



**POTOMAC INSTITUTE FOR POLICY STUDIES**  
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## **Daily Terrorism Weather**

4 April 2019

### **Middle East**

#### **Exodus of ISIS Families Overwhelms East Syria Hospitals**

*Asharq Al-Awsat*

“Young children nursing severe facial burns, others suffering from malnutrition -- an exodus of militant families and civilians from ISIS' vanquished final enclave is overwhelming eastern Syria's hospitals...”

#### **How Trump Betrayed the General Who Defeated ISIS**

*Robin Wright / The New Yorker*

“The Islamic State has finally fizzled...”

#### **Iraq meeting between Lebanon's Berri, Sistani boosts moderate Shiism in region**

*Ali Mamouri / Al Monitor*

“On the second day of his trip to Iraq, Lebanese parliament Speaker Nabih Berri met April 1 with Grand Ayatollah Ali Sistani, a Shiite leader known for promoting cooperation and moderate positions in the region...”

#### **Saudi Arabia is close to completing its first nuclear reactor according to satellite images, expert claims**

*Ross Ibbetson / Daily Mail*

“Saudi Arabia is close to completing its first nuclear reactor according to satellite images interpreted by a former U.N. expert...”

#### **To vote or not to vote? The question facing Arab Israelis**

*France 24*

“In the days ahead of Israel's April 9 elections, activists in the country's north were not trying to convince some residents who to vote for -- but just to vote...”

### **Central Asia**

#### **German Bundestag ratifies EU-Armenia deal**

*Public Radio of Armenia*

“The German Bundestag today ratified by a large majority the U-Armenia Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement...”

### **Putin, Kazakh president agree to boost Russian-Kazakh ties**

*Xinhua*

“Russian President Vladimir Putin and visiting Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev on Wednesday agreed to further develop the strategic partnership of the two countries and enhance their comprehensive cooperation in various fields...”

### **South Asia**

### **Afghanistan: The never-ending war that still haunts the Arab world**

*Kamal Alam / Middle East Eye*

“Afghanistan continues to dominate the US military psyche, as the Pentagon prepares another reboot of a war that has been ongoing, with direct US involvement, for more than four decades...”

### **NATO remains in Afghanistan to fight terrorism and train Afghan forces: Stoltenberg**

*The Khaama Press New Agency*

“The NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg has said that the alliance has no goal to have a permanent presence in Afghanistan. Stoltenberg made the remarks in his address to U.S. Congress on Wednesday to mark the 70th anniversary of NATO...”

### **What Is Congress Policy on Terrorism: Shivraj Singh Chouhan**

*NDTV*

“Former Madhya Pradesh chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Wednesday asked the Congress to clarify its stand on terrorism, saying its poll promises suggested that it was on the side of terrorists...”

### **Southeast Asia**

### **Arctic Intelligence warns many Australian businesses may be vulnerable to financial crime**

*PR Wire*

“Arctic Intelligence, a market-leader in financial crime prevention audit, risk and compliance software, warned today that many Australian businesses may be unaware that their internal risk assessment processes do not go far enough; leaving them vulnerable to money laundering, terrorist financing, sanctions and regulatory non-compliance...”

### **Melbourne man accused of terrorism denies setting fire to Fawkner mosque**

*Karen Percy / ABC News*

“The lawyer for a Melbourne man accused of committing an act of terrorism by setting fire to a mosque in Melbourne's north has told a jury he had nothing to do with the attack...”

### **Social media execs will face jail in Australia if their platforms host violent content**

*Chloe Taylor / CNBC*

“Australia has passed a tough new law that could see big tech executives jailed if their platforms host violent video content...”

## East Asia

### [Bayer contains cyber attack it says bore Chinese hallmarks](#)

*Patricia Weiss and Ludwig Burger / Reuters*

“German drugmaker Bayer has contained a cyber attack it believes was hatched in China, the company said, highlighting the risk of data theft and disruption faced by big business...”

## Africa

### [Algeria set for new protests despite Bouteflika departure](#)

*RTL Today*

“Algerians are planning mass protests Friday in a key test of whether they can keep up the pressure for sweeping reforms following ailing president Abdelaziz Bouteflika's resignation...”

### [Russia sends clear warning to West - 'DO NOT INTERFERE with Algeria's political chaos'](#)

*Romina McGuinness / Express*

“Russia on Wednesday warned against foreign meddling in Algerian politics after the oil-rich North African country's wheelchair-bound president resigned under growing pressure from protesters and the army...”

## Europe

### [Dutch Lawyers Drop Terrorism Cases from Fear of Being Banned from U.S.](#)

*Janene Pieters / NL Times*

“Two Dutch lawyers decided to stop representing terrorism suspects...”

### [French counter-terrorism targets climate activists](#)

*Natalie Sauer / The Ecologist*

“When Marion Esnault and comrades began removing portraits of president Emmanuel Macron from the walls of town halls across France they expected to get into trouble...”

### [Three Spanish ISIS women speak out: “We just want to get out of here”](#)

*Natalia Sancha / EL PAÍS*

“We just want to get out of here. [...] They can't condemn us for taking care of our household and our children in Islamic State...”

### [White Nationalists from Around the World are Meeting in Finland. Here's What You Need to Know.](#)

*Tess Owen / Vice News*

“Far-right extremist groups from around the world have, for years, been quietly working behind the scenes to amplify their messaging through forging international alliances...”

## **U.S. & Canada**

### **[How many civilians does America kill in air strikes?](#)**

*The Economist*

“America has conducted 108 air strikes in Somalia since 2017, killing some 800 people...”

### **[U.S. conducted FISA-approved secret surveillance of Huawei, prosecutors say](#)**

*The Japan Times*

“U.S. authorities gathered information about Huawei Technologies Co. Ltd. through secret surveillance they plan to use in their case charging the Chinese telecom company with violating sanctions against Iran, prosecutors said Thursday...”

### **[U.S. test nuclear reactor may run up to 40 percent over cost: document](#)**

*Timothy Gardner / Reuters*

“The flagship of the Trump administration’s advanced nuclear power research program could cost up to 40 percent more than a government official estimated earlier this year, a U.S. Department of Energy document shows...”

### **[Zuckerberg resists pressure to alter Facebook’s livestream feature after Christchurch attacks](#)**

*Chloe Taylor / CNBC*

“Mark Zuckerberg has expressed reluctance to alter the Facebook feature that hosted video footage of the deadly terror attack on two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand...”

## **South and Central America and the Caribbean**

### **[Report: Full-scale UN response needed in Venezuela](#)**

*Luis Alonso Lugo / The Washington Post*

“The humanitarian emergency caused by the collapse of the Venezuelan health system requires a full-scale response by the United Nations, two organizations said Thursday...”

### **[Russia in Venezuela: Why Putin has sent troops to back up Nicolas Maduro](#)**

*Daria Litvinova / CBS News*

“Venezuela is not going to become "another Syria" for Moscow, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov told a state-backed Russian newspaper in an interview published this week...”

### **[Venezuela crisis: Juan Guaido STRIPPED of immunity - what does this mean for Venezuela?](#)**

*Rachel Russell / Express*

“Juan Guaido declared himself interim president of Venezuela in January...”