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OPINION

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New dawn in Türkiye: The road to a terror-free country

» THE TURKISH government declared the “terror-free Türkiye” initiative to solve the most prolonged crisis in the history of the Turkish republic. Many observers call this new process the Turkish model of conflict resolution.

Referring to the PKK’s first disarmament ceremony on July 11, President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan stated that a new page in history had been opened.

On July 12, 2025, he stated, “We, as the AK Party, the MHP and the DEM Party, have decided to walk this path together.” Similarly, Imralı delegation member Per-vin Buldan also explained that these three political parties have formed an alliance for the peace process.

I want to briefly mention the main developments that led Türkiye to this day and the main stages of the process.

There are several important developments that led the state to start the process of the PKK laying down its arms. First of all, with the developments in the defense industry being crucial, the Turkish government has begun to carry out effective military operations against the PKK both within the country and beyond its borders for years. PAGE 9

OPINION

CENK KAAAN ADASOY

Why it is time to bury the ‘Federal Cyprus’ fantasy

» IN JULY 2017, at the Crans-Montana summit in Switzerland, Cyprus came close (again) to what many had hoped would be a breakthrough. Instead, it broke apart. Another diplomatic round collapsed into the familiar dust of history. But this time, the reason may have been more candidly revealed than ever before.

In a recent televised interview, former president of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC), Mehmet Ali Talat, revealed that former Greek Cypriot leader Nikos Anastasiadis abruptly walked away from the table after receiving a phone call from Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. The message was blunt: “Are you crazy? Why are you bringing Turkish Cypriots into government? You already govern Cyprus and represent it internationally. What business do they have there?” PAGE 8

‘Unity key to build on martyrs’ legacy’

As he remembered the public resistance against FETÖ’s 2016 coup bid yesterday, President Erdoğan called for national unity to build on the martyrs’ legacy and proceed with a terror-free Türkiye



President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan salutes an honor guard as he arrives at Parliament for a remembrance ceremony, Ankara, Türkiye, July 15, 2025. (AA Photo)

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» PRESIDENT Recep Tayyip Erdoğan’s first stopover in remembrance events for victims of the July 15, 2016, coup attempt was Parliament in Ankara. Before heading to a police headquarters where police officers were slain by military infiltrators of the Gülenist Terror Group (FETÖ), Erdoğan addressed a commemoration ceremony at the Turk-

ish Grand National Assembly.

Erdoğan heaped praise on the nation for resisting the attempt, adding that they should maintain the unity that was on display nine years ago to build on the efforts for a terror-free Türkiye. He was referring to an ongoing process where the PKK terrorist group began its disarmament last week. The president, who had battled lawsuits and ultimatums from the powerful elite opposing his Justice and Devel-

opment Party (AK Party) throughout his political career, overcame the odds to run the country when FETÖ first attempted to overthrow him in late 2013. The 2016 attempt was the most dangerous among them as he barely escaped an assassination attempt by FETÖ’s putschists. The charismatic leader managed to rally the nation to stand against FETÖ’s would-be junta, and an unprecedented public resistance quelled the attempt, at the cost of 253 lives. PAGE 6

Country left alone in its fight against FETÖ: Justice Minister

» JUSTICE Minister Yılmaz Tunç criticized world powers, including the U.S. and the European Union, for ignoring and failing to stand in solidarity with Türkiye in its fight against the Gülenist Terror Group (FETÖ), which was behind the deadly July 15 coup attempt.

Speaking on a live broadcast on A Haber on Monday, Tunç said Türkiye was left alone in its fight against the terrorist group.

His comments come as Türkiye prepares to commemorate the ninth anniversary of the coup attempt and martyrs and veterans who resisted the putschists.

Speaking about suspects who fled abroad, Tunç said: “We issued Red Notice requests both after the Dec. 17-25 judicial coup attempts and before July 15. Unfortunately, the world has left us alone in this regard.”

He noted that the heroic resistance of the Turkish people on the night of the coup attempt was a fight for democracy and human rights, yet countries in Europe and the United States failed to offer the support Türkiye needed. PAGE 7

Authorities clamp down on FETÖ on anniversary of coup attempt

» SECURITY forces yesterday launched a new round of operations in separate investigations against the Gülenist Terror Group (FETÖ), which attempted to overthrow the government on July 15, 2016, through its infiltrators in the Turkish Armed Forces (TSK).

A supermarket chain and secret networks of the terrorist group accused of financing FETÖ were the target of the crackdown that indicated FETÖ still seeks a revival nine years after it spectacularly failed to seize power.

