

**INTERNATIONAL SECURITY UPDATE**  
**August 29 - September 4, 2014**

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**1. [We Will Not Be Cowed by Barbaric Killers, Say Cameron, Obama](#) (09-04-2014)**

*This joint commentary by U.S. President Obama and British Prime Minister David Cameron appeared in the Times of London on September 4.*

**We will not be cowed by barbaric killers**  
**By David Cameron and Barack Obama**

When NATO last met in Britain in 1990 the Cold War was ending. As Margaret Thatcher and President Bush Sr pledged to continue to stand together, many might have thought that a new era of peace and prosperity would make this great security alliance less relevant. But today NATO is as vital to our future as it has ever been.

We meet at a time when the world faces many dangerous and evolving challenges. To the east, Russia has ripped up the rulebook with its illegal, self-declared annexation of Crimea and its troops on Ukrainian soil threatening a sovereign nation state. To the south, there is an arc of instability from north Africa and the Sahel to the Middle East.

The growth of technology and globalisation, for all its great benefits and opportunities, has put power once reserved for states in the hands of the individual, raising the capacity of terrorists to do harm. The utterly despicable murders of two American journalists by Isil [Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant] are but the latest evidence of a brutal and poisonous extremism that murders indiscriminately and risks exporting terrorism abroad.

There are some who say that we shouldn't get involved in addressing these threats. There are others who doubt if NATO can adapt to meet the challenges we face. It is crucial we address these beliefs head on.

First, those who want to adopt an isolationist approach misunderstand the nature of security in the 21st century. Developments in other parts of the world, particularly in Iraq and Syria, threaten our security at home.

And NATO is not just an alliance of friends who come to the aid of each other in times of need. It is also an alliance based on national self-interest. Whether it is regional aggression going unchecked or the prospect that foreign fighters could return from Iraq and Syria to pose a threat in our countries, the problems we face today threaten the security of British and American people, and the wider world.

Our nations have always believed that we are more prosperous and secure when the world is more prosperous and secure. So we have a real stake in making sure they grow up in a world where schoolgirls are not kidnapped, women are not raped in conflict and families aren't slaughtered because of their faith or political beliefs. That is why we have decimated core al-Qaeda and supported the Afghan people. And it is why we will not waver in our determination to confront Isil. If terrorists think we will weaken in the face of their threats they could not be more wrong.

Countries like Britain and America will not be cowed by barbaric killers. We will be more forthright in the defence of our values, not least because a world of greater freedom is a fundamental part of how we keep our people safe.

Second, we believe that NATO can adapt to meet the new challenges we face. The changes we need are clear. With Russia trying to force a sovereign state to abandon its right to democracy at the barrel of a gun, we should support Ukraine's right to determine its own democratic future and continue our efforts to enhance Ukrainian capabilities. We must use our military to ensure a persistent presence in eastern Europe, making clear to Russia that we will always uphold our Article 5 commitments to collective self-defence.

And we must back this up with a multinational rapid response force, composed of land, air, maritime and special forces, that could deploy anywhere in the world at very short notice. All this will also require investment from NATO countries in the necessary capabilities.

Britain and America are two of only four NATO members to meet the target of spending 2 per cent of our GDP on defence and other states must urgently step up their efforts to meet this too. This would send a powerful message to those that threaten us that our collective resolve is as strong as ever. But while a strong security response is essential, we cannot rely on our military strength alone. We must use all the resources at our disposal — military, economic and political.

Terrorists thrive on political instability. So we must invest in the building blocks of free and open societies, including creating a genuinely inclusive government in Iraq that unites all Iraqis, including Sunni, Shia, Kurdish, Christian and other minority populations. When the threats to our

security increasingly emanate from outside NATO's borders, we must build more partnerships with others who share our values and want a tolerant and peaceful world.

That includes supporting the partners who are taking the fight to Isil on the ground, as we have done by stepping up support for Kurdish and Iraqi security forces. And we should use our expertise to provide training and mentoring to forces elsewhere, whether in Georgia or the Middle East, strengthening the capacity of forces there to tackle local threats.

We must also work with international organisations such as the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe to uphold democratic norms, which is why they have been invited to our summit. And we must recognise that we can and should use all levers, including those outside the alliance, such as the economic pressure that is being brought to bear on Russia's economy.

