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## **BELGIAN MINISTER VISITS IRAQ TO DISCUSS BILATERAL TIES, REGIONAL ISSUES**

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Xinhua (3 February 2020)

Belgian Minister for Foreign Affairs and Defense Philippe Goffin on Monday visited Iraq's capital Baghdad to discuss bilateral relations, fighting against terrorism and other issues.

"The extremist and terrorist ideology still exists, and it is the duty of our countries to eliminate the remnants of the Islamic State (IS) to prevent the return of the extremist group," Iraqi Foreign Minister Mohammed al-Hakim said at a televised joint press conference after his meeting with Goffin.

Al-Hakim told reporters that he discussed with Goffin "the issue of (IS) foreign fighters and their return to their countries" as well as the efforts to de-escalate tension between the United States and Iran.

Please click to read the rest of the article: [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-02/03/c\\_138753162.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-02/03/c_138753162.htm)

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