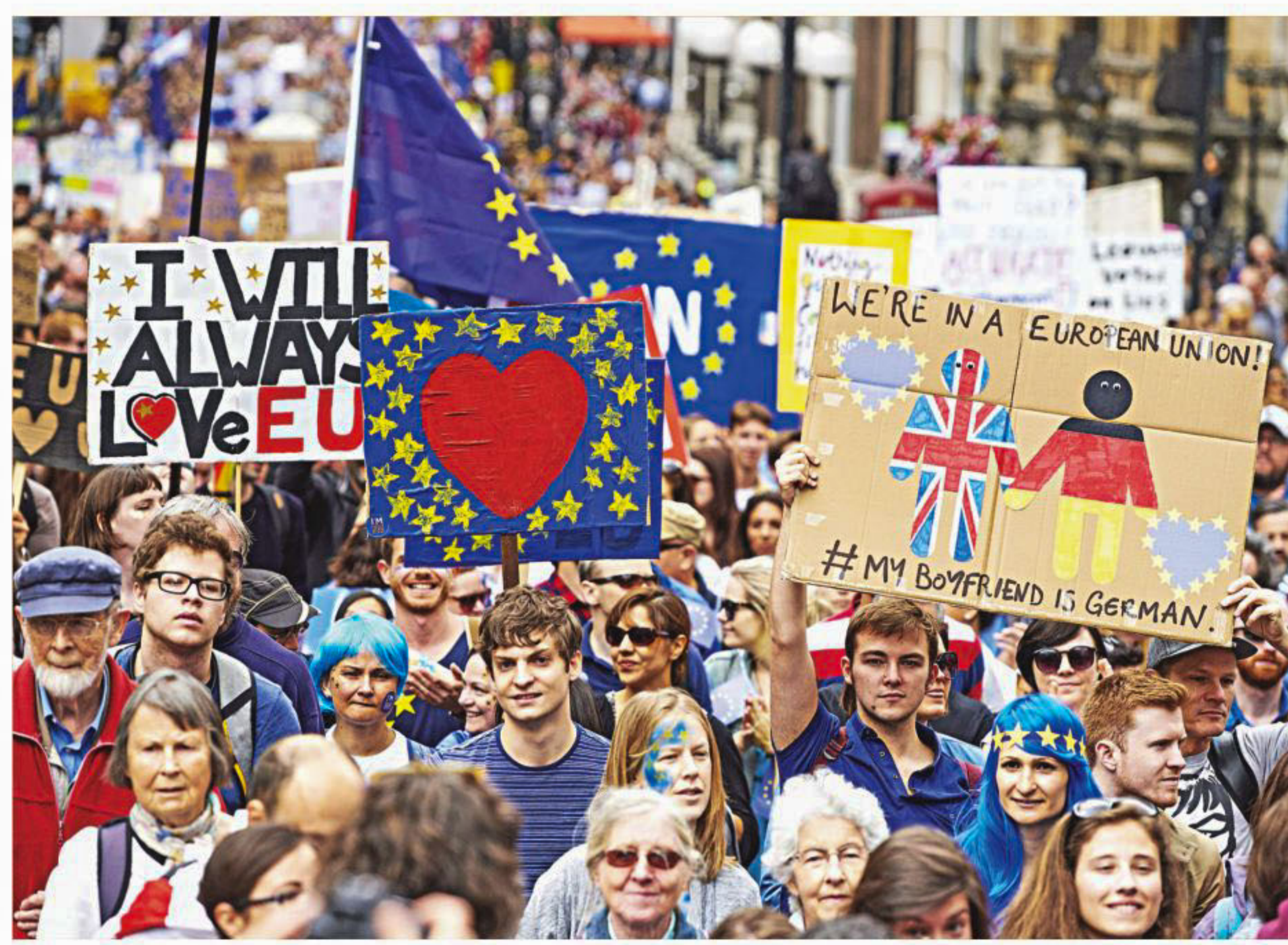


Landslides, flooding kill 25 in India

AFP, Dehradun
The death toll from landslides and flooding in northern India has risen to 25 after rescuers found more bodies buried under debris, officials said yesterday.
At least dozens more are missing after torrential rains triggered landslides and floods in the Himalayan states of Uttarakhand and Arunachal Pradesh.
Some 15 people have lost their lives so far in Uttarakhand and at least 10 were reported dead in the remote Arunachal Pradesh state.
Television images showed muddy, swirling floodwaters gushing through the area, while giant boulders and rocks blocked part of a national highway.
Hundreds die every year in floods and landslides during the monsoon season in South Asia.



Thousands of protesters gather in Parliament Square as they take part in a March for Europe, through the centre of London yesterday, to protest against Britain's vote to leave the EU, which has plunged the government into political turmoil and left the country deeply polarised.



NEWS IN brief

Serbian man kills 5 in cafe shooting

REUTERS, Belgrade
Five people were killed and another 22 were wounded early yesterday when a man entered a cafe in northern Serbia and opened fire with an assault rifle, police said. Police arrested the suspect, a man in his late 30s identified, immediately after the shooting during a local festival in the village of Zitiste. Officials said the man killed his estranged wife and another woman, before firing at others in the cafe with an assault rifle he illegally owned. Jealousy could be a motive, they added.

Maduro ends power rationing in Venezuela

REUTERS, Caracas
Venezuela as of Monday will end an electricity rationing program launched in April in response to a severe drought that crimped the operations of the OPEC nation's hydroelectric generators, President Nicolas Maduro on Friday. Maduro's government had rationed electricity in the provinces, cut the work week for public employees to two days per week, and canceled school on Fridays to save power as the country's massive Guri dam dried up.

Nato, Russia to discuss air safety on July 13

REUTERS, Moscow
The Nato-Russia Council (NRC) will meet on July 13 to discuss air safety measures over the Baltic Sea and other issues, RIA news agency cited a statement by the Russian Defence Ministry as saying on Saturday. Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu also said that Russia is starting work on a set of measures to improve aviation safety over the Baltic Sea, including a measure that would require Russian military aircraft to fly with transponders, or devices used for identification, turned on.

MAJOR IS ATTACKS



Indian social activists light candles during a protest in Kolkata yesterday, against a fatal attack on a restaurant in the Bangladeshi capital Dhaka.