In an Istanbul-based investigation, security forces detained 26 suspects, including Z.D., owner of Hakmar and Tatbak, a supermarket and pastry shop chain primarily operating on Istanbul’s Asian side. Authorities also appointed trustees to the chain on the grounds of financing FETÖ. The operation was a joint effort between the Istanbul police and the National Intelligence Organization (MIT), involving nine provinces. PAGE 7

SPORTS CLUBS COMMEMORATE JULY 15 WITH DEFIANT PATRIOTISM PAGE 11

Israel displacing West Bank Palestinians at highest rate since 1967

» MASS displacement of Palestinians in the West Bank has reached levels not seen since Israel began occupying the territory nearly 60 years ago, the U.N. warned yesterday. The United Nations said an Israeli military operation launched in the north of the occupied territory in January had displaced tens of thousands of people, raising concerns about possible “ethnic cleansing.”

The military operation “has been the longest since ... the second Intifada,” in the early 2000s, said Juliette Touma, spokesperson for the U.N. agency for Palestinian refugees. “It is impacting several refugee camps in the

area, and it is causing the largest population displacement of the Palestinians in the West Bank since 1967,” she told reporters in Geneva via video from Jordan, referring to the six-day Arab-Israeli war that led to Israel’s occupation of the West Bank. The U.N. rights office, meanwhile, warned that mass forced displacement by an occupation force could amount to “ethnic cleansing.”

Since Israel’s military launched its operation “Iron Wall” in the north of the West Bank in January, rights office spokesperson Thameen al-Kheetan said, “About 30,000 Palestinians remain forcibly displaced.” PAGE 10



Syria declares cease-fire as govt forces enter battle-hit Suwayda

» SYRIAN government forces entered the battle-hit province of Suwayda yesterday, followed by an announcement of a complete cease-fire by the country’s defense minister.

The declaration came a day after clashes between armed Yazidi and Bedouin groups killed dozens and the state-run news agency reported that Israel had launched a strike in the area.

Defense Minister Murhaf Abu Qasra said in a statement that after an “agreement with the city’s notables and dignitaries, we will respond only to the sources of fire and deal with any targeting by outlaw groups.”

The clashes began with a series of tit-for-tat kidnappings and attacks between members of local Bedouin tribes and Druze armed factions in the southern province, a center of the Druze community.

Government security forces that were sent in on Monday to restore order also clashed with Druze armed groups. During the day, Israel struck a Syrian government military tank and claimed it was acting to protect the Druze religious minority. PAGE 10

Türkiye, Malaysia aim to strengthen cooperation in Islamic finance

» TÜRKİYE and Malaysia can and should work together in a time when the world is seeking more direction and clarity, the chairperson of a Malaysian center focusing on Islamic finance said in an interview published yesterday. “Türkiye and Malaysia can and should work together in a time when the world is seeking more direction and clarity. We are in a phase where we must continue to build and strengthen our relations,” said Tan Sri Azman Mokhtar, the chairperson of Malaysia International Islamic Financial Centre (MIFC) Leadership Council (MLC).

Speaking to Anadolu Agency (AA),

Mokhtar emphasized Türkiye’s significance, both in its region and globally, explaining that they aim to advance the strong economic, financial and investment ties between Türkiye and Malaysia. “The Future of Islamic Finance: Türkiye-Malaysia Business Forum” was held recently in cooperation with the Presidency’s Investment Office and MIFC MLC.

As part of the program, more than 20 senior financial representatives operating in areas such as Islamic banking, capital markets and takaful (Islamic insurance) came to Türkiye, along with heads of regulatory and supervisory institutions. PAGE 5

Türkiye, Oman sign deal for oil, gas search, renewable energy co-op

» TÜRKİYE and Oman on Monday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) aimed at expanding bilateral cooperation in the energy sector, covering areas from hydrocarbon exploration to renewable energy.

The agreement was formalized during Energy and Natural Resources Minister Alparslan Bayraktar’s visit to Oman, according to a statement by the ministry.

The deal was signed by Bayraktar and Omani Energy and Minerals Minister Salim bin Nasser bin Said Al Afi.

Under the MoU, the two countries will

work together across the entire oil and natural gas value chain, including exploration, transportation and refining.

Bayraktar emphasized that the scope of the agreement also extends to the exchange of technical knowledge and joint projects in fields such as electricity, renewable energy, energy efficiency and hydrogen technologies. On the sidelines of the visit, a tripartite agreement was also reached between Türkiye’s state energy company, Turkish Petroleum Corporation (TPAO), Oman’s Ministry of Energy and OQ Exploration and Production (OQEP). PAGE 5