

# How political obstruction violates Beirut blast survivors' right to truth, justice and reparations

Sat, 2023-02-04 23:37

DUBAI: When a massive explosion tore through the port of Beirut on Aug. 4, 2020, killing more than 215 people, Lebanese officials promised a swift investigation that would bring the culprits to justice within days.

Since then, the inquiry has repeatedly stalled, with its lead investigator Tarek Bitar accused of insubordination for resuming his probe into the blast and charging several top officials.



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## UN urges end to 'illogical escalation'

# between Israel, Palestine

Sat, 2023-02-04 22:44

RAMALLAH: The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights has urged an end to the “illogical escalation” between Israel and Palestine.

Volker Turk warned that recent measures taken by Israel would “lead to more violence and bloodshed.”

In a statement distributed in Geneva, Turk said: “I am afraid that the recent measures taken by the government of Israel only serve to fuel more violations and abuses, especially the decision to facilitate obtaining permits to carry weapons.”





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## [US senators link Turkiye F-16 sale with NATO bid](#)

Sat, 2023-02-04 22:25

ANKARA: A bipartisan group of 29 US senators has told President Joe Biden that Congress cannot “green light” the \$20 billion sale of F-16 fighter jets to Turkiye until Ankara ratifies a request by Sweden and Finland to join NATO.

The move comes amid a diplomatic standoff between Turkiye and Sweden over what the former claims is Swedish support for terror groups and sympathizers.

Both Sweden and Finland announced their NATO bid last year following the Russian invasion of Ukraine.



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## [Egypt targeting 2m rail passengers per day](#)

Sat, 2023-02-04 22:24

CAIRO: Egypt's rail system aims to accommodate up to 2 million passengers per day under new government plans.

On Sunday, the Egyptian Railways Authority will roll out a new fleet of Spanish Talgo trains on the Upper Egypt line.

Authority head Mohamed Amer told Arab News: "The Spanish Talgo trains constitute a huge quantum leap in the history of trains because they are similar to the trains operating in European countries."



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## [Iranian protests are 'beginning of the end for regime in Tehran', says Nobel laureate Ebadi](#)

Sat, 2023-02-04 00:50

JEDDAH: Protests in Iran over the death in custody of a young Iranian Kurdish woman are the start of an irreversible “revolutionary process” that will eventually lead to the collapse of the regime, one of Tehran’s most eloquent critics said on Friday.

Shirin Ebadi, the distinguished Iranian lawyer and former judge who lives in exile in London, said the protests were the boldest challenge yet to the legitimacy of Iran’s clerical establishment.



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