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CEE/CIS

**Across CEE/CIS**

**Ukraine, Russia, EU agree gas supply deal**

Russia agreed to resume gas deliveries to Ukraine in an EU-brokered deal reached by the three parties in Brussels on Thursday, an EU source said. The details will be outlined by European Commission head Jose Manuel Barroso as well as the Russian and Ukrainian energy ministers in a press conference scheduled lateThursday.

**France24 -** [**http://www.france24.com/en/20141030-ukraine-russia-eu-agree-gas-supply-deal-eu-source/**](http://www.france24.com/en/20141030-ukraine-russia-eu-agree-gas-supply-deal-eu-source/)

**Serbia/Kosovo**

**Trust us, EU asks Kosovo amid corruption probe**

The European Union mission in Kosovo, meant to help the state develop its justice system, urged Kosovars on Thursday not to lose trust over allegations at least two senior staffers took bribes to drop criminal charges. The mission, known as EULEX, is the EU's biggest and most expensive and the affair threatens to undermine its goal of promoting law and order in the young country.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20141030165527-xhd9b/?source=jtOtherNews3**](http://www.trust.org/item/20141030165527-xhd9b/?source=jtOtherNews3)

**Ukraine**

**Ban deplores holding of November ‘elections’ by rebel groups**

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon deplored the planned holding by armed rebel groups in eastern Ukraine of their own “elections” on 2 November, calling the potential polls a “breach of the constitution and national law.” “These ‘elections’ will seriously undermine the Minsk Protocol and Memorandum, which need to be urgently implemented in full,” Mr. Ban said in a statement issued by his spokesperson in New York.

**UN News Centre -** [**http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=49195#.VFMt-WjD\_cv**](http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=49195#.VFMt-WjD_cv)

**At least 9 people dead in the east conflict in last 24 hours**

At least nine people have been killed and 16 wounded during battles in eastern Ukraine over the last 24 hours, the bloodiest single day in the restive areas since a "regime of silence" was enforced, official reports said. The press service of the Ukrainian military forces said that independence-seeking insurgents violated ceasefire 40 times. "Overnight, uncontrolled armed groups attacked our positions and Ukrainian-controlled residential areas with mortar and artillery fire, along with the fire from the Grad rocket-launchers," the press service said in a statement. Seven government troops were killed and 11 wounded in confrontation with the rebels, said the Ukrainian spokesperson for the National Security and Defense Council.

**AFP –** [**http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/World/2014/Oct-31/276055-one-civilian-killed-in-east-ukraine-in-night-of-shelling.ashx#axzz3HiNYHfGf**](http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/World/2014/Oct-31/276055-one-civilian-killed-in-east-ukraine-in-night-of-shelling.ashx#axzz3HiNYHfGf)

**Xinhua -** [**http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/euruope/2014-10/30/c\_133754697.htm**](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/euruope/2014-10/30/c_133754697.htm)

EAP

**Philippines**

**One year after super typhoon, rebuilding plan approved**

Almost a year after a super typhoon devastated wide areas of the central Philippines killing thousands, President Benigno Aquino only this week approved a $3.74 billion master plan to rebuild housing, social services and public infrastructure. Typhoon Haiyan wiped out or damaged practically everything in its path as it swept ashore on Nov. 8, 2013, with seven-metre storm surges destroying around 90 percent of the city of Tacloban in Leyte province. It killed or left missing close to 8,000 people and displaced as many as 4 million.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20141030101129-l0950/?source=jtHeadlineStory**](http://www.trust.org/item/20141030101129-l0950/?source=jtHeadlineStory)

ESA

**Burundi**

**US advises citizens against all non-essential travel**

The US has issued a travel warning for Burundi and instituted a de facto night-time curfew for US government employees in the country. The US State Department warned all American citizens to avoid non-essential travel to Burundi, citing the terrorist threat from Somali-based al-Shabaab and the high crime in the impoverised nation. According to the advisory, al-Shabaab has threatened to conduct terror attacks in Burundi and may target US interests.

**VoA -** [**http://www.voanews.com/content/us-advises-citizens-against-all-non-essential-travel-to-burundi/2502940.html**](http://www.voanews.com/content/us-advises-citizens-against-all-non-essential-travel-to-burundi/2502940.html)

**Mozambique**

**Frelimo wins elections with reduced majority**

Mozambique's ruling party Frelimo has won the October elections, though with a reduced majority, the national electoral commission announced. Frelimo candidate Filipe Nyusi won the presidential election with 57.3% of the vote, down from the 75% taken by his predecessor in 2009. Afonso Dhlakama, the candidate of Frelimo's opponent Renamo, improved his performance to 36.6% from 16.5% in 2009. Daviz Simango from the Democratic Movement of Mozambique (MDM) saw his share of the vote drop to 6.4% from 8.6%.

