

# SIX KEY QUESTIONS TO TRUMP'S TRAVEL BAN

It was a wild couple of days of chaos and confusion after US President Trump signed his travel ban. Not up to speed on what went down over the weekend? Here's a quick primer.

**WHAT HAPPENED?**  
President Trump signed an executive order Friday night to keep refugees from entering the country for 120 days and immigrants from seven predominantly Muslim nations out for three months. The countries affected are Iran, Iraq, Syria, Sudan, Libya, Yemen and Somalia. This is the "extreme vetting" Trump promised during the campaign, but it still seems to have caught folks by surprise.

Team Trump apparently never ran the order by officials at the Justice Department. Homeland Security officials weren't given much guidance about how the order would be implemented or enforced. Thus the confusion and chaos.

The ban snared green card holders and people with valid visas alike. Some travelers who were in the air when Trump signed the order weren't able to enter the country when they landed. Some were detained. Others were sent back to where they flew in from. Lawsuits began to fly and by Saturday night a federal judge had temporarily and partially blocked Trump's order.

**HOW BIG IS THE BACKLASH?**  
It's global. Hundreds showed up at airports across the country -- from New York to Atlanta to Dallas to Seattle -- to protest. Vocal crowds against the order gathered outside the White House.

Foreign leaders slammed the ban. UK Prime Minister Theresa May said "we do not agree with this kind of approach." German Chancellor Angela Merkel called Trump himself and reminded the President of the United States' obligations to refugees under the Geneva Conventions. London Mayor Sadiq Khan called the ban "shameful and cruel."

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau tweeted that refugees were welcome in Canada. Even some members of the President's own party joined in the melee. Sens John McCain and Lindsey Graham said the ban would only help ISIS and other militant groups recruit more terrorists.

**IS IT LEGAL?**  
That's the million-dollar question. Presidents have broad power in shaping immigration policy, but many critics feel parts of Trump's order are unconstitutional and discriminatory. There's already been pushback from the courts.

A federal judge in New York granted an emergency stay for citizens of the countries included in the ban and rules they can't be removed from the United States. A federal court in Washington issued a stay stopping travelers being detained there from being sent back to their home country. Federal judges in Boston ruled officials can't detain a person on the basis of Trump's executive order.

The Department of Homeland Security said on Sunday it will comply with judicial orders not to deport detained travelers.

**WHY THOSE SEVEN COUNTRIES?**  
The Trump administration pointed the finger at former President Obama. White House officials said the seven countries targeted in the executive order had already been deemed "countries of concern" for terrorism by the Obama administration. In December 2015 Obama signed into law a measure placing some restrictions on certain travelers from Iran, Iraq, Sudan or Syria. A couple of months later, Libya, Somalia and Yemen were added.

Trump's order is more broad than Obama's, though, banning all citizens from those seven nations from entering the country for three months. Many were quick to point out that although Trump has brought up 9/11 as part of the justification for keeping people from certain countries out, none of the countries where the 9/11 hijackers came from -- Saudi Arabia, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates and Lebanon -- was on the list.

**HOW ARE BUSINESSES AND COLLEGES AFFECTED?**  
There's panic in some US colleges and universities that have a large number of foreign students. Some students and faculty members fear they'll have to decide between careers or families. Some raced back to the United States as the executive order loomed, so they would be able to complete a degree. Now they're left to wonder when they'll get to see their families again if they remain in the United States.

Trump's order sent shock waves through the business world, too, especially the tech industry. Apple CEO Tim Cook denounced the executive order and promised to help employees affected by it, adding that without immigration "Apple would not exist." Google warned employees with a visa or green card from one of the banned countries to cancel any travel plans. Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg said the United States needs to keep its citizens safe, but should focus on "people who actually pose a threat."

**WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?**  
More lawsuits against the executive order are a near certainty. But the White House is also considering asking foreign visitors to disclose all the websites and social media sites they visit, as well as sharing all the contacts in their cellphones. If the visitor declined to share such information, that person would be denied entry to the United States. This idea is still being kicked around by administration officials and no one knows just how such a policy, if enacted, would work.

White House Chief of Staff Reince Priebus said more countries could be added to Trump's order of staff.