By working together we are stronger, whether in standing up to Russia or confronting Isil. So in Newport today we must summon up the shared resolve that inspired NATO's founding fathers. With more than 60 countries represented at the summit, we can build this proud alliance of transatlantic nations into a more effective security network that fosters stability around the world. A network that Britain and America will continue to lead not just because it is morally right to do so, but because it is only by supporting peace, democracy and human rights around the globe that we will keep British and American families safe.

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## **2. NATO Secretary-General at NATO-Ukraine Commission at Wales Summit (09-04-2014)**

*Opening remarks by NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen at the meeting of the NATO-Ukraine Commission*

Ladies and gentlemen,

Welcome to this meeting of the NATO-Ukraine Commission. President Poroshenko, I welcome you here today, at a testing time for your nation.

An independent, sovereign and stable Ukraine, firmly committed to democracy and the rule of law, is key to Euro-Atlantic security. We stand united in our support of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity. And we uphold the right of every country to choose its own future free from outside interference.

We call on Russia to end its illegal and self-declared annexation of Crimea, which we do not recognise. We call on Russia to pull back its troops from Ukraine. To stop the flow of arms, fighters and funds to the separatists. We call on Russia to step back from confrontation and take the path of peace.

The Ukrainian people has shown its strong commitment to freedom and democracy. Ukraine has been an active and reliable partner to NATO over many years. With us in our operations and in the NATO Response Force. We highly value our partnership.

Our meeting sends a clear message that NATO stands with Ukraine. We support Ukraine's democratic reforms. And we will be working even closer together to help reform Ukraine's defence sector and build a strong modern army. And continue to improve the ability of Ukrainian and NATO forces to operate together.

So the partnership between NATO and Ukraine is strong. And we are determined to make it even stronger, today and in the future.

This concludes the public part of our meeting. And I would like to thank the members of the media who have joined us.

Thank you.

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### **3. NATO Summit Declaration on Afghanistan (09-04-2014)**

#### **Wales Summit Declaration on Afghanistan**

Issued by Heads of State and Government of Allies and their International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) troop contributing partners

1. Today we honoured Afghan and international personnel who have lost their lives or been injured while serving in the largest military coalition in recent history. We also pay tribute to the hundreds of thousands of military and civilian personnel who have served with ISAF and the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) over the past thirteen years. Their sacrifices and efforts have made all of our nations safer and improved global security. For that, we are grateful.
2. ISAF has assisted the Afghan people to regain control over their nation's destiny. It has enabled Afghanistan to develop its security capabilities. It has helped Afghanistan make significant advances in education, health, economic development, human rights and fundamental freedoms, notably for women. Moreover, ISAF has demonstrated political solidarity among our nations and improved our ability to act and operate together.
3. ISAF will conclude at the end of 2014 as planned. For over a year, the ANSF have been in the lead for combat operations throughout the country. Although many challenges remain, they have demonstrated that they are an effective force, gaining the respect and confidence of the Afghan people and able to prevent insurgents from achieving their objectives. When ISAF operations end, the Afghan authorities will assume full responsibility for security. However, our commitment to Afghanistan will endure beyond ISAF along with our determination to ensure that we are never again threatened by terrorists from within Afghanistan.
4. With the end of ISAF, the nature and scope of our engagement with Afghanistan will change. We envisage three parallel, mutually reinforcing, strands of activity:
  - a. In the short term, the Resolute Support Mission. As decided at the Chicago Summit in 2012, at the invitation of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, and in the context of the broader international effort to help Afghanistan, NATO Allies and partner nations stand ready to continue to train, advise and assist the ANSF after 2014. This will be done through a new, non-combat mission with a

sound legal basis. The mission's establishment is contingent on the signing of the U.S.-Afghanistan Bilateral Security Agreement and NATO-Afghanistan Status of Forces Agreement. The Resolute Support Mission should ideally, in consultation with the Government of Afghanistan, be supported by a United Nations Security Council Resolution.

