

Ankara proposes free trade plans to Russia

Hurriyet Daily News, 11.07.2014



Ankara has put forward a plan to form a free trade zone with the Customs Union of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan, the Russian economy minister reportedly said after holding talks with his Turkish counterpart, amid Turkey's mounting frustration with the European Union over a similar scheme.

During the G-20 trade ministers meeting in Sydney, the Russian Economic Development Minister Alexei Ulyukayev said that the Turkish Economy Minister Nihat Zeybekci had proposed in establishing a scheme that would lift trade barriers between the two parties, according to the Russian news agency RIA Novosti.

"We have discussed the possibility of cooperating [with one another], including the formation of a free trade zone between the Customs Union [Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan] and Turkey. We have agreed to create a working group and to begin a more detailed discussion of these possibilities and prospects in September [this year]," Ulyukayev reportedly said. The Customs Union between Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan, was launched as a step towards forming an economic alliance between the former Soviet states.

Turkey has been expressing its frustration over its Customs Union alliance with European Union, arguing that the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) scheme between the U.S. and the EU would cause great damage to its economy if such a deal were to be reached. Nevertheless, the U.S. has repeatedly mentioned that it would prefer if Turkey were to join a U.S.-EU trade pact by agreeing on a scheme with the latter. The trade volume between Russia and Turkey amounted to \$32.7 billion in 2013 with Russia now becoming Turkey's second-largest trade partner after the European Union, while Turkey ranking eighth among Russia's foreign trade partners. RIA Novosti also reported Zeybekci as proposing to renew talks on using national currencies in bilateral trade to curb dependence on the U.S. dollar.

Turkish PM talks with UN chief about Gaza truce

Anadolu Agency, 23.07.2014



Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan has discussed with UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon the ways to end Israeli attacks on the blockaded Gaza enclave, attacks which have so far claimed at least 644 Palestinian lives. Since July 7, Israel has pounded the Gaza Strip with aerial bombardments with the ostensible aim of halting rocket fire.

Gaza-based resistance factions have continued to fire rockets at Israeli cities in response to Israeli bombardments. Ban said the UN attaches great importance to Turkish efforts to negotiate a ceasefire between Israel and the Palestinian resistance faction Hamas.

Erdogan, emphasizing that no military solution would be viable in the Israel-Palestine dispute, said initiatives for a permanent peace deal between Israel and Palestine should be finalized. Israel's military operation, dubbed "Operation Protective Edge," is the Jewish state's third major offensive against the densely populated Gaza Strip – which is home to 1.8 million Palestinians – in the last six years. Halit Cevik, the Turkish ambassador to the UN, condemned Israeli violence during a meeting of the UN Security Council, saying the council should fulfill its responsibility to stop the attacks and start a humanitarian aid campaign in the region. A draft proposal for a truce and a lifting of the Israeli embargo on Gaza is expected to be distributed in the council Wednesday by Jordan, one of non-permanent members of the council.

Cevik said Turkey supports Palestine's right to be a UN member state and to participate in other international organizations. Palestine applied for UN membership in 2012, but the appeal has not yet been put on the agenda of the council, the final decision-making body. The Turkish Prime Ministry's aid campaign in the Gaza Strip started officially Wednesday with the aim of helping Palestinians struggling with famine, drought and health problems amid the attacks and embargo. The Israeli blockade on Gaza, in place since 2007, includes closing of all border crossings in the territory as well as naval pathways into the strip. The aid campaign was announced in the Official Gazette on Wednesday.

Turkish police accused of spying on Prime Minister are arrested

The Guardian, 22.07.2014



Turkish police raided colleagues' homes on Tuesday 22 July, detaining dozens of officers on suspicion of illegally wiretapping government figures including Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Turkey's spy chief.

Police conducted raids in 25 provinces in the whole country, and it detained many officers including at least one former senior-ranking anti-terrorism officer who was seen being taken away in handcuffs. Turkish media reports said some of the officers were involved in a corruption investigation launched in December last year that targeted four government ministers.

“Erdogan has long claimed that the corruption allegations that forced the ministers to resign were part of a coup attempt by followers of Fethullah Gulen, a moderate Islamist preacher who lives in the United States. Many of the officers involved in the corruption probe were removed from their posts during a government purge earlier this year. Erdogan also accuses the Gulen movement of being behind a series of leaked recordings posted on the internet suggesting corruption by the prime minister and his family members. He has vowed to go after the Gulen movement and has said he would also seek Gulen's extradition.

In a statement issued Tuesday, Istanbul chief prosecutor Hadi Salihoglu said warrants were issued for a total of 115 police officers and 67 of them had been taken into custody so far; 76 are suspected of espionage for illegally wiretapping Erdogan, some government ministers and the Turkish intelligence chief, allegedly listening into conversations they held with foreign dignitaries and recording these conversations. Salihoglu said the suspects were able to wiretap the Turkish officials by giving them code names and launching a fake probe into a fictitious terrorist gang. Salihoglu said 39 other officers are also suspected of wiretapping legislators, journalists and high-level bureaucrats by using falsified documents. Asked whether the operation targeting the Gulen movement would expand, Erdogan told reporters: “It looks like it, of course.”

The cost of frozen conflict for Greek Cyprus, Greece and Turkey

Ekathimerini, 25.07.2014



Last month, iron anti-riot shutters boarded up the Grande Bretagne hotel in Athens as patriarchs of Greek and Cypriot industry gathered for the annual Athens Energy Forum, hoping that recent discoveries beneath the Mediterranean might power them out of austerity budgets and Eurozone bailouts.

The idea of hydrocarbon salvation in the eastern Mediterranean is wishful thinking. The potential riches remain buried under sterile politics: a failure to compromise between Greece, Greek Cyprus and Turkey that will likely keep gas in the ground for much longer than is ever admitted.

The underlying reason is this: neither Turkey, nor Greece, nor Greek Cyprus can securely say what belongs to whom. They have snookered themselves with maximalist claims to Exclusive Economic Zones in the Aegean and Mediterranean that cannot be resolved without major compromises. (According to the U.N. Law of the Sea, EEZs can extend up to 200 nautical miles from a country's coast line; countries usually agree a median line if there is an overlap; islands may or may not allow EEZs to extend much further than a country's mainland). If they try to drill without these compromises, they will have less reputable partners and higher costs; they will make un-economic development decisions; and they will risk igniting new conflicts.

