

# Nuclear, Missile & Space Digest

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- Accord reached on keeping two German reactors in reserve
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- Initial tranches of men for Russia's mobilisation have started arriving at military bases, Britain says
- Russian military showing increased frailty in Ukraine war -British military chief
- UK spy chief warns of more aggressive Russian cyber attacks
- Russian military showing increased frailty in Ukraine war -British military chief

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- Biden warns Putin against using nuclear weapons; another nuclear plant hit by Russian strike
- Biden accuses Russia of 'irresponsible' nuclear threats, violating U.N. charter
- US has privately warned Russia against using nuclear weapons in Ukraine for several months
- US Threatens Russia With 'Catastrophic' Consequences for Using Nukes in Ukraine
- Feds commit \$50 million to for-profit nuclear fusion companies, chasing the 'holy grail' of clean energy
- DOE to work on relationships as waste programme develops
- US warnings against Putin's nuclear threats mark a sobering moment for the world
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- White House requests Ukraine nuclear security funding to expand assistance due to nuclear power plant concerns
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- U.S. has not seen acts indicating Russia contemplating nuclear attack
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- Raisi meets Pakistan PM, says Iran see no limit in ties with Islamabad
- SCO final statement stresses need for all sides' commitment to JCPOA
- Raisi urges expansion of ties with India in meeting with PM
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- Iran president demands US 'guarantees' on nuclear deal
- Nuclear chief: IAEA intending to close anti-Iran cases
- Iran's nuclear chief, IAEA's Grossi discuss continuation of cooperation in Vienna
- Iran showcases ballistic missiles, radar and missile systems during military parades
- IRGC air force unveils new missiles on Sacred Defense Week
- US imposes sanctions on Iran's security forces
- Iran will always be in danger if Safeguards probes are not closed, Raisi says
- Iran discloses surface-to-surface ballistic missile with 1400-km range
- Iran's lead nuclear negotiator to meet UN watchdog chief amid dispute over probe
- IRGC strikes terrorist bases in northern Iraq
- Iran FM says U.S. has sent messages in recent days to save nuclear deal
- Iran indicts 14 in top nuclear scientist's assassination
- Iran, UN nuclear watchdog restart dialogue
- IAEA head meets with Iranian atomic chief amid dispute on undeclared nuclear sites
- Iran unveils upgraded training drone
- For Iran, the IRGC's regional role is as important as the nuclear deal
- Iran's air force showcases shahab training drone
- Iran presents demands from IAEA at 66th conference in Vienna
- IRGC smashes terrorist strongholds by 73 missiles, tens of drones
- Raisi says he lamented France's passiveness regarding JCPOA
- Iran urges UN to maintain cooperative interaction between OPCW, Syria

### M. Israel

- Romania looks set to be first European country to buy Israel's Iron Dome
- Israel successfully tests advanced anti- ship missile system
- Abandon defunct Iran deal and negotiate a better one, Lapid tells UK's Truss
- Lapid: Iran can be forced into a better deal with strong military threat

- Ukraine asks Israel for intel on Iran's support to Russia
- Israeli nuclear chief tells IAEA: Iran is 'leading factor' in Mideast instability
- Israel may share nuclear tech with Abraham Accords states - Israeli atomic chief
- Israel seeks technological cooperation with US
- Israel's atomic chief wants 'nuclear fora' with Abraham Accords nations
- IDF to use armed drones for targeted killings in West Bank

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- Kuwait supports peaceful use of nuclear power

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- Qatar elected as member of IAEA Board of Governors

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- Saudi Arabia works with IAEA to develop human capabilities in nuclear technology sector: Minister
- Saudi Arabia developing national capabilities in nuclear technology: Minister
- Saudi Arabia's flag raised at IAEA HQ for being among donors to modernize nuclear labs
- IAEA chief says Saudi Arabia is 'important partner'
- Saudi Arabia, US sign MoU on cooperation in nuclear safety
- Crown Prince: Internal self-sufficiency of military industries jumps from 2% to 15%

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- Russian MoD: 45 of Jabhat al-Nusra terrorists eliminated in Idleb

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- UAE's Barakah nuclear energy plant starts up third unit
- Israel to sell advanced air defense system to UAE

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- Turkiye, Russia reach deal resolving nuclear plant dispute, media report
- Turkiye's 1st nuclear power plant to start operating next year

- F-16 fighters: Erdogan
- Turkiye sells its famed battle-tested drones to UAE as ties mend
- Array of new defense platforms to crown centennial of Republic of Turkiye
- Erdogan may speak with Biden as F-16 talks 'go on positively'
- Turkiye says Malaysia, Indonesia interested in buying its armed drones
- Turkiye to send more troops, arms to TRNC amid tensions with Greece
- Turkiye to reinforce military presence in Northern Cyprus

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- Air Force Command plans achieving 100% transfer of responsibility to Iraq

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- Map Shows How Close Super Typhoon Nanmadol Is to Japan's Nuclear Plants
- Japan PM says willing to meet North Korea leader amid nuclear fears
- Fumio Kishida's Great Nuclear Leap
- Japan bans chemical weapons-related goods to Russia, concerned by nuke threats
- Japan's restart of nuclear reactors will help Europe's winter energy supply -IEA chief says
- 1st Time In Five Years, US Navy Holds 'Trilateral Drills' With Asian Allies Amid North Korean Aggression

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- US carrier arrives in South Korea as warning to North
- US VP Harris set to visit Korean DMZ after Kim's missile test
- South Korea sees Oct.16-Nov.7 window for N.Korea nuclear test
- US VP condemns North Korea's 'nuclear rhetoric'

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- North Korea's Nuclear Fail-Safe
- Imagery shows N.Korea may soon launch new missile submarine - think tank
- South Korea, US, Japan Reaffirm Joint Stance on North Korea's Missile Threats
- North Korea all set for another nuke test: Why the world should be worried
- North Korea fires a missile as U.S. and South Korea get ready for military exercises
- North Korea fires ballistic missiles, marking fourth in a week

### Y. Australia

- Fast Track Aussie Nuclear Submarine Development, Says MP on AUKUS Anniversary
- France offers four submarines to Australia despite the stab in the back of AUKUS
- AUKUS sees progress in Australia getting nuclear-powered submarine



- AUKUS' plan to expedite Australia's nuclear sub construction an act of nuclear proliferation under 'naval nuclear propulsion' cover: Chinese mission to UN

## **Z. Miscellaneous**

- Ukraine to dominate as world leaders gather at United Nations
- World leaders lash Russia over Ukraine invasion, referendum plans
- Bilfinger CEO: Putin's 'incredibly dangerous' nuclear threats raise the risk of an unprecedented disaster
- IAEA increases projection of nuclear power growth

## A. India

### What India's first internet-from-space launch this week means for common man

*The Week, September 20, 2022*

Earlier this week, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) chairman S. Somanath, along with local officials of the multinational communications giant Hughes, came together at a small luncheon meeting at a luxury hotel in Delhi. Passing under the radar of most national headlines and the Twitterati, the announcement they came together for was nothing short of epochal – the launch of India's first high through-put satellite (HTS) broadband service. Putting it in layman's terms – India's first publicly available 'internet from space' service is now live. Space is indeed the final frontier for Indian business, thanks to the government throwing open the sector for private partnership in the Atmanirbhar Bharat announcements of May 2020 post-Covid. While the field has seen a flurry of entrepreneurship by Indian start-ups ranging from remote sensing to micro-satellites, the big jackpot was always the broadband-from-space proposition.

<https://www.theweek.in/news/sci-tech/2022/09/14/what-indias-first-internet-from-space-launch-this-week-means-for-the-common-man.html>

### OneWeb satellites arrive in India ahead of launch aboard Isro's GSLV

*Livemint, September 20, 2022*

OneWeb, the UK-based satellite operator, on Tuesday announced the arrival of its latest batch of low-Earth orbit (LEO) satellites in India. The Bharti Enterprises-backed operator's satellites arrive in India ahead of their launch aboard the Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro)'s Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV)-MkIII rocket, in the coming weeks. In April, OneWeb had confirmed that it will launch some of its remaining satellites, that would form part of its global communications constellation, in association with Isro. The company's announcements came after the escalation of geopolitical

conflicts between Ukraine and Russia, due to which the latter's state-backed space agency seized a batch of 36 LEO satellites and refused to launch unless a number of Russia's demands were met.