- b. In the medium term, our contribution to the financial sustainment of the ANSF. At Chicago, NATO allies and ISAF partners decided to provide support to the ANSF, as appropriate, through the Transformation Decade, on the understanding that the Afghan Government will make an increasing financial contribution to this endeavour. Today, nations renewed their financial commitments to support the sustainment of the ANSF, including to the end of 2017. We also urge the wider international community to remain engaged in the financial sustainment of the ANSF. We will maintain and strengthen the transparent, accountable and cost-effective funding mechanisms we have established since Chicago, including the Oversight and Coordination Body, which will ensure donors can confidently commit this support. Realising the full promise of the pledges made at Chicago on the financial sustainment of the ANSF, which we have reaffirmed today, will require transparency, accountability, and cost-effectiveness of the relevant international funding mechanisms. We encourage the Afghan Government to continue and strengthen efforts to fight corruption. We look forward to working with the Afghan authorities to review the force structure and capabilities of the ANSF to achieve a sufficient and sustainable force. We restate the aim, agreed at Chicago, that Afghanistan should assume, no later than 2024, full financial responsibility for its own security forces.
  - c. In the long term, NATO-Afghanistan Enduring Partnership. NATO Allies remain committed to the NATO-Afghanistan Enduring Partnership, agreed at the Lisbon Summit in 2010. The strengthening of this partnership will reflect the changing nature of NATO's relationship with Afghanistan whilst complementing the Resolute Support Mission and continuing beyond it. Both the political and practical elements of this partnership should be jointly owned and strengthened through regular consultation on issues of strategic concern. NATO is ready to work with Afghanistan to develop this partnership in line with NATO's Partnership Policy, possibly including the development of an Individual Partnership Cooperation Programme at an appropriate time.
5. We will continue to support an Afghan-led, Afghan-owned and inclusive peace process, as stated at the 2011 Bonn Conference and at the Chicago Summit in 2012. We welcome efforts by all parties that further this process.
  6. Good neighbourly relations, as well as regional support and cooperation will remain essential. This has been strengthened notably by the Istanbul Process in the Heart of Asia region.
  7. A stable Afghanistan will be able to make a positive contribution to the wider region including through delivering progress in the fight against narcotics trafficking, illegal migration, terrorism and crime.
  8. We are resolved to support Afghanistan in making further progress towards becoming a stable, sovereign, democratic and united country, where rule of law and good governance

prevail and in which human rights, and notably those of children, are fully protected. We emphasize the particular importance of strengthening efforts to implement the rights of women and the United Nations Security Council Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security, and to include women fully in political, peace and reconciliation processes. We further recognize the need for the protection of children from the damaging effects of armed conflict as required in relevant United Nations Resolutions. We also welcome continued work to strengthen the protection of civilians by all parties concerned. Thus, we are committed to continue working with Afghanistan to further strengthen these values and principles.

9. Today we have extended significant offers of support and partnership to Afghanistan as it determines its own future. We remain steadfast and resolute in our commitment to the Afghan people.

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#### **4. Obama: Democratic Dreams of Free People Will Prevail (09-03-2014)**

Washington — “I bring with me the friendship of the American people,” President Obama told the people of Estonia September 3.

In a speech to students and civil society leaders at the Nordea Concert Hall in Tallinn, Estonia, the president praised Estonians for nurturing their dream of freedom “through centuries of occupation and oppression” to find “its most eloquent expression in your voices” in a democracy to which others look for inspiration.

Democratic nations are strong nations, Obama said. “We’re not afraid of free and fair elections, because true legitimacy can only come from one source — and that is the people. We’re not afraid of an independent judiciary, because no one is above the law. We’re not afraid of a free press or vibrant debate or a strong civil society, because leaders must be held accountable. We’re not afraid to let our young people go online to learn and discover and organize, because we know that countries are more successful when citizens are free to think for themselves.”

He also cited the Baltic nations’ free markets, integrated economies and solidarity with each other and with NATO as more evidence of strength.

“This year we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Baltics in NATO,” Obama said. “A decade ago, skeptics wondered whether your countries were up to the task. And today, they need only look at our training exercises, where our troops grow even stronger together, shoulder to shoulder. ... Because of the work of generations, because we’ve stood together in a great alliance, because people across this continent have forged a European Union dedicated to cooperation and peace, we have made historic progress toward the vision we share — a Europe that is whole and free and at peace.”

That vision is threatened by Russia’s aggression against Ukraine, the president continued, adding that “borders cannot be redrawn at the barrel of a gun.” Nations must be free to determine their own futures and “this is why we stand with the people of Ukraine today.”

