

# AwareNews

Issue 3 November '17



## Introduction: About DRK

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DRK Advisory Board meetings was held in Ankara on Nov 12, 2017.

Strategic Experts (Security and Policy Advisors) who form the Advisory Board shared their assessments and insights on the security issues including the Situation in Iraq and Syria; PKK and Fight Against Terrorism; Turkey and Migration.

**Based on the academic analysis and assessments, we drew some conclusions on the following issues at the end of the meeting:**

- The most likely and most dangerous scenarios,
- Critical decision points and timings,
- Possible course of action,
- Sectoral advice for the business and investments.

## DRK Insight and Studies

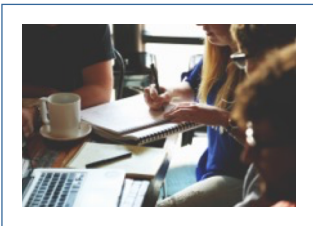
### Snapshots

- PKK Strategies Against Civilians
- Syrian Refugees in Turkey & Security Implications
- Kurdish Independence Referendum in Northern Iraq
- Overall Security Conditions in Turkey's Proximity - 2017

### Case Study & Insights

- Large Scale Social Kurdish Turmoil - 6-7 October 2014 - Turkey
- PKK Attack Profile 2017
- Turkey's Possible Military Operations: Idlib & Afrin
- Weapon and explosive capabilities of PKK

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*DRK, believing the "Power of Knowledge", aims to contribute in decision making process of your organization, with timely and reliable risk and security insights and predictions.*

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## Regional Developments

**69 PKK terrorists were neutralized in cross-border operation:** 69 PKK terrorists were neutralized in airstrikes by Turkish Air Force on November 3, 2017. The Turkish Military said that the airstrike conducted on the camps in Mount Qandil, Zap, and the Mount Asos regions of the northern Iraq. Two arsenals and a Doshka anti-aircraft machine gun were also demolished in the raid. A total number of terrorist neutralized since the beginning of the cross-border operation is 96.

<http://www.worldbulletin.net/todays-news/195799/turkish-jets-kill-more-than-65-pkk-terrorists-in-nirag>

(Accessed on November 10, 2017)

**Earthquake near Iraq-Iran border:** A powerful, 7.3-magnitude, earthquake struck near the border of Iran and Iraq late Sunday. At least 452 people were killed and thousands injured. Authorities in Iran and Iraq have initiated rescue and disaster relief operations. Iran has declared three days of mourning. Turkey was the first foreign country to respond with aid. Accordingly, a convoy of 50 trucks crossed the Habur border gate at the Iraqi Border.

<http://edition.cnn.com/2017/11/12/middleeast/iraq-earthquake/index.html>

(Accessed on November 14, 2017)



**Bomb-laden Drone seized from PKK terrorists:** Turkish security forces seized a bomb-laden drone from outlawed PKK terrorists in the eastern province of Agri on November 11, 2017. The drone could carry a mortar shell and hand bomb.

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/pkks-bomb-laden-drone-seized-in-turkeys-east-122299>

(Accessed on November 13, 2017)

*DRK benefits from the higher level strategic expertise of the academicians, experts, analysts to provide overarching guidance, regarding the security developments in the vicinity areas of Syria and Iraq.*

**KRG Leader Masoud Barzani stepped down:** The seizure of the Kirkuk by Iraqi forces and emerging adverse consequences forced Masoud Barzani to resign. Barzani stepped down and devolved his authority to his nephew Prime Minister Nechirvan Barzani and Deputy Prime Minister Qubad Talabani, the speaker of Parliament and the Judicial Council. According to the new law, Nechirvan Barzani in his capacity as prime minister will assume most of the presidential power, including the authority to represent the KRG at the federal level and abroad.

<http://www.dailystar.com.lb/Opinion/Commentary/2017/Nov-11/425980-is-massoud-barzani-stepping-down-or-stepping-up.ashx>

(Accessed on November 13, 2017)

**IS fighters escaped from Raqqa:** A secret deal has been uncovered that enabled the escape of the IS fighters and their families from Raqqa under the supervision of the US and British-led coalition and Kurdish-led forces who assumed the control of the city after four months of fighting. According to the local sources, the convoy took out around 4,000 people including women and children as well as their weapons and ammunition. The escape has enabled hundreds of militants including foreigners to spread far and wide across Syria and beyond.

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/resources/idt-sh/raqgas\\_dirty\\_secret](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/resources/idt-sh/raqgas_dirty_secret)

(Accessed on November 14, 2017)

**PKK camps in Qandil Mountains will be destroyed:** The Turkish Interior Minister Soylu stated in his parliamentary speech on Wednesday that Turkey would blow away all the terror camps within the range of 25 kilometers beyond the Turkish-Iraq border and destroy PKK camps in the Qandil Mountains in the upcoming months.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/war-on-terror/2017/11/15/interior-minister-soylu-vows-to-rout-pkk-headquarters-in-iraqs-qandil-mountains>

(Accessed on November 15, 2017)

## The Interface of Security Risk Management with the Business Continuity Planning/Management



*DRK, as an advance precautionary initiative, develops emergency procedures and practices, including the transportation/travel/escape routes and safe havens for your company personnel and assets during the emergency cases.*

Business Continuity Planning or Management (BCP/M) often focuses on infrastructure, personnel, and supply chain, as well as on emergencies stemming from human-made and natural disasters. BCP/M also primarily concerns with business functions, operational risks, backup operations and post-disaster recovery. Accordingly, its dominating planning mentality disregards the other relevant issues. However, the recent experiences derived from incidents underline the crucial value of the collaboration of Business Continuity (BC), Information Security (IS) and Security Risk Management (SRM) processes in the compiling of a comprehensive BCP to bolster business performance. To ensure the permanence of the business performance, an organization should unify its efforts for IS, SRM, and BC as well as establish a common framework and processes for a smooth crisis management.

The negligence of the political and security risks might constitute a significant threat to the existence of the organizations through degrading the efficiency of the BCP/M. In this regard, DRK offers to conduct a holistic and comprehensive SRM to identify the political and security risks as a part of BCP/M. The SRM encompasses the followings:

- Macro and micro level risk and threat assessments,
- Proactive planning,
- Real-time alerting,
- Emergency response operations.

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