<https://www.livemint.com/companies/news/oneweb-satellites-arrive-in-india-ahead-of-launch-aboard-isro-s-gslv-11663663781161.html>

### ISRO tests hybrid propulsion system

*The Hindu, September 21, 2022*

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) said on Wednesday, September 21, 2022, that it has successfully demonstrated a hybrid propulsion system that uses a solid fuel and liquid oxidiser. The hybrid motor was tested at the ISRO Propulsion Complex (IPRC), Mahendragiri, on Tuesday evening. The hybrid system is more efficient, "greener" and safer to handle and paves the way for new propulsion technologies for future missions, the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) which tested it with support from the Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC), said. In the ground-based test, the flight equivalent 30 kN hybrid motor used Hydroxyl-terminated polybutadiene (HTPB)-based aluminised solid fuel and liquid oxygen (LOX) as the oxidiser. The test was performed for 15 seconds on a 300-mm sounding rocket motor.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/isro-tests-hybrid-propulsion-system/article65917332.ece>

### US wants Modi to follow-up with advice to Putin to end war amid loose talk on nuke use

*The Times of India, September 21, 2022*

The White House is urging India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi's to follow up on his advice to Russia's President Vladimir Putin to wind down the war in Ukraine, saying his (Modi's) statement that now is not the era of war is consistent with the principle that "you cannot conquer your

neighbor's territory by force." US praise for Modi's stand, with what was virtually a call for greater political and diplomatic intervention at the highest level, came even as Moscow signaled it is ready to intensify the conflict by calling up 300,000 reservists. Proxies of the Russian and western leadership also made brazen threats of nuclear weapons use even as world leaders gathered in New York City for the annual UN General Assembly meeting, where President Biden is expected to address the Ukraine conflict among other issues later in the day.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/us/us-wants-modi-to-follow-up-with-advice-to-putin-to-end-war-amid-loose-talk-on-nuke-use/articleshow/94356998.cms>

### **How small modular nuclear reactors may help India to meet energy goals**

*Business Standard, September 22, 2022*

The government is working hard to make solar and wind power mainstream, but it may achieve its renewable energy targets with help from an unexpected source: nuclear power. Under the radar, the pace of nuclear power development in India is expected to accelerate, riding on the promising new technology of small modular reactors (SMR).

[https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/how-small-modular-nuclear-reactors-may-help-india-to-meet-energy-goals-122092200919\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/how-small-modular-nuclear-reactors-may-help-india-to-meet-energy-goals-122092200919_1.html)

### **MOD signs a deal for dual role Surface-to-Surface BrahMos missile with BAPL**

*PIB, September 22, 2022*

Providing further impetus to Aatmanirbharta in defence production, the Ministry of Defence (MOD) signed a contract today with M/s BrahMos Aerospace Pvt. Ltd. (BAPL) for acquisition of additional dual-role capable Surface to Surface BrahMos missiles at an overall approximate cost of <sup>1</sup> 1700 Crore under "Buy-Indian" Category. Induction of these

dual-role capable Missiles is going to significantly enhance the operational capability of Indian Navy (IN) fleet assets. It is notable that BAPL is a Joint Venture (JV) between India and Russia making crucial contribution to augment the new generation Surface-to-Surface Missiles (SSMs) with enhanced range and dual role capability for land as well as anti-ship attacks. This contract is going to give further boost to indigenous production of critical weapon system and ammunition with active participation of indigenous industry.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1861536>

### **Ukraine conflict of 'profound concern', Jaishankar tells U.N. Security Council**

*The Hindu, September 22, 2022*

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar was among a group of Ministers, heads of government and representatives at the United Nations Security Council who expressed their concern on September 22 over the continuing conflict in Ukraine. While he did not name Russia specifically, unlike the representatives of many other countries, Mr. Jaishankar said the conflict was a matter of "profound concern" for the global community. "The future outlook appears even more disturbing," he said, a day after Russian President Vladimir Putin announced a partial mobilisation of 300,000 potential combatants and a threat of nuclear action. The conflict has also put the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant at risk of damage, a matter that was raised by several speakers at the meeting on September 22. "The nuclear issue is a particular anxiety," Mr. Jaishankar said. Distant regions – especially in the global South – were feeling the conflict's impact, he said, as he highlighted food and fuel shortages.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/ukraine-conflict-of-profound-concern-jaishankar-tells-un-security-council/article65924000.ece>

## Approving Pakistan's F-16 fleet sustainment programme not designed as a message to India: Pentagon official

*The Hindu, September 23, 2022*

The U.S. has said that its decision to provide a \$450 million sustenance package for Pakistan's F-16 fleet is not designed as a message to India rather it is associated with America's defence partnership with Islamabad which is primarily focussed on counter-terrorism and nuclear security. On September 8, the Joe Biden administration approved a \$450 million F-16 fighter jet fleet sustainment programme to Pakistan, reversing the decision of the previous Trump administration to suspend military aid to Islamabad for providing safe havens for the Afghan Taliban and the Haqqani network. India has conveyed to the U.S. its concerns over Washington's decision to provide a sustenance package for Pakistan's F-16 fighter jet fleet. In a notification to the U.S. Congress, the State Department made a determination approving a possible foreign military sale for sustainment and related equipment for an estimated cost of \$450 million, arguing that this will sustain Islamabad's capability to meet current and future counterterrorism threats by maintaining its F-16 fleet.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/approving-pakistans-f-16-fleet-sustainment-programme-not-designed-as-a-message-to-india-pentagon-official/article65926215.ece>

## Upadhyaya was first to pitch idea that India should have a credible nuclear deterrent: Rajnath Singh

*The Hindu, September 25, 2022*

Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya was the first to pitch the idea that India should have a credible nuclear deterrent and because of that deterrent, the Indian Army engages with China as an equal force, said Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday. Praising the philosophy and ideas of Pandit Upadhyaya, Mr. Singh said that apart from various social issues, he had also thought deeply about the defence of the nation. He believed that the country should be capable

of self-defence. "When China conducted the first nuclear test in 1964, Deendayal ji was in favour of India too carrying out a nuclear test. If anyone spoke about a credible nuclear deterrent in India, it was Deendayal ji," said Mr. Singh who added that following the vision of Pandit Upadhyaya, former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee carried out five nuclear tests in Rajasthan in 1998.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/upadhyaya-was-first-to-pitch-idea-that-india-should-have-a-credible-nuclear-deterrent-rajnath-singh/article65931023.ece>

## World seeing India as inspirational place in space sector: ISRO chief

*The Hindu, September 25, 2022*

The world is looking at India as an inspirational place with what the country has achieved in the space sector in the last 60 years, chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation S. Somanath said on September 25. Mr. Somanath said he was witnessing a great transformation in the sector by bringing in startups, incubating them in space technology and bringing great applications to develop rockets and satellites. "The whole world is looking at India as an inspirational place and it is wonderful to see what is happening in India, especially in the space sector, with the startup ecosystem," he said at the 18th convocation of the SRM Institute of Science and Technology at Kattankulathur near Chennai.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/world-seeing-india-as-inspirational-place-in-space-sector-isro-chief/article65934318.ece>

## HAL all set to boost cryogenic engine production to further India's space exploration programmes

*Financial Express, September 26, 2022*

As Space exploration is mostly dependent upon cryogenic technology, the Aerospace Division of state owned Hindustan Aeronautics (HAL) has entered into manufacture of Cryogenic Engines. This will help in boosting India's space



exploration programmes as it will not be dependent on foreign companies for this critical technology. This is a major step in technology up-gradation cum modernization of the division. In her first official visit to any state, on Tuesday (September 27, 2022) the President of India Droupadi Murmu will inaugurate 'Integrated Cryogenic Engines Manufacturing Facility' (ICMF) in Bengaluru. The 4500 sq meter facility is expected to cater to the entire cryogenic rocket engine manufacturing requirements of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). This facility has been set up with an investment of Rs 208 crores. By March 2023, according to HAL officials, the module engines will be realised.

