



PROPHETIC TIMES

January 1998

The Weekly Reader of World News

November 11, 2023

Turkey's Gaza fury deepens splits with EU

November 9, 2023 [france24.com](#) reported: "As Turkey's relations with the European Union come under strain over its democratic standards, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's outspoken pro-Palestinian stance on the war between Israel and Hamas is further testing ties.

After a bloody October 7 raid by Hamas fighters triggered Israel's relentless bombardment of Gaza, Erdogan initially sought to position Turkey as a mediator. But this apparent ambition evaporated last month after the Turkish leader portrayed Hamas not as a terrorist group but as "liberators" or "mujahideen" fighting for their land.

Turkey is technically a candidate for eventual EU membership and, even if this seems a distant prospect, Brussels would prefer Ankara to support rather than compete with its positions.

"What the president says reflects badly here in Brussels. We always expect Turkey to align with us in foreign policy," said an EU official who wished to remain anonymous.

Erdogan, a devout Muslim and fervent advocate of Palestinian rights, toughened his criticism as civilian deaths in Gaza mounted, accusing Israel of committing war crimes and recalling Turkey's ambassador to Tel Aviv. He led a rally in Istanbul organized by his ruling party only a day before the celebrations marking the centenary of the Turkish republic on October 29.

"In its report on candidate countries' progress towards meeting the criteria for joining the EU, published on Wednesday, the EU said Turkey's unilateral foreign policy remained at odds with the bloc's priorities."

It said Ankara maintained a very low alignment rate of 10 percent with the EU stance on foreign and security policy compared with eight percent in 2022.

"It's rhetoric in support of terrorist group Hamas following its attacks against Israel ... is in complete disagreement with the EU approach," it added...."

Feeling crowded yet? The US Census Bureau estimates the world's population has passed 8 billion

November 9, 2023 [apnews.com](#) reported: "The human species has topped 8 billion, with longer lifespans offsetting fewer births, but world population growth continues a long-term trend of slowing down, the U.S. Census Bureau said Thursday.

The bureau estimates the global population exceeded the threshold Sept. 26, a precise date the agency said to take with a grain of salt. The United Nations estimated the number was passed 10 months earlier, having declared November 22, 2022, the "Day of 8 billion," the Census Bureau pointed out in a statement.

The discrepancy is due to countries counting people differently — or not at all. Many lack systems to record births and deaths. Some of the most populous countries, such as India and Nigeria, haven't conducted censuses in over a decade, according to the bureau.

While world population growth remains brisk, growing from 6 billion to 8 billion since the turn of the millennium, the rate has slowed since doubling between 1960 and 2000.

People living to older ages account for much of the recent increase. The global median age, now 32, has been rising in a trend expected to continue toward 39 in 2060..."

China ready to improve ties with US 'at all levels': VP

November 8, 2023 [spacewar.com](#) reported: ""China is ready to hold talks with the United States at 'all levels', Beijing's vice president said Wednesday ahead of an expected summit in San Francisco between leaders Xi Jinping and Joe Biden next week.



Speaking at the Bloomberg New Economy Forum in Singapore, Chinese Vice President Han Zheng said recent high-level meetings between Beijing and Washington were sending ‘positive signals’ that relations were improving.

‘We’re ready to strengthen communication and dialogue with the United States at all levels, advance mutually beneficial cooperation, properly manage differences and jointly address global challenges,’ Han said.

Relations between Washington and Beijing sunk to some of their deepest lows in recent years over a host of issues including export controls, human rights and national security.

But both sides appear willing to patch things up, with Washington sending a number of top officials to Beijing this year in a bid to strengthen communications...”

US, NATO Follow Russia in Dropping Out of Europe Arms Treaty

November 8, 2023 voanews.com reported: “Washington and NATO allies said Tuesday they will echo Russia’s suspension of a Cold War treaty to limit conventional arms proliferation in Europe, with the White House saying it had ‘no option’ but to leave. Nonproliferation advocates said this won’t make a huge impact on the battlefield.

Suspending the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE) ‘will strengthen the [NATO] Alliance’s deterrence and defense capacity by removing restrictions that impact planning, deployments, and exercises — restrictions that no longer bind Russia after Moscow’s withdrawal,’ national security adviser Jake Sullivan said in a statement.

The 1990 treaty was designed to prevent either side of the post-Cold War power structure — at the time, NATO and the former Soviet Warsaw Pact — from being able to amass forces for a flash offensive.

It also set equal limits on the number of tanks, armored combat vehicles, heavy artillery, combat aircraft and attack helicopters it applied in the territory between the Atlantic Ocean and the Ural Mountains...”

IDF takes over Hamas military stronghold in northern Gaza

November 7, 2023 jpost.com reported: “Israeli forces took control of a Hamas military stronghold in the northern Gaza Strip, the IDF announced on Tuesday morning. IDF fighters from the Seventh Armored Brigade were accompanied by Israeli Air Force fighter jets which struck a terror cell of some 10 Palestinian terrorists before guiding the ground forces to the stronghold.

Anti-tank missiles and launchers, weapons, and various intelligence materials were located in the compound by the troops. The IDF also struck dozens of mortar launchpads across the Strip overnight, the Israeli military said...”

Israel downing Houthi missile is first instance of space warfare

November 6, 2023 jpost.com reported: “For the first time ever, Israel was pushed to the ends of the Earth last week.

Last Tuesday, it was announced that the Arrow missile defense system shot down a ballistic missile for the first time, in this instance fired at Israel by Houthi rebels in Yemen. The IDF stated that air force systems tracked the missile’s trajectory and intercepted it ‘at the most appropriate operational time and location.’

According to a report in the UK’s *Daily Telegraph*, the missile was intercepted outside of the Earth’s atmosphere...”

US to be ‘hit hard’ if no ceasefire in Gaza – Iran’s defense chief

November 6, 2023 rt.com reported: “The US will face grave consequences if the hostilities in Gaza are not brought to an end, Iran’s defense minister warned on Sunday.

“Our advice to the Americans is to immediately stop the war in Gaza and implement a ceasefire, otherwise they will be hit hard,” Mohammad-Reza Ashtiani said, as cited by IRNA. Iran has been calling for an end to the bloodshed in the Palestinian enclave and has repeatedly accused Washington of fueling tensions in the Middle East since Israel began its military operation in Gaza following an unprecedented surprise attack by Hamas that left around 1,400 Israelis, mostly civilians, dead.

Earlier on Sunday, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani said Israel was committing “war crimes and genocide” with the “full support” of the US government...”



Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe 1990