

# New Law Authorizes Zionist Police to Indefinitely Hold Palestinian Corpses

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – The Zionist regime’s legislative body, the Knesset, has approved a controversial bill that allows police authorities to indefinitely keep corpses of alleged Palestinian assailants.

The act was passed just hours after the passage of yet another contentious legislation, authorizing the regime’s interior ministry to strip Palestinians in East al-Quds of their permanent residency permits “if they are involved in terrorism.”

The bill was sponsored by two Knesset members from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s right-wing Likud and the religious-nationalist Jewish Home parties.

Arab lawmaker Yousef Jabareen of the opposition Joint List party described the bill as “a delusional and draconian law of a delusional government.”

The other legislation on revoking permanent residency permits of

Palestinians was also introduced by a Likud lawmaker and passed by 48 votes to 18, the Knesset said.

The Zionist regime announced in 2016 that it would not release the bodies of alleged Palestinian assailants killed during attacks for burial unless Palestinians living in Gaza released the remains of two Israeli military officers believed to have been killed during a 2014 Israeli military campaign in Gaza.

Netanyahu signaled back in November 2017 that Israel would not repatriate the bodies of five Palestinians killed when the regime’s army blew up a tunnel allegedly stretching from the Gaza Strip into the occupied territory.

The Zionist regime’s supreme court ruled in December that the policy was illegal and gave the regime six months to enact new legislation.

The revised act authorizes police district commanders “to set conditions for returning the body of



File photo of American flags placed outside the Knesset building in al-Quds on January 21, 2018

a terrorist for family burial,” according to a Knesset statement.

According to the new act, in case the commander decides that a funeral may trigger another attack or turn into a political rally in support of violence, he can then impose limits on the time, location

and number of mourners and “a body could be held until the family agrees to the terms.”

The regime took over the control of East al-Quds during the 1967 Middle East war and later annexed it, in a move never recognized by the international community.

## Turkey, Iraq to Carry Out Joint Military Operations Against PKK

ANKARA (Dispatches) – Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu says Ankara and Baghdad will carry out a joint military operation against members of the Kurdistan Workers’ Party (PKK) militant group in the northern parts of Iraq.

The top Turkish diplomat announced the news at a joint press conference with his Austrian counterpart Karin Kneissl in Vienna on Thursday, less than two months after Ankara launched a full-scale cross-border military operation in Syria’s northern region of Afrin with the declared

aim of eliminating the US-backed Kurdish People’s Protection Units (YPG).

The Turkish government regards the YPG as a Syrian offshoot of the PKK, which has been fighting for an autonomous region inside Turkey since 1984.

Cavusoglu did not give further details about the joint operation, but said “both Syria and Iraq need to be cleared off from all terrorist groups. Otherwise the political steps that will be taken regarding a political solution would fail.”

The senior Turkish diplomat

also stressed that mutual steps would be taken against “terrorists” after Iraq’s parliamentary elections, scheduled for May, as both sides had agreed on the issue in previous high-level meetings.

The PKK, viewed as a terrorist organization by Turkey, reportedly has camps in the Qandil Mountains in northern Iraq, from which it purportedly carries out attacks into Turkey.

Cavusoglu praised Iraq for its landmark victory against the Daesh terrorist group inside the country, but he said that “during

this period the PKK infiltrated into cities from Qandil and other mountains.”

The Iraqi army, backed by popular volunteer forces, managed last December to rid the country of Daesh, which had captured large swathes of land in Iraq’s north and west at the onset of its campaign of terror in 2014.

Since July 2015, the Turkish air force has been carrying out operations against the PKK positions in the country’s troubled southeastern border region as well as in northern Iraq and neighboring Syria.

