

WORLD
world**Turkey's Erdogan, main rival stage final election rallies**
Istanbul

President Tayyip Erdogan and his main challenger, Muharrem Ince, made a final push for support at rival rallies in Istanbul yesterday, a day before presidential and parliamentary elections widely viewed as the most crucial in Turkey for decades.

The winner of Sunday's presidential contest will acquire sweeping new executive powers under a constitutional overhaul backed by Erdogan and endorsed last year by a narrow majority of Turks in a referendum.

Erdogan, who has dominated Turkish politics for 15 years, first as prime minister and since 2014 as president, praised the executive presidency that comes into force after the election.

"God willing, Turkey will start flying with this system... With this system, we will achieve what others cannot imagine," he told tens of thousands of supporters at a rally in Istanbul's Esenyurt district, the first of five planned for Saturday.

Iraq PM warns against stockpiling weapons

Baghdad, Iraq

Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi warned yesterday he would not allow militias to stockpile arms, two weeks after a weapons depot belonging to an armed group exploded in Baghdad.

"There are groups who have taken advantage of the war against (the Islamic State group) to stock up weapons in order to threaten the state," Abadi said at a conference at Baghdad's Defence University for Military Studies.

"They wanted to be stronger than the state in order to blackmail civilians," he said. "This we will not allow."

Pakistani Taliban appoints new chief

Peshawar/Dera Ismail Khan

The Pakistani Taliban named Mufi Noor Wali Mehsud as the new leader yesterday, a week after the previous chief Mullah Fazlullah was killed in a US-Afghan air strike in Afghanistan. Fazlullah was killed on June 15 in a strike in the eastern Afghan province of Kunar, which is on the Pakistani border. This was the first time the Taliban had publicly admitted to Fazlullah's death.

Iran will face 'wrath of the entire world', says Pompeo

US Secretary of State hopes that it would never be necessary to take military action against the Iran

● **Pompeo hopes it would never be necessary for the United States to take military action against the country.**

Reuters | Washington

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo yesterday warned Iran not to pursue nuclear weapons, saying it would face the "wrath of the entire world" if it did so, but added that he hoped it would never be necessary for the United States to take military action against the country.

In an interview with political columnist Hugh Hewitt con-



US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo

ducted on Friday and broadcast the following day on MSNBC, Pompeo said that whatever the fate of the international nu-

clear deal with Iran, it would not be in Tehran's interest to seek nuclear arms.

"I hope they understand



I'm not talking to military action here. I truly hope that that's never the case

MIKE POMPEO

that if they begin to ramp up their nuclear programme, the wrath of the entire world will fall upon them," he said.

"Wholly separate from if they spin a couple of extra centrifuges, if they began to move to a weapons program, this is something the entire world would find unacceptable and

we'd end up down a path that I don't think is in the best interests of Iran," Pompeo said.

He said, however, he was not talking about a US military response.

"When I say wrath, don't confuse that with military action. When I say wrath, I mean the moral opprobrium and economic power that fell upon them. That's what I'm speaking to. I'm not talking to military action here. I truly hope that that's never the case. It's not in anyone's best interests for that."

Pressed on whether the United States would do whatever it had to do to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons, Pompeo said: "President Trump has been unambiguous in his statements that say Iran will not be able to obtain a nuclear weapon."

Rights lawyer faces Iran's ire

Sotoudeh represented several women arrested for protesting against the mandatory wearing of headscarves

● **Sotoudeh was detained in her Tehran home on June 13**

● **Her arrest has been condemned by the US and Amnesty**

Tehran, Iran

Award-winning Iranian human rights lawyer Nasrin Sotoudeh faces prosecution on state security charges following her arrest in the capital last week, her husband said yesterday.

Sotoudeh, 55, denies the charges but remains in the women's wing of Tehran's notorious Evin prison after refusing to post bail of \$95,000 (more than 80,000 euros), Reza Khandan told the ISNA news agency.

"My wife is accused of conspiracy, assembly and propaganda against the system" of rule of the Islamic republic, Khandan said.

"My wife considers the accusations against her to be baseless and made up, and the bail demand to be disproportionate," he added.

Sotoudeh, who is one of the few outspoken advocates for human rights in Iran, was detained in her Tehran home on June 13.

Her arrest has been condemned by the US State Department and human rights group Amnesty International, which both called for her immediate release.

Earlier this year, Sotoudeh represented several women ar-



Iran arrests human rights lawyer Nasrin Sotoudeh after she criticised judiciary

rested for protesting against the mandatory wearing of headscarves in Iran.

Tehran police said in February that 29 women had been detained for posing in public without their headscarves.

Sotoudeh won the European Parliament's prestigious Sakharov rights award in 2012 for her work on high-profile human rights and political cases, including those on death row for offences committed as minors.

She spent three years in prison between 2010 and 2013 for "actions against national se-

A new criminal code in Iran allows only a small number of lawyers -- just 20 in Tehran -- to represent individuals charged with state security offences.

curity" and spreading "propaganda against the system" and remains banned from representing political cases or leaving Iran until 2022.

Sotoudeh has defended journalists and activists including Nobel Peace laureate Shirin Ebadi and several dissidents arrested during mass protests in 2009 against the disputed re-election of hardline president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

She had recently spoken out against a new criminal code that allowed only a small number of lawyers -- just 20 in Tehran -- to represent individuals charged with state security offences.

During her previous spell in Evin, Sotoudeh staged two hunger strikes in protest at the conditions and over a ban on seeing her son and daughter.

She was released in September 2013 shortly before Iran's then newly elected President Hassan Rouhani, who had campaigned on a pledge to improve civil rights, attended the UN General Assembly.

Time apologises for Trump cover story

Daily Mail | London

Time magazine has issued a correction to a controversial cover story about a Honduran migrant girl who they said was taken from her mother by US border patrol agents after it was revealed that the pair were never separated at all.

Three-year-old Yanela Denise became the unintentional face of the now defunct family separation crisis after photographer John Moore captured her agonized face screaming as her mother was questioned by agents on June 12. After the picture was taken,

the pair were taken together to a family detention center. Yanela's father has since told DailyMail.com that they are 'safe'.

The magazine photoshopped an image to place her at the foot of a towering Donald Trump and the words 'Welcome to America' appeared next to it.

In the story, despite Moore having told the magazine that he did not know what became of the girl after he took the picture, the journalist wrote that she had been taken away like the thousands of other children who have been.