Stating that pro-Russian separatists supported by Russia have destabilized Ukraine, Obama said that just as the United States “never accepted the occupation and illegal annexation of the Baltic nations, we will not accept Russia’s occupation and illegal annexation of Crimea or any part of Ukraine.”

The president said the NATO alliance stands firm and united to meet the test of this moment:

- “We will defend our NATO allies, and that means every ally.”
- “The United States is working to bolster the security of our NATO allies and further increase America’s military presence in Europe.”
- “NATO forces need the ability to deploy even faster in times of crisis.”
- “We need to keep our alliance strong for the future. And that means investing in capabilities like intelligence and surveillance and reconnaissance and missile defense.”
- The alliance will “continue to stand united against Russia’s aggression in Ukraine.”
- The United States will maintain its “steadfast support for those who reach for their freedom.”

The president urged NATO to “send an unmistakable message in support of Ukraine” during its upcoming summit.

“Our alliance has had a partnership with Ukraine for more than 20 years. Ukrainian forces have served with distinction in NATO operations in the Balkans and Afghanistan. So in Wales, we’ll meet as an alliance with President Petro Poroshenko to show that our 28 nations are united in support of Ukraine’s sovereignty and right to defend its territory.”

Describing the current crisis as “a moment of testing,” Obama said that the “actions of the separatists in Ukraine and Russia evoke dark tactics from Europe’s past that ought to be consigned to a distant history. ... In the face of violence that seems intractable and suffering that is so senseless, it is easy to grow cynical and, I think, tempting to give in to the notion that peace and security may be beyond our grasp.”

“But I say to all of you here today, especially the young people, do not give into that cynicism. Do not lose the idealism and optimism that is the root of all great change. Don’t ever lose the faith that says, if we want it, if we are willing to work for it, if we stand together, the future can be different, tomorrow can be better. After all, the only reason we’re here today in a free and democratic Estonia is because the Estonian people never gave up.”

Dignity, justice, democracy and freedom will win, he said, “because these basic human yearnings for dignity and justice and democracy do not go away. ... And so long as free peoples summon the confidence and the courage and the will to defend the values that we cherish, then freedom will always be stronger and our ideas will always prevail no matter what.”

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## **5. Defense of NATO Allies Inviolable, Obama Says (09-03-2014)**

By Army Sgt. 1st Class Tyrone C. Marshall Jr.  
DoD News, Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3, 2014 – The core principle of NATO -- that an attack on one member is an attack on all -- is inviolable, President Barack Obama said today, and he assured Estonians that if they are attacked they will be defended by NATO, including the armed forces of the United States.

The president spoke in Estonia's capital of Tallinn on the eve of the NATO summit in Wales. Earlier, he met with the presidents of the Baltic republics and said categorically that the United States stands with them.

Obama again asked Russian President Vladimir Putin to stop his aggression in Ukraine, and made it clear that the United States and NATO will not back away from allies in Europe.

The goal of generations is a Europe whole, free and at peace, Obama said. Yet, he added, that vision is in danger. He called Russia's occupation of Crimea a brazen assault.

"It challenges that most basic of principles of our international system: that borders cannot be redrawn at the barrel of a gun, and that nations have the right to determine their own future," the president said. "It undermines an international order where the rights of peoples and nations are upheld and can't simply be taken away by brute force. This is what's at stake in Ukraine. This is why we stand with the people of Ukraine today."

### **NATO not aimed at one nation**

The president reiterated that NATO is not aimed at any one nation. "We're an alliance of democracies dedicated to our own collective defense," he said. "Countries like Estonia and Latvia and Lithuania are not 'post-Soviet territory.' You are sovereign and independent nations with the right to make your own decisions."

Russia is using unbridled nationalism to force the issue in Ukraine, and it has to stop, the president said.

NATO has an integral part to play in the issue, the president said, and he spelled out what the United States will do. "First, we will defend our NATO allies, and that means every ally," he said.

The United States has aircraft patrolling the skies of the Baltic republics and has troops exercising with allied nations in the region. The United States also has sent more ships into the Black Sea and Baltic Sea.

“I believe our alliance should extend these defensive measures for as long as necessary, because the defense of Tallinn and Riga and Vilnius is just as important as the defense of Berlin and Paris and London,” Obama said.

