

16th November 2022

Weekly Digest



Advisory
Services
Newsletter



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Terrorism Update

The current threat level for the UK is 'SUBSTANTIAL', meaning a terror attack is 'likely'. For further information see [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).

Sharia Law in Full Effect as Afghan Supreme Leader Instructs Obligatory Observance (CNN 15th November)

Afghan's supreme leader, Hibatullah Akhundzada, has instructed Afghani judges to fully enforce sharia law after instructing its observance at the weekend. Despite assurances to the contrary from the Taliban, rights and freedoms have been steadily restricted since they retook the country following the withdrawal of US troops last year. The strict observance of the law now means floggings, amputations and public executions will be used adding to already existing laws restricting work for women and a ban on secondary education for girls and women travelling alone. The country is already facing a hunger crisis as CNN reports 43% of the population are surviving on less than one meal a day.

PKK Refuse to Claim Responsibility for Istanbul Attack Killing Six (Independent 14th November) ^{1.} ^{2.}

At least 46 people have been arrested in Turkey following Sunday's Istanbul bomb which killed six and wounded more than 80 people. Turkish authorities later released a statement saying they had arrested Ahlam Albashir, a Syrian woman, believed to have left the explosives on the bench shortly before detonation had entered Turkey illegally via Syria and had suspected links to Kurdish militants. No group has claimed responsibility for the attack although Turkish ministers are claiming it was carried out by the PKK (Kurdistan Workers Party). The PKK maintain they do not target civilians and are not responsible for the attack.

Brussels Man Suspected of Murdering Police Officer Was on Watchlist (The National 11th November) ^{3.}

The man responsible for the terror attack on two Belgian police officers, killing one and wounding his colleague, was on a terror watchlist and had made himself and his intent known to officers when he attended a police station earlier in the day. The 32 year-old, named as Yassine M, approached a patrol car in Brussels on Thursday evening, stabbing to death the driver and seriously injuring his colleague. Yassine was said to have exclaimed 'Allahu Akbar' prior to the attack. It is understood the suspect served time in prison between 2013 and 2019 for violent offences and was on an extremist list of prisoners thought to have been radicalised when serving their sentence. Yassine had attended a police station earlier in the day making 'unhinged remarks' before requesting psychological assistance and was escorted to hospital. He made off from the hospital and discovered missing when officers reattended the hospital later in the day. The suspect was shot at the scene by counter terror officers and remains in hospital, his condition is not life threatening. The terror threat level in Belgium was NOT raised following the attack.



Headline 1:
[Taliban in Afghanistan](#)
(CNN 2022)



Headline 2:
[Turkish Officers](#)
[Investigating Bombing](#)
(DailyMail 2022)

World News

Russia and Ukraine Blame Each Other for Poland Missile Attack (Politico 15th November)

Russia and Ukraine blame each other; Poland's foreign minister confirmed the missile was Russian made; Poland's president, said it was 'probably' Russian made and US President Joe Biden said the trajectory of the missile confirmed it did not come from Russia. Mystery still surrounds those responsible for the attack on the Polish border on Tuesday evening that killed two, with world leaders meeting at the G20 in Bali refusing to speculate until more details emerge. Poland's President, Andrzej Duda, refused to confirm the weapon was Russian made as Ukraine also uses Russian missiles, making their provenance irrelevant in identifying who fired the missile. The strike coincided with a days-long Russian bombardment of missiles on specific Ukrainian energy targets. Russia is considered by some a likely source of the Polish attack as reports from Kyiv suggest they launched 90 missiles at Ukraine throughout the evening, 73 of which were shot down. Speculation online, 'fueled by Russian bots' – claims Politico, suggests the missiles were erroneously fired from Ukraine. The consequences of a Russian attack on a NATO member country could trigger Article 5 of the NATO charter which calls for member-states to provide a joint response that may include military action. Jens Stoltenberg, Secretary General of NATO is to chair an emergency meeting in Brussels today (Wednesday) with ambassadors to discuss the incident.

