



### United Kingdom

#### **British royal family again recipient of dubious money**

After the British heir to the throne received millions in cash from a former Qatari prime minister, it has now become known that Osama bin Laden's family was also in a mood to donate.

Britain's heir to the throne, Prince Charles, has accepted a £1m donation from terrorist Osama bin Laden's half-brothers. The money went to the Prince of Wales Charitable Fund, British media reported.

Queen Elizabeth II's eldest son met Saudi businessman Bakr bin Laden in October 2013 at his London residence, Clarence House. Several advisors had asked the



British heir to the throne not to accept or pay back the money. However, Charles ignored their concerns that the donation could damage his reputation.

Osama bin Laden, one of the masterminds of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks in the United States that killed thousands and founder of Al Qaeda, was killed by US special forces in Pakistan on May 2, 2011. There is no evidence that Bakr bin Laden and his brother Shafiq were involved in the attacks or that they support terrorism.

It's not the first time Charles has been criticized for making a donation to his foundation. Just a few months ago, the "Sunday Times" reported that the Queen's son accepted a total of three million euros in cash from Qatar's ex-Prime Minister Sheikh

Hamad bin Jasim Al Thani between 2011 and 2015. A million was stowed in a suitcase and other amounts in shopping bags from a well-known luxury department store.

### Germany

#### **Munich mayor meets with representatives of the "Grey Wolves"**

The Mayor of Munich, Dieter Reiter, repeatedly emphasizes that he is committed "against all forms of racism, anti-Semitism and right-wing violence". Research by the German newspaper "Die Welt" shows that the SPD politician allowed himself to be photographed with several leading figures of the Gray Wolves during visits by Turkish entrepreneurs in Munich. Among them, for example, the chairman of the Turkish Educational Institute in Bavaria. The association belongs to the largest umbrella organization of the Gray Wolves in Germany.

Reiter's answers to questions from journalists were rather tight-lipped. He didn't say a single word concerning the nationalist movement



Wolves and only mentioned that he wanted to advertise the third corona vaccination and that it was part of his job to fulfill requests for selfies.

Of course, the mayor of a city of over a million inhabitants cannot know every Turkish right-wing extremist. But he should know that Gray Wolves have been using

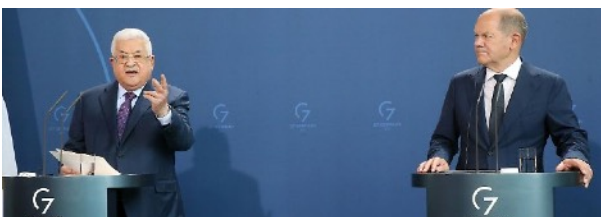
photos with democratic politicians to portray themselves as harmless for decades. And he should at least distance himself with clear words when confronted with the revaluation of nationalists.

Dieter Reiter cannot be accused of being close to the Gray Wolves in terms of content. But a naive political approach. If the Munich social democrat had been photographed with German right-wing extremists, his statement would have been different.

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## **Palestinian President Abbas accuses Israel of "Holocaust"**

Palestinian President Mahmud Abbas caused outrage with Holocaust allegations against Israel during a press conference with Chancellor Olaf Scholz in Berlin. "An incredible event in the Chancellery. The Chancellor should have clearly contradicted the Palestinian President and asked him to leave the house!" tweeted conservative opposition leader Friedrich Merz.



Abbas' statements were made at the end of the press conference and were no longer commented on by Scholz. However, the chancellor spoke up later that evening. "Especially for us Germans, any relativization of the Holocaust is unbearable and unacceptable," he told the Bild newspaper. According to the Chancellor's Office, Scholz was outraged by his guest's statements and actually wanted to react immediately. Government spokesman Steffen Hebestreit ended the press conference as planned after Abbas' last reply.

Abbas was asked during the press conference whether he would apologize to Israel on the 50th anniversary of the attack on the Israeli Olympic team by Palestinian terrorists in Munich. The background to the question is the fact that Abbas was treasurer of the PLO in 1972 and presumably controlled the financing of the Munich terrorists. "Israel has committed 50 massacres in 50 Palestinian locations since 1947 to this day," the Palestinian President replied. Then he added: "50 massacres, 50 holocausts." Every day people are being killed by the Israeli army. "If we continue in the demand to dig up the past, yes please," he said. He didn't answer the actual question.

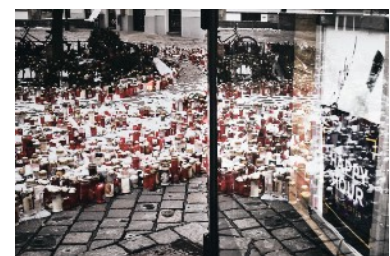
During the press conference, Abbas also equated the Israeli occupation with South African racial segregation during the apartheid era, but Scholz immediately objected. "I want to say explicitly at this point that I don't adopt the word apartheid and that I don't think that's the right way to describe the situation," said Scholz. Abbas had previously said the "transformation into the new reality of a single state in an apartheid system" does not serve security and stability in the region.

## **Austria**

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## **Charges against six men for involvement in Vienna terrorist attack**

One and a half years after the Islamist terrorist attack in Vienna, in which four people were killed and several others injured, the public prosecutor's office has completed its indictment. Accordingly, a total of six



suspects have to answer in court. All but one have been in custody for months.

According to the indictment, the six people "enabled, facilitated, secured or otherwise promoted" the terrorist attack of November 2, 2020. A defendant traveled to Slovakia with the assassin to buy ammunition; another "encouraged him in his decision to commit the crime on the occasion of a farewell visit". A third one actively supported him in "selecting his attack target" and commented positively on a farewell post.

A fourth accused planned the attack with the assassin and prepared "assault weapons including ammunition and other attack utensils", another handed him the weapons and ammunition. The sixth is accused of having helped organize the "weapons and ammunition purchase".

The indictment suggests that the suspects were significantly more involved than previously known. According to the indictment, more than 20 witnesses are invited to testify before court.

## **Israel/Turkey**

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### **Establishment of diplomatic relations**

Israel and Turkey want to fully resume diplomatic relations. Both countries have decided to reinstate ambassadors and consuls-general, the office of Israeli Prime Minister Jair Lapid said. This is the result of Lapid's visit to Ankara and talks with the Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

"The resumption of relations with Turkey is an important win for regional stability and important economic news for Israeli citizens," Lapid said.

The re-establishment of full diplomatic relations is the continuation of a rapprochement process over the past year,

it said. In May, Herzog was the first Israeli president to travel to Turkey in ten years.

The once close allies Turkey and Israel fell out in 2010 after ten Turkish citizens were killed when the Israeli navy stormed a Gaza solidarity ship. In 2016 there was a first rapprochement. However, since the Gaza crisis in 2018, which escalated around the opening of the US embassy in Jerusalem, the two countries have had no ambassadors in each other's countries.