### **Extending defensive measures**

To that end, the United States is working to bolster the security of its NATO allies and further increase America’s military presence in Europe, the president said. In the Baltics, it would mean pre-positioning more American equipment and conducting more training and exercises.

“And it would mean more U.S. forces -- including American boots on the ground -- continuously rotating through Estonia and Latvia and Lithuania,” he said.

NATO must deploy quicker, and Obama called on alliance nations to support a plan to enhance readiness. “That means we need to step up our defense planning, so we’re fully prepared for any threat to any ally,” he said. “It also means we need to have the infrastructure and facilities that can receive rapid reinforcements, including here in the Baltics. We need to enhance NATO’s Rapid Response Force so it can deploy even more quickly and not just react to threats, but also deter them.”

The alliance also must be able to combat nontraditional campaigns such as the one Russia has waged against Ukraine, he said.

### **NATO capabilities**

NATO also must invest in capabilities for the future, the president said, noting that alliance states need more intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance assets and a workable missile defense. European allies need to invest 2 percent of their gross domestic product in defense, as Estonia does, he added.

Finally, the alliance must remain united in the face of Russia’s aggression in Ukraine, Obama said. “The United States, the European Union, our partners around the world, have all said we prefer a diplomatic solution,” he said, noting that Russia has resisted such a path.

Now, the Russian economy is suffering due to sanctions. “Russia’s actions in Ukraine are weakening Russia,” Obama said. “Russia’s actions are hurting the Russian people.”

### **Freedom will prevail**

Obama urged NATO leaders to remain solid, because dignity, justice, democracy and freedom will win.

“Not because it’s inevitable, not because it is ordained, but because these basic human yearnings for dignity and justice and democracy do not go away,” he said. “They can be suppressed. At times, they can be silenced, but they burn in every human heart in a place where no regime could ever reach, a light that no army can ever extinguish. And so long as free peoples summon the confidence and the courage and the will to defend the values that we cherish, then freedom will always be stronger and our ideas will always prevail no matter what.”

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## **6. Hagel: Clear Mission to Degrade, Destroy ISIL Capability (09-03-2014)**

By Army Sgt. 1st Class Tyrone C. Marshall Jr.  
DoD News, Defense Media Activity

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3, 2014 – The Defense Department’s mission as outlined by President Barack Obama is clear: to degrade and destroy the capabilities of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel said today in Newport, Rhode Island.

In a discussion with CNN’s Jim Sciutto at the U.S. Naval War College, Hagel said the department’s mission is to “degrade and destroy” ISIL’s capability to threaten U.S. and allied interests around the world.

“We’re doing that, as the president said -- not just militarily, because that is but one component,” Hagel said. “The president has been very clear on that point.”

The defense secretary emphasized that “a stable, new, inclusive government in Iraq, which we’re hopeful will be in place next week,” also is important. The people of Iraq and the Middle East ultimately will determine their future, Hagel said, and the United States can support them.

### **Other countries recognize threat**

“It’s also bringing a group with us of like-minded countries that appreciate the threat that ISIL represents to all of us -- I think you know many of the countries: France, Great Britain, Canada, Australia, Albania and others -- to bring that coalition with us,” Hagel said.

The defense secretary said the president also has made clear that he wants Congress involved with him, because the effort requires authorizations, airstrikes and funding.

“We’ve been consulting with the Congress, so it’s all of those components, but the mission is very clear,” Hagel said. “We’re providing the president with those options to degrade and destroy ISIL’s capability.”

Hagel said ISIL is a threat to the United States and its interests, and allies such as the United Kingdom also have made this point.

“Obviously, Prime Minister David Cameron of Great Britain made that pretty clear a couple of days ago,” he said. The president, the U.S. attorney general, secretary of homeland security and the director of national intelligence also agree, Hagel said, that ISIL poses “very real threats.”

“If they weren’t real threats, then the president wouldn’t be giving us the mission to go out and degrade and destroy the capabilities of ISIL,” Hagel said.

Part of that threat, Hagel said, is that more than 100 U.S. citizens who have U.S. passports are fighting in the Middle East with ISIL forces. “There may be more -- we don’t know,” he said. “We can’t take a chance on saying, ‘Well, let’s technically define this. Is it a real threat today or tomorrow? Or is it going to be in six months?’”