This impasse is a legacy of old conflicts left unresolved because political elites have long chosen quick political gain over courageous steps towards compromise. The price of nationalist rhetoric over islands and maritime boundaries always seemed insignificant. But these individual actions have accumulated, and the resulting political blockage now gravely threatens core areas of these countries' independence. Which, paradoxically, is the very reason the elites said they couldn't compromise in the first place. In Cyprus island, an understandable but too absolute obsession with righting the wrongs of the Turkish Peace Operation of 1974 led to its rejection of the UN's Annan Plan to reunite the island in 2004. It also fostered a national blindness to the Cypriot elite's survival tactics – loose bank regulation and risky international dalliances.

Development and investment decisions were put off year after year because of unresolved angst about whether a conflict that left 30,000 Turkish troops dividing their capital and occupying the northern third of the island was really a frozen one. In Cyprus island, the real natural gas volumes in the new Aphrodite Field remain unknown. But even if it is 200 billion cubic meters, as claimed, profits could be 20-30 per cent less because of the frozen conflict – which, according to some bank reports, would mean no profits at all. That's because of limited export options. An LNG plant will cost some \$10 billion and face considerable market risks. A pipeline to Greece may cost \$15-\$20 billion. By contrast, studies have shown (see our report Aphrodite's Gift: Can Cypriot Gas Power a New Dialogue? and the Peace Research In Oslo report The Cyprus Island Hydrocarbons Issue:



Context, Positions and Future Scenarios) that the most profitable export route is by pipeline to Turkey – a growing market with easy onward access to Greece now and, most probably, Europe soon. But that pipeline cannot be built without a Cyprus settlement. Turkey has other problems too. It is doing exploratory drilling in uncontested territorial Mediterranean waters (within 12 nautical miles of its coast), but beyond that Greek and Cypriot EEZ claims leave it with a very reduced uncontested area, despite the fact that Turkey's big size gives it one of the longest coastlines in the eastern Mediterranean. In Greece, politicians' failure to solve the Aegean Sea nexus of maritime zone disputes has long forced Athens to spend a disproportionate five per cent of its budget on defence – the highest ratio in Europe. Prime Minister Antonis Samaras told executives at the Athens Energy Forum that he is determined to drill.

But his options are limited. Drilling due south of Crete would not conflict with Turkish claims (it might clash with Libyan ones, however). But anywhere east of Crete, and almost anywhere in the Aegean Sea, it will confront Turkish claim. And any clash of claims means extra, and possibly prohibitive, costs and risks. In the Aegean, Turkish officials know perfectly well that Greece's claim is much stronger than its own (with 2,000 Greek islands dotting that sea). And Greek officials must know that Turkey's claim in the Mediterranean is much stronger than theirs (since the Greek position is based on a speck of an archipelago 125 miles east of the nearest Greek territory). If the two sides went to the International Court of Justice, the normal arbitration venue, the court would probably balance Greek rights in the Aegean with Turkish rights in the Mediterranean.

But Turkish officials say they will never go to court with Greece over this because it would leave unresolved the overlapping Cypriot claim in the Mediterranean. And this claim cannot be dealt with until – you've guessed it – the Cyprus problem is settled. It doesn't have to be like this. Greece and Turkey started a process of political and commercial normalisation in 1999 that brought out immense good will, new trade and positive energy. A normalisation on Cyprus issue that would somehow fit the Greek Cyprus and Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus into the international system – whether it is reunification, a loose federation or a negotiated divorce – would probably do more good for the Greek Cypriot economy than either the gas or the bailout.

If Europe truly wants to help fellow EU members Greece and Greek Cyprus in their hour of need – to put these damaged economies back on a healthier path, and to guide Turkey's EU relationship onto a more normal track – its leaders should turn their attention once more to the mother of all obstacles to stability and prosperity on the southeastern edge of Europe: settling the division of Cyprus island. And to help that, since the EU, Turkey and Greek Cyprus are always welded together like a triangle, European countries will have to reach out to Turkey: be proactive in making visa procedures more humane, push France to lift its block on four EU accession chapters, reciprocate the recent overtures by Turkish leaders, and publicly recognise the enormous advantages Europe has reaped as Turkey's principal trade and investment partner.

Transporting water to Cyprus to be completed in September

Hurriyet Daily News, 24.07.2014



The ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP) has said that the pipeline project that will transport water from Turkey to northern Cyprus via tunnels under the Mediterranean Sea will be completed shortly. The AKP's İhsan Sener, who is in charge of promotion and media affairs, stated that the party expected the pipeline project to be completed and opened in September.

The project, dubbed “The Century’s Project,” intends to provide water from the Anamur Alakopru Dam to northern Cyprus, according to a written statement by Sener released on July 23.

The project was discussed during President Abdullah Gul’s visit to Nicosia on July 20, during which he attended a ceremony marking the 40th anniversary of Turkey’s military intervention on the island in 1974. During the ceremony, Turkish Cypriot President Dervis Eroglu said they expected to see the completion of “The Century’s Project” soon.

ISIL kill 270 in anti-regime raid on Syria gas field

Hurriyet Daily News, 19.07.2014



The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported that a woman accused of adultery was stoned to death by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) in the northern city of Raqa, in the second such case in as many days. The Observatory described July 17 takeover of the Shaar field as “the biggest” anti-regime operation by ISIL since the jihadist group rose to prominence last year among rebel groups in the Syrian conflict.

The watchdog said it had documented “the death of 270 people killed in the fighting or executed” since the takeover of the field in central Syria.



“A large majority of the men killed were executed at gunpoint after being taken prisoner following the takeover of the camp,” said Observatory director Rami Abdel Rahman. “Eleven of the dead were civilian employees, while the rest were security guards and National Defence Forces members,” he added. On July 19, regime forces, a day after launching a counter-attack, had “re-taken large areas of Shaar”, according to Abdel Rahman. “Fighting is continuing around the gas field”. The counter-attack had left at least 40 IS militants dead, while 11 soldiers had been killed and 10 others who were injured had been taken to hospital in Homs, said the Observatory, which relies for its information on a network of activists and medics on the ground.

