



Iceland Carbon Dioxide Storage Project Locks Away Gas, and Fast



Uber and Its Executives Are Fined in France



EUROPE

EUROPE

ISIS Ex-Hostages Identify Brussels Suicide Bomber as Captor

By AURELIEN BREEDEN APRIL 22, 2016



PARIS — [Najim Laachraoui](#), one of the two suicide bombers who attacked Brussels Airport last month, has been identified by former Islamic State hostages as one of their captors in [Syria](#), a lawyer for several of the hostages said on Friday.

Marie-Laure Ingouf, a lawyer for Nicolas Hénin and Pierre Torres, two of the four French journalists who were first detained in 2013 by the Islamic State in Syria, said that the former hostages had identified one of their captors as Mr. Laachraoui, who used the name Abu Idris at the time.

In the [latest issue](#) of the Islamic State's online magazine Dabiq, Mr. Laachraoui was identified by the nom de guerre Abu Idris al-Baljiki.



Mr. Henin, Mr. Torres and two other French journalists, Didier François and Edouard Elias, were [freed](#) in April 2014 after 10 months of captivity in Syria.

Ms. Ingouf declined to say whether the former hostages recognized Mr. Laachraoui in photographs that were published after the attacks in Brussels on March 22 that left 32



civilians dead and 340 wounded.

Najim Laachraoui Interpol

Mr. Laachraoui was one of the two suicide bombers at Brussels Airport; a third detonated explosives at the Maelbeek subway station later that same morning. Seven others believed to be involved in the attacks are in custody.

Investigators believe that Mr. Laachraoui, a 24-year-old [engineering student who dropped out of college](#), manufactured explosives used not just in the Brussels bombings but also in the November attacks in the Paris area, which left 130 dead.

Mr. Henin had previously [revealed](#) that one of their most brutal and sadistic captors was Mehdi Nemmouche, a Frenchman with links to the Islamic State who had killed four people at the Jewish Museum in Brussels.

Follow Aurelien Breeden on Twitter [@aurelienbrd](#).

Benoît Morenne contributed reporting.

**RELATED
COVERAGE**

Radicalization of a Promising Student Turned Bomb Maker in Brussels

APRIL 8, 2016



In Photos, ISIS Shows How Brussels Terror Originated in Syria

APRIL 13, 2016



Brussels Attack Lapses Acknowledged by Belgian Officials

MARCH 24, 2016



TRENDING

1. [Obama Endorses Hillary Clinton, and Urges Democrats to Unite](#)

2.



Feature: Choosing a School for My Daughter in a Segregated City

3.

Bernie Sanders Meets President Obama and Pledges to Work to Defeat Donald Trump

4.



The 2016 Race: There Are More White Voters Than People Think. That's Good News for Trump.

5.



Isn't the Primary Over? Why Bernie Sanders Won't Quit

6.

Historic Import of Hillary Clinton's Victory Is One More Source of Division

7.



Why Do Health Costs Keep Rising? These People Know

8.



Op-Ed Columnist: Sanders, Clinton and, er, President Trump?

9.



Editorial: The Senate's Confirmation Shutdown

10.



Drummer Defends Stanford Student Convicted in Rape Case. Her Band Pays a Price.

[View More Trending Stories »](#)

The New York Times

[Go to Home Page »](#)

NEWS

World

U.S.

OPINION

Today's Opinion

Op-Ed Columnists

ARTS

Today's Arts

Art & Design

LIVING

Automobiles

Crossword

LISTINGS & MORE

Classifieds

Tools & Services

Politics	Editorials	Books	Food	Times Topics
N.Y.	Contributing Writers	Dance	Education	Public Editor
Business	Op-Ed Contributors	Movies	Fashion & Style	N.Y.C. Events Guide
Tech	Opinionator	Music	Health	Blogs
Science	Letters	N.Y.C. Events Guide	Jobs	Multimedia
Health	Sunday Review	Television	Magazine	Photography
Sports	Taking Note	Theater	N.Y.C. Events Guide	Video
Education	Room for Debate	Video: Arts	Real Estate	NYT Store
Obituaries	Public Editor		T Magazine	Times Journeys
Today's Paper	Video: Opinion		Travel	Subscribe
Corrections			Weddings & Celebrations	Manage My Account

SUBSCRIBE

 **Times Insider**

 **Home Delivery**

 **Digital Subscriptions**

 **NYT Opinion**

 **Crossword**

[Email Newsletters](#) [Alerts](#) [Gift Subscriptions](#) [Corporate Subscriptions](#) [Education Rate](#)

[Mobile Applications](#) [Replica Edition](#) [International New York Times](#)

© 2016 The New York Times Company | [Contact Us](#) | [Work With Us](#) | [Advertise](#) | [Your Ad Choices](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Terms of Service](#) | [Terms of Sale](#)

[Site Map](#) | [Help](#) | [Site Feedback](#) | [Subscriptions](#)