**DPA -** [**http://www.iol.co.za/news/africa/frelimo-wins-moz-poll-with-reduced-majority-1.1773172#.VFM5EmjD\_cs**](http://www.iol.co.za/news/africa/frelimo-wins-moz-poll-with-reduced-majority-1.1773172#.VFM5EmjD_cs)

**South Sudan**

**Fighting likely to surge as rainy season ends.**

The end of the rainy season is imminent and warring parties in South Sudan's civil war are preparing for major offensives likely to cause fresh displacement and hunger. A growing number of militias and self-defence forces are joining the conflict. Fighting eased during the rainy season, giving both sides time to import arms and marshal their forces, the ICG said. The dry season is expected to start in November.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20141030183300-piaoj/?source=jtOtherNews1**](http://www.trust.org/item/20141030183300-piaoj/?source=jtOtherNews1)

LAC

**Colombia**

**FARC admits civil war 'impact' on civilians**

Colombia's largest rebel group, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), has acknowledged its actions "have affected civilians" during 50 years of internal conflict. "We are expressly responsible for all acts of war carried out by our units," said a FARC leader. In the first admission of its kind, he said the rebels were ready to take "responsibility" for these actions. Latin America's longest running war has killed 220,000 people. More than five million others have been displaced.

**BBC -** [**http://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-29841981**](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-29841981)

**Haiti**

**Senior US diplomat seeks end to impasse**

The US sent a senior diplomat to Haiti to help resolve a political impasse blocking long-overdue legislative and local elections in the country. Thomas Shannon, counselor to US Secretary of State John Kerry, met with Prime Minister, members of Parliament, representatives of political parties and others as pressure mounts to hold elections before Parliament is dissolved early next year. The Haitian President was supposed to call elections in 2011 for a majority of Senate seats, the entire Chamber of Deputies and local offices. But he hasn't done so because the Senate has yet to approve an electoral law authorizing the vote. The Chamber of Deputies has approved the legislation, but it is being held up in the Senate by six senators who have blocked a vote for more than six months, arguing it is unconstitutional and favors the government.

**AP -** [**http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/senior-us-diplomat-seeks-end-impasse-haiti-26582374**](http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/senior-us-diplomat-seeks-end-impasse-haiti-26582374)

**Mexico**

**Mayor of city in missing students case steps down**

The new mayor of the city of Iguala, where 43 education students disappeared last month, asked the legislature in the state of Guerrero for leave from the job just hours after being appointed to the post, media reports said. The mayor was accompanied to the legislature by his brother who served as state health secretary until two weeks ago under the former Governor. The Governor, of the Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD), resigned last week amid the social unrest sparked by the students' disappearance.

**EFE -** [**http://latino.foxnews.com/latino/news/2014/10/30/mayor-city-in-mexico-missing-students-case-steps-down/**](http://latino.foxnews.com/latino/news/2014/10/30/mayor-city-in-mexico-missing-students-case-steps-down/)

MENA

**Israel/State of Palestine**

**Israel reopens Al-Aqsa mosque ahead of Muslim prayers**

Israel reopened Jerusalem's flashpoint Al-Aqsa mosque compound on 31 October ahead of the weekly Muslim prayers, after a rare closure following clashes sparked by the killing of a Palestinian by police. The streets of east Jerusalem were calm ahead of the prayers at midday, following an Israeli clampdown on the shrine. The closure was the first for decades and prompted a spokesperson for Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas to condemn the move as an Israeli "declaration of war". A police spokeswoman said that because of fears of unrest at the midday prayers, entry for Muslim men would be restricted to those over 50.

**AFP -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/israel-reopens-al-aqsa-mosque-ahead-muslim-prayers-075340031.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/israel-reopens-al-aqsa-mosque-ahead-muslim-prayers-075340031.html)

**President welcomes Swedish stance**

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas welcomed the historic Swedish decision to recognize Palestine as an independent state. Presidency Spokesman Nabil Abu Rudaina described the historic decision as in compliance with the international law. In statement today, he stressed the importance of the Swedish move which builds on the resolutions of the UN General Assembly recognizing Palestine as a non-member state (Observer member) in 2012. He urged all countries in the world to follow in the steps of Sweden and support the establishment of a Palestinian State with Al-Quds as its capital.

