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## MERKEL WARNS U.K. OF ISOLATION IF BREXIT CAMP WINS VOTE

*June 2, 2016* bloomberg.com reported: “German Chancellor Angela Merkel made her strongest intervention in the Brexit debate so far, warning that the U.K. would be isolated and lose influence if it leaves the European Union in the referendum in three weeks’ time.

Merkel cited trade and the single market as key reasons for the U.K. to stay in the 28-nation bloc, backing the economic arguments put forward by Prime Minister David Cameron and supported by bodies such as the International Monetary Fund. Campaigners for leaving argue that the U.K. can continue doing business freely with the EU and reach favorable free-trade deals with the rest of the world once out of the bloc.



“For those coming from the outside, and we’ve had lots of negotiations with third-party countries, we would never make the same compromises, or achieve the same good results, for states that don’t take on the responsibility and costs of the single market,” Merkel said at a news conference in Berlin on Thursday. “One nation alone will never be able to achieve such good results.”



The message from the leader of Europe’s biggest economy and the continent’s most powerful nation risks a British backlash as she adds her support for staying in to that of President Barack Obama and other world leaders. Cameron, who makes an hourlong television campaign appearance Thursday night, is attempting to regain the initiative after polls in recent days suggested a swing to the “Leave” campaign, which has moved its focus to cutting immigration.

“It’s in all of our interest, but also in British interests, to say that we’re putting all of our weight into a negotiation as part of the European Union,” Merkel said, referring to efforts to forge trade agreements. The result of such cooperative action “will be qualitatively better for the people in the U.K. than if that happens from the outside.”...

## BBC’S MUSLIM HEAD OF RELIGION: ‘PEOPLE SAY ISIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ISLAM – OF COURSE IT HAS’

*June 2, 2016* Breitbart.com reported: “The first ever Muslim to hold the position of Head of Religion and Ethics at the BBC has insisted that Islamic State terrorists are Muslim, and are motivated by their interpretation of Islamic doctrine.

Professor Aaqil Ahmed was speaking at an event at Huddersfield University exploring Britain’s taxpayer-funded broadcaster’s insistence on calling the Islamic State terrorist organisation the ‘so-called Islamic State’.

‘You wouldn’t say ‘so-called Huddersfield University’” questions barrister Neil Addison during the event organised by the Centre for Religious Literacy in Journalism (CRLJ).

‘I hear so many people say ISIS has nothing to do with Islam – of course it has,’ replied Mr. Ahmed.

‘They are not preaching Judaism. It might be wrong but what they are saying is an ideology based on some form of Islamic doctrine. They are Muslims. That is a fact and we have to get our head around some very uncomfortable things...’

## MUSLIMS CONVERTING TO CHRISTIANITY IN SAUDI ARABIA, DESPITE INTENSE PERSECUTION

*June 1, 2016* ChristianToday.com reported: “Islam is the state religion of Saudi Arabia, where the legal system is based on Sharia law. Courts regularly impose severe physical punishments, including the death penalty, for apostasy, and non-Muslim places of worship are prohibited.

According to the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), Saudi Arabia ‘remains uniquely repressive in the extent to which it restricts the public expression of any religion other than Islam’.

The government prosecutes, imprisons and flogs individuals for dissent, apostasy, blasphemy and sorcery, and imposes ‘systematic, ongoing, and egregious violations of religious freedom’.

It’s not only religious people who are targeted. A law enacted in 2014 equates atheism with terrorism. The legislation bans ‘calling for atheist thought in any form, or calling into question the fundamentals of Islamic religion.’

There are, however, some 1.4 million Christians living in the country. According to a study earlier this year, 4.4 per cent of Saudi Arabia’s population identifies as Christian – up from less than 0.1. per cent (50 people) just over 100 years ago in 1910.

The majority of these Christians are expatriates or migrant workers, but according to persecution charity Open Doors, Saudi natives are also turning to Christianity...”

## UKRAINE ARRESTS ISIS TERRORISTS ON THEIR WAY TO ATTACK EUROPE

*June 1, 2016* “Ukraine said on Wednesday it had detained two Islamic State terrorists from Syria who were trying to cross into Western Europe in order to stage new attacks. The SBU national security service said the cell was uncovered in the northeastern city of Kharkiv, which has remained under government control throughout the ex-Soviet republic’s 25-month separatist war.

‘The Kharkiv national security service of Ukraine has uncovered an attempt to send supporters of the Islamic State international terrorist organization from Syria by transit through Ukraine to western European states,’ the SBU said in a statement. It was not clear from the statement when the arrests were made...”

