handed a 2-0 lead when Al Sadd goalkeeper Saad Al Mohamadi also missed the target.

Qatar Football Association (QFA) President Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Thani congratulating Al Sadd captain Gabi Fernandez. QFA Vice President Saud Al Mansour (right) also present. RIGHT: Akram Afif (left) and Baghdad Boundejah celebrate a goal yesterday.

With the game advancing towards the half-time, Al Duhail’s goalkeeper Amin was returning the ball to their back line.

Soon after Faria sent in an inviting pass to Amin. The Al Duhail goalkeeper was returning the ball to Benatia but it was picked up by Boundejah who fired the ball wide following a cross from a difficult angle.

QFA President Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Thani congratulating Al Sadd captain Gabi Fernandez. QFA Vice President Saud Al Mansour (right) also present. RIGHT: Akram Afif (left) and Baghdad Boundejah celebrate a goal yesterday.

QFA President Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Thani congratulating Al Sadd captain Gabi Fernandez. QFA Vice President Saud Al Mansour (right) also present. RIGHT: Akram Afif (left) and Baghdad Boundejah celebrate a goal yesterday.