- June 28, 2016: TURKEY**
At least 41 people are killed, including foreigners, and over 200 injured in a triple suicide bombing and gun attack at Istanbul's Ataturk airport. There is no claim of responsibility but authorities say evidence points to the Islamic State group.
- June 12, 2016: UNITED STATES**
A gunman who claims allegiance to IS opens fire inside a gay bar in Orlando, Florida and kills 49 people in the deadliest mass shooting in US history. IS later says the man was a fighter for their Islamic caliphate. The next day in France, a man who also claims allegiance to IS kills a police officer and his companion with a knife in Magnanville, west of Paris.
- March 22, 2016: BELGIUM**
Suicide attacks claimed by IS kill 32 people and wound more than 300 at the Brussels airport and Maelbeek metro station, near European Union offices. They appear to have been carried out by members of the same cell that committed attacks in Paris four months earlier.
- January 12, 2016: TURKEY**
Twelve German tourists are killed in a suicide attack in central Istanbul. On March 19, three Israeli tourists and an Iranian are killed by a suicide bomber at an Istanbul shopping centre. Turkish authorities attribute both attacks to IS.
- November 13, 2015: FRANCE**
Coordinated suicide attacks in Paris kill 130 people and wound more than 350 at the Bataclan concert hall, cafes and the national stadium. IS claims responsibility for the attacks.
- November 12, 2015: LEBANON**
An attack claimed by IS in a Shia Hezbollah stronghold south of Beirut kills 44 people.
- October 31, 2016: EGYPT**
An Airbus jetliner owned by a Russian company crashes with 224 people on board in the Sinai desert after a bomb rips a hole in the plane. IS claims responsibility.
- October 10, 2016: TURKEY**
A suicide attack kills 103 people and wounds more than 500 at the central train station in Ankara. Turkish authorities attribute the attack to IS, as they did following an attack on July 20 killed 34 people in Suruc.
- June 26, 2016: TUNISIA**
Gunmen kill 38 people, including 30 British tourists, at a beach hotel in Sousse, a little more than three months after a similar attack at the Bardo museum in Tunis kills 22 people, including 21 foreign tourists. In November, a third assault on a bus carrying presidential guards in Tunis kills 12.
- May 13, 2015: PAKISTAN**
Gunmen storm a bus in Karachi and kill 45 people who belong to the Shiite Ismaili minority. IS claims the attack, its first in majority Sunni Pakistan.
- March 20, 2015: YEMEN**
Coordinated attacks kill at least 142 people and wound more than 350 in the first action claimed by IS in Yemen.
- January 8, 2015: FRANCE**
A gunman who claims allegiance to IS kills a policewoman in a Paris suburb before attacking a Jewish supermarket the next day, where he kills four more people.