## PUSH FOR HUDUD LAW RAISE TENSIONS IN MALAYSIA

*May 31, 2016* CNN.com reported: “A proposal in Malaysia’s Parliament to introduce the strict Islamic penal code known as hudud law is

threatening to split the country's government apart. The proposed bill was introduced in parliament last Thursday by Abdul Hadi Awang, the president of the country's opposition Pan-Malaysian Islamic Party. It will be debated in October and, if passed, will replace current provisions in the country's Sharia courts — which govern Muslims — with harsher hudud punishments. Hudud law allows for penalties such as amputation of limbs and stoning..."

### **STATE DEPARTMENT ISSUES NEW TRAVEL ALERT FOR EUROPE**

*May 31, 2016* nbcnews.com reported: "The State Department on Tuesday warned Americans traveling to Europe about risk of terror attacks over the summer.

"The large number of tourists visiting Europe in the summer months will present greater targets for terrorists planning attacks in public locations, especially at large events," the State Department said in a travel advisory.

It pointed to two events in particular — the Catholic Church's World Youth Day in late July in Poland and the European Soccer Championship, which France will host from June 10-July 10 — as potential targets. France has been under a state of emergency since deadly terror attacks across Paris in November 2015 left 130 people dead. The country's spy chief told lawmakers that spooks were aware ISIS is planning more attacks — "and that France is clearly a target." ..."

### **PLANS FOUND FOR ISIS ATTACK IN FRANCE AS ENGLAND PLAYS RUSSIA**

*May 31, 2016* Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "Chilling evidence was unearthed following the confiscation of the laptop of Salah Abdeslam, primary orchestrator of the Paris and Brussels terrorist attacks. Following Abdeslam's capture, police discovered plans to attack football fans in Marseille where England will play Russia next month in the Euro 2016. Authorities fear that ISIS followers will execute the attacks outlined despite Abdeslam's arrest.

Plans include suicide bombings and large scale shooting attacks on the tens of thousands of fans who are expected to flock to the city for England's opening match. Marseille's busy Old Port, home to many of the city's most popular bars and restaurants, was singled out as a prime target for ISIS fanatics. References were also made to the use of drones as a possible means of inflicting wide scale carnage.

Marseille is France's third largest metropolitan area, and has earned the ominous title of Europe's most dangerous city. 'Marseille is sick with its violence' lamented French Interior Minister Manuel Valls. The city has a significant Muslim presence, with approximately 40% of its residents adhering to the Islamic faith. Authorities fear that fanaticism could take hold of the poverty stricken region and lead to further terrorist attacks on French soil..."

### **NEARLY 46 MILLION PEOPLE TRAPPED IN MODERN SLAVERY, REPORT FINDS**

*May 30, 2016* bloomberg.com reported: "Nearly 46 million people across the globe are living in modern slavery, a system of exploitation that governments and businesses must do more to end, according to the Walk Free Foundation.



The Australia-based rights group on Tuesday released its global slavery index, which tracks the number of people stuck in "situations of exploitation that a person cannot refuse or leave because of threats, violence, coercion, abuse of power or deception." The instances include forced labor in farming, fishing and manufacturing, commercial sex work and forced marriage.

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"Governments need to look more closely at illicit labor recruitment, crack down on the illegal companies that provide conduit in which people end up in slavery, and penalize the companies and individuals that are using bonded labor, either directly or in their supply chains," the group said in a statement. "At the same time, it is important that we tackle the conditions that drive labor migration by creating opportunities within home countries."

The survey, which was based on 42,000 interviews conducted in 25 countries, found that Asian countries were home to nearly 60 percent of the world's modern slaves. India was the country with the highest number, 18.3 million, while North Korea had the highest proportion, with 4.3 percent of the population thought to be enslaved, the survey found..."

### **ISLAMIC STATE JIHADI POSTS SLAVES FOR SALE ON FACEBOOK**

*May 30, 2016* Breitbart.com reported: "A series of Facebook posts, quickly removed by the social media platform's administrators, apparently offered two female slaves for sale at a price of \$8,000 each.

'To all the bros thinking about buying a slave, this one is \$8,000,' said the first post sourced to an Islamic State fighter who calls himself Abu Assad Almani. The Washington Post describes the girl in the accompanying photo as 'young, perhaps 18, with olive skin and dark bangs that droop onto her face.'

Almani soon posted another photo, a woman who had 'a pale young face with weepy red eyes,' and said, 'Another sabiyah, also about \$8,000. Yay, or nay?' Sabiyah means 'slave.'

The Washington Post notes it is 'unclear whether the account's owner was doing the selling himself or commenting about women being sold by other fighters.'

In any case, Almani hung around to exchange comments with readers of his posts, discussing whether \$8,000 was a good price for the women — he argued the prices were set by 'supply and demand' — and even fielding some criticism for posting pictures of unveiled women. These posts are grimly consistent with reports that the Islamic State is running out of money and turning to the slave trade as a new income stream, complete with official regulations for how slaves should be handled..."