### **Dangerous ideology**

Hagel said ISIL embodies a dangerous ideology of brutality.

“So my job, as secretary of defense, is not to second-guess what may be or what’s going to be,” the secretary said. “We’ve got to do everything we can to protect our country and our interests at the command of our commander in chief as to what he needs in order to do his job.”

The defense secretary described ISIL as a “dangerous a group of people beyond just a group of terrorists.”

ISIL controls half of Iraq and Syria today, he added, and must be taken seriously.

In addition to the United States supporting the Iraqi people as they form a new and inclusive government, Hagel said, the president is working to bring together a group of countries to join in the effort. Secretary of State John F. Kerry will be doing this right after the NATO conference, he said, noting he and the commander of U.S. Central Command also will be involved in “bringing a group together that ... can help support forces in Iraq, Syria and the Middle East who respect freedom and dignity and the choices that people will make.”

### **Sense of urgency**

“We’ve got to bring a coalition together,” Hagel said, “and do the other things ... that we are doing with a sense of urgency.”

Hagel expressed his hope that Congress would approve the president’s request for \$500 million in funding to support the Syrian moderate opposition.

“This is part of the Counterterrorism Partnership Fund that the president has put forward,” Hagel said. “Congress has not acted on that yet. I would hope the Congress would.”

The secretary also noted that the president has said there will be no combat action for American troops. “We’re not going to do that,” he said. “I support that decision. I think it’s the right decision.”

Hagel said the Defense Department will continue to degrade and destroy ISIL capability. “We will do everything possible that we can do to destroy their capacity to inflict harm on our people and Western values and our interests,” he added.

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## **7. Biden's Call with Slovak President Kiska (09-02-2014)**

THE WHITE HOUSE  
Office of the Vice President  
September 2, 2014

Readout of the Vice President's Call with Slovak President Andrej Kiska

Vice President Joe Biden spoke with Slovak President Andrej Kiska today about bilateral relations, the NATO summit, and the crisis in Ukraine. The Vice President noted the strong bilateral relationship between Slovakia and the United States, and congratulated President Kiska on Slovakia's Constitution Day on September 1. The Vice President also reaffirmed the United States' steadfast commitment to NATO's collective defense under Article 5, and welcomed President Kiska's support for strengthening the transatlantic relationship and for Slovakia's contributions to NATO. President Kiska noted that today the reverse flow of gas had begun between Slovakia and Ukraine, which can help Ukraine meet some of its energy needs. The two leaders also discussed the need to continue to impose consequences on Russia for its aggressive acts in Ukraine.

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## **8. Secretary Kerry: Threat of ISIS Demands a Global Coalition (08-30-2014)**

*This opinion article by Secretary of State Kerry was published by the New York Times August 29.*

### **The Threat of ISIS Demands a Global Coalition By John Kerry**

In a polarized region and a complicated world, the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria presents a unifying threat to a broad array of countries, including the United States. What's needed to confront its nihilistic vision and genocidal agenda is a global coalition using political, humanitarian, economic, law enforcement and intelligence tools to support military force.

In addition to its beheadings, crucifixions and other acts of sheer evil, which have killed thousands of innocents in Syria, Iraq and Lebanon, including Sunni Muslims whose faith it purports to represent, ISIS (which the United States government calls ISIL, or the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant) poses a threat well beyond the region.

ISIS has its origins in what was once known as Al Qaeda in Iraq, which has over a decade of experience in extremist violence. The group has amassed a hardened fighting force of committed jihadists with global ambitions, exploiting the conflict in Syria and sectarian tensions in Iraq. Its leaders have repeatedly threatened the United States, and in May an ISIS-associated terrorist shot and killed three people at the Jewish Museum in Brussels. (A fourth victim died 13 days later.) ISIS' cadre of foreign fighters are a rising threat not just in the region, but anywhere they could manage to travel undetected — including to America.

There is evidence that these extremists, if left unchecked, will not be satisfied at stopping with Syria and Iraq. They are larger and better funded in this new incarnation, using pirated oil, kidnapping and extortion to finance operations in Syria and Iraq. They are equipped with sophisticated heavy weapons looted from the battlefield. They have already demonstrated the ability to seize and hold more territory than any other terrorist organization, in a strategic region that borders Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey and is perilously close to Israel.

