

# Press Releases: Situation Near Kirkuk, Iraq

Press Statement  
Heather Nauert

Department Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
October 16, 2017

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The United States is very concerned by reports of violence around Kirkuk, Iraq. We are monitoring the situation closely and call on all parties to coordinate military activities and restore calm.

We support the peaceful exercise of joint administration by the central and regional governments, consistent with the Iraqi Constitution, in all disputed areas. We are working with officials from the central and regional governments to reduce tensions, avoid further clashes, and encourage dialogue.

We strongly urge all parties to avoid provocations that can be exploited by Iraq's enemies who are interested in fueling ethnic and sectarian conflict. In particular, we note that there is still much work to be done to defeat ISIS in Iraq, and continued tensions between Iraqi and Kurdish forces distract from this vital mission. The United States will continue to stand with our Iraqi partners to ensure ISIS's defeat.

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# [Press Releases: U.S. Condemns Attacks in Mogadishu](#)

Press Statement  
Heather Nauert

Department Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
October 15, 2017

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The United States condemns in the strongest terms the terrorist attacks that killed and injured hundreds in Mogadishu on October 14.

We extend our deepest condolences to all Somalis, especially those who lost friends and family in the attacks. We further wish for a quick recovery for all those injured.

In the face of this senseless and cowardly act, the United States will continue to stand with the Somali government, its people, and our international allies to combat terrorism and support their efforts to achieve peace, security, and prosperity.

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## [Press Releases: U.S.-China EcoPartnerships Program](#)

Media Note  
Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
October 13, 2017

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The United States and China welcome three new EcoPartnerships for 2017. Over the past nine years, the State Department-sponsored Ecopartnerships program has facilitated 42 partnerships among experts and innovators from U.S. and Chinese cities, companies, universities, and NGOs. Those partnerships have produced tangible results in addressing the challenges facing the energy and environmental technology sectors.

The three new EcoPartnerships for 2017 are:

**Capstone Turbine and BROAD Air Conditioning** will develop combined cooling-heating power (CCHP) systems to improve energy efficiency in buildings.

**National Resource Defense Council and Shenzhen Power Supply Bureau** will focus on the establishment of market mechanisms for energy demand response, the integration of renewable energy into power grids, and best practices for the design of electricity pricing and grid planning policies.

**Louisiana State University and the Chinese Academy of Sciences** will work together on conservation and management of wetlands through joint data collection and analysis that will develop research capabilities in both countries.

EcoPartnerships mobilize private sector investment and leverage capital to move forward new and innovative solutions to global energy and environmental challenges, creating new opportunities for U.S. companies. EcoPartners invaluable peer-to-peer collaborations have led to the piloting of new technologies and systems and the sharing of best practices in these fast moving fields.

For more information visit <http://ecopartnerships.lbl.gov>. For media inquiries, please contact Georgia Mu at [MuGK@state.gov](mailto:MuGK@state.gov).

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# Press Releases: Remarks With Secretary General of the Organization of American States Luis Almagro Before Their Meeting

Remarks

Rex W. Tillerson

Secretary of State

Treaty Room

Washington, DC

October 13, 2017

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**SECRETARY TILLERSON:** Good afternoon, all. I want to welcome Secretary General Luis Almagro to the State Department. A pleasure to have you here, sir, and thank you for coming.

**SECRETARY GENERAL ALMAGRO:** Thank you.

**QUESTION:** Secretary Tillerson, are you confident that you can get the

Europeans to renegotiate the Iran deal?

**SECRETARY TILLERSON:** Well, I think – to our friends and allies in Europe, I think we have a real opportunity to address all the threats that are posed by Iran. I think the plan the President’s laid out has been quite clear in terms of articulating those threats; that really, it’s in all of our interests to work together. And I fully expect that our allies and friends in Europe and in the region are going to be very supportive in efforts undertaken to deal with Iran’s threats. Thank you.

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## [Press Releases: Secretary Tillerson’s Meeting With OAS Secretary General Almagro](#)

Readout  
Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
October 13, 2017

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The below is attributable to Spokesperson Heather Nauert:□

Secretary Tillerson hosted Secretary General of the Organization of American States (OAS) Luis Almagro today at the U.S. Department of State in Washington, DC. The two leaders underscored the important role and leadership of the organization in addressing the situation in Venezuela in collaboration with the broader international community, and reiterated the need for Venezuelan authorities to conduct fully free and fair gubernatorial elections □on October 15.

They also discussed the importance of pressing ahead with OAS reform so as to

build a stronger and more vibrant institution capable of responding effectively to regional challenges. They discussed the vital role of the OAS as the premier multilateral forum for the promotion and defense of democracy, human rights, development and regional security cooperation in the Western Hemisphere.

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