

France probed migrant communities to fight ISIS-K threat to Olympics

PARIS, July 23 (Reuters) - French security services have been probing migrant communities from former Soviet republics in an effort to safeguard the Olympics from the ISIS-K militant group, the interior minister said, confirming a Reuters report published last week.

Gérald Darmanin, interviewed in a Le Parisien article published on Tuesday, said ISIS-K was “undoubtedly the most dangerous movement”, though he said authorities hadn’t identified any concrete threat to the Games.

ISIS-K is a resurgent wing of Islamic State, named after the historical region of Khorasan that included parts of Iran, Afghanistan and Central Asia.

To counter the danger, Darmanin said security services had “looked particularly at all the people who revolve around the 10 nationalities of the former Soviet Union”.

Last week, Reuters reported that French security services had been racing to address an intelligence blind spot and forge deeper ties with Tajiks, Central Asians and other people from former Soviet republics living in France.

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