ISIS fighters have exhibited repulsive savagery and cruelty. Even as they butcher Shiite Muslims and Christians in their effort to touch off a broader ethnic and sectarian conflict, they pursue a calculated strategy of killing fellow Sunni Muslims to gain and hold territory. The beheading of an American journalist, James Foley, has shocked the conscience of the world.

With a united response led by the United States and the broadest possible coalition of nations, the cancer of ISIS will not be allowed to spread to other countries. The world can confront this scourge, and ultimately defeat it. ISIS is odious, but not omnipotent. We have proof already in northern Iraq, where United States airstrikes have shifted the momentum of the fight, providing space for Iraqi and Kurdish forces to go on the offensive. With our support, Iraq's leaders have come together to form a new, inclusive government that is essential to isolating ISIS and securing the support of all of Iraq's communities.

Airstrikes alone won't defeat this enemy. A much fuller response is demanded from the world. We need to support Iraqi forces and the moderate Syrian opposition, who are facing ISIS on the front lines. We need to disrupt and degrade ISIS' capabilities and counter its extremist message in the media. And we need to strengthen our own defenses and cooperation in protecting our people.

Next week, on the sidelines of the NATO summit meeting in Wales, Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel and I will meet with our counterparts from our European allies. The goal is to enlist the broadest possible assistance. Following the meeting, Mr. Hagel and I plan to travel to the Middle East to develop more support for the coalition among the countries that are most directly threatened.

The United States will hold the presidency of the United Nations Security Council in September, and we will use that opportunity to continue to build a broad coalition and highlight the danger posed by foreign terrorist fighters, including those who have joined ISIS. During the General Assembly session, President Obama will lead a summit meeting of the Security Council to put forward a plan to deal with this collective threat.

In this battle, there is a role for almost every country. Some will provide military assistance, direct and indirect. Some will provide desperately needed humanitarian assistance for the millions who have been displaced and victimized across the region. Others will help restore not just shattered economies but broken trust among neighbors. This effort is underway in Iraq, where other countries have joined us in providing humanitarian aid, military assistance and support for an inclusive government.

Already our efforts have brought dozens of nations to this cause. Certainly there are different interests at play. But no decent country can support the horrors perpetrated by ISIS, and no civilized country should shirk its responsibility to help stamp out this disease.

ISIS' abhorrent tactics are uniting and rallying neighbors with traditionally conflicting interests to support Iraq's new government. And over time, this coalition can begin to address the underlying factors that fuel ISIS and other terrorist organizations with like-minded agendas.

Coalition building is hard work, but it is the best way to tackle a common enemy. When Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait in 1990, the first President George Bush and Secretary of State James A. Baker III did not act alone or in haste. They methodically assembled a coalition of countries whose concerted action brought a quick victory.

Extremists are defeated only when responsible nations and their peoples unite to oppose them.

## **9. U.S. Sanctions Networks Linked to Iran (08-29-2014)**

Washington — The United States announced sanctions August 29 targeting Iran’s missile and nuclear programs, sanctions evasion efforts and support for terrorism.

The actions by the Treasury Department and the Department of State, outlined in a Treasury Department news release, are aimed at a diverse set of entities and individuals and are authorized by various executive orders issued by President Obama. They “reflect the United States’ sustained commitment to enforce our sanctions as the P5+1 and Iran work toward a comprehensive solution to address the international community’s concerns over Iran’s nuclear program,” the Treasury Department said.

“Treasury’s action against over 25 entities and individuals — who are involved in expanding Iran’s proliferation program, supporting terrorism in the region, and helping Iran evade U.S. and international sanctions — reflects our continuing determination to take action against anyone, anywhere, who violates our sanctions,” said Treasury Department Under Secretary David S. Cohen.

“During this JPOA [November 2013 Joint Plan of Action] extension period, as we fulfill our commitment to provide targeted sanctions relief, we remain committed to enforcing existing sanctions against Iran,” Cohen said.

The actions generally prohibit U.S. persons from engaging in transactions with the designated parties and block all the parties’ property and interests in property under U.S. jurisdiction. In addition, foreign persons found to be facilitating deceptive transactions for any persons subject to Iran-related sanctions could themselves be exposed to sanctions.

