

[Houthis abduct 3 YouTubers amid social media influencer crackdown](#)

Tue, 2023-01-03 21:25

AL-MUKALLA: Three well-known Yemeni YouTubers have been kidnapped by Houthis in Sanaa, as the militia steps up its crackdown on online influencers who expose its leaders' flaws.

Activists reported that Houthis have abducted Mustafa Al-Mumari, Hamoud Al-Mesbahi, and Ahmed Elaw for posting videos on social media which support prominent YouTuber Ahmed Hajar, who was seized from a Sanaa street more than 10 days ago.

The social media posts also criticized widespread corruption and the failure to address famine.



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[Uninvited to Moscow meeting about Syria, Iran appears dismayed](#)

Tue, 2023-01-03 20:27

ANKARA: Tehran announced its uneasiness about being sidelined from the recent meeting between Syrian and Turkish defense ministers and intelligence chiefs in Moscow with the mediation of Russia.

The critically worded comment came from Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Nasseer Kanaani, who said during a press briefing on Monday: "Iran has always insisted on a political solution and not a military solution, and it insists on this position regarding Syria."



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[Look Ahead 2023: Grim forecasts underscore importance of climate adaption for Middle East and North African countries](#)

Tue, 2023-01-03 18:39

DUBAI: For much of the past year, climate change had been high on the global policy agenda as extreme weather events, including floods, dust storms, heatwaves, droughts and blizzards, were reported from different parts of the world.

At the same time, governments pledged to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions,

move toward cleaner, renewable sources of energy, take steps to increase resilience and advance the cause of environmental justice. But are these commitments bold enough or too little too late?



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[Where are the Gulf Arab tourists? Israel's hopes fall short](#)

ID:
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Tue, 2023-01-03 06:11

JERUSALEM: When Israel struck an agreement with the United Arab Emirates to open diplomatic ties in 2020, it brought an electrifying sense of achievement to a country long ostracized in the Middle East. Officials insisted that Israel's new ties with the UAE, and soon after with Bahrain, would go beyond governments and become society-wide pacts, stoking mass tourism and friendly exchanges between people long at odds.



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[Saudi Arabia leads chorus of condemnation following Israeli minister's 'provocative' visit to Al-Aqsa](#)

ID:

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Tue, 2023-01-03 06:34

RAMALLAH: Saudi Arabia has led a chorus of condemnation following a visit on Tuesday by Israel's far-right national security minister to Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa Mosque compound.

The move, by firebrand Itamar Ben-Gvir, has enraged Palestinians, while the US warned of steps that may harm the status quo.

The Kingdom's Foreign Ministry issued a statement in which it denounced the "provocative action" by the Israeli official.



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