



News Report 18th - 24th April

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24/4/2016



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Picture: [Day Donaldson/Flickr](#)

Nigeria: ISIS weapons to Boko Haram and new evidences of the Zaria massacre

The alleged linkage between Boko Haram and the Islamic State acquired new evidences on 20th April, when the commander of US special operations in Africa Brig. Gen. Donald Bolduc [revealed](#) a large cache of weapons going to Boko Haram was seized in Chad. The origin of this cache was – according to Bolduc – Libyan Islamic State affiliates. Although alleged, the news adds to the theory of a merge between the two groups, most obviously suggested by the change of Boko Haram's name to Islamic State's West African Province (ISWAP). Some analysts [dismissed or diminished the relevance](#) of this change, leaving the debate open.

Iraq: ongoing deadlock in Mosul, and former child-soldiers from Sierra Leone

The deadlock in Mosul is doomed to continue, Missy Ryan [suggested](#) on *Washington Post*. Ryan's analysis comes as a renewed claim after an analogous [article](#) by *The Wall Street Journal*, so confirming the difficult situation in the fight against IS. But it is far from being the worst news concerning Iraq. Indeed, a British firm operating in the country – Aegis Defence Services – admitted they may have employed former child-soldiers from Sierra Leone, *The Guardian* [reported](#).

Israel/Palestine: 20 injured in blast and Palestinian quarries being closed

On 18th April, a bomb placed on a bus wounded 20 in Jerusalem. The attack, *Haaretz* [reported](#), is the first one since 2005, and thus caused alarm in Israel, leading PM Netanyahu to promise to find the perpetrators as soon as possible. This is not the only important news concerning Israel and Palestine, though: a new report by *Human Rights Watch* showed a new facet of the conflict, with Israel [closing down](#) about 35 Palestinian quarries, a move seen by HRW as a retaliation.

China: outrage as World Uyghur Congress' leader allowed entrance in India

Tensions are mounting between China and India over Dolkun Isa, leader of the World Uyghur Congress (WUC). Isa – held a terrorist by China – was allowed entrance to India, triggering reactions by Beijing's government. The motivation behind India's decision – *The Hindu* [reports](#) – may be China's choice to veto the banning of the Kashmiri terrorist group Jaish-e-Muhammad in the United Nations.

ISIS: NBC and West Point's first analysis of “ISIS files”

Documents [leaked](#) a month ago and later known as the “ISIS files” have now been [analysed](#) by the American broadcaster NBC jointly with the US military academy at West Point, in order to shed light on the terrorist group. Among the points made by the analysis, experts explained how only a small percentage (about 12%) of members showed will to become martyrs; also, it provides with some information about militants: they have families, and are school educated, coming from a diverse set of work backgrounds and from all around the world.

Far Right: Breivik's HR violated and NDL excited over Mafia/immigrants' “clash”

Finally, some news from far-right movements. Firstly, Anders Breivik's claim that his human rights were violated [was accepted](#) by a Norwegian court on 20th April. Breivik – who killed 69 members of the Norwegian Labour party in Utoya – was accorded a compensation, aimed at paying for the long period spent in solitary confinement. In a second instance, the interest for Mafia's involvement in security threats renewed by – among others – *The Daily Beast's* [piece](#) on the Mafia-IS linkage had an unexpected turn when an interview by Palermo's mayor Leoluca Orlando caused *The Daily Mail* to [support](#) the bizarre suggestion that Italian Mafia is fighting immigrants' gangs in the country. Needless to say, far-right groups as the Norwegian Defence League (NDL) [shared](#) the news, in what looks like an even more bizarre statement of support for the criminal organisation.

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