Virginia Uni Ex- Running Back Kills Team Mates as Manhunt Ends in Arrest (The National 14th November) ⁴.

Christopher Darnell Jones, a 22 year-old University of Virginia student, murdered three ex-team members and injured two others in a mass shooting in the US at the weekend, after opening fire inside a bus full of students returning from a trip on Sunday evening. The student who was part of the football team for the 2018 season (but didn't get to play due to an old injury) had recently complained to his father about bullying and was described as paranoid in their last phone call. The campus went into lockdown for 12 hours as an overnight manhunt for the suspect ended in his arrest 75 miles away. It has been alleged University officials were made aware he was in possession of a firearm prior to the offence and had reached out to him. Jones was charged with three counts of second-degree murder and three counts of using a handgun in the commission of a crime, he remains in hospital with non-life threatening injuries.

France to Increase Channel Patrols by 40% After New Deal Signed (Independent 14th November)

Britain and France signed a one year deal worth over Euro 72Million this week, to help address the surge in channel crossings that have seen 40,000 migrants arrive in the UK illegally this year alone. The deal includes: 100 extra French officers patrolling their beaches and coasts for departures (there are currently 200 officers patrolling the coastline); British staff assisting French control rooms and vice versa and investment in CCTV, dog units, drones and night vision. The deal brings the total amount of money given to France by the UK to help tackle the illegal immigration issue to Euro 200Million since 2018. France will use the funds to invest in reception and removal centres for migrants to deter repeated attempts. The UK government also announced this week the use of holiday camps and student accommodation to house illegal immigrants in the hope of relieving the financial burden of housing them in hotels at a cost of GBP Seven Million a day.



Headline 1:
[U of VA Murdered Students](#)
(The National 2022)

Headline 2:
[Suella Braverman and Gerald Darmanin](#)
(Independent 2022)



Wilson James Health and Safety team have asked all WJ colleagues to view the attached QR link to their Behavioural Safety video and to register their details on completion.



Industry News

CLIMATE

'Global Shield' Providing Immediate Relief to Pakistan Announced at COP27 (The National 11th November)

Week two of Cop 27 continued in Sharm-el-Sheikh, Egypt, as the conference agenda shifted its focus to the new funding initiative for the poorest nations. Co-ordinated by Germany and G7, 'Global Shield' aims to: *"provide climate-vulnerable countries with rapid access to insurance and disaster protection funding after floods or drought"*. The 58 climate vulnerable nations will receive more than EURO 200Million. Germany's Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Svenja Schulze, differentiated between this fund and the loss and damage fund being discussed at the conference, stating it was not a tactic to 'side-step' those responsibilities, adding: *"Those most affected by climate impacts need practical action now."* So far Germany has pledged over Euro 170Million, Ireland Euro 10Million and France Euro 20Million with Canada and Denmark also committing funds. Bangladesh, Costa Rica, Fiji, Ghana, Pakistan, the Philippines and Senegal will be some of the first recipients.

BIG TECH

Meta Confirms 11,000 Layoffs Worldwide with 650 Jobs Going in UK (Independent 9th November)

Meta CEO, Mark Zuckerberg apologised to staff last week, via a company wide message, where he admitted 'getting it wrong' and confirmed the sacking of 11,000 staff. Zuckerberg, assumed the boost in e-commerce since the pandemic would continue and employed extra staff to mitigate against the Meta workload. As a result Meta increased their UK employee headcount from 3,745 in 2020 to 5,148 in 2021 but is now expected to reduce that by at least 650 with another 350 job losses expected in Ireland. Meta's action is following a trend in the tech industry that has seen 60,000 job losses so far this year, as almost all tech giants banked on the e-commerce industry boom continuing for much longer. The surprising trend has also caused problems for the tech sector on the stock exchange, contributing to rumours of an impending global recession. Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas, a leading French economist, writing for the IMP (International Monetary Fund) stated:

"This year's shocks will reopen economic wounds that were only partially healed post-pandemic...In short, the worst is yet to come".