<https://www.financialexpress.com/defence/hal-all-set-to-boost-cryogenic-engine-production-to-further-indias-space-exploration-programmes/2691741/>

### **Successful Flight Tests of Very Short Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) Missile by DRDO**

*PIB, September 27, 2022*

DRDO conducted two successful test flight of Very Short Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) missile on 27 Sep 2022 from a ground based portable launcher at the Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, off the coast of Odisha. VSHORADS is a Man Portable Air Defence System (MANPAD) designed and developed indigenously by DRDO's Research Centre Imarat (RCI), Hyderabad in collaboration with other DRDO laboratories and Indian Industry Partners. VSHORADS missile incorporates many novel technologies including miniaturized Reaction Control System (RCS) and integrated avionics, which have been successfully proven during the tests. The missile, meant for neutralizing low altitude aerial threats at short ranges is propelled by a dual thrust solid motor. The design of the missile including launcher has been highly optimized to ensure easy portability. Both the flight tests have completely met the mission objectives.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1862617>

### **India, Russia expand cooperation in Kudankulam nuclear power plant**

*The Economic Times, September 28, 2022*

Atomash, AEM-Technologies, JSC Branch in Volgodonsk (part of the machine-building division of Rosatom - Atomenergomash) carried out the final heat treatment of the VVER-1000 Reactor Vessel for Kudankulam NPP Unit No.5 as part of the next step in the civil nuclear cooperation between India and Russia. After welding the finishing weld and carrying out inspections, the Reactor Vessel weighing 320 tons was moved to a gas furnace and six thermocouples were installed. The equipment was in the furnace for four days at a temperature of 650 degrees Celsius for 8-10 hours, according to a company statement. Specialists recorded thermocouple readings for four days. This is necessary to ensure a continuous process of thermal tempering of the item. Heat treatment of the Reactor Vessel is necessary to relieve the stress of welds and obtain the required mechanical properties of the metal, the statement added

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/india-russia-expand-cooperation-in-kudankulam-nuclear-power-plant/articleshow/94511147.cms>

### **'Thaad Rate' Logic - China Angry With THAAD Deployment In S.Korea But Overlooks India's Very Similar Concerns In Bhutan**

*The Eurasian Times, September 28, 2022*

It considers THAAD in the Korean peninsula a threat to Chinese security. In the process, however, China has exposed its double standard by not applying the same arguments against India, which protests the Chinese activities in Bhutan. In fact, its position on India's concerns over Bhutan is diametrically opposite to what it protests against American actions in South Korea. Beijing forgets that Bhutan is as important to India as North Korea is to China. It may be noted that South Korea, which has a security treaty with

the United States, decided to deploy the THAAD missile defense system in July 2016 in response to missile and nuclear threats of attack from North Korea (North Korea has experimented with the launch of more than 30 ballistic missiles and continues to expand the range of its nuclear-capable short-range missiles; it is believed to be preparing for carrying out its seventh experimental nuclear detonation, the first since 2017).

<https://eurasianimes.com/thaad-rate-logic-china-angry-with-thaad-deployment-in-s-korea/>

### **India has supplied cryolines for ITER project in France: Atomic Energy Commission chairman**

*The Economic Times, September 28, 2022*

India has supplied four km of cryolines, capable of operating at temperatures ranging from minus 269 degrees Celsius to minus 193 degrees Celsius, for the ITER nuclear fusion project taking shape in France. "As part of its collaboration with ITER for developments in the field of fusion technologies, Institute for Plasma Research (IPR) has supplied approximately four km of cryolines and about six km of return lines for warm gases, manufactured in India, to the ITER Worksite in France," Atomic Energy Commission Chairman K N Vyas said on Wednesday. Vyas was addressing the 66th International Atomic Energy Agency General Conference underway in Vienna. The cryolines and the return warmlines are first of its kind system in terms of large size - up to one metre in diameter, Vyas said. The International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) is a collaboration between seven countries to demonstrate nuclear fusion as a clean source of unlimited energy.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/india-has-supplied-cryolines-for-iter-project-in-france-atomic-energy-commission-chairman/articleshow/94516034.cms>

### **B. Russia**

#### **Russia conducts military drills in Arctic sea opposite Alaska**

*Reuters, September 16, 2022*

Russian nuclear-powered submarines fired cruise missiles in the Arctic on Friday as part of military drills designed to test Moscow's readiness for a possible conflict in its icy northern waters, the defence ministry said. The drills, named Umka-2022, took place in the Chukchi Sea, an eastern stretch of the Arctic Ocean that separates Russia from the U.S. state of Alaska. Russia sees its vast Arctic territory as a vital strategic interest and has been building up its military capabilities in the region for years, raising alarm bells in the West.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/russia-conducts-military-drills-arctic-sea-opposite-alaska-2022-09-16/>

#### **IAEA board passes resolution calling on Russia to leave Zaporizhzhia**

*Reuters, September 16, 2022*

A Russian all-terrain armoured vehicle is parked outside the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant during the visit of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) expert mission in the course of Ukraine-Russia conflict outside Enerhodar in the Zaporizhzhia region. The U.N. nuclear watchdog's 35-nation Board of Governors on Thursday passed a resolution demanding that Russia end its occupation of the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant in Ukraine. The resolution is the second on Russia's invasion of Ukraine passed by the International Atomic Energy Agency's board, and their content is very similar, though the first in March preceded Russian forces taking control of



Zaporizhzhia, Europe's biggest nuclear power plant.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/iaea-board-passes-resolution-calling-russia-leave-zaporizhzhia-2022-09-15/>

### **IAEA board passes resolution calling on Russia to leave Zaporizhzhia**

*Reuters, September 16, 2022*

A Russian all-terrain armoured vehicle is parked outside the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant during the visit of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) expert mission in the course of Ukraine-Russia conflict outside Enerhodar in the Zaporizhzhia region, Ukraine.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/iaea-board-passes-resolution-calling-russia-leave-zaporizhzhia-2022-09-15/>

### **Cases of Russia Using Nuclear Weapons Stated in Nuclear Doctrine, Peskov Says**

*Sputnik International, September 17, 2022*

The cases of when Russia will use nuclear weapons are stated in the national nuclear doctrine, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told Sputnik on Saturday. "Read the doctrine, everything is written there," Peskov said, answering the question of where there is a possibility of Russia using nuclear weapons in Ukraine.

<https://sputniknews.com/20220917/cases-of-russia-using-nuclear-weapons-stated-in-nuclear-doctrine-peskov-says-1100895234.html>

### **Kiev Has Resumed Shelling of Area Around Zaporozhye Nuclear Power Plant: Russian MoD**

*Sputnik International, September 17, 2022*

Ukrainian forces have spent months targeting the massive nuclear power facility with artillery fire. The Russian military, Moscow and the local pro-Russian

administration of Zaporozhye region have slammed Kiev over the attacks, and warned that the strikes threaten to unleash a nuclear catastrophe that could consume the whole of Europe. The Ukrainian military has resumed the shelling of areas surrounding the Zaporozhye Nuclear Power Plant, but has failed to provoke a nuclear emergency, Russian Ministry of Defense spokesman Igor Konashenkov has announced.

<https://sputniknews.com/20220917/kiev-has-resumed-shelling-of-area-around-zaporozhye-nuclear-power-plant-russian-mod-1100896210.html>

### **Russian Nuclear Chief Says IAEA Politicizes Ukrainian Power Plant Crisis**

*Sputnik International, September 18, 2022*

The head of the Russian state nuclear agency Rosatom has criticized the UN atomic watchdog IAEA for allowing politics to shape its Ukrainian narrative. The IAEA's Board of Governors passed a resolution on Thursday demanding that Russia "immediately cease all actions against, and at, the Zaporozhye nuclear power plant" - despite the fact that Ukrainian troops have been shelling the nuclear site, as it has been under Russian control since March.