Specifically, the Treasury Department took these actions:

- Designated four individuals and two entities under an executive order that targets proliferators of weapons of mass destruction and their supporters. It also identified two aliases used by a previously sanctioned key Iranian missile proliferator.
- Designated two entities and three individuals tied to Iran’s energy industry and identified six vessels under the same executive order.
- Designated one entity for its provision of material support to the Central Bank of Iran in connection with the purchase or acquisition of U.S. dollar bank notes by the government of Iran.
- Identified five Iranian banks that are subject to sanctions under an executive order that blocks the property and interests in property of the government of Iran and Iranian financial institutions.
- Designated four entities and one individual in connection with Iran’s support for terrorism and identified one alias used by an Iranian airline that was previously sanctioned.

[Detailed information on the sanctioned individuals and entities](#) can be found on the Treasury Department website.

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## **10. U.S. Official at U.N. Security Council Debate on Kosovo (08-29-2014)**

*Remarks by Christopher Klein, Political Minister Counselor, U.S. Mission to the United Nations, at a Security Council Open Debate on the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo*

Thank you, Mr. President, and thank you, Special Representative Zarif for your briefing. I would also like to thank Foreign Minister Dacic and Foreign Minister Hoxhaj for your remarks.

Mr. President, the United States notes and welcomes Kosovo's continued steps toward full integration within the international community. We commend the governments of the Solomon Islands and Togo for their recognition of Kosovo as a sovereign, independent state. We are also very pleased about Kosovo's acceptance into the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe as its 60th member state. These steps further cement Kosovo's place within the international community, strengthening Kosovo, the region, and international cooperation.

The United States praises both Serbia and Kosovo for their continued dedication to the EU-facilitated Kosovo-Serbia Dialogue and the implementation of the April 2013 agreement to normalize relations. While the next high-level meetings await government formation in Kosovo, we are encouraged that working level discussions continue, including a planned meeting on September 4 to carry forward the work on integrated border management. Both governments have made difficult but necessary decisions to advance the Dialogue, which remains integral to a stable, peaceful, and prosperous region. We are further heartened by the recent public statements by Serbian officials reaffirming that stability is Belgrade's key interest in Kosovo.

The process of government formation in Kosovo is underway following successful parliamentary elections in June. We are encouraged by the positive reports from local and international observers on the smooth and orderly conduct of the election and broad participation throughout Kosovo. As Kosovo's political and party leaders work to form the next government, it is important that the process proceed in line with Kosovo's laws and constitution; the July 1 and August 26 rulings by Kosovo's constitutional court should serve as guidelines in this regard. We urge the leaders, parties and Kosovo Assembly members to move lawfully and quickly toward formation of the new government, so that the important work of strengthening Kosovo's multiethnic democracy can continue. We also welcome the formation of municipal assemblies and the Kosovo Ministry of Local Government Administration's certification in May of municipal statutes for the four municipalities in the Serb-majority North.

Mr. President, the United States supports freedom of expression and universal human rights, and we denounce those who would turn to violence to sow discord and unrest within their communities. We condemn the violence that occurred during the South Mitrovica demonstration on June 22 regarding barriers on the Austerlitz Bridge. The security services, including the Kosovo police, EULEX, and KFOR, merit praise for their swift and appropriate response, which prevented further escalation. The violence and tensions over the Mitrovica bridge underscore the enduring sensitivity of these issues and the need for continued, constructive dialogue to resolve differences.

In a broader context, stability and security – both regionally and globally – benefit from rule of law and strong, democratic institutions in Kosovo. Mr. Zarif, you mentioned interconnectedness. We commend Kosovo authorities for their efforts to address the problems of violent extremism and the initiative of the Kosovo police and judiciary in apprehending suspected foreign fighters and their supporters in June and August. President Jahjaga has publicly reinforced that Kosovo will not become a terrorist haven, and that Kosovo institutions will not permit terrorists to endanger peace,

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stability, and constitutional order. We welcome the initiative of several countries in the region, including Kosovo and Serbia, to put in place legislation penalizing the recruitment and participation of its citizens in foreign armed conflicts. We call on all states in the region to cooperate more closely on countering the common threat of violent extremism.

Finally, Mr. President, we are pleased with the agreement between the European Union and Kosovo to extend the mandate of the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo until June 2016. EULEX and KFOR continue to make essential contributions to the international community's work in Kosovo.

Thank you.

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