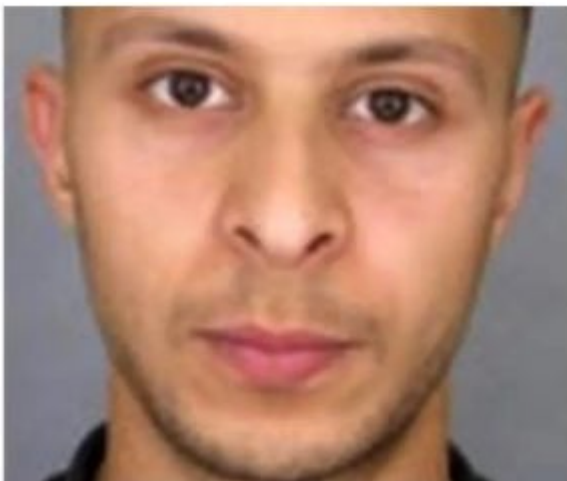


Suicide bombers won't think twice about blowing themselves up if you convict me' says IS survivor of 2015 Paris attack

From [The Telegraph](#)

A Jihadist who did not detonate his suicide vest during the 2015 Paris terror attack has told a court jailing him will send a message to would-be-attackers that there is no way back for them.

Salah Abdeslam, the only assailant still alive after the terror attacks that rocked Paris in November 2015 took to the stand for the first time on Wednesday.



Abdeslam Salah, suspected of being involved in the attacks that occurred on November 13, 2015 | CREDIT: AFP

Abdeslam, 32, reiterated his claim of being a member of the Islamic State group, but said the court was making a mistake in wanting to “make an example” of him by inflicting a potential life sentence.

He sought to distance himself from the team of assassins who were all killed in the wake of the attacks, appearing to imply that he had had a last minute change of mind.

“In the future, when someone gets in a metro or a bus with a

suitcase stuffed with 50 kilogrammes of explosives, and at the last minute decides 'I'm not doing this,' he will know that he can't, because otherwise he will be locked away or killed," he said

Abdeslam has so far largely refused to answer investigators' questions since his March 2016 arrest in Belgium, where police found him after months of searching for the men behind the massacres.

But he has claimed he discarded his suicide vest and fled the French capital in the chaotic aftermath of the bloodshed, eluding an intense manhunt to return to Molenbeek, the Brussels district where he grew up.

He told the court on Wednesday: "I didn't kill anyone, I didn't hurt anyone" as he took the stand for the first time in the trial over the jihadist massacres. "I didn't cause even a scratch," Salah Abdeslam told the court in a sudden outburst before he was to be questioned over the worst peacetime atrocity carried out on French soil, which saw 130 people killed.

Abdeslam has been unrepentant so far in court.

In one of a series of outbursts, he said that France "knew the risks" of attacking jihadist targets in Syria as part of a coalition fighting the Islamic State group.