<https://sputniknews.com/20220918/russian-nuclear-chief-says-iaea-politicizes-ukrainian-power-plant-crisis-1100929342.html>

### **Kyiv Accuses Russia of Strike on Southern Nuclear Plant**

*The Moscow Times, September 19, 2022*

Ukraine's nuclear energy agency Energoatom on Monday accused Moscow's troops of an attack on the country's second-largest nuclear plant in the south. The accusations come after the Moscow-controlled Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant in Ukraine — Europe's largest atomic facility — faced frequent shelling in recent months, raising fears of a nuclear incident.

On Monday, “the Russian army carried out a missile attack on the industrial site” of the Pivdennoukrainsk nuclear power plant, Energoatom said in a post on the Telegram messaging service.

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2022/09/19/kyiv-accuses-russia-of-strike-on-southern-nuclear-plant-a78830>

### **Russian FM Lavrov Discusses Security at Zaporozhye NPP With His French Counterpart Colonna**

*Sputnik International, September 19, 2022*

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and his French counterpart, Catherine Colonna, discussed ensuring security at the Zaporozhye nuclear power plant (ZNPP) during a phone conversation on Monday, the Russian Foreign Ministry said. “Following a phone conversation between the presidents of Russia and France on September 11, 2022, the heads of the foreign ministries have discussed the situation in Ukraine in detail, mainly focusing on ensuring the security of the Zaporozhye NPP,” the message read.

<https://sputniknews.com/20220919/russian-fm-lavrov-discusses-security-at-zaporozhye-npp-with-his-french-counterpart-colonna-1100974207.html>

### **Russian missile explodes less than 900 feet from nuclear power plant**

*Reuters, September 20, 2022*

a Russian missile landed less than 900 feet away from a nuclear power plant today, according to Ukraine’s national nuclear energy company.

<https://www.cnn.com/video/2022/09/19/russian-missile-explodes-less-than-900-feet-from-nuclear-power-plant.html?&qsearchterm=nuclear>

### **Russia triggers plan to formally annex occupied Ukrainian regions**

*GDN, September 20, 2022*

Two Russian-controlled regions in eastern Ukraine announced plans to hold referendums on joining Russia later this week and an ally of President Vladimir Putin

said the votes would alter the geopolitical landscape in Moscow’s favour forever. The move, which seriously escalates Moscow’s standoff with the West, comes after Russia suffered a battlefield reversal in northeast Ukraine and as Putin ponders his next steps in a nearly seven-month-old conflict that has caused the most serious East-West rift since the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis.

<https://www.gdnonline.com/Details/1143110>

### **Putin mobilises more troops for Ukraine, accuses West of ‘nuclear blackmail’**

*GDN, September 20, 2022*

Russian President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday called up 300,000 reservists to fight in Ukraine and said Moscow would respond with the might of all its vast arsenal if the West pursued what he called its “nuclear blackmail” over the conflict there. It was Russia’s first such mobilisation since World War Two and signified a major escalation of the war, now in its seventh month. It followed recent setbacks for Russian forces, who have been driven from areas they had captured in northeast Ukraine in a Ukrainian counter-offensive this month and are bogged down in the south.

<https://www.gdnonline.com/Details/1143170>

### **Putin says West engaging in nuclear blackmail, Russia can respond**

*Reuters, September 21, 2022*

Russian President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday accused the West of engaging in nuclear blackmail against Russia, in a speech announcing a partial mobilisation for the country’s military campaign in Ukraine. In the televised speech, Putin said that Russia had “lots of weapons to reply” to what he called Western threats and said that he was not bluffing.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/putin-says-west-engaging-nuclear-blackmail-russia-can-respond-2022-09-21/>

## **Putin mobilizes 300,000 troops for war in Ukraine and warns he's not bluffing with nuclear threat**

*Reuters, September 21, 2022*

Russian President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday announced a partial military mobilization in Russia, putting the country's people and economy on a wartime footing as Moscow's invasion of Ukraine continues. In a rare prerecorded televised announcement, Putin said the West "wants to destroy our country" and claimed the West had tried to "turn Ukraine's people into cannon fodder," in comments translated by Reuters, repeating earlier claims in which he has blamed Western nations for starting a proxy war with Russia. Putin said "mobilization events" would begin Wednesday without providing further details, aside from saying he had ordered an increase in funding to boost Russia's weapons production, having committed (and lost) a large amount of weaponry during the conflict, which began in late February.

<https://www.cnn.com/2022/09/21/russia-ukraine-war-putin-announces-partial-military-mobilization.html?&qsearchterm=nuclear>

## **Some Russians flee from Putin's Ukraine war call-up**

*GDN, September 21, 2022*

Some draft-age Russians headed abroad on Thursday to escape their country's biggest conscription drive since World War Two, while explosions shook southeastern Ukraine on the eve of referendums planned there by pro-Moscow separatists. President Vladimir Putin's new mobilisation campaign escalates a war that has already killed thousands, displaced millions, pulverised cities, damaged the global economy and revived Cold War confrontation.

<https://www.gdnonline.com/Details/1143318>

## **Putin mobilises more troops for Ukraine, accuses West of 'nuclear blackmail'**

*GDN, September 21, 2022*

Russian President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday called up 300,000 reservists to fight in Ukraine and said Moscow would respond with the might of all its vast arsenal if the West pursued what he called its "nuclear blackmail" over the conflict there.

It was Russia's first such mobilisation since World War Two and signified a major escalation of the war, now in its seventh month.

<https://www.gdnonline.com/Details/1143170>

## **Russia's Sarmat ICBM Can Correct Trajectory Even If Hit by Enemy Missile Defense, Designer Says**

*Sputnik International, September 22, 2022*

The RS-28 Sarmat is Russia's next-generation, nuclear-capable and multiple independent reentry vehicle (MIRV)-equipped super-heavy intercontinental ballistic missile. It is expected to become the backbone of the country's strategic deterrent in the decades to come after deliveries begin later this year. The Sarmat's control system is designed to enable the missile to continue on its course even if it is struck by an anti-missile projectile, Vladimir Degtyar, chief designer at the Makeyev Rocket Design Bureau, the rocket center which developed the RS-28, has revealed.

<https://sputniknews.com/20220922/russias-sarmat-icbm-can-correct-trajectory-even-if-hit-by-enemy-missile-defense-designer-says-1101087476.html>

## NATO Complicit in Ukraine Crisis, Referendums Will Shield Donbass, Kherson & Zaporozhye

*Sputnik International, September 22, 2022*

Russian President Vladimir Putin's decision to start partial mobilization and support the initiative of the Donbass, Kherson, and Zaporozhye regions to hold referendums on joining Russia stems from NATO's growing involvement in the Ukraine conflict, international observers say. "[Putin] has clearly identified Washington, London and Brussels [EU headquarters] as the main actors in the conflict, instead of Ukraine, which he sees as a stage," says Argentine analyst Martin Rodriguez Osses.

<https://sputniknews.com/20220922/observers-nato-complicit-in-ukraine-crisis-referendums-to-shield-donbass-kherson-zaporozhye-1101094434.html>

## Moscow "not threatening anyone" with nuclear weapons - Russia's Ryabkov

*Reuters, September 23, 2022*

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov said on Friday that Moscow was not threatening anybody with nuclear weapons, and that open confrontation with the United States and NATO was not in Russia's interests, state news agencies reported.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/moscow-not-threatening-anyone-with-nuclear-weapons-russias-ryabkov-2022-09-23/>

## Putin's 'incredibly dangerous' nuclear threats raise the risk of an unprecedented disaster

*Reuters, September 23, 2022*

Speaking in a rare, televised address on Wednesday, Putin warned that if the territorial integrity of Russia is threatened, the Kremlin would "certainly use all the means at our disposal to protect Russia and our people. It is not a bluff." It comes as pro-Moscow regional leaders in Kremlin-controlled areas of southern and eastern

Ukraine announced referendums on joining Russia. Beatrice Fihn, executive director of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, said Putin's threats drastically increase the risk of escalation to a nuclear conflict.