ACTIVISM

Winter of Discontent a Certainty as Nationwide Strike Action Looms (Standard 11th November) ⁵.

The nationwide strike action planned for the end of this month threatens to cripple the country as University staff and teachers; Train Drivers and staff; NHS workers; Fire Brigade; Civil Servants; Royal Mail staff; Tube staff; BT staff and Airport workers are all expected to engage in action towards the end of this month. The following dates are expected to see significant industrial action: **University staff (and possibly teachers)** – 24th, 25th, 30th November; **Scotsrail** - 19th November, every Friday and Saturday to Christmas; **RMT** –, **drivers** striking 26th and 27th November; **Royal Mail** - 24th and 25th, 30th November and 1st December; **Bus strikes (London)** – 22nd, 25th, 26th November and December 1, 2, 3, 9, 10, 16 and 17. **Tube Strikes – Overground** 26th November; **Heathrow Staff** – 18th, 19th and 20th November; **NHS** and **Civil servants** staff voted to strike, dates **TBC** and **Fire Brigades Union** members are currently **voting on strike action**. Staff are encouraged to keep abreast of the latest updates and plan journeys accordingly.

Activism Updates

ACTIVISM

Saturday 19th November – Justice for Chris Kaba

Location: Guildhall, Portsmouth @Midday

Cause: Chris Kaba Vigil

Details: [Justice for Chirs Kaba](#)

Saturday 19th November – Worldwide Rally for Freedom 10.0

Location: Global event and Nationwide @13:00

Nationwide and **Global** actions, multiple locations across UK

Cause: Freedom Rally

Details: [WWD 10.0](#)

Saturday 19th November – Official Voice Protest

Location: Speakers Corner, Hyde Park, London@13:00

Cause: Official Voice – unidentified action planned

Details: [Official Voice](#)

DATES/EVENTS TO NOTE

It is likely some of the following list of notable dates or events will see some form of travel disruption. Please check for local updates.

NOVEMBER

Pal Action Activist Camps – On-going

Pal Action – Activist camp outside Elbit site, Leicester.

Pal Action - Activist camp outside Shenstone Factory, Lichfield.

Subscribe today to receive bespoke threat intelligence alerts and profiles on threat actors during activist campaigns please contact advisoryservices@wilsonjames.co.uk

STRIKE ACTION NOVEMBER:

Heathrow Staff – 18th, 19th and 20th November

University Lecturers – 24th, 25th and 30th November

Royal Mail - 24th, 25th and 30th November

Trains – 19th, 26th and 27th November

London Buses – 22nd, 25th, and 26th November

London Tube – 26th November (Overground)

OTHER NOTABLE EVENTS

MOVEMBER – Awareness campaign for Prostate and testicular cancer and men’s mental health throughout November.

**NOVEMBER 19TH 1PM
SPEAKERS CORNER,
MASK, FLYERS NO SIGNS,
TIME FOR SOMETHING
DIFFERENT PLEASE
SHARE.**

official_voice

[Official Voice \(2022\)](#)



PROTECT DUTY

KNOW YOUR THREAT/KNOW YOUR RESPONSE

KNOW YOUR THREAT

Know how to spot suspicious behaviour, engage regularly with [PROTECTUK](#) where you can keep up to date on the latest training and guidance.

KNOW YOUR RESPONSE

Provide updated and regular threat briefings. Maintain an effective risk assessment. Maintain training and engagement with **PROTECT UK**.

MARAUDING TERRORIST ATTACK

GUIDE

- Know your evacuation routes.
 - Ensure you familiarise yourself with alternative routes should paths become blocked.
- Be able to inform and guide people with clear instructions.

SHELTER

- Know your first aid plans and RVPs.
- Lock/barricade yourself in.
- Move away from the door.

COMMUNICATE

- Know who to tell - Ensure incident escalations are fully updated with correct contact details and shared appropriately.
- Location, Suspects, Directions, Descriptions.