## Turkey Issues Arrest Warrants for 243 Over Affiliation to Gulen Network

ANKARA (Press TV) – Turkish prosecutors have issued arrest warrants for 243 people, including 92 teachers, on suspicion of affiliation to a movement led by US-based opposition cleric Fethullah Gulen, whom the Ankara government accuses of having masterminded the failed July 2016 coup attempt against President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

Judicial sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the Chief Public Prosecutor’s Offices in the central province of Konya issued warrants for 84 people on Friday, Turkey’s official Anadolu news agency reported.

The Chief Public Prosecutor’s Office in the capital Ankara also ordered another 92 people detained suspected of similar ties.

Separately, the Istanbul Chief Public Prosecutors Office issued arrest warrants for 57 Gulenist suspects.

The teachers, targeted in an operation in 20 provinces, had worked in schools previously closed for affiliation to Gulen movement.

Earlier, gendarmerie forces had apprehended eight people for alleged links to Gulen in operations across five provinces, while police arrested a school teacher in the northwestern province of Balikesir.

During the botched putsch, a faction of the Turkish military declared that it had seized control of the country and the government of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan was no more in charge. The attempt was, however, suppressed a few hours later.

Ankara has since accused Gulen of having orchestrated the coup. The

opposition figure is also accused of being behind a long-running campaign to topple the government via infiltrating the country’s institutions, particularly the army, police and the judiciary.

Additionally, the Ankara government has outlawed his movement, and has branded it as the Fethullah Terrorist Organization (FETO).

Gulen has denounced the “despicable putsch” and reiterated that he had no role in it.

“Accusations against me related to the coup attempt are baseless and politically-motivated slanders,” he said in a statement.

The 76-year-old cleric has also called on Ankara to end its “witch hunt” of his followers, a move he said is aimed at “weeding out anyone it deems disloyal to President Erdogan and his regime.”

Turkish officials have frequently called on their US counterparts to extradite Gulen, but their demands have not been taken heed of.

Turkey, which remains in a state of emergency since the coup, has been engaged in suppressing the media and opposition groups suspected to have played a role in the failed coup.

Tens of thousands of people have been arrested in Turkey on suspicion of having links to Gulen and the failed coup. More than 110,000 others, including military staff, civil servants and journalists have been sacked or suspended from work over the same accusations.

The international community and rights groups have been highly critical of the Turkish president over the massive dismissals and the crackdown.

## Leader... (Continued From Page One)

Ayatollah Khamenei said, “The features of today’s Iranian woman include modesty, chastity, eminence, protecting herself from abuse by men.”

“Today, according to the western model, the most sought after characteristics of a woman involve her ability to physically attract men and appease them: one distinct image (portrayed in society) of the western woman is her nudity,” the Leader added.

“A woman can have active presence and deep influence on social arenas—as Iranian women are so influential. The features of today’s Iranian woman include modesty, chastity, eminence, protecting herself from abuse by men, refraining from humiliating herself into appeasing men.”

In the West, however, “the most sought after characteristics of a woman involve her ability to attract men,” Ayatollah Khamenei said. “The western model for women is symbolic of consumerism, cosmetics, showing off for men as a tool of male sexual arousal.”

Ayatollah Khamenei said, “Today the flag of women’s identity and cultural independence is at the hands of Iranian women. Iranian women today, declare their cultural and identity independence and export it to the world while preserving their hijab.”

## British... (Continued From Page One)

This remains the Saudi-led coalition’s legal justification for the war, but has been questioned by legal experts because Hadi had overstayed his term, resigned once and fled the country, placing the Saudi military action in a “murky legal” position.

Speaking at the Scottish Labor Party conference in Dundee on Friday, Corbyn, said: “It cannot be right, as I told the prime minister on Wednesday, that her government is colluding in what the UN and others say is evidence of war crimes. Germany has suspended arms supplies to Saudi Arabia, and so must the British government. This outrage must end.

“Nor is it true, as the prime minister claimed, that the Saudi-led war in Yemen has been authorized by the United Nations Security Council.

“What’s needed now is both a ceasefire and a concerted international effort to achieve a negotiated political settlement.”

