

11th Hour

Turkey plans to open embassy in Jerusalem

Istanbul

Turkey intends to open an embassy in East Jerusalem, President Tayyip Erdogan said yesterday, days after leading calls at a summit of Muslim leaders for the world to recognise it as the capital of Palestine.

It was not clear how he would carry out the move, as Israel controls all of Jerusalem. Palestinians want the capital of a future state they seek to be in East Jerusalem, which Israel took in a 1967 war and later annexed in a move not recognised internationally. (*Reuters*)



Pentagon admits running secret UFO investigation



Bitcoin futures are about to get another big boost



Republicans confident tax bill will pass





His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa during a ceremony held to pay homage to fallen soldiers at Sakhir Palace yesterday. (Report on Page 4)



United Nations

The United Nations Security Council is considering a draft resolution that would insist any decisions on the status of Jerusalem have no legal effect and must be rescinded after U.S. President Donald Trump recognised the city as Israel's capital.

The one-page Egyptiandrafted text, which was circulated to the 15-member council on Saturday and seen by Reuters, does not specifically mention the United States or Mr Trump. Diplomats say it has broad support but will likely be vetoed by Washington.

The council could vote early next week, diplomats said. A resolution needs nine votes in favour and no vetoes by the United States, France, Britain, Russia or China to pass.

Trump abruptly reversed decades of U.S. policy this month when he recognised Jerusalem as Israel's capital, generating outrage from Palestinians. Trump also plans to move the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv.

After the decision, Arab foreign ministers agreed to seek a U.N. Security Council resolution. While the draft is unlikely to be adopted, it would further isolate Trump over the Jerusalem issue. The U.S. mission to the United Nations declined to comment on the draft. U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley has praised Trump's decision as "the just and right thing to do." The draft U.N. resolution "affirms that any decisions and actions which purport to have altered, the character, status or demographic composition of the Holy City of Jerusalem have no legal effect, are null and void and must be rescinded in compliance with relevant resolutions of the Security Council."

It calls upon all countries to refrain establishing diplomatic missions in Jerusalem. Israel considers the city its eternal and indivisible capital and wants all embassies based there. "No vote or debate will change the clear reality that Jerusalem" is the capital of Israel, Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, Danny Danon, said in a statement. -Reuters



calendar.bh

Events Calendar of the Kingdom of Bahrain