SUSPICIOUS ITEMS

CONFIRM

- Has it been deliberately hidden.
- Is it typical for this location.
- Is it obviously suspicious.

CLEAR

- Do not touch the item, stay away from the hazard.
- Be out of sight of the item or behind hard cover.
- Cordon off the area in advance of police arrival.

COMMUNICATE

- Inform your control room/supervisor
- DO NOT USE MOBILE PHONES/RADIOS within 15m.

CONTROL

- Public should be stopped from entering the area.
- Try to keep eyewitnesses on scene.

BOMB THREAT

- Remain calm and talk to the caller
 - Note the caller's number and record the call
 - Write down the exact wording and time of call
1. Where exactly is the bomb right now?
 2. When is it going to explode?
 3. What does it look like?
 4. What does the bomb contain?
 5. How will it be detonated?
 6. Who put the device in place?
 7. What is your name?
 8. What is your address?
 9. Do you represent a group or acting alone?
 10. Why have you placed the bomb?

Note the following:

The caller's

Sex / Nationality / Age

What threat language was used

Well spoken / Irrational / Incoherent

Caller's voice

Calm / Excited / Accent – note if possible

Background sounds

Street noises/House noises

Please feel free to engage with Wilson James Advisory Services to further connect to the Protect Duty Program

Reach out to us by emailing Advisoryservices@wilsonjames.co.uk

Protest Guidance

GENERAL ADVICE

- It is recommended you maintain a good awareness of your surroundings if in the vicinity of a demonstration or public gathering as some protests may escalate into violence.
- Anticipate localised travel disruption in the area of the demonstration.
- Allow additional time for journeys or arrange alternate routes to minimise potential delays.
- If in the area of a spontaneous protest, it is recommended to leave the area by the quickest means possible and seek a secure location.
- Continue to monitor media sources for updates and additions to the scheduled events.
- Consider the possibility of regular protests occurring throughout the summer as they are often not isolated events, with activists returning to the same locations time and again.

KEEPING STAFF INFORMED AND PREPARED

- Inform staff that routes to work may be impacted by protest groups.
- Keep staff updated and provide guidance on how to approach the site (e.g. consider dressing down, no identification on display on approach to site, organised travel from transport hubs).
- Morning Briefs to include lockdown measures and scenario discussion to aid confidence in SOPs.
- Escalation and Incident procedures to be brief. Allocated Team Leads to be communicated.
- Named First Aiders on site to be communicated to the rest of the team daily.

ACCESS CONTROL

- Secondary access points to be used, in order to keep main access areas clear.
- Perimeter Surveillance to be proactively undertaken.
- Reinforce security on approach to site.

PATROLS

- To identify suspicious activity in the area.
- Vary patrols by changing routes and frequency.
- Check all exterior perimeter fencing.

STAFF

- Consider increasing the number of staff on duty.
- Consider patrolling in pairs if appropriate.
- Staff access to the building may be prevented. Consideration should be given to working from another location.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND CYBER SECURITY

- Monitor social media platforms for chatter regarding protests in your vicinity.
- Further guidance to staff could be given regarding their personal cyber security to ensure no cyber-attacks via home working Wi-Fi.

Ukrainian Donations Information

For those wishing to donate to the war effort in Ukraine or to support the Ukrainian refugees please see the following sites for advice and guidance on how best to do so.

Cash donations:

A cash donation means charities can help with whatever is needed, source things locally, and transport items quickly. It also means volunteers can concentrate on the response, rather than sorting and transporting donations.

[Red cross Donations](#)

[UNHCR Donations](#)

[UNICEF Donations](#)

Helping a Ukrainian friend or family member:

Please contact the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office:

email fcdo.correspondence@fcdo.gov.uk

calling: **020 7008 5000**

British nationals who need assistance:

Consular support is available through the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office 24-hour helpline:

+380 44 490 3660 (from Ukraine)

+44 (0) 1908 516666 (from the UK).



Contact
Advisoryservices@wilsonjames.co.uk