<https://www.cnn.com/2022/09/23/russia-ukraine-war-putins-nuclear-threats-raise-the-risk-of-disaster.html?searchterm=nuclear>

## Russian Nuclear Reactor That Uses 'Innovative' Fuel Goes Into 'Full Power Mode'

*Sputnik International, September 23, 2022*

Use of the new fuel is expected to drastically increase the fuel base of the nuclear power generation sector and further minimize radioactive waste. On September 22, Unit 4 of the Beloyarsk Nuclear Power Plant in Russia reached 100 percent capacity for the first time. According to the Atomic Energy web portal, the entire active zone of the BN-800 fast breeder reactor at Unit 4 has been fully switched to mixed oxide fuel (or MOX fuel for short) made from plutonium dioxide, which is made from reprocessed fuel rods used in standard VVER pressurized water reactors, and depleted uranium oxide made from reprocessed byproducts of the uranium enrichment process.

<https://sputniknews.com/20220923/russian-nuclear-reactor-that-uses-innovative-fuel-goes-into-full-power-mode-1101149733.html>

## Radiation Level at Zaporozhye NPP Remains Normal After Shelling by Ukraine - Russian MoD

*Sputnik International, September 24, 2022*

The radiation level at the Zaporozhye nuclear power plant (ZNPP) remains normal after a shelling by Ukrainian forces, the Russian Defense Ministry said on Saturday. Russian artillery took down a Bayraktar TB2 drone that was heading from Kiev-controlled Nikopol region toward the ZNPP earlier in the day, the ministry said. Ukrainian forces also fired



10 artillery projectiles at the village of Volna, located near the ZNPP, but the Russian forces successfully countered the attack, it added. "The radiation situation at the Zaporozhye NPP remains normal," the ministry said.

<https://sputniknews.com/20220924/radiation-level-at-zaporozhye-npp-remains-normal-after-shelling-by-ukraine-russian-mod-1101179695.html>

### **New EU Sanctions Unlikely to Target Russia's Nuclear Industry, Report Suggests**

*Sputnik International, September 25, 2022*

New EU sanctions against Russia are unlikely to include nuclear energy production, the Politico newspaper reported, citing diplomats. The European Commission held a meeting with senior EU diplomats on Saturday on the draft of the next package of sanctions against Russia over Ukraine. Nuclear energy is unlikely to be part of the next sanctions package because this is a key energy sector in France and Bulgaria, the diplomats told the newspaper, adding that there could be an issue with the maintenance of nuclear power plants in Europe built by the Soviet Union.

<https://sputniknews.com/20220925/new-eu-sanctions-unlikely-to-target-russias-nuclear-industry-report-suggests-1101212866.html>

### **Russia Tells U.S. to 'Cool Down' Over Putin's Nuclear Warning**

*The Moscow Times, September 26, 2022*

Russia's deputy foreign minister said on Monday that the United States should "cool down" after Washington warned Moscow against nuclear weapons in Ukraine, the state agency RIA Novosti reported. "We tell our American partners again and again, to use the most neutral word, that they should, as they say, cool down," Sergei Ryabkov said, referring to the war in Ukraine. Washington shouldn't escalate the conflict and "bring it closer to a dangerous line," Ryabkov told state broadcaster Channel One. President Vladimir Putin made a thinly

veiled threat to use nuclear arms in a speech Wednesday in which he announced the mobilization of reservists following Ukrainian gains on the ground. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, in an interview broadcast Sunday, confirmed reports that the United States had sent private warnings to Russia to steer clear of nuclear war.

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2022/09/26/russia-tells-us-to-cool-down-over-putins-nuclear-warning-a78893>

### **Putin declares 'four new regions of Russia' as Moscow illegally annexes parts of Ukraine**

*Reuters, September 26, 2022*

"There are four new regions of Russia," Putin said in a televised ceremony from the Kremlin in Moscow, according to a translation. The territory being seized consists of two pro-Russian "republics" in Luhansk and Donetsk in the east, and in Kherson and Zaporizhzhia in the south. There are concerns Moscow could use unconventional weapons to "defend" what it will now say are its territory and citizens.

<https://www.cnn.com/2022/09/30/putin-declares-four-new-regions-of-russia-as-moscow-annexes-parts-of-ukraine.html?&qsearchterm=nuclear>

### **Putin's tactical nuclear weapons could pack the same punch as atomic bombs dropped on Japan**

*CNN, September 27, 2022*

With his forces retreating in Ukraine, Russian President Vladimir Putin has once again threatened to turn to nuclear weapons, most likely what are often called tactical nuclear weapons. In a speech last week, he warned that, "In the event of a threat to the territorial integrity of our country and to defend Russia and our people, we will certainly make use of all weapon systems available to us. This is not a bluff." Russian weapon systems include 4,477 deployed and reserve nuclear warheads, with about 1,900 of these being

“non-strategic” warheads, otherwise known as tactical nuclear weapons, according to the Federation of American Scientists.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/09/26/europe/russia-ukraine-tactical-nuclear-weapons-explainer-intl-hnk-ml/index.html>

### **Putin grants Russian citizenship to US whistleblower Snowden**

*GDN, September 27, 2022*

President Vladimir Putin on Monday granted Russian citizenship to former U.S. intelligence contractor Edward Snowden, nine years after he exposed the scale of secret surveillance operations by the National Security Agency (NSA).

Snowden, 39, fled the United States and was given asylum in Russia after leaking secret files in 2013 that revealed vast domestic and international surveillance operations carried out by the NSA, where he worked.

US authorities have for years wanted him returned to the United States to face a criminal trial on espionage charges.

<https://www.gdnonline.com/Details/1143674>

### **Russian defence ministry says newly mobilised reservists begin training in Kaliningrad**

*GDN, September 28, 2022*

Russia’s Defence Ministry said on Wednesday that newly mobilised reservists in the Kaliningrad region have started combat training at the base of Russia’s Baltic Fleet.

“All mobilized military personnel comply with the standards for shooting from small arms. In addition, citizens called up from the reserve restore their skills in the operation and maintenance of weapons, military and special equipment,” the ministry said on its Telegram channel.

Courses have been also held to increase firing skills and prepare military personnel for “confident actions on the battlefield”.

<https://www.gdnonline.com/Details/1143807>

### **US Delusional to Think Moscow Won’t Defend Territory That Becomes Part of Russia - Antonov**

*Sputnik International, September 29, 2022*

US politicians are delusional if they think Moscow will not defend the territories that have or may become part of Russia as a result of their residents freely expressed popular will, Russian Ambassador to the United States Anatoly Antonov said in an opinion-editorial piece published by the National Interest. “I would like to add that certain American politicians are under a delusion if they think that our readiness to defend our territory does not apply to Crimea or to territories that may become part of Russia on the basis of a free expression of popular will,” Antonov said on Wednesday. The op-ed further saw Antonov blast the US for pushing toward a serious confrontation amid Russia’s ongoing special military operation, adding that US policy has prompted a “deplorable” arms control situation.

<https://sputniknews.com/20220929/us-delusional-to-think-moscow-wont-defend-territory-that-becomes-part-of-russia-antonov-1101325649.html>

### **Russian Foreign Ministry Says Part of Issues With US Under New START Resolved**

*Sputnik International, September 29, 2022*

Some of the problematic issues that were discussed with the United States on the topic of inspections under the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START) were resolved, and significant progress has been made on the rest, Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said. “Within the framework of the [advisory] commission, a remote discussion continues on what organizational and technical problems need to be addressed. Some of them have been removed, while others have made significant progress,” Zakharova said at a briefing.