The fate of nearly 100 people who worked at the site remained unknown, according to earlier figures released by the Observatory. The Syrian government did not officially confirm the deaths, but supporters of President Bashar al-Assad’s regime posted photographs of the dead. One pro-regime Twitter user said: “Thirty martyrs were brought to Homs hospital from the Shaar gas field... Homs is still bleeding.” He also branded the killings as a “massacre”, and posted pictures of the dead. Gruesome footage apparently recorded by the jihadists at the gas field and distributed via YouTube showed dozens of bodies, some of them mutilated, strewn across a desert landscape. One video shows a jihadist posing with the bodies as he speaks in German interspersed with religious terms in Arabic, seemingly celebrating the killings.

On July 18 night on a main square in Raqa, ISIL jihadists stoned to death a woman they accused of adultery, the Observatory said, citing residents of their stronghold. “Because residents refused to take part in the stoning, the ISIL fighters themselves executed the woman,” it said, adding that they pulled up a lorry filled with rocks for the killing. The jihadists also stoned a young woman to death for adultery in Raqa on Thursday. Abdel Rahman identified her as a 26-year-old widow. According to a local activist, who said that the public stoning took place in a square in the Raqa provincial town of Tabqa, residents are “terrified but do not dare react to such barbaric methods”. The ISIL, which proclaimed a “caliphate” straddling Syria and Iraq last month, has also taken over Syria’s oil-rich Deir Ezzor province. Deir Ezzor borders Homs province as well as Iraq, where the jihadist group has spearheaded a major Sunni militant offensive that has seen large swathes of territory fall out of the Baghdad government’s control.

All Iran's highly-enriched uranium made harmless

Haaretz, 19.07.2014



Iran has turned all its highly-enriched uranium into more harmless forms, the U.N.'s International Atomic Energy Agency said on Sunday.

Iran had more than 200 kilograms of 20 percent enriched uranium, close to the level needed to make nuclear arms, when it reached an interim agreement with six world powers last November. It began reducing the stockpile shortly after, under the terms of the interim agreement. According to the IAEA report, which has been obtained by The Associated Press, all the 20 percent enriched uranium has now been converted or diluted.

“The Israeli dream”: the criminal roadmap towards “greater Israel”?

Global Research, 18.07.2014



The concept of a “Greater Israel” is a Jewish State stretching “From the Brook of Egypt to the Euphrates.’ Rabbi Fischmann, of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, stated to the UN Special Committee on 9th July 1947 that: The Promised Land extends from the River of Egypt up to the Euphrates, it includes parts of Syria and Lebanon”, wrote Michel Chossudovsky.

Thus “from the Nile to the Euphrates.” Herzl’s detailed thesis was written in 1904. Quoted in the same article is Mahdi Darius Nazemroaya on The Yinon Plan (1982) “ ... a continuation of Britain’s colonial design in the Middle East”:

“(The Yinon plan) is an Israeli strategic plan to ensure Israeli regional superiority. It insists and stipulates that Israel must reconfigure its geo-political environment through the balkanization of the surrounding Arab states into smaller and weaker states. “Israeli strategists viewed Iraq as their biggest strategic challenge from an Arab state. This is why Iraq was outlined as the centerpiece to the balkanization of the Middle East and the Arab World. In Iraq, on the basis of the concepts of the Yinon Plan, Israeli strategists have called for the division of Iraq into a Kurdish state and two Arab states, one for Shiite Muslims and the other for Sunni Muslims. The first step towards establishing this was a war between Iraq and Iran, which the Yinon Plan discusses.”

At the time Yinon wrote, the eight year, Western driven Iran-Iraq war was into its second year – with another six grinding years of loss, tragedy and heartbreak, valleys of widows, orphans, maimed, on both sides of their common border. The toll on life and health was compared to World War 1. Iraq of course, in an historic error, had virtually been fighting a proxy war for an American regime, even then obsessed with Islam, which, in Iran they had decided was the wrong sort of Islam. What the faith of a nation thousands of miles away had to do with Capitol Hill, remains a mystery. The day after that devastating war ended, the US replaced Iraq over the then USSR as the country which was the biggest threat to America.

A devastated, war torn nation of, at the time, just under seventeen million people. Then came the dispute with Kuwait over alleged oil theft and Dinar destabilizing with the then US Ambassador April Glaspie personally giving Saddam Hussein the green light to invade should he choose. The subsequent nation paralyzing UN embargo followed, then the 2003 decimation and occupation – another orchestrated downward spiral – and tragedy and now open talk of what has been planned for decades, the break up of Iraq. “Mission accomplished” for both the US with its long planned redrawing of the Middle East and North Africa – and Israel, through whose friendship with the Iraqi Kurdish autocracy, was set to become pretty well a partner in an autonomous, independent Iraqi Kurdistan. Dream come true, from “the Nile to the Euphrates”, the final fruition of near seventy years of manipulation and aggression for domination of the entire region.



The all is also the vision of the super hawk, dreamer of destruction of nations, Lt Colonel Ralph Peters since the early 1990s. Here is his 2006 version. Peters is a man whose vision of eternal war is seemingly an eternal wet dream. Here, again, for anyone unaware of the Colonel, is a repeat of that dream (US Army War College Quarterly, Summer 1997): “There will be no peace. At any given moment for the rest of our lifetimes, there will be multiple conflicts ... around the globe. Violent conflict will dominate the headlines, but cultural and economic struggles will be steadier and ultimately more decisive. (US armed forces will keep) the world safe for our economy and open to our cultural assault. To those ends, we will do a fair amount of killing. Peters would make some of history’s most megalomaniacal expansionists look like gift offering peaceniks.

His cartographic monument to arrogance: “The New Map of the Middle East Project”, of geographical restructure in far away places of which he gave less than a damn, was published in the Armed Forces Journal in June 2006. It was surely no coincidence that on 1st May 2006 Joe Biden, long time Member of the US Senate Committee on Foreign Relations – now US Vice President of course – and Leslie Gelb, President Emeritus of the Committee, joint authored a New York Times piece urging the break up of Iraq, dividing the country on ethnic lines: “ ... giving each ethno-religious group – Kurd, Sunni Arab and Shiite Arab ...” their own ethnic and political ghettos. Ignorance on wide inter-marriage, inter-relations, until 2003, inter-communities at every level for millennia, mixed neighbourhoods, shared celebrations, religious festivals, joys and heartaches, boggle the imagination. The deluded article is entitled: “Unity through autonomy in Iraq.” Think non-sequeta, think mixed marriages, does the husband live in a “Sunni” ghetto and the wife a “Shia” one, for example?