SOURCE: PARIS

Syrian strikes Damascus suburb after pilot killing

Dozens killed; two IS military commanders killed in Iraq

AGENCIES
Heavy regime bombardment of a rebel-held Syrian town yesterday killed more than 30 people including two medical staff, as a two-year local truce broke down.
The raids attest to intensifying violence in Syria despite international efforts aimed at bolstering a nationwide ceasefire between government forces and non-jihadist rebels.
Yesterday's shelling hit the town of Jayrud, 60 kilometres (35 miles) northeast of Damascus, where the army said Islamist militants killed a regime pilot after he was forced to eject on Friday.
In a statement, the military had pledged that the attack on its pilot "will not go unpunished".
Sources said artillery fire and air strikes on the town killed at least 31 people including two medics. It was not immediately clear how many were civilians.

Anti-regime groups in Jayrud include the Saudi-backed Jaish al-Islam (Army of Islam), the hardline Ahrar al-Sham, and al-Qaeda affiliate Al-Nusra Front.
He said the town is home to some 60,000 people and that the bombardment had not stopped since early yesterday.
More than 280,000 people have been killed since Syria's conflict began in March 2011 with protests demanding Assad's ouster.
Meanwhile, a Pentagon official on Friday said a US-led coalition air strike killed Islamic State's deputy minister of war and a military commander in Mosul on June 25.
The strike near Mosul killed Basim Muhammad Ahmad Sultan al-Bajari, the deputy minister of war, who oversaw the militant group's capture of Mosul in 2014, Pentagon spokesman Peter Cook said.
The other Islamic State member killed in the strike was Hatim Talib al-Hamduni, a military commander in Mosul, Cook added.



18 injured in Makkah stampede

AFP, Riyadh
Eighteen pilgrims have been injured in a stampede near Islam's holiest site, Saudi media reported yesterday, as the kingdom continues to review safety after a deadly crush during last year's hajj.
The incident happened on Friday night near the Grand Mosque in Makkah, the Al-Riyadh newspaper said, as Muslims gathered in large numbers to mark the Night of Destiny, one of the high points of the holy fasting month of Ramadan.
All the injured were treated at the scene and none required admission to hospital. The incident comes as Saudi authorities continue to unveil new safety measures for this year's hajj in September that killed more than 2,000 pilgrims.



AUSTRALIA GENERAL ELECTION

Australian Labor Party opposition leader Bill Shorten and his wife Chloe walk past election posters featuring current Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull as they leave a polling station after voting at a booth in Melbourne, yesterday on Australia's federal election day. Australia's ruling conservatives were struggling to win enough seats yesterday to form a government in a too close-to-call election, raising the prospect of a hung parliament. It is unclear if the ruling Liberal-National has won the 76 lower house seats it needs to form a ruling majority. All 150 seats in Australia's lower house, the House of Representatives, are up for grabs at the election, as are 76 seats in Australia's upper house, the Senate.

PHOTO: AFP

US reveals drone death toll

Says campaign killed up to 116 civilians outside war zones

CNN ONLINE
President Barack Obama's administration estimated Friday that between 64 and 116 civilians have died during the years 2009-2015 from US drone strikes outside of Iraq and Afghanistan.
In the same time span, the administration said between 2,372 and 2,581 militants had been taken out by drones.
The information was released as part of an effort by Obama to introduce more transparency into a controversial military tactic that he has defended as necessary to fight terror.
Human rights groups, however, were unsatisfied by the government's disclosed figures, which came in far lower than independent estimates of civilian casualties.
The numbers released Friday included deaths outside established war zones. The administration didn't specify which countries were included, though the military and CIA are believed to have carried out strikes in Pakistan, Yemen and various countries in Africa.



aren't killed by drones. The order also requires the administration to disclose yearly the civilian deaths from strikes.
Administration officials expressed confidence that Obama's successor would uphold his order.
Some human rights groups dismissed what they asserted was a woefully

low estimate of the true number of civilian deaths from US drone strikes.
"Although we welcome this release, it's hard to credit the government's death count, which is lower than all independent assessments," said Hina Shamsi, director of the American Civil Liberties Union's National Security Project. "The government continues to conceal the identities of people it has killed, the specific definitions it uses to decide who can legitimately be targeted, and its investigations into credibly alleged wrongful killings."
While the CIA drone program is widely reported upon and even referenced by government officials, it remains classified and individual strikes aren't typically confirmed by the agency.
That's left outside groups -- like the Bureau of Investigative Journalism, the Long War Journal and the New America Foundation -- to piece together reports of strikes to account for civilian deaths. Their counts range from 200 to 1,000 civilian deaths.

Israel bombs Gaza after rocket fire

AFP, Gaza City
Israeli air strikes hit four sites in the Gaza Strip yesterday, causing damage but no injuries, officials said, after Palestinian militants fired a rocket that struck a building in southern Israel.
The four sites included a workshop, two locations for Hamas's armed wing and a military training site for militant group Islamic Jihad, the security official said on condition of anonymity.
No group in Gaza claimed responsibility for firing the rocket, which came hours after Israel announced a lockdown on the city of Hebron in the occupied West Bank and cuts in monthly tax payments to the Palestinian Authority in response to attacks.

Hillary Clinton questioned by FBI on private emails

AFP, Washington
The FBI yesterday quizzed Democratic White House hopeful Hillary Clinton about her use of personal email while serving as secretary of state, a campaign spokesman said.
Questions on Clinton's use of a private account and homebrew server during her time as America's top diplomat have dogged her presidential campaign for more than a year, and fueled voter concerns that she is not trustworthy.
An aide said the interview at FBI headquarters in Washington lasted about 3.5 hours.
The interview signals the bureau's protracted criminal investigation could be entering its final phase, with a long-awaited decision nearing.
"Secretary Clinton gave a voluntary interview this morning about her email arrangements while she was secretary," spokesman Nick Merrill said in a statement.
His use of the word "voluntary" indicates

that Clinton was not subpoenaed for the interview.
"She is pleased to have had the opportunity to assist the Department of Justice in bringing this review to a conclusion," Merrill said.
"Out of respect for the investigative process, she will not comment further on her interview."
Clinton, aiming to become the nation's first female commander-in-chief, has apologized for exclusively using a private email account and her own server during her time as secretary of state from 2009 to 2013.
Opponents argue that this breached rules about protecting classified documents from cyber attack and may have amounted to a crime.
Her use of private email for official correspondence first came to light in 2015 during Republican-led congressional investigations into her handling of a militant attack on the US mission in Benghazi, Libya.

