

AwareNews

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Introduction: About DRK

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DRK is a Risk and Security Consulting and Management Company which provides sustainable security support to its clients with high accuracy risk assessments and security management in any region across Turkey and in the Middle East. DRK employs the best-experienced academics and advisors mostly having Turkish Army Staff background.

We work directly in the field in any location wherever needed in Turkey. Our vast expertise in security matters and familiarization with the regional context enable us to operate everywhere and on all security matters where required.

DRK is not a security company, solely providing security workforce and/or CCTV or physical systems, but a consultation and management company giving advice on the tailored security requirements. DRK aims to help its clients in decreasing their security costs while increasing their security efficiency.

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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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Regional Developments

Russian President Putin hosts Syrian President Bashar al-Assad: Russian President Vladimir Putin and Syrian President Bashar al-Assad met for talks in the Russian Black Sea resort of Sochi on Monday. Two heads of the states mainly discussed the fight against "terrorism" and the current possibilities for a political settlement in Syria, which has entered its seventh year of the war. The statement made following the meeting stated that Assad had expressed his readiness to hold discussions with parties interested in resolving the conflict. Russia, the main ally of the Syrian Government in the war, has been supporting government forces against what has become a proxy war in the region.

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/11/assad-putin-saving-country-171121061839648.html>

(Accessed on November 22, 2017)

Syria's mainstream opposition met to seek a unified position: A gathering in Riyadh/Saudi Arabia of more than 140 participants from a broad spectrum of Syria's mainstream opposition was to form a united position ahead of U.N.-backed peace talks. Groups blamed the Syrian government for the lack of progress in Geneva-based negotiations held in the past. According to the opposition spokesman, "The Syrian opposition has sent a message that it is ready to enter serious direct talks over a political transition in Syria and has a unified position and a vision for the future of Syria." Nasr Hariri was also picked as the chief negotiator ahead of new Geneva talks by replacing Riyadh Hijab, who led the Higher Negotiations Committee at previous negotiations.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-opposition/syria-opposition-meeting-in-riyadh-sees-no-role-for-assad-in-transition-idUSKBN1DN1BB>

(Accessed on November 23, 2017)

Putin, Erdoğan, and Rouhani meet in Sochi: Russian President Putin, Turkish President Erdoğan and Iranian President Rouhani met in Sochi to indicate a unified position ahead of the Geneva talks. Leaders stated in a joint statement issued after the summit that they would continue to cooperate actively to restore peace and stability in Syria, as stated in The UN Security Council Decree number 2254. The three countries also agreed to maintain cooperation together until these groups are eliminated entirely. The tripartite Sochi summit also called on representatives of the Syrian government and opposition to participate in the Syrian National Dialogue to be held in Sochi soon.

<https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20171124-putin-erdogan-and-rouhani-meet-in-sochi/>

(Accessed on November 24, 2017)

Pentagon says reviewing 'adjustments' to arms for Syrian Kurdish YPG: The Pentagon said that it was reviewing "adjustments" in arms for the Syrian Kurdish YPG (People's Protection Units) on November 27. It was also stated that they stopped short of halting weapons transfers. Weapons provided to Syrian YPG have been limited to mission specific, the spokesperson added. As it can be remembered, Turkey said that U.S. President Donald Trump told President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan he had issued instructions that weapons should not be provided to the YPG.

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/pentagon-says-reviewing-adjustments-to-arms-for-syrian-kurdish-ygp-123161>

(Accessed on November 28, 2017)

A new round of Syria talks opens in Geneva: Syria's government and opposition has started a new round of UN-brokered talks in Geneva. After months of futile attempts, the talks are expected to bring progress on ongoing conflicts. Parties focus primarily on a new constitution and elections, two of the four so-called "baskets" of reforms laid out by the United Nations. A follow-up round of talks will likely take place in December.

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/11/expect-syria-talks-171127093905806.html>

(Accessed on November 29, 2017)



Considering the competitive business environment, security applications should be provided in the most cost effective manner.

A Brief Analysis: Egypt Mosque Bomb Attack

The Friday Pray bombing in Northern Sinai, Egypt will have consequences and start new alliances in the region. Even though the bombing has not been claimed by any terrorist organization yet, DAESH has been in the region since its declaration of Caliphate, and there was a former terrorist organization, Ansar Beyt Al-Maqdis, which turned into DAESH's Wilayat Sinai. The Egyptian government has declared a state of emergency in the region to conduct military operations against terrorists for a while.

DAESH claimed to have shot down the Russian airplane, attacked tourists, Egyptian security forces, Coptic Churches and some local tribes that support the National government. However, it never has attacked Muslims or Mosques in the region before. The bombed Mosque was one of the religious places where Sufis, seen as heretics by DAESH, gather mostly. After the attack, Egyptian security forces closed the Arish-Rafah highway and Rafah Border Gate between Egypt and Palestine.

Egypt is known to be separated from the views of Saudi Arabia in Syria conflict that Egypt praises Russia's effort to build peace in Syria and does not utter the removal of Assad eagerly. After the latest developments in the region, it can be assumed that the war will be carried towards Africa but will follow the Lebanon-Palestine road. After such an enormous bombing, Egypt will have to choose its side in the fight against terrorism on the eve of the Saudi-Iran war. Egypt can be the leader of the fight against terrorism in the Northern Africa due to her population and military capacity, and this bombing will provide the impetus. It is helpful to remember how France faced terrorism when it separated the views of the international coalition and began to work with them. To sum up, this bombing can be called as the first flame of the emerging war on Africa.

With the courtesy contribution of Associate Professor Murat Koç



Technology: Video Analytics

Automated interpretation of movements/events which occur in a place monitored by CCTV cameras is known as video analytics. Software algorithms or hardware provide the capability of such autonomous analysis in specialized video processing units.

Regarding practical usage of CCTV systems, video feeds from tens or hundreds or thousands of surveillance cameras cannot be analyzed in real time. These are recorded and stored to use in case of an event takes place. On the other hand, a CCTV Operator can not productively watch and assess the multiple screens simultaneously and for a long time. Therefore, the expensive surveillance systems cannot yield the expected outcome in the prevention of accidents, crimes or terrorist attacks. These shortfalls prove the need for a technological support to human force.

As DRK states in its vision, the employment of cutting-edge technology, which is capable of conducting a real-time smart analysis and generating an instant alert for the security personnel, is the very basis of a successful surveillance system.



To avoid the very high risk of mass casualties, organizing unit should develop Crowd Management Strategies (CMS) covering all possible risks.

Intellectual Pursuit: Why Crowd Management?

Any crowd at any time has the potential to explode. It just needs the right igniter. In the last decade the nature of the terrorist attacks -like Paris terrorist attacks in November 2015 with 130 dead and hundreds wounded- has shown us that any crowded place may become a susceptible target and in senses the more benign, the better. The most vulnerable point of the crowd is not the crowds itself, but the unforeseen nature of the crowd behavior. Precisely at this point emerges the management of the masses as an essential force multiplier in the special event security management.

There is bound to be an element of chaos following an attack, people in the immediate vicinity will respond reflexively and seek to protect his or himself instinctively. However, it is the utmost importance of controlling the crowd as soon as possible to protect lives and maintain the safety of the event. In this sense, to avoid the very high risk of mass casualties, organizing unit should develop Crowd Management Strategies (CMS) covering all possible risks. A CMS shall include:

- A correct risk assessment,
- A detailed step by step planning,
- Procedures of the emergency response actions,
- Execution.

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