<https://sputniknews.com/20220929/russian-foreign-ministry-says-part-of-issues-with-us-under-new-start-resolved-1101347789.html>



## Putin's new land grab is dangerous for Ukraine - and the world

*CNN, September 30, 2022*

Russia's new land grab in Ukraine is an act of geopolitical piracy that will make the war more dangerous, add new risk to the West's strategic calculations and deal a long-term challenge to the international rule of law. President Vladimir Putin presided over a Kremlin ceremony Friday to formalize an annexation process of four occupied regions that will slice away thousands of miles of Ukraine's heavy industrial and agricultural wealth. In effect, the move amounts to stealing territory from a sovereign power and declaring it part of Russia after an unprovoked invasion - a clear violation of international law and one reason why much of the world will not accept it.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/09/30/politics/putin-annexation-dangerous-for-the-world-analysis/index.html>

## Ukraine Crisis Giving Birth to Multipolar World Order: Read Putin's Full Speech on New Territories

*Sputnik International, September 30, 2022*

The Russian president, other senior officials, and the heads of the Donbass republics, Zaporozhye and Kherson gathered in the Kremlin on Friday to formalize the results of status referendums held between September 23-27, in which overwhelming majorities of voters expressed their support for their regions becoming part of Russia.

<https://sputniknews.com/20220930/ukraine-crisis-giving-birth-to-multipolar-world-order-read-putins-full-speech-on-new-territories-1101386341.html>

## Putin accuses West of blowing up pipelines as Europe steps up vigilance

*Reuters, September 30, 2022*

Russian President Vladimir Putin on Friday blamed the United States and its allies for blowing up the undersea Nord Stream

pipelines, raising the temperature in a crisis that has left Europe racing to secure its energy infrastructure and supplies. In a speech to mark the annexation of four Ukrainian regions invaded by Russian forces, Putin offered no evidence for the claim. Russia has previously said the United States would profit from attacks on Europe's energy infrastructure.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/russias-spy-chief-says-moscow-has-evidence-west-behind-sabotage-nord-stream-2022-09-30/>

## C. China

### China's suborbital space plane project gets major funding boost

*South China Morning Post, September 16, 2022*

China's biggest funder of scientific research said it would support the development of civilian hypersonic flight technology that can carry passengers anywhere on Earth - or to near space - within an hour. The National Natural Science Foundation of China approved on September 7 an unspecified amount of funding for a suborbital transport project to develop the hypersonic transport system. The system will feature winged aircraft that take off and land on a runway just like an ordinary plane, but with the ability to cruise faster than five times the speed of sound at high altitude, according to the China Academy of Launch Vehicle Technology (CALT), one of the project's lead contractors.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3192766/chinas-suborbital-space-plane-project-gets-major-funding-boost>

### Yoon meets with China's top legislator; remarks show Beijing's message over sensitive issues like THAAD 'received'

*Global Times, September 16, 2022*

South Korean President Yoon Suk-yeol met with China's top legislator Li Zhanshu in Seoul, saying that he hopes to further

develop ties with China against the backdrop of the two countries' 30th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic ties, and stressed the need for close communication to make sure the US THAAD installed in South Korea will not be a hurdle to bilateral ties, South Korean media reported. Analysts said that since President Yoon took office this year, China-South Korea relations have gone through an adjustment period. With Li's visit to South Korea, it is likely that the two sides will come to a better agreement on some major issues, given that the South Korean leader's remarks seem to indicate that Seoul has received and better understood Beijing's position on some sensitive issues, and that following the US is not completely in South Korea's national interests.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202209/1275429.shtml>

### **Chinese envoy reiterates intl communities' deep concerns over nuclear- powered submarine cooperation under AUKUS**

*Global Times, September 16, 2022*

China's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Vienna, Wang Qun, reiterated most of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) member states' deep concerns over the seven problems regarding the nuclear-powered submarine cooperation under AUKUS, the trilateral pact between the US, the UK and Australia and noted that if the IAEA Secretariat is ultimately used as a "Trojan horse" by the US, UK and Australia, the international communities' interests will be undermined. The nuclear-powered submarine cooperation under AUKUS involves the illegal transfer of nuclear-weapon materials and is an act of naked nuclear proliferation, Wang said. But for a long time, the three countries have been evading the essence of their nuclear proliferation practices, confusing right and wrong and misleading the international community, he said. Wang made the remarks during an interview after a formal agenda of the IAEA Board of Governors decided by consensus on the nuclear-

powered submarine cooperation under AUKUS at China's proposal.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202209/1275409.shtml>

### **Chinese scientists discover new findings from Chang'e-5 samples, provide new insights into lunar volcanic activity**

*Global Times, September 16, 2022*

Scientists with the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) have conducted more studies and research into lunar samples from the Chang'e-5 robotic mission, which revealed the basalt thickness at its landing region and they estimated that the region has experienced volcanic eruptions at least four times, according to a recent article published on the CAS website. The Chang'e-5 mission successfully brought 1,731 grams of lunar minerals back to Earth. The landing site in the Northeastern Oceanus Procellarum basin (43.06°N, 51.92°W) of the Moon was considered to have one of the youngest basalt units on the lunar surface with rich heat-generating elements such as uranium, thorium and potassium. Previous studies have indicated that these elements were the main cause of lunar volcanic activities, which explains the significance of the new findings by Chinese tests. They are also expected to further enhance people's understanding of lunar volcanic activity and internal thermal evolution history.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202209/1275382.shtml>

### **China sanctions CEOs of Raytheon Technologies, Boeing Defense over arms sale to Taiwan region**

*Global Times, September 16, 2022*

The Chinese government is set to impose sanctions on Gregory J. Hayes, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Raytheon Technologies Corporation, and Theodore Colbert III, President and Chief Executive Officer of Boeing Defense, Space & Security, following recent US arms sales

to China's Taiwan region, the Chinese Foreign Ministry announced. Mao Ning, spokesperson from the ministry, said at media briefing that the sanctions were imposed in order to safeguard China's sovereignty and security interests, as the two companies were involved in the latest US arms sale to the Taiwan region.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202209/1275410.shtml>

### **Chinese scientists develop long-distance underwater communication in South China Sea**

*South China Morning Post, September 17, 2022*

Chinese researchers say they have developed and tested in the depths of the South China Sea underwater communication technology that would allow submarines and drones to maintain contact over more than 30,000 sq km (11,600 square miles) – about the area of Belgium. A listening device picked up sound signals from 105km (65 miles) away at a depth of 200 metres (656 feet) during a field test in an important passageway for submarines, according to the study by the team at northwestern China. The data transmission rate reached nearly 200 bits per second (bps), on par with the bandwidth of very low-frequency radio sent by a naval command to nuclear submarines using the world's largest land-based antennas.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3192719/chinese-scientists-develop-long-distance-underwater>

### **U.S. and China should discuss controls on drones**

*Nikkei Asia, September 18, 2022*

China is already a drone superpower and has been for well over a decade, controlling a large portion of the world's growing market for unmanned aerial vehicles. It has made enormous effort to integrate drone technology into all parts of the People's Liberation Army as well as its coast guard and other forces. Even before the Ukraine war, Chinese analysts were extremely impressed by Azerbaijan's skillful

employment of drones against Armenia during fighting in 2020. In Ukraine, they have paid close attention to use of the U.S.-made Switchblade drone, which can track a target and then ram it to set off an explosive warhead.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Opinion/U.S.-and-China-should-discuss-controls-on-drones&cd=1&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=in>

### **Large amount of liquid water activity existed on Mars 1b yrs ago, found 1st mission**

*Global Times, September 18, 2022*

The latest scientific research results released by China's first Mars exploration mission showed that a large amount of liquid water activity once existed in the landing zone of Zhurong, China's first Mars rover, about 1 billion years ago. The discovery of liquid water activity means that there may have been some conditions suitable for the origin or existence of life on Mars in the past billion years, experts explained. At the same time, the Tianwen-1 mission has also laid a solid foundation for subsequent interplanetary exploration by China. According to the China National Space Administration (CNSA), the Tianwen-1 Mars probe had been in orbit for more than 780 days, traveling a total of 1,921 meters, completing its scientific exploration tasks and acquiring 1,480 gigabytes of raw scientific exploration data, China Central Television (CCTV) reported.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202209/1275475.shtml>