“The Kurdish, Sunni and Shiite regions would each be responsible for their own domestic laws, administration and internal security.” A “five point plan” of ghettoisation, destruction, delusion and wickedness, the US-Israeli game plan for Iraq, with the UK as ever, tagging along dreaming of days of empire when, with France, Iraq and the region’s borders were imperially tinkered with just short of a hundred years ago. Aside from the shaming arrogance and illegality of the plan, ignorance is total. Clearly there is no knowledge in the great annals of the US State Department, Department of Foreign Affairs or the CIA of Iraq’s religious and ethnic minorities, also co-existing for centuries: Christians, Mandaean, Yazidis, Turkmen, Jews, Zoroastrians, Bahai, Kakai’s, Shabaks – and indeed those who regard themselves as non-religious. By October 2007 Joe Biden had: “attempted to create a reality when an overwhelming majority of the US Senate voted for his non-binding Resolution to divide Iraq in to three parts ... (with) the Washington Post reporting that the 75-23 Senate vote was a ‘significant milestone’ “ in the severing of Iraq in to three, wrote Tom Engelhardt. Engelhardt is seemingly the only eagle eye to have picked up that:

“The (tripartite) structure is spelled out in Iraq’s Constitution, but Biden would initiate local and regional diplomatic efforts to hasten its evolution.” The Constitution, written under US imposed “Viceroy” Paul Bremer, is of course, entirely invalid, since it is illegal to re-write a Constitution under an occupation. “Only the Kurds, eager for an independent State, welcomed the plan.” What, ponders Engelhardt, with forensic reality, would be the reaction if Iraq, or Iran for example: “passed a non-binding Resolution to divide the United States in to semi-autonomous bio-regions?” He concludes that: “such acts would, of course, be considered not just outrageous and insulting, but quite mad.” In Iraq however: “at best it would put an American stamp of approval on the continuing ethnic cleansing of Iraq.” However, the US Administration’s commitment is clear, Joe Biden, a self confessed Zionist, stated at the annual J Street Conference in September 2013:



“If there were not an Israel, we would have to invent one to make sure our interests were preserved.” Think oil, gas, strategic aims. Biden assured his audience that: “America’s support for Israel is unshakable, period. Period, period.” (sic) He stressed a number of times the commitment that President Obama had to Israel. His own long and deep connections, he related, stretched back to a meeting with then Prime Minister Golda Meir when he was a freshman Senator and latterly his hours spent with Prime Minister Netanyahu. The latest meeting was in January this year when he travelled to Israel to pay his respects to the late Ariel Sharon and subsequently spent two hours alone in discussion with Netanyahu. It is surely coincidence that subsequently the rhetoric for the division of Iraq accelerated. Israel has had “military, intelligence and business ties with the Kurds since the 1960s” viewing them as “a shared buffer between Arab adversaries.”

In June Netanyahu told Tel Aviv University’s INSS think tank: “We should ... support the Kurdish aspiration for independence”, after “outlining what he described as the collapse of Iraq and other Middle East regions ...” Iraq’s internal affairs being none of Israel’s business obviously does not occur (apart from their outrageous historic aspirations for the region in spite of being the newly arriving regional guest.) The howls of Israeli fury when even basic human rights for Palestinians in their eroded and stolen lands are suggested for the last sixty six years, however, metaphorically deafen the world. Of course Kurdistan has now laid claim to Kirkuk, with its vast oil deposits. The plan for the Northern Iraq-Haifa pipeline, an Israeli aspiration from the time of that country’s establishment can surely also not have been far from Netanyahu’s mind. An independent Kurdistan, which indeed it has enjoyed almost entirely within Iraq, since 1992 – and immediately betrayed the Iraqi State by inviting in Israel and the CIA – would herald the planned dismemberment of Iraq.

It is darkly ironic, that whether relating to the break up of their lands or ghettoisation of those of Iraqis and Palestinians, this mirrors the plan of Adolf Eichmann, the architect of ethnic cleansing, who, after the outbreak of World War II “arranged for Jews to be concentrated into ghettos in major cities ...” he also devised plans for Jewish “reservations.” Additionally he was an architect of forcible expulsion, one of the charges brought against him after he was captured by Israel’s Mossad and Shin Bet in Argentina in 1960. He was tried in Israel, found guilty of war crimes and hanged in 1962. Ironically his pre-Nazi employment had been as an oil salesman (9.) Can Israel and the “international community” really be planning to mirror Eichmann by repatriating and ethnic cleansing? Will nations never look in to history’s mirror?

Rocket halts flights to Israel as death toll climbs over 600 in Gaza

Hurriyet Daily News, 23.07.2014



Major airlines blocked flights to Israel July 23 after a rocket from Gaza struck near airport runways, as the U.N. chief urged an end to a conflict that has killed 636 Palestinians and 31 Israelis. As the violence entered its 16th day, neither Israel or Hamas appeared willing to end hostilities.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, appealed on July 22 for the bitter rivals to “stop fighting” and “start talking.” However Israel insisted it would keep up its aerial and ground assault until it smashes cross-border tunnels used by Gaza militants to attack the Jewish state, while Hamas continued to fire rockets.

One crashed a few kilometres north of Tel Aviv’s Ben Gurion international airport prompting the U.S. Federal Aviation Authority to ban commercial flights to and from Israel for at least 24 hours. The European Aviation Safety Agency advised all carriers to avoid Tel Aviv “until further notice.” The bans come after Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 was allegedly shot down by a missile over strife-torn eastern Ukraine, heightening sensitivity over aviation safety above warzones. It was the first time such measures had been taken since the 1990-1991 Gulf war. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu appealed to U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry to lift the ban. “Netanyahu spoke this evening with ... Kerry and asked him to act to restore flights by American airline companies to Israel,” sources in Netanyahu’s office told AFP.

Kerry said the order would be reviewed within in a day and told Netanyahu the ban was solely due to safety concerns, State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki said. Following top-level talks in Cairo, Ban went to Tel Aviv and appealed to both sides to lay down arms. “Stop fighting, start talking and take on the root causes of the conflict so that we are not at the same situation in the next six months or a year.”The UN chief described Hamas rocket fire on Israel as “shocking” and said it must “stop immediately.” But he also said Israel must exercise “maximum restraint” in Gaza, and he urged it to take a hard look at some of the root causes of the conflict “so people will not feel they have to resort to violence as a means of expressing their grievances.”