Corbyn’s intervention came after his shadow minister for peace told MEE earlier on Friday that the prime minister had got her facts wrong over the legal status of the Saudi-led bombing campaign in Yemen.

Fabian Hamilton MP said: “Theresa May has got it all wrong here. The fact is that UN Resolution 2216 called for an end to the violence in Yemen, and certainly did not support Saudi military intervention in the country.”

The Labor shadow minister, added: “Instead of cuddling up to the crown prince, it is now time for the prime minister to show some leadership and suspend all British arms sales to Saudi Arabia, as their use against civilians in Yemen is a source of shame for Britain.”

Britain and Saudi Arabian officials set themselves a \$90 billion trade and investment target for the next decade earlier this week. It came as London looks for new post-Brexit opportunities for its service sector and the crown prince seeks to convince skeptical investors that his country is a modernizing place to do business.

Nevertheless, arms remain the main component of UK-Saudi trade and the UK government has approved the export of \$6.4 billion in weapons since the start of the war in Yemen, despite allegations that Saudi-led forces have committed war crimes.

Saudi Arabia already operates more than 70 Typhoon jets. They have been used extensively in the Yemen war, and the deal is likely to spark outrage among rights groups and campaigners.

Kate Allen, Amnesty International UK’s director, said: “Selling more fighter planes to a country leading a military coalition that’s already laying waste to homes, hospitals and schools in Yemen, is just adding fuel to a humanitarian fire.

“It’s shocking, and shows that the Government hasn’t been listening to widespread concern from the British public on this issue during the Crown Prince’s controversial visit.”

## Iran... (Continued From Page 2)

Earlier, Jahangiri said the Islamic Republic was prepared to provide Iraq with a line of credit (LOC) worth up to three billion dollars to pave the ground for the Iranian private sector’s active participation in the reconstruction of the Arab country.

He made the comments in his Wednesday meeting with Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi in Baghdad.

Jahangiri stressed that Tehran and Baghdad must work to remove the barriers in mutual banking relations, which is the main obstacle in the way of closer trade ties between the two countries.

The Iranian first VP, who was in Baghdad to join an Iranian business delegation led by Minister of Industries, Mining and Trade Muhammad Shariatmadari, hailed Tehran-Baghdad relations as “strategic”.

## U.S. Offers \$5 Million in Award Money for Taliban Ringleader

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) – The U.S. has announced it will pay a \$5 million reward to anyone who assists in the finding of the leader of Pakistan’s Taliban, and has offered \$3 million for two other militants from other terrorist groups.

The U.S. State Department posted the reward for information leading to Maulana Fazlullah, the head of the outlawed Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan militant group (TTP), also known as the Pakistani Taliban.

It also offered \$3 million each for two other militants associated with the TTP: Abdul Wali, leader of Jamaat ul-Ahrar, and Mangal Bagh, the leader of Lashkar-

e-Islam.

The State Department said the TTP has “demonstrated a close alliance with al-Qaeda” and the three pose a threat to the security of the United States.

“Each of these individuals is believed to have committed, or to pose a significant risk of committing, acts of terrorism that threaten the security of the United States and its nationals,” the department said in its statement.

“In addition to opposing the Pakistani military, one of TTP’s stated goals is the expulsion of Coalition troops from Afghanistan. The group has demonstrated a close alliance with al-Qaeda, and, since

2008, has also repeatedly publicly threatened to attack the U.S. homeland.”

Although Pakistani Taliban militants still unleash attacks, the group has lost control of all territory in Pakistan since its December 2014 attack on an army school that killed 132 children.

According to U.S. officials, TTP gave explosives training to Faisal Shahzad, who failed in his attempt to set off a car bomb in New York’s Times Square in May 2010.

The group was behind the massacre of more than 150 people at a Peshawar school in December 2014, and nine dead in another attack in December 2017 in the same city.