**BNA -** [**http://www.bna.bh/portal/en/news/639226**](http://www.bna.bh/portal/en/news/639226)

**Libya**

**Suicide bomber attacks army post in eastern town**

A suicide bomber on 31 October attacked a Libyan army outpost in the restive eastern town of al-Bayda, killing at least one soldier, Libyan media reported. The attacker blew himself up at the gate of the post in the southern part of al-Bayda, a Libyan news site al-Wasat said, citing an unnamed military official. Al-Bayda has experienced a series of explosions and security breakdown in recent months.

**DPA -** [**http://en.europeonline-magazine.eu/suicide-bomber-attacks-army-post-in-eastern-libyan-town\_362044.html**](http://en.europeonline-magazine.eu/suicide-bomber-attacks-army-post-in-eastern-libyan-town_362044.html)

SA

**India**

**More than 17,000 people evacuated as cyclone Nilofar nears Gujarat**

More than 17,000 people living near the coastal areas in Gujarat have been evacuated by authorities in view of the approaching tropical cyclone Nilofar which, however, has gradually weakened and is expected to hit the state merely as a "depression". "So far, we have shifted 17,372 people from Kutch and Jamnagar district to safer places. Since the cyclone is expected to cross Kutch on 31 October, majority of the evacuees are from that district.

**PTI -** [**http://zeenews.india.com/news/gujarat/more-than-17000-people-evacuated-as-cyclone-nilofar-nears-gujarat\_1491785.html**](http://zeenews.india.com/news/gujarat/more-than-17000-people-evacuated-as-cyclone-nilofar-nears-gujarat_1491785.html)

**Pakistan**

**Haqqani commander among dead in US drone strike**

A US drone strike killed at least seven militants in Pakistan's restive tribal belt on Thursday, including an important commander of the feared Haqqani network. The attack happened early Thursday in Nargas village of Birmil area, some 30 kilometres west of Wana, the main town of South Waziristan tribal region near the Afghan border which is considered a stronghold of Taliban militants. Abdullah Haqqani (the commander) was responsible for sending suicide bombers to Afghanistan, according to an intelligence official based in Wana.

**Yahoo -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/haqqani-commander-among-dead-us-drone-strike-004536093.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/haqqani-commander-among-dead-us-drone-strike-004536093.html)

**Country braces for Tropical Cyclone Nilofar**

Pakistan was preparing to face the tropical cyclone as it slowly moved north-eastward towards the southern coast of the country, officials said, towards Sindh province. The Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) said the cyclone was likely to cross the adjoining coastal areas of lower Sindh as a depression with a wind speed of 70-80 kilometres per hour by 31 October night. The PMD said that the cyclone would bring widespread heavy rains, accompanied by strong gusty winds in Sindh and coastal areas of Balochistan in the south-west from 30 October until 1 November. National Disaster Management Authority said that about 50,000 people were slated for evacuation in Sindh.

**NNN -** [**http://www.namnewsnetwork.org/v3/read.php?id=Mjg1OTgx**](http://www.namnewsnetwork.org/v3/read.php?id=Mjg1OTgx)

**Sri Lanka**

**No hope for survivors in landslide, over 100 dead**

Hopes of finding survivors under the mud and rubble of a landslide in Sri Lanka ran out on Thursday, though a government minister cut the estimated death toll to over 100 from 300 the previous night. Some uncertainty remained because population data was lost in Wednesday's landslide, his Disaster Management Centre said. The centre said 150 houses were buried in the landslide, which stretched 3 km and engulfed the village after days of heavy monsoon rains. Children who left for school beforehand returned to find their clay and cement houses had been buried. Nearly 500 people, most of them children, spent the night at a nearby school after warnings of further landslides.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20141030022750-k1nmz/?source=jtOtherNews2**](http://www.trust.org/item/20141030022750-k1nmz/?source=jtOtherNews2)

WCA

**Burkina Faso**

**President says to stay on under transitional government**President Blaise Compaore said he was ready to discuss with the opposition a transitional government at the end of which he would then hand over power, following a day of violent protests on 30 October. He added that he was lifting the "state of siege" announced earlier in the day and withdrawing a proposed law to allow him to seek reelection next year.

**AFP -** [**http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/world/burkina-faso-leader/1445060.html**](http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/world/burkina-faso-leader/1445060.html)

**Daily Mail -** [**http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/reuters/article-2815012/President-Compaore-says-stay-transitional-government.html**](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/reuters/article-2815012/President-Compaore-says-stay-transitional-government.html)

**Army chief announces creation of interim government**

The head of Burkina Faso’s armed forces, General Honoré Traoré, on 30 October announced the dissolution of the National Assembly as well as the creation of an interim government, which would lead the country for 12 months. Traoré did not specify, however, who would be in charge of the new government. He made the announcement shortly after President Blaise Compaoré issued a statement read on local broadcaster Radio Omega FM stating that he had dismantled the government and declared the country in a state of emergency, with the chief of the armed forces in charge of implementing the decision.