Meanwhile in Cairo, Kerry discussed ceasefire proposals with Egypt’s President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi. The top US diplomat again placed the onus on Hamas to accept a ceasefire, voicing support for an Egyptian truce initiative as a “framework” to end the fighting. And a senior Palestinian official said talks were ongoing between president Mahmud Abbas and Hamas for a ceasefire. Abbas pledged that Israel would be held accountable internationally for Gaza deaths. “We will pursue all those who commit crimes against our people, however long it takes,” he said in televised comments ahead of an emergency meeting of the Palestinian leadership in Ramallah. The meeting’s concluding statement called for “widespread popular protest in solidarity with Gaza and the resistance.”



Shortly afterwards, Israeli forces shot dead a Palestinian man in clashes at the West Bank village of Hussan, near Bethlehem, Palestinian security sources told AFP. An Israeli army spokeswoman claimed that he had been one of about of about 50 people throwing rocks and petrol bombs at soldiers. "Initial investigation shows one of the protesters was apparently hit by rubber bullets and died from that," she told AFP, adding that no live rounds were fired. Israeli fire on July 22 hit a U.N. school sheltering the displaced for the second time in two days, said the United Nations' Palestinian refugee agency, UNRWA.

"UNRWA condemns in the strongest possible terms the shelling of one of its schools in the central area of Gaza which was sheltering hundreds of Palestinians displaced by the current fighting," it said in a statement. "The location of the school and the fact that it was housing internally displaced persons had been formally communicated to Israel on three separate occasions. We have called on the Israeli authorities to carry out an immediate and comprehensive investigation." During the offensive, more than 100,000 Gazans have fled their homes, seeking shelter in 69 schools run by UNRWA. Early July 23 the Israeli military announced the deaths of two soldiers killed in the Gaza fighting the night before, bringing the Israeli toll to 29 soldiers and two civilians. The army on July 22 confirmed the death of a soldier who Hamas militants claimed they had kidnapped, but said his remains were unaccounted for.

Despite its rising body count, Israel said it would only halt its Gaza offensive after laying waste to a sophisticated network of tunnels used by militants for cross-border attacks. A ceasefire "won't happen before we really finish the tunnels project," Justice Minister Tzipi Livni said. She said Hamas's "completely unacceptable" preconditions for a truce had "no chance of being accepted by anyone." Hamas has laid out a list of demands for halting its fire, including a lifting of Israel's eight-year blockade on Gaza, the release of dozens of prisoners, and the opening of its Rafah border crossing with Egypt. The European Union appealed to Israel to keep its military operation in Gaza "proportionate" and for "all sides to implement in good faith an immediate ceasefire," a statement from a meeting of European foreign ministers in Brussels said. It added that "All terrorist groups in Gaza must disarm," a comment welcomed by Israel.

International flights to and from Israel suspended over security concerns

The Guardian, 23.07.2014



International airlines halted flights to and from Israel indefinitely on Tuesday citing security concerns in an unexpected twist to the conflict in Gaza. The move came as political leaders and diplomats held urgent talks in the region with UN chief Ban Ki-moon saying his “hope and belief” was that an end to fighting could be “very near”.

On Wednesday morning the Palestinian decision-making body led by President Mahmoud Abbas said it was backing Hamas’s demands that an end to the Israeli-Egyptian blockade of Gaza and other concessions must form part of any deal to end the hostilities.

Delta was the first carrier to halt flights to and from Israel after diverting a flight carrying 273 passengers bound for Tel Aviv’s Ben Gurion airport to Paris on Tuesday after “reports of a rocket or associated debris near the airport in Tel Aviv”. It was followed by America’s Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) – which has halted all US flights to and from Israel – Air France and Dutch airline KLM. While easyJet also suspended flights, British Airways said it would carry on with its twice-daily service from London. On Tuesday night Israel’s prime minister, Binyamin Netanyahu, asked the US secretary of state, John Kerry, to help restore commercial flights. But a White House official, when asked, said: “We’re not going to overrule the FAA. Period.”

Delta Airlines said it had suspended service until further notice to and from Ben Gurion international airport in Tel Aviv and the airline’s New York-JFK hub. It added: “Delta, in co-ordination with the US Federal Aviation Administration, is doing so to ensure the safety and security of our customers and employees.” A spokesperson for Air France announced that the airline had suspended all flights owing to the “evolution of the security situation in Israel”. “The decision ... will come into effect immediately and remain until further notice,” he added. The surprise decision is likely to alarm the Israeli government and business community, which have so far seen relatively few economic repercussions from the conflict.

High-level diplomatic efforts to resolve the crisis continued in the region, with Ban suggesting in a video link to the UN security council in New York from Ramallah that a breakthrough could be imminent, although he could not disclose details “at this highly sensitive moment”. “Suffice it to say, it is my hope and belief that these talks will lead to results and an end to the fighting in the very near future,” he said, while acknowledging “many obstacles and complexities”. On Wednesday morning the Palestinian Liberation Organisation endorsed demands by Hamas for halting Gaza hostilities. “The Gaza demands of stopping the aggression and lifting the blockade in all its forms are the demands of the entire Palestinian people and they represent the goal that the Palestinian leadership has dedicated all its power to achieve,” senior PLO official Yasser Abed Rabbo said in Ramallah.



Signalling that Abbas, too, sought a staggered cessation of hostilities, the Palestinian leader's Fatah faction on Tuesday proposed a truce followed by five days of negotiations on terms. There was no immediate response to the PLO statement from Hamas or Israel. Earlier in Tel Aviv, Ban had delivered a blunt message to Netanyahu, saying the bloodshed in Gaza must end. As the Israeli military continued its bombardment of the Gaza Strip, the secretary general urged Israel to exercise "maximum restraint". Ban said he understood the state's security concerns, "but your military response is causing many civilian casualties. I hope we will be able to see the end of this violence as soon as possible."

Representing Israeli frustration at external criticism of its operation in Gaza, Israel's ambassador to the US, Ron Dermer, controversially suggested Israel should be awarded the Nobel peace prize for "fighting with unimaginable restraint". He told a meeting of Christians United For Israel in Washington: "Some are shamelessly accusing Israel of genocide and would put us in the dock for war crimes. But the truth is that the Israel Defence Forces should be given... a Nobel Peace Prize for fighting with unimaginable restraint." On the 15th day of fighting, the death toll in Gaza topped 600 with more than 3,700 injured.

