









ARANADOLU POST

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French declaration on 1915 events null and void

French President Macron trying to rescue himself using history for political fodder, says Turkish presidential spokesperson



By Enes Kaplan

ANKARA - Turkey Wednesday strongly condemned French President Emmanuel Macron's declaration of April 24 as a national day marking the socalled Armenian genocide. "Allegations of a so-called Armenian genocide are political lies lacking any legal basis, contrary to historical facts. They are null and void for Turkey," Ibrahim Kalin, Turkish presidential spokesman, said in a statement. "Those who ignore Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's call in 2005 to establish a joint historical

commission to shed light on historical realities are trying to manipulate historical events," Kalin added. Stating that Turkey will never give opportunity to those who try to breed hatred and enmity by distorting history, he said: "No one can accuse Turkey of a crime it did not commit and cannot defame our history." He also said that Macron, cornered by political woes and months of protests, is trying to rescue himself by using historical events as political fodder. "Turkey will continue to support all kinds of well-intentioned efforts to enlighten the events that took place during... MORE DETAILS



Pope could mediate in Venezuela if both parties agree

By Beyza Binnur Donmez

ANKARA - Pope Francis on Tuesday said he is ready to mediate to open dialogue in Venezuela if both parties seek it.

Speaking to reporters en route from the United Arab Emirates, where he paid a brief visit, Pope said that he had not read yet a letter sent to him by Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro seeking the pontiff's help in opening up dialogue.

For mediation to occur, both parties must ask for it, said Francis, referring to Maduro and Juan Guaido, head of the opposition-led National Assembly, who last month declared himself Venezuela's interim president.

Maduro on Monday said he sent Francis a letter seeking his help in fostering dialogue in Venezuela. The country is about 70

percent Catholic. Venezuela has been rocked by protests since... MORE DETAILS

70 percent of youth victim of online bullying

ANKARA - UNICEF is pushing for intense efforts to stop online harassment, warning that most young people are victims of Internet bullying. In a recent survey of one

million young people, UNICEF found that over 70 percent globally are victims of online violence, cyber-bullying and digital harassment, a UN statement said late on Tuesday.

"Concerted action [is needed] to tackle and prevent this form of violence," UNICEF **Executive Director Henrietta** Fore said on the occasion of Safer Internet Day. UNICEF did the poll among young people age 15-24 in more than 160 countries. It found that income level did not prevent young people from using the Internet, saying: "It has become a mainstay of youth." MORE DETAILS



NATO signs accession protocol with Macedonia

BRUSSELS - Following a historic name-change deal, Macedonia is moving into the ranks of NATO.

At its Brussels headquarters, NATO on Wednesday signed a protocol for Macedonia's accession to the military

The protocol was signed by

NATO's 29 member states as well as Foreign Minister Nikola Dimitrov on behalf of Macedonia.

The ceremony was presided over by Jens Stoltenberg, NATO secretary general. Last week, Greece's parliament ratified a historic deal to end... MORE DETAILS

Iraq says won't participate in US sanctions on Iran

BAGHDAD - Iraqi Prime Minister Adil Abdul-Mahdi said on Wednesday that his country will not be part of U.S. sanctions against Iran. Iraq "will not be part of the U.S. sanctions against Iran or any other people", Abdul-Mahdi said during a meeting with the Governor of Iran's Central Bank Abdolnaser

Hemmati, according to a statement issued by the PM's office.

"The Iraqi people have suffered from blockade and know the damage caused by the siege," he said. This is the first time the Iraqi premier spoke publicly about opposing U.S. sanctions against Tehran. MORE DETAILS

Madrid unveils roadmap for resolving Catalonia row