### **China Nuclear Deal Held Up Over Argentina's Reactor Fuel Demand**

*Bloomberg, September 19, 2022*

Months after an announcement that China will build and largely finance an \$8 billion nuclear power plant outside Buenos Aires, the deal is hung up over Argentina's demand that its engineers be permitted to manufacture the reactor fuel domestically. Becoming the first nation licensed to make fuel for China's Hualong One reactor

would greatly advance Argentina's atomic program. It would also signal that China is willing to license technology to trading partners, following a commercial pathway blazed by US.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2022-09-19/china-nuclear-deal-held-up-over-argentina-s-reactor-fuel-demand?leadSource=uverify%20wall>

### **The sea is not Japan's dustbin, nor the Pacific Ocean its sewer: Chinese FM**

*Global Times, September 19, 2022*

Chinese Foreign Ministry once again called on Japan to stop its dubious and irresponsible plan of dumping Fukushima nuclear-contaminated water into the sea, as the radioactive substance in the nuclear-contaminated water, although it had already been treated through a filtration system, was once tested to be two times higher than the discharge standard. According to Kyodo News, the Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO), which is in charge of construction of the facility to be used for releasing the nuclear-contaminated water, said that the company found the level of radioactive substance Strontium 90 as high as three times of Japan's national standard, even though the samples on July 28 had been treated through a filtration system called ALPS (Advanced Liquid Processing System). The report came after the repeated claim of both the Japanese government and TEPCO that nuclear-contaminated water is "safe" to be dumped into the ocean because it would go through the multi-nuclide removal system ALPS and radioactive substances such as Strontium 90 and Carbon 14 that cause genetic mutation in the ecosystem can be reduced to a "safe" level.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202209/1275581.shtml>

### **S. Korea proceeds with THAAD to enhance alliance with US, 'risks China ties'**

*Global Times, September 19, 2022*

The South Korean government has reportedly advanced the deployment of the US Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) anti-missile defense system, by granting more land to the US for the operation of the unit in Seongju, a move that represents a risky path of enhancing Seoul's alliance with Washington at the cost of China ties, analysts said. Observers warned that escalation of the situation and further deployment of THAAD risks dragging China-South Korea relations into the abyss again, which is against South Korean interests, as the US is never a reliable ally. China and South Korea had a series of diplomatic interactions, as the two countries celebrate their three decades of diplomatic relations. China's top legislator Li Zhanshu said during his visit to South Korea that handling sensitive issues properly is crucial to the healthy and stable development of bilateral ties. Earlier in August, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi met with South Korean Foreign Minister Park Jin and exchanged views on the issue, agreeing that both sides' security concerns should be respected and the two countries should make efforts to properly handle THAAD-related issues so that they will not become a hurdle in bilateral relations.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202209/1275609.shtml>

### **Chinese Defense Minister meets Pakistani Chief of Army Staff**

*China Military Online, September 19, 2022*

Chinese State Councilor and Defense Minister General Wei Fenghe held a meeting with General Qamar Javed



Bajwa, chief of Army Staff of the Pakistan Army, in Xi'an, capital of northwest China's Shaanxi Province. Gen. Wei Fenghe expressed his condolence over the severe floods hitting Pakistan. "China and Pakistan are all-weather strategic cooperative partners, under the guidance of the leaders of the two countries, the friendship between China and Pakistan has become stronger as time goes by. We must tide over difficulties together, fully trust each other, and unswervingly support each other's core interests on the way forward," Gen. Wei said, adding that no matter how the world situation changes, the rock-solid friendship between China and Pakistan will last forever, and the two countries will always be trustworthy and most reliable true friends and good brothers.

[http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2022-09/19/content\\_10185744.htm](http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2022-09/19/content_10185744.htm)

### **Yuanwang-5 completes recent telemetry, tracking and command missions**

*China Military Online, September 20, 2022*

On September 19, Yuanwang-5, China's homegrown third-generation spacecraft tracking ship, returned to its home port of the China Satellite Maritime Tracking and Control Department (CSMTC) after completing its recent telemetry, tracking and command (TT&C) missions. Yuanwang-5 had spent 69 days at sea, sailing more than 14,000 nautical miles, and completed two TT&C missions for the Wentian lab cabin module (LCM) and Yaogan-33 02 satellite. As an indispensable part of China's maritime TT&C network, Yuanwang-5 has been operating at sea for over 110 days in accumulation since early 2022. During its stay at the home port, Yuanwang-5 will receive material supply, as well as equipment maintenance and repair, so that it can set sail at any time to carry out follow-up tasks.

[http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2022-09/20/content\\_10185991.htm](http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2022-09/20/content_10185991.htm)

### **China and United Arab Emirates agree on joint lunar rover mission**

*South China Morning Post, September 21, 2022*

China has agreed to partner with the United Arab Emirates in an unmanned landing mission to the moon, with the two countries' space agencies signing a pact in Dubai. The unique Chinese mission to the moon's southern polar region will deliver a hopping device that can move in and out of a crater's permanently shadowed area, seeking evidence of water. According to the China National Space Administration, the probe will be the first of its kind, able to repeatedly take off, touch down and fly over a certain distance on the lunar surface - moving across a wider area with greater mobility than a land rover.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3193232/china-and-united-arab-emirates-agree-joint-lunar-rover-mission>

### **China sends new naval fleet on Gulf of Aden escort mission**

*China Military Online, September 21, 2022*

The 42nd fleet of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy set out from a military port in east China's Shandong Province on Wednesday to take over an escort mission from the 41st naval fleet in the Gulf of Aden and the waters off Somalia. The 42nd fleet is mainly composed of naval troops and equipment from the PLA Northern Theater Command, including the guided-missile destroyer Huainan, the missile frigate Rizhao and a supply vessel, with dozens of special-operations soldiers and two helicopters on board. In preparation for the mission, the fleet conducted counter-terrorism and anti-piracy training, and training on commercial vessel rescue, the use of weapons and other subjects.

[http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2022-09/21/content\\_10186380.htm](http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2022-09/21/content_10186380.htm)

## Chinese FM criticizes dumping of toxic substances by US military in Japan

*Global Times, September 22, 2022*

As toxic fluorine compounds dumped by the US military in Japan were detected once again in Yokosuka city of Kanagawa Prefecture and sparked concern among locals, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian said it reflects that saving the benefits of something for itself and leaving the environmental cost to others is US' standard practice. Yokosuka Municipal Government of Kanagawa Prefecture in Japan announced recently that the amount of toxic fluorine compounds detected in drainage water from a US naval base there exceeded Japanese government-set limits. Mayor of Yokosuka expressed concern saying that "It is truly regrettable. The outflow into the sea may be becoming the norm."

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202209/1275926.shtml>

## Scientists at America's top nuclear lab were recruited by China to design missiles and drones, report says

*NBC news, September 22, 2022*

At least 154 Chinese scientists who worked on government-sponsored research at the U.S.'s foremost national security laboratory over the last two decades have been recruited to do scientific work in China – some of which helped advance military technology that threatens American national security – according to a new private intelligence report obtained by NBC News. The report, by Strider Technologies, describes what it calls a systemic effort by the government of China to place Chinese scientists at Los Alamos National Laboratory, where nuclear weapons were first developed. Many of the scientists were later lured back to China to help make advances in such technologies as deep-earth-

penetrating warheads, hypersonic missiles, quiet submarines and drones, according to the report.