On Monday, the UN said one of its schools being used to shelter thousands of refugees from the fighting had been hit by shelling. The humanitarian agency also announced that more than 100,000 people had sought shelter in its schools, and 43% of the Gaza Strip had become a virtual no-go zone following Israeli warnings for residents to leave ahead of bombardment. An air strike on a house near Khan Younis killed 25 members of one family, including 18 children and five women, three of whom were pregnant, as they broke the Ramadan fast on Sunday evening. A Hamas member was also killed. Israel confirmed that one of its soldiers was missing in Gaza, and that 27 others had been killed. Two Israeli civilians have also died since the conflict began two weeks ago. The missing soldier named by the Israel Defence Forces as Oron Shaul, 20, was probably killed in or following an attack on an armoured personnel carrier during a bloody battle in Shujai'iya, Gaza City, on Sunday, which killed six others in the vehicle, according to military sources.

Hamas said on Sunday evening it had captured an Israeli soldier, whom it named as Oron Shaul, displaying his ID card and military serial number on video. But it failed to produce evidence that the soldier was alive, leading to speculation that Hamas was holding the soldier's body to use as a bargaining chip with Israel. Israeli military spokesman Peter Lerner told reporters "extensive forensic examination" of the scene of the attack was being undertaken in order to determine the soldier's fate. The armoured vehicle was struck by possibly multiple missiles, he said. "The result was dramatic, devastation at the site was huge." On whether the soldier could still be alive, he added: "Ultimately we don't have a clear answer... To be honest we just don't know." A high-rise apartment block partly collapsed on Tuesday, killing six Palestinians with German citizenship. The body of a woman hung from the wreckage for several hours before it could be retrieved.

Seven people, including four women from one family, were killed in a separate airstrike, according to Gaza paramedics. The IDF also said it had located 66 shafts leading to 25 tunnels, six of which had been detonated. Col Uri Gordon, commander of the Nahal brigade, told reporters: "We have located the majority of the tunnels, but have not completed the mapping and destruction." Israel's military and political leadership has said the principal goal of the ground operation was to find and destroy tunnels built by Hamas and other militants. Ban, who travelled to Ramallah and Tel Aviv after meetings to discuss ceasefire proposals in Cairo, said at a press conference:



“My message to Israelis and Palestinians is the same: stop fighting, start talking and take on the root causes of the conflict so that we are not at the same situation in the next six months or a year.” He condemned rocket fire from Gaza, which he described as “shocking”, but said Israel must exercise “maximum restraint”. He added: “We must address the underlying issues including mutual recognition, occupation, despair and denial of dignity so people will not feel they have to resort to violence as a means of expressing their grievances.” Earlier, Ban met the US secretary of state, John Kerry, in Cairo, who arrived in the region to add his weight to efforts to reach a ceasefire deal.

Kerry also met the Egyptian president, Abdul Fattah al-Sisi, and the foreign minister, Sameh Shoukry. Reiterating his support for an immediate ceasefire, Kerry said: “ Hamas has a fundamental choice to make and it is a choice that will have a fundamental impact on the people of Gaza.” He added: “But just reaching a ceasefire is clearly not enough. It is imperative that there be a serious discussion, negotiation addressing the underlying issues that have brought us to where we are today.” He added: “Once a ceasefire has been reached, we are certainly ready to talk through the incredibly complicated underlying issues to this crisis ... The Egyptians have provided a framework and forum for them to be able to come to the table to have a series of discussions.”

Kerry said Israel has responded to Hamas rocket fire “as any country has the right to do when it’s under attack, and we support Israel’s right to self defence.” He nevertheless expressed sympathy for victims on “all sides” of the conflict. “We’ve seen too much bloodshed on all sides, including the death of two American citizens, and we have watched the humanitarian crisis grow worse day after day. People have lost their homes, possessions, access to water and food, their entire way of life.” Hamas has rejected Egypt’s week-old proposal for a ceasefire because the group wants guarantees on the easing to the blockade on Gaza, and the release of prisoners. But Egypt and Israel say such issues can only be discussed after a ceasefire is reached – a stance Kerry strongly endorsed.

Ukraine: Two military jets shot down

CNN, 23.07.2014



Two Ukrainian military jets were shot down Wednesday in the eastern part of the country, where pro-Russian rebels have fought against government forces, a Ukrainian military office said. The pilots ejected, the office said. Information on their condition wasn't immediately available.

An air defense system shot down the jets, the military press office said. News of the jets' downing comes six days after the deadly crash of the civilian passenger plane Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 in eastern Ukraine. The first of the bodies of the 298 victims of that crash are being flown to the Netherlands on Wednesday.

Ukrainian officials have previously accused pro-Russia rebels of shooting down a number of military aircraft. In the week leading up to the July 17 crash of MH17, Ukrainian officials said an Antonov An-26 transport plane and a Sukhoi Su-25 fighter jet had been brought down. The latest reported shootdown highlights the ongoing conflict in eastern Ukraine's Donetsk and Luhansk regions between the rebels and Ukrainian security forces. Meanwhile, the finger-pointing over who was responsible for bringing down the Boeing 777 continues. U.S. officials say pro-Russian rebels were responsible for shooting down that plane, but they now believe it's likely the rebels didn't know it was a commercial airliner, U.S. intelligence officials said Tuesday.

However, Vitaly Nayda, Ukraine's director of informational security, told CNN's Kyung Lah that the person who shot down the flight was "absolutely" a Russian. "A Russian-trained, well-equipped, well-educated officer ... pushed that button deliberately," he said. Moscow has denied claims that it pulled the trigger. And Russian Army Lt. Gen. Andrei Kartapolov suggested a Ukrainian jet fighter may have shot the plane down. Ukraine's government rejects that claim.

Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy Yatseniuk resigns

The Guardian, 24.07.2014



Ukraine's prime minister resigned after the governing coalition collapsed, in a sign that the country's political system is still beset by discord. The government is struggling to defeat an insurgency by pro-Russian separatists in the east of the country, where a Malaysia Airlines jet was downed.

Arseniy Yatsenyuk, one of the leaders of the Maidan protests, was seen as a safe pair of hands. But he grew angry during Ukraine's parliamentary session as it failed to pass legislation to increase army financing and regulate the country's energy situation.