**France24 -** [**http://www.france24.com/en/20141030-burkina-faso-president-compaore-declares-state-emergency/**](http://www.france24.com/en/20141030-burkina-faso-president-compaore-declares-state-emergency/)

**State of emergency declared; government and parliament dissolved**

Government and parliament dissolved after tens of thousands take to streets and parliament set ablaze, army chief says. Burkina Faso's president has declared a state of emergency, after tens of thousands of people took the streets, setting parliament ablaze in violence that left at least one person dead. Some of the protesters, who are opposed to constitutional amendments that would allow President Blaise Compaore to stay in power for another term, ransacked state television and tried to storm other state buildings.

**Al Jazeera -** [**http://www.aljazeera.com/news/africa/2014/10/burkina-faso-declares-state-emergency-20141030172358165981.html**](http://www.aljazeera.com/news/africa/2014/10/burkina-faso-declares-state-emergency-20141030172358165981.html)

**US hopeful of peaceful transition**

The US said it hoped for a peaceful transition of power in Burkina Faso following a violent uprising sparked by anger at President Blaise Compaore`s 27-year reign. The explosion of violence in Burkina Faso left around 30 people dead and 100 injured according to opposition figures, after tens of thousands protested the President`s plans to extend his rule.

**AFP -** [**http://zeenews.india.com/news/world/us-hopeful-of-peaceful-burkina-faso-transition\_1491941.html**](http://zeenews.india.com/news/world/us-hopeful-of-peaceful-burkina-faso-transition_1491941.html)

**CAR**

**Violence hits food output, economy "broken"**

Violence in the Central African Republic has taken a heavy toll on farming, a FAO said in a new assessment, a particularly worrying development for a country where 75 percent of the population works in agriculture. Livestock numbers have fallen by as much as 77 percent as a result of cattle raids and rustling since the political crisis erupted two years ago and violence followed, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) reported.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20141030175929-ng1b7/?source=jtOtherNews1**](http://www.trust.org/item/20141030175929-ng1b7/?source=jtOtherNews1)

**DRC**

**At least 14 people killed in machete attack**

Fourteen people were killed in a machete attack by Ugandan rebels in the Beni region in the restive eastern DR Congo, where nearly 100 civilians have already perished. The incursion by the Ugandan rebel group ADF took place overnight in the town of Kampi ya Chui and "it's a heavy toll: 14 people massacred by machetes," said Teddy Kataliko, head of the Beni region civil society. The authorities did not confirm the toll, saying just that they were aware of the attack and that it left "several dead".

**Aid News -** [**http://aidnews.org/democratic-republic-of-the-congo-14-people-killed-in-dr-congo-machete-attack-ngo/**](http://aidnews.org/democratic-republic-of-the-congo-14-people-killed-in-dr-congo-machete-attack-ngo/)

**Niger**

**Authorities say insurgents kill nine members of security forces**

At least 12 people, including nine members of security forces, were killed in attacks by unidentified insurgents on 30 October in the western Tillabéry region near the border with Mali, the government said. Insurgents carried out three simultaneous attacks in Tillabéry. Five policemen, two gendarmes and two national guards were killed. Niger's justice minister and government spokesperson later said that two assailants were killed and four taken prisoner, while a woman was also killed in the attack. A Nigerian security source reported earlier that a prison near the region was also attacked by unknown assailants and dozens of inmates were freed.

**AP -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/9-niger-security-forces-killed-militant-attacks-174610075.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/9-niger-security-forces-killed-militant-attacks-174610075.html)

**Reuters -** [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/10/30/us-niger-attack-idUSKBN0IJ2BI20141030**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/10/30/us-niger-attack-idUSKBN0IJ2BI20141030)

**Nigeria**

**Bus station blast kills at least eight people**

At least eight people have died in an explosion at a major bus station in Gombe state in north-eastern Nigeria, witnesses reported. A hospital source in Gombe city said that lots of people had been injured in the blast during rush hour. Witnesses reported news agency the blast had come from three bags filled with explosives. Gombe shares a border with all three states under emergency rule because of the uprising by Boko Haram insurgents. Meanwhile, fighters from the militant group are now in full control of Mubi, an important commercial centre in Adamawa state.

**BBC -** [**http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-29849629**](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-29849629)

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