SOURCE: CNN

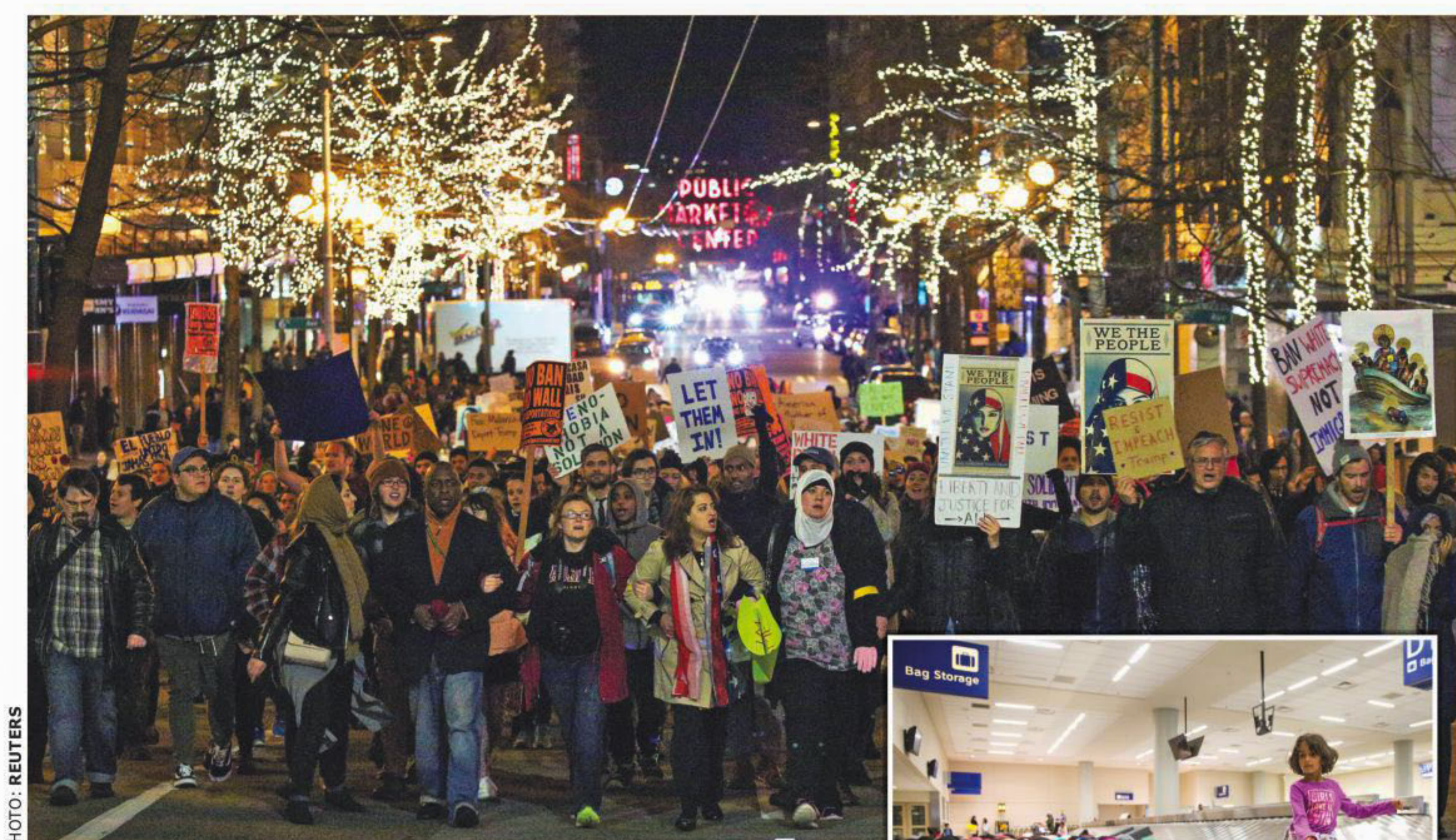


PHOTO: REUTERS

People march through downtown Seattle during a protest held in response to US President Donald Trump's travel ban in Seattle, Washington on Sunday night. Inset, a young girl dances with an American flag in baggage claim while women pray behind her during the anti-Trump protest at Fort Worth International Airport in Dallas, Texas.



## Pressure grows on May A 'blessed ban' IS hails Trump's Muslim immigration restrictions

More than a million British people sign anti-Trump petition over 'Muslim ban'

AFP, London

More than one million people had signed a petition yesterday demanding Britain cancel plans for a state visit by US President Donald Trump following his ban on travelers from mainly Muslim countries.

With Prime Minister Theresa May under growing pressure over her ties to Trump, opposition MPs and members of her own Conservative party have also urged ministers to reconsider the visit later this year, which would see Trump honoured by parliament and Queen Elizabeth II.

But a Downing Street spokeswoman said: "We've extended the invitation. It's been accepted."

May announced the state visit during talks with Trump at the White House on Friday, intended to reaffirm the "special relationship" and boost trade ties after Britain leaves the European Union.

But her closeness to the erratic billionaire drew fire at home, particularly when she initially failed to condemn his ban on refugees and citizens from seven mainly Muslim countries.

A petition calling for the state visit to be cancelled because his "well-documented misogyny and vulgarity disqualifies him" from meeting the queen passed one million

signatures yesterday morning.

Set up several months ago, the number of signatories has surged since Trump signed his executive order on Friday -- a move that triggered global protests, with more expected in Britain later yesterday.

"You are not welcome here, Mr President," headlined the Daily Mirror tabloid.

Opposition Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn, the smaller Liberal Democrats and the Scottish

National Party have all called for the state visit to be cancelled, as have some Tories.

"We have to question whether ... this is something that Britain should be doing for a man who has no respect for women, disdain for minorities, little value for LGBT communities, no compassion for the vulnerable and whose policies are rooted in divisive rhetoric," Conservative Muslim peer Sayeeda Warsi told BBC radio.



TRUMP'S STATE VISIT

Al Qaeda, IS and other jihadist groups are thrilled with US President Donald Trump's executive order on immigration targeting Muslim countries, describing it as proof that the US is at war with Islam.

IS-friendly channels on Telegram described the ban as "blessed", echoing how the US' 2003 invasion of Iraq was called a "blessed invasion" for reinvigorating anti-US sentiment in the region.

One user greeted the news of the so-called 'Muslim ban' as "the best caller to Islam," hoping it will draw Muslim Americans to their cause.

Several posts suggested that the prediction of Anwar al-Awlaki - a US-born al Qaeda leader killed in Yemen in 2011 - that "the West would eventually turn against its Muslim citizens" was coming true.

Confusion reigned at border control over the weekend over whether greencard holders and those with legal work or study visas should be sent back from the US or allowed to re-enter if currently overseas.

"[The ban] plays into this clash of civilisations idea, which is something that global jihadis need as fuel, to claim Americans are against them, that the West is against them," Dr Renad Mansour, a fellow from the Middle East and North Africa Programme at Chatham House, told The Independent.

"Trump is seen to be validating what they already claimed was happening."

The new administration's decision to implement the restrictions was met with outrage internationally and sparked protests at all of the US' major airports, where lawyers and translators flocked to help those affected.

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK



## Trump travel ban illegal Says UN rights chief

AGENCIES

US President Donald Trump's travel ban on citizens from mainly Muslim countries is illegal and "mean-spirited", the United Nations human rights chief, Zeid bin Ra'ad Zeid al-Hussein said yesterday.

Zeid, who rarely communicates on Twitter, said in a tweet that "discrimination on nationality alone is forbidden under human rights law", adding that "the US ban is also mean-spirited and wastes resources needed for proper counter-terrorism."

The UN bodies most directly engaged with migration -- the UN refugee agency and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) -- issued a statement on Saturday which made no mention of the executive order and stopped far short of condemning it, reported AFP.

Instead, the agencies urged the US to "continue its strong leadership role and long tradition of protecting those who are fleeing conflict and persecution."

They also vowed "to engage actively and constructively with the US Government... to protect those who need it most".

EU Commission spokesman Margaritis Schinas said that the 28-nation bloc was carefully studying the US travel ban to see how much it will impact EU citizens, reported The Independent.

Schinas also quoted from a Sunday interview of Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, in which he said: "We have to make choices about the world we want to live in. We must choose between isolationism, inequality and national egotism on the one hand. And openness, social equality and strength through solidarity on the other."

MSF, also known as Doctors Without Borders, called the refugee ban "an inhumane act against people fleeing war zones."



Two of the eight Turkish soldiers, who fled to Greece in a helicopter and requested political asylum after a failed military coup against the government, are escorted by police officers as they arrive at the Administrative Court of First Instance in Athens, Greece yesterday. Turkey opened the biggest trial yet over the failed July coup, trying 270 suspects including, in absentia, the alleged mastermind Fethullah Gulen.

PHOTO: REUTERS

## Trump, Saudi King back Syria, Yemen safe zones

AFP, Washington

US President Donald Trump and Saudi King Salman want to "rigorously" enforce the Iran nuclear deal, the White House said Sunday, despite the US leader's long opposition to the agreement.

The pair, in a phone conversation, also spoke of the need to address Iran's "destabilizing regional activities," fight the spread of "radical Islamic terrorism" and establish safe zones in war-ravaged Syria and Yemen, the White House statement read.

No further details were provided about those plans.

The official Saudi Press Agency early yesterday confirmed that Trump had called Salman.

It made no mention of Iran but said the views of the two leaders "were identical" on issues discussed during the call, including "confronting those who seek to undermine security and stability in the region and interfere in the internal affairs of other states."

Riyadh regularly accuses Tehran of regional interference.

SPA said Trump and Salman also agreed on "formulating the appropriate mechanisms" for countering "terrorism" and extremism.

Trump opposed the nuclear agreement signed by Israel's arch-foe Iran and world powers, including the United States, in 2015 and has said he wants to undo it.

Some of his key nominees have adopted an openly anti-Iran stance, including secretary of state candidate Rex Tillerson, who is seeking a complete revision of the accord.

Israeli President Benjamin Netanyahu said last month that there were many ways of "undoing" the Iran nuclear deal and that he would discuss that with Trump.

But before he left office, former president Barack Obama warned against rowing back the pact, emphasizing its "significant and concrete results."

The deal places curbs on Tehran's nuclear program in exchange for the lifting of international sanctions.

Both leaders agree to rigorously enforce Iran nuke deal during phone conversation

## Muslim lawyer's killing political Says Myanmar ruling party NLD

AGENCIES

The killing of a top Muslim lawyer and adviser to Aung San Suu Kyi who was gunned down outside Yangon airport was a political assassination and a "terrorist act", Myanmar's ruling party said yesterday.

Ko Ni, a legal adviser to the National League for Democracy, was shot in the head on Sunday afternoon as he waited outside the airport while holding his grandson.

A dramatic photo circulating on social media showed the moment the gunman, standing behind him, took aim.

Police have not said what prompted the killing. But Ko Ni was a prominent Muslim figure who spoke out against the anti-Islamic sentiments of Buddhist hardliners and criticised the powerful military's grip on power.

A taxi driver who tried to stop the gunman was also shot dead before the unidentified attacker was arrested, reported AFP.

In a statement the NLD described him as a key aide to de facto civilian leader Aung San Suu Kyi, saying he was "irreplaceable".

"We strongly denounce the assassination of Ko Ni like this as it is a terrorist act against the NLD's policies," it said.

## Miss France wins Miss Universe crown

REUTERS, Manila

A dental student from Paris was crowned Miss Universe yesterday, becoming the second Frenchwoman to win the title in the pageant's history and the first champion from Europe in more than a decade.

Iris Mittenaeer beat 85 other hopefuls in the finale in the Philippines in the 65th edition of the three-hour show that focused on diversity and empowering women to overcome the struggles of life.

"I was very surprised I won, I feel blessed," said the 24-year-old, whose competition profile had described her goal as advocating for dental and oral hygiene if she won.

Having clinched the crown, Mittenaeer said she wanted to go beyond that and promote education for children and young women.

"Miss Universe was a dream, every girl wants to be Miss Universe ... the stage is amazing, everything is amazing," she said, beaming throughout her victory news conference.

people, I want to meet people, that's why this is a dream for me."

Haiti's Raquel Pelissier was the first runner-up, while Andrea Tovar of Colombia placed second runner-up.

Thirteen contestants were picked for the swimsuit round of the finals after a preliminary competition last week, before being reduced



to nine for the evening gown segment.

The contenders were then trimmed to six, including Thailand's Chalita Suansane, Mary Esther Were of Kenya and local hopeful Maxene Medina, who overcame a torrent of domestic criticism of her public-speaking skills.

## PHILIPPINES' WAR ON DRUGS Duterte says police are most corrupt

AFP, Manila

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte yesterday admitted widespread corruption in the police force that is waging his deadly war on drugs, but extended the crackdown until the last day of his term in 2022.

Duterte announced plans to "cleanse" the police force, including suspending anti-drug units, after a series of scandals in which officers were caught committing murder, extortion and robbery while using the drug war as cover.

"You policemen are the most corrupt. You are corrupt to the core. It's in your system," Duterte told reporters as he railed against the anti-drug officers who allegedly masterminded the murder of a South Korean businessman.

Duterte said nearly 40 percent of the police force engaged in illegal activities.

His comments came seven months after he took office and immediately made police the frontline troops in his plans to wipe out the illegal drug trade that he said was threatening to turn the Philippines into a narco state.

## NEWSIN brief

### French left seeks unity as Macron gains ground

AFP, Paris

France's newly-minted Socialist candidate Benoit Hamon has issued a call for the divided left to unite for the presidential election, but his victory could boost fast-rising centrist Emmanuel Macron. Hamon romped to victory over former prime minister Manuel Valls in Sunday's primary. He will go up against an array of candidates in April's first round of voting for president.

### Maldives rejects UN call to free ex-minister

AFP, Colombo

The Maldives yesterday rejected a UN call to release former defence minister Mohamed Nazim and pay him damages after he was jailed for plotting against the president. President Abdulla Yameen's government said it disagreed with the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (UNWGAD) which last week ruled Nazim was wrongfully incarcerated.

### Drone strike kills two 'Qaeda men' in Yemen

AFP, Aden

A US drone strike killed two suspected al-Qaeda members in southern Yemen yesterday, a day after elite American forces killed 14 suspected militants in a nearby province, a security official said. The unmanned aircraft struck a vehicle in Bayhan district, on the border between Shabwa and Marib provinces, killing two people on board, the official said.