"History will not forgive us," he told parliament. "Our government now has no answer to the questions – how are we to pay wages, how are we tomorrow morning going to send fuel for armoured vehicles, how will we pay those families who have lost soldiers, to look after the army?" The president, Petro Poroshenko, welcomed the move, which will lead to new elections, saying: "Society wants a full reset of state authorities." Although Ukrainians elected Poroshenko in May, there have yet to be new parliamentary elections since the former president, Viktor Yanukovich, fled. Yatsenyuk is likely to stay on in a caretaker role before a new poll.

Rumours are that Poroshenko wants to end the insurgency in the east before 24 August – Ukrainian independence day. The army has made significant gains in driving the rebels out of a number of towns, including the former stronghold of Slavyansk, but the separatists still control Donetsk, a city of 1 million, and much of the region around it. The area where flight MH17 fell to the ground last Thursday, apparently after being destroyed by a missile, is also inside rebel-held territory. This has led to controversial cleanup efforts in which the site has been left unsecured for a week since the crash. Bodies recovered at the site were dispatched by train on Monday night to the government-controlled city of Kharkiv. On Wednesday, the first bodies were flown to the Netherlands, where they will be identified before being flown to their countries of origin.

More than half of the 298 victims were Dutch. Michael Bociurkiw, a spokesman for the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe, said monitors had found new chunks of fuselage on Thursday in locations they had not visited before – a sign of how much work remains to be done for a proper investigation to take place. He also said the monitors were still finding human remains at the site. Two Australian diplomats visited the crash site on Thursday, the first to visit the area. Australia lost 28 citizens in the crash and the prime minister, Tony Abbott, said Australian police officers were on standby to travel to the crash site and help secure it. "There has still not been anything like a thorough professional search of the area where the plane went down and there can't be while the site is controlled by armed men with vested interest in the outcome of the investigation," he said.

The Dutch Safety Board, which is coordinating the investigation, said on Thursday that material from both black box flight recorders had been downloaded by British experts, who had found no evidence they had been tampered with. There is mounting evidence that MH17 was brought down in error by separatists who thought they were firing a Buk missile at a Ukrainian military jet. Rebel leaders have denied they were ever in possession of a Buk system, but numerous eyewitnesses told the Guardian they saw a Buk in the area on the day of the crash. One rebel boss, Alexander Khodakovsky, told Reuters that the rebels did have a Buk, which he intimated may have come from Russia. He later insisted he had been misquoted.

Russia may suspend imports of Ukrainian foodstuffs after Ukraine

ITAR-TASS, 23.07.2014



Russia can, in theory, suspend the imports of Ukrainian foodstuffs after the ratification of the Ukraine-EU Association Agreement (AA), a senior official at the agricultural watchdog service Rosselkhoznadzor reported on Wednesday.

“We’ll yet have to see how these supplies will be done because the EU has a largely differing legislation,” he reported. Rosselkhoznadzor has offered the Ukrainian veterinary service to hold consultations shortly on transition of the Customs Union requirements for legal acceptance of imports from Europe. “We hope there’ll be no time gap (during the transition to new requirements),” he said.

Russia has warned Ukraine more than once that it will be compelled to take steps against Ukrainian imports after that country signs the AA with the EU, as the document stipulates its own prevalence over all other contractual obligations Ukraine may have with third parties, including the Eurasian Customs Union of Belarus, Kazakhstan and Russia. Russian governmental agencies have said many a time the technical regulations that Ukraine will be expected to assimilate under provisions of the AA do not match in many cases the Customs Union regulations and there are no mechanism for lifting these contradictions.

Russia ready for Customs Union expansion

ITAR-TASS, 23.07.2014



Russia is ready to expand the Customs Union and create new free trade zones, including in Europe, Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev said. "We are ready, together with our partners from Belarus and Kazakhstan, to expand the Customs Union and create free trade zones, including in a free trade plus format with both individual countries and regional associations, and in Europe as well," he said.

The launch of the Eurasian Economic Union from 2015, which will be based on the Customs Union of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan, will ensure free movement of goods, services, capital and workforce on the territory of the three countries.

From the viewpoint of business, the common economic space, common rules and procedures will help member states cut their costs considerably, the Russian premier said.

Europe edges up on earnings, risk aversion remains

Reuters, 23.07.2014



European equities edged higher in early trade on Wednesday, extending gains from Tuesday after positive earnings and U.S. economic data briefly calmed worries over stretched valuations and the pace of economic recovery.

However, the prospect of more sanctions against Russia over the Ukraine crisis and a downed Malaysian airliner kept risk aversion on the table in the bond market, where German 10-year yields nudged down to 1.16 percent, just shy of record lows. The euro also hit an eight-month low against the dollar on concerns that tougher Russian penalties might hit fragile euro zone growth.



The pan-European FTSEurofirst 300 share index was 0.3 percent higher at 0742 GMT, buoyed by better-than-expected earnings from German automaker Daimler and Dutch paint-and-chemicals firm AkzoNobel. Gains were more muted in Europe - where the pace of economic recovery and the impact of a Russia slowdown have worried investors - than in much of Asia or the United States, where stocks hit fresh milestones and where earnings from bellwethers such as Apple Inc and Verizon topped forecasts. "Geopolitical tensions are preventing a better market development in Europe," said Christian Stocker, equity strategist at UniCredit. "Markets will be dominated by consolidation moves due to the uncertainty, combined with high valuations." Caution also rippled through fixed-income markets, where German bund yields fell and the euro extended losses to hit to \$1.3455, its lowest since November 2013, with investors eyeing more losses in coming days.

Fears that the euro-zone economy might take a hit from fresh EU sanctions being considered against Russia, as well as a diverging rate outlook for the United States and the euro area, kept investors from taking more bullish bets on Europe. "There is quite broad-based pressure building on the euro and there are a number of factors driving that. Europe is directly exposed to Russia by trade - Germany in particular - so sanctions could potentially have a negative impact on the euro," said Ian Stannard, a currency strategist at Morgan Stanley. Israeli forces pounded multiple sites across the Gaza Strip on Wednesday, including the enclave's sole power plant, and said they were meeting stiff resistance from Hamas Islamists, as diplomats sought to end the bloodshed.

"In light of the geopolitical tensions that are not yet completely resolved in Ukraine and the Middle East there's not much potential for Bund yields to pop higher any time soon," said Christian Lenk, a strategist at DZ Bank. MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan rose 0.5 percent after earlier pushing to a three-year peak, though Japan's Nikkei stock average closed down 0.1 percent as investors kept their focus on tensions in Gaza and the Middle East. [T] The declaration of victory in Indonesia's presidential election by a candidate seen as good for business sent emerging-market stocks up to a 17-month high. Indonesian shares rose nearly 1 percent after reform-minded Joko "Jokowi" Widodo was declared the winner of Indonesia's election while the rupiah set a two month high.