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/scientists-america-top-nuclear-lab-recruited-china-design-missiles-dr-rcna48834>

## Chinese researchers simulate hypersonic bombing in wind tunnel

*South China Morning Post, September 23, 2022*

Researchers in southwest China say they have developed the world's most advanced system for testing an aircraft's ability to unload a weapon or small spacecraft at extremely fast speeds, allowing them to test a prototype hypersonic bomber. Since the 1960s, military scientists have used a device known as a captive trajectory system (CTS) during wind tunnel tests to study the cargo offloading ability of bombers and other military aircraft. The systems typically use a small crane to move the bomb or missile away from an aircraft to replicate the parting of two objects against strong currents in a wind tunnel.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3193407/chinese-researchers-simulate-hypersonic-bombing-wind-tunnel>

## China expands submarine base near South China Sea, satellite images show

*South China Morning Post, September 23, 2022*

China has been expanding a military submarine base off the South China Sea, new satellite images show. Two new piers around 240 metres (787 feet) long are under construction at the Yulin Naval Base off Yalong Bay in China's southern Hainan province, according to Sentinel-2A satellite imagery taken. Yulin is a major base for the People's Liberation Army (PLA) and home to the navy's advanced submarine



fleet. Its location not only allows the PLA South Sea Fleet to access the South China Sea, but also the busy shipping route stretching from the Middle East, through the Strait of Malacca, to East Asia.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3193555/china-expands-submarine-base-near-south-china-sea-satellite>

### **As Russia raises nuclear specter in Ukraine, China looks the other way**

*CNN, September 23, 2022*

When Russian President Vladimir Putin met with Chinese leader Xi Jinping in Uzbekistan, the mood was noticeably different from their triumphant meeting in Beijing, weeks before Russia's invasion of Ukraine. There was no more touting of their "no-limits" friendship declared on the opening day of the Winter Olympics. Instead, Putin conceded that Beijing had "questions and concerns" about his faltering invasion, in a subtle nod to the limits of China's backing and the growing asymmetry in their relationship. In the Chinese readout of the meeting, Xi did not even refer to the much-heralded "strategic partnership" between Beijing and Moscow, observed Shi Yinhong, an international relations professor at Renmin University in Beijing. It was "the most prudent, or most low-key statement in years" issued by Xi on their strategic relationship, Shi said.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/09/22/china/russia-mobilization-china-intl-hnk-mic/index.html>

### **China's 3rd aircraft carrier starts mooring trials ahead of 10th anniversary of commissioning of the country's first carrier: report**

*Global Times, September 24, 2022*

China's third aircraft carrier has started mooring trials, the country's state broadcaster announced. This indicates smooth progress for the carrier's construction and tests since its launch in June, analysts said. Celebrating the upcoming 10th anniversary of the commissioning of the country's first aircraft carrier, the Liaoning, China Central

Television (CCTV) announced that the country's third aircraft carrier, the Fujian, is conducting mooring trials as planned. Over the last few days, the Fujian has been undergoing equipment installation and calibration work, with related test missions being conducted at the same time, according to a separate report by CCTV. Having a displacement of more than 80,000 tons and being the country's first carrier equipped with electromagnetic catapults and arresting devices, the Fujian was launched in Shanghai on June 17. Official reports said at the time that after the launch, the carrier would start mooring trials and sea trials.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202209/1275983.shtml>

### **China launches two new experimental satellites**

*China Military Online, September 25, 2022*

China on Sunday launched a Kuaizhou-1A carrier rocket to place two satellites in space. The pair of satellites, Shiyang-14 and Shiyang-15, were lifted at 06:55AM (Beijing Time) from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in the northern province of Shanxi and soon entered the preset orbit. The Shiyang-14 will mainly be used to conduct scientific experiments and verify new technologies, while the Shiyang-15 will provide data in the fields of land survey, urban planning, and disaster prevention and mitigation. It was the 18th flight mission of the Kuaizhou-1A series rockets, according to the launch center.

[http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2022-09/25/content\\_10187110.htm](http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2022-09/25/content_10187110.htm)

### **China Goes Nuclear**

*The Wire China, September 25, 2022*

In 1969, scientists at the U.S. Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) in Tennessee switched off a pioneering experiment in nuclear power generation for the last time. Now, the Chinese government has given the go-ahead for a plant based on their blueprint in Gansu Province, in western China. The

Gansu plant – which uses what’s known as a Thorium Molten- Salt Reactor – was jointly developed by the Shanghai Institute of Applied Physics (SINAP) and the State Nuclear Power Automation System Engineering Company.

<https://www.thewirechina.com/2022/09/25/china-goes-nuclear/>

### **NE China’s first nuclear plant to provide heating to residents this winter**

*Global Times, September 26, 2022*

Unit 6 of the Hongyanhe nuclear power plant in Northeast China’s Liaoning Province has reportedly entered full operations, and it’s set to provide heating to local residents over land area of 242,400 square meters in the town of Hongyanhe this winter, China Media Group (CMG) reported. The development will help ensure winter power supply in the region, which faced severe power shortages last year. The move also comes as China moves swiftly to expand production of nuclear power and other clean energy, amid global energy challenges and the country’s carbon emissions reduction goals. Nuclear heating will be more efficient than coal heating, discharging no carbon dioxide, according to CMG. The plant cost nearly 90 billion yuan (\$12.56 billion) and has a total installed capacity exceeding 6.7 million kilowatts. It’s the largest operating nuclear power plant in China and the third-largest worldwide.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202209/1276126.shtml>

### **China’s next-gen solar-powered drone expected to make debut soon**

*Global Times, September 26, 2022*

China is expected to unveil its next-generation, solar-powered large unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) with very long endurance soon, which will have a larger wingspan than its predecessors that allows it to carry larger payloads for missions including reconnaissance, monitoring and communications relay in near-space, said

Chinese experts familiar with the matter. The remarks came after the country’s latest drone of this kind made its maiden flight earlier this month. In 2017, China’s first solar-powered large drone, the CH-T4 of the world-famous CH drone series, made its maiden flight, staying aloft for 15 hours at altitudes of more than 20,000 meters. This made China the third country to develop such an aircraft following the UK and the US. Having a wingspan of around 45 meters, the CH-T4 has set a very high starting point for China’s solar-powered drone development, with all core technologies and equipment being domestically made, a source familiar with the Chinese drone industry told the Global Times on condition of anonymity.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202209/1276162.shtml>

### **AUKUS’ plan to expedite Australia’s nuclear sub construction an act of nuclear proliferation under ‘naval nuclear propulsion’ cover: Chinese mission to UN**

*Global Times, September 26, 2022*

The Chinese mission to the UN in Vienna warned in an exclusive statement sent to the Global Times that the latest move by AUKUS to plan to expedite Australia’s nuclear submarine construction is a blatant defiance of and trampling on the international nuclear non-proliferation system, and is an act of nuclear proliferation under the pretext of “naval nuclear propulsion.” A spokesperson of the Chinese mission to the UN and other international organizations in Vienna made the comment after leaders of the US, UK and Australia said marking the one-year anniversary of the AUKUS security pact that they have made “significant progress” toward Australia acquiring a nuclear-powered submarine. In disregard of the serious concerns of the international community on the trilateral nuclear submarine deal, the US is insisting on and even making reckless remarks about accelerating the deal, which is a blatant

defiance of and trampling on the international nuclear non-proliferation system, the spokesperson told the Global Times in the statement.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202209/1276076.shtml>

### **Chinese radar study lends weight to theory of ancient ocean on Mars**

*South China Morning Post, September 27, 2022*

Scientists have used a ground-penetrating radar on China's Mars rover to find possible evidence of flooding events on the red planet billions of years ago. Though no direct evidence for liquid water was found in the shallow subsurface, the study lends weight to the theory that the rover's landing area once hosted an ancient ocean, the team said in a Nature paper published online. The researchers from the Chinese Academy of Sciences and Peking University also said the possibility of water existing at lower depths could not be ruled out.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3193853/chinese-radar-study-lends-weight-theory-ancient-ocean-mars>

### **Countries with the largest nuclear arsenals should reduce their nuclear arsenals first: Chinese envoy to the UN**

*Global Times, September 27, 2022*

Countries with the largest nuclear arsenals should earnestly fulfill their special and priority responsibilities and further significