

# Isis regroups stealthily, Haiti in turmoil, a new-old England

**More than two years have passed since the last enclave of Islamic State's self-declared 'caliphate' fell.** But groups of Isis militants have never entirely gone away, hiding out in mountains near Kirkuk and descending in the summer to raid villages for food. Ghaith Abdul-Ahad goes on patrol with Iraqi special forces looking to flush out the last remnants of Islamic State, who local people fear will never leave the region. Then, from Syria, we hear how women held in a notorious Isis camp are seeking escape through marriages to men they met online.

**The big story** [Page 10](#) →

**Haiti is a country that has seen more than its fair share of turmoil and misfortune.** But the assassination of its president, Jovenel Moïse, has cast the nation further into uncertainty. As security forces struggle to piece together the murky trail behind the murder, Tom Phillips and Jean Daniel Delone find little optimism for the future among Haiti's beleaguered citizens. **Spotlight** [Page 15](#) →

**England has been gripped by football fever for the past month as Euro 2020 played out.** But after the national team - feted for its youth, diversity and positivity - lost narrowly to Italy in the final, a moment of pride was instead overshadowed by a wave of racism against England's Black players on social media. On page 22, David Olusoga reflects on what the tournament told us about the bright new England and the grim old one. Then, on page 40, the British Formula One racing driver Lewis Hamilton reflects on how colour and identity shaped his journey to the top of the sport, and why he feels compelled to take a stand against racism in society. **Spotlight** [Page 22](#) →



## On the cover

Iraqi special forces wade through marshes and irrigation canals, burning the reeds as they go, in the countryside south of Kirkuk. Quasi-nomadic Isis militants hide out in the reed beds, from where they raid villages for food and launch attacks on military and power installations. *Photograph: Ghaith Abdul-Ahad*



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