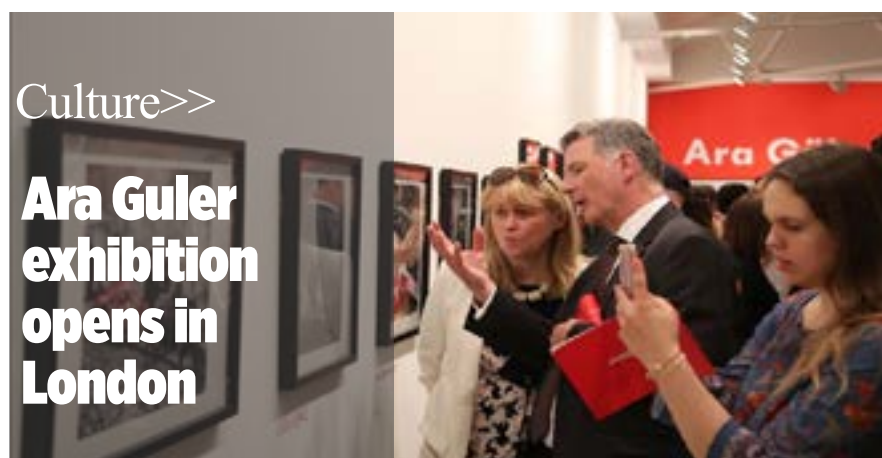




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## France not concerned with truth of 1915 events: Turkey

By Aylin Sirikli

ANKARA -Those who stir trouble with the so-called Armenian genocide allegations, particularly France, have “no concern about the truth,” Turkey’s president said Wednesday. “When we dig deeper into genocides, massacres, and human rights violations, we see the same countries that make noise about democracy and freedom,” Recep Tayyip

Erdogan told a symposium on archives and historical research in the capital Ankara. “Those who lecture Turkey on human rights, democracy, the Armenian issue, and the fight against terrorism all have a bloody history,” Erdogan added. “Turkey’s archives are fully accessible”, Erdogan said, calling on Armenians and third parties to research ... [MORE DETAILS](#)



## Death toll from Sri Lanka bombings rises to 359

By Recep Sakar

The death toll from Sunday’s multiple terror attacks in Sri Lanka has risen to 359, a police official said. Police spokesman Ruwan Gunasekara said 18 more people were held

in an operation carried out following the attacks, raising the total number of suspects under arrest to 58. Gunasekara did not provide any further details regarding the nationalities... [MORE DETAILS](#)

## Israel shoots handcuffed, blindfolded teen



By Recep Sakar

BETHLEHEM, Palestine -A Palestinian teen has accused Israeli forces of attempting to kill him in the occupied West Bank while being handcuffed and blindfolded. Osama Ali al-Badan, 16, was arrested last week during a protest in the town of Taqou in Bethlehem after a settler ran over into a female Palestinian. “Israeli soldiers opened fire on me when I tried to escape

while being blindfolded and handcuffed,” al-Badan told Anadolu Agency on Wednesday. The Palestinian teen accused the Israeli military of “deliberately attempting to kill him”. He was released by local residents and was rushed to hospital for medical treatment. According to al-Badan’s father, his health condition is now stable, but needs several... [MORE DETAILS](#)

## ‘Ankara stands with Colombo against terrorism’

*Turkey is shocked by ‘heinous terrorist attacks’ targeting innocent church and hotel goers, says Turkish FM*

By Erdogan Cagatay Zontur

ANKARA -Turkey stands together with Sri Lanka in its fight against terror, the Turkish foreign minister said Wednesday. “We are shocked by the heinous terrorist attacks targeting innocent people at churches and hotels, claiming lives of more than 300 people and injured many more on 21 April 2019 in Sri Lanka,” Mevlut Cavusoglu wrote to the Sri Lankan

Embassy in Ankara. “We are also grieving for our two citizens who are among the casualties,” Cavusoglu added. Cavusoglu reiterated Ankara’s condemnation of the attacks in the “strongest terms”, conveying condolences to the families and Sri Lankan government. Replying on Twitter, Sri Lanka’s mission expressed its thanks to Cavusoglu and... [MORE DETAILS](#)

## Germany vows to stand by Iran nuclear deal

By Ayhan Simsek

Germany on Wednesday reaffirmed its commitment to a nuclear deal with Iran despite the recent U.S. move to impose sanctions on countries that buy Iranian oil. Ulrike Demmer, the government’s deputy spokeswoman, told a news conference in Berlin that they had taken note of the recent decision of

the Trump administration, and will coordinate with other EU members to jointly assess its implications. “As you know, the German federal government and the European Union remain committed to the nuclear agreement with Iran,” she said, adding that this agreement would facilitate legitimate trade

with Iran, in accordance with international and European Union law. “We continue to believe that this agreement is a very important instrument to prevent Iran from becoming armed with nuclear weapons,” she said. U.S. President Donald Trump last year pulled out of a landmark 2015 ... [MORE DETAILS](#)

## EU disrespectful to Turkey: Hungarian foreign minister

By Aylin Sirikli

ANKARA -The games being played by the European Union over Turkey’s bid to join the bloc are a sign of disrespect, according to Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Szijjarto. Szijjarto said Turkey plays a critical role in European relations because it is close to becoming one of the world’s top 10 economies and also plays an important role in EU security due to the migrants it stops from reaching the bloc’s borders. “We don’t really like the way the European Union plays kind of games with Turkey because this is a signal of disrespect,” Szijjarto told Anadolu Agency in an interview. “There are

countries within the EU now that would definitely veto the membership of Turkey,” he said. “So I think we should look for another path which would be kind of a strategic alliance between Turkey and the EU.” Turkey applied for EU membership in 1987 and accession talks began in 2005. However, negotiations stalled in 2007 due to the objections of the Greek Cypriot administration on the divided island of Cyprus as well as opposition from Germany and France. In 2016, Turkey and the EU signed an agreement which allowed for visa-free travel for Turkish nationals within the Schengen area. In exchange, Turkey agreed to... [MORE DETAILS](#)



## E-commerce volume on rise in Turkey: Report

*Size of Turkish e-commerce sector reaches nearly \$16B in 2018, up 42% year-on-year, says report*

By Elena Teslova

ISTANBUL -Turkey’s e-commerce volume surged 42% year-on-year in 2018, an industrial report said Wednesday. The e-commerce sector volume reached 59.9 billion liras (\$16 billion) last year, it added. The report was a joint effort by Turkey’s Informatics Industry Association (TUBISAD), Association of E-commerce Operators (ETID), Deloitte Turkey, Similarweb and

Inveon. “The sector maintained its rapid growth even in a challenging year for the Turkish economy,” Kubra Erman Karaca, head of TUBISAD, told reporters. Alper Gunaydin, a director at Deloitte Turkey, highlighted the high performance of major shopping sites. Market share of the first 10 prominent shopping sites rose to 53% in the last five years from 40%, he noted. The report showed that the average ... [MORE DETAILS](#)