More broadly, MSCI's emerging market equity index touched levels last seen in early 2013, emerging from the nervousness about the impact of the downing of a Malaysian airliner over Eastern Ukraine. Moscow shares were more than 1 percent higher after signs of cooperation between pro-Russian Ukrainian separatists and investigators looking into the crash of a Malaysian airliner in Eastern Ukraine. In currencies, the Australian dollar, already on a bullish footing after the country's central bank chief on Tuesday chose not to talk down the currency, added about 0.4 percent to buy \$0.9432. It spiked to a nearly two-week high of \$0.9439 on surprisingly high core inflation figures that dented rate cut expectations. U.S. crude dropped about 0.4 percent to around \$102 a barrel, falling for a second consecutive session as oil supplies were unaffected by continuing violence and tension in Iraq, Ukraine and Gaza.

US slams France over decision to supply warship to Russia

Anadolu Agency, 23.07.2014



The U.S. State Department said Tuesday that France's decision to deliver a Mistral warship to Russia was "completely inappropriate".

While the EU was discussing imposing sanctions on Russia over the downing of Malaysian airlines flight MH17 over Ukraine, in which 298 people died, French President Francois Hollande said Monday that the first Mistral warship would be delivered to Russia as planned in October. "Clearly we think it's completely inappropriate," said Marie Harf, a State Department spokeswoman. "And we've told them they should not do it."

Quoting Secretary of State John Kerry and President Barack Obama, Harf said the downing of the civilian airliner should be a wake-up call for the Europeans to do more about Ukraine. The contract between Russia and France for the warships is a €1.2 billion (\$1.62 billion) deal that was signed by then-French President Nicolas Sarkozy in 2011. The deal covers two Mistral helicopter-carrier warships and is the first contract that a NATO member country signed to supply Russia with military equipment.

John Kerry ‘wanded’ by security guards at Egypt’s presidential palace

The Guardian, 24.07.2014



John Kerry has been shuttling between Middle Eastern capitals, trying to get Hamas and Israel to put down their guns. For his efforts, Kerry probably did not expect to be suspected of being an armed threat himself.

However on Tuesday Kerry was stopped by security guards as he entered Cairo’s presidential palace. Footage shows America’s top diplomat being “wanded” with a hand-held electronic scanner. It was a move that raised eyebrows among members of Kerry’s travelling press corps, who said the US secretary of state was usually afforded every courtesy when on official business abroad.

The incident caused a small diplomatic kerfuffle, amid suspicion that Kerry had been purposefully humiliated in a show of Egyptian independence. But taken to task on Egyptian television, Sisi’s spokesman, Ehab Badawy, shrugged it off as a “spontaneous” incident. “This security measure is very natural,” said Badawy, “one that Egyptian officials abroad are subjected to – and Nabil Fahmy, a former foreign minister, experienced it during his visit to the United States.” Egyptian foreign ministry officials have explained the incident as the act of a security team unfamiliar with dealing with foreign dignitaries.

Nevertheless, it marks Kerry’s second embarrassment in Egypt in the space of a month. Kerry flew in to Egypt in late June, one day before a verdict was expected in the trial of three al-Jazeera journalists accused of endangering Egypt’s national security. In a meeting with Sisi, Kerry explicitly raised their plight; that a guilty verdict was still reached hours later, despite Kerry confirming the return of US aid to Egypt, represented a slapdown for US diplomacy. Still, Kerry’s stubborn support for Egypt’s regime appears undiminished. Following his “wanding” experience, Kerry continued to praise the new Egyptian government, despite widespread criticism of its year-long crackdown on dissent. “I want to thank the people of Egypt for transitioning to democracy,” said Kerry.



Announcements & Reports

► *Country Analysis Brief: Iran*

Source : EIA

Weblink : <http://www.eia.gov/countries/analysisbriefs/Iran/iran.pdf>

► *The 2014 Elections, ISIS Operations And The Future of Iraq*

Source : ORSAM

Weblink : http://www.orsam.org.tr/en/enUploads/Article/Files/2014715_190raping.pdf

► *Perceptions Spring 2014*

Source : SAM

Weblink : <http://sam.gov.tr/tr/category/yayinlar/perceptions/>

► *How Do Private Equity Investors Create Value?*

Source : Ernst & Young

Weblink : [http://www.ey.com/Publication/vwLUAssets/EY-returning-to-safer-ground/\\$FILE/EY-returning-to-safer-ground.pdf](http://www.ey.com/Publication/vwLUAssets/EY-returning-to-safer-ground/$FILE/EY-returning-to-safer-ground.pdf)



Upcoming Events

► *Growing the Development Dividend: A Conversation with U.S. Trade Representative Michael Froman*

Date : 29 July 2014
Place : Washington - USA
Website : <http://www.brookings.edu/events/2014/07/29-growing-development-michael-froman>

► *RAND Public Policy Analysis Workshop*

Date : 05 – 06 August 2014
Place : Washington - USA
Website : <http://www.rand.org/events/2014/08/06.html>

► *Finance and Economics Conference 2014*

Date : 13 – 15 August 2014
Place : Munich, Bavaria, Germany
Website : <http://www.lcbr-fec.org/>

► *International Conference on Business Strategy and Social Sciences*

Date : 16 – 17 August 2014
Place : Kuala Lumpur - Malaysia
Website : <http://www.pakrdw.com/?ic=details&id=3>

► *Launch of the Memos to the new EU leadership*

Date : 04 September 2014
Place : Brussels - Belgium
Website : <http://www.bruegel.org/nc/events/event-detail/view/450/>

► *Annual Meeting - Europe: the way ahead | Read more at Bruegel*

Date : 05 September 2014
Place : Brussels - Belgium
Website : <http://www.bruegel.org/nc/events/event-detail/event/451-annual-meeting-europe-the-way-ahead/>

► *Fifth Annual Conference in Political Economy, “The Crisis: Scholarship, Policies, Conflicts and Alternatives”*

Date : 16 - 18 September 2014
Place : Naples – Italy
Website : http://iippe.org/wp/?page_id=1943