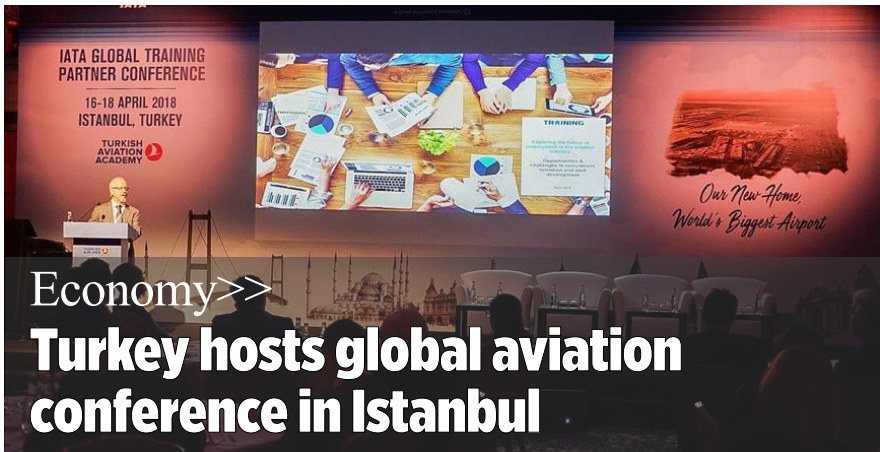




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Erdogan urges new groundwork for peace

Turkish president also criticizes US-led airstrikes in Syria over chemical weapons, saying regular weapons killed far more civilians

By Sorwar Alam

ANKARA- Turkey's president on Monday urged a new groundwork for peace in the world, one where countries are no longer bombed with random justifications. "Let's lay down a new foundation for peace in the world and let's not let rain down bombs on these countries at random, not allow the pounding of barrel bombs," Recep Tayyip Erdogan told an entrepreneurship congress in Istanbul. Erdogan also criticized Saturday's U.S.-led airstrikes in Syria in the

wake of alleged usage of chemical weapon by the Assad regime, pointing out that conventional weapons have killed far more civilians in the country. "They came and said 'chemical weapons' and attacked... [saying] 'We attacked over the usage of chemical weapons'," said Erdogan. "I say, why you are only looking at chemical weapons? Why you are not assessing conventional weapons? If one person dies from chemical weapons, 10 people die from conventional weapons." The U.S., U.K., and France early Saturday... [MORE DETAILS](#)



'Turkish stance on Assad never changed'

LEFKOSA - Turkey's stance against the Syrian regime and Bashar al-Assad has never changed, Turkish Deputy Prime Minister Hakan Cavusoglu said on Monday. Speaking in Lefkosa, the capital city of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC), Hakan Cavusoglu welcomed the U.S.-led airstrikes on Assad regime. On Saturday, the U.S., in coordination with France and the U.K., conducted a series of military strikes against the regime of Bashar al-Assad after it accused the latter of being responsible for the



chemical weapons attack on Douma, in eastern Ghouta on April 7th. "The reaction of the U.S. and the U.K. and France against the assaults of... [MORE DETAILS](#)



Anadolu Agency Photo

YPG/PKK kidnaps two Kurdish ENKS members

By Mohamad Misto

AFRIN - The YPG/PKK terrorist group kidnapped two members of the National Council of Syrian Kurds (ENKS) last week after the group was repelled from Syria's northwestern town of Afrin by Turkey's Operation Olive Branch. In a statement on Monday, the ENKS said Faisal Yousef, the general coordinator of the Kurdish Reform Movement, and Nimat Dawud, the chairman of the Kurdish Democratic Equality Party in Syria, had been kidnapped

by the YPG/PKK from their homes last week. The ENKS condemned the move and called on the terrorist group to release its members. "The YPG/PKK is trying to cover up its failure in Afrin," the ENKS said, calling on the Kurdish people and the political groups to apply pressure on the YPG/PKK. The terrorist group had earlier issued arrest warrants for two senior officials of the ENKS, Ibrahim Biro and Fuad Aliko, due to their roles in the establishment of the local council... [MORE DETAILS](#)



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Exodus from E. Ghouta to N. Syria gathers pace

As evacuations continue from besieged Damascus suburb, Anadolu Agency talks to evacuees at Idlib refugee camp

IDLIB - Residents of Syria's Eastern Ghouta district, which remains under siege by the Assad regime and its allies, continue to flee to opposition-held parts of northern Syria in hopes of finding safety. Since the evacuation process began, more than 56,000 people have left the besieged Damascus suburb.

Evacuees were initially sent to camps in Idlib, in Aleppo's western countryside, and in the Al-Bab district, which is located within the area of operations of Turkey's Operation Euphrates Shield. Due to the recent influx of people, however, these camps are now full to capacity. Speaking to Anadolu Agency at Idlib's

Abrar camp, Abu Mohamed said the Assad regime had allowed Eastern Ghouta residents to leave the district on condition they leave all their personal belongings behind. "We have no pillows or blankets; we don't have anything," he lamented, adding that aid NGOs had yet to reach many of the temporary camps. [MORE DETAILS](#)

Israel shutters West Bank, Gaza for anniversary