

Turkey set for offensive in Syria

The U.S. decision to pull troops from northeast Syria opens the way for a Turkish attack on Kurdish-led forces long allied to Washington and plunges the campaign against jihadis into uncertainty



TURKEY: Plans to set up “safe zone” extending 32km into Syria to push **YPG** fighters – viewed by Ankara as terrorists – away from Turkish border. Ankara says zone will also allow for safe return of millions of refugees



Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF): Kurdish forces dominated by YPG militia – trained and equipped by U.S. as part of fight against **Islamic State** – denounce U.S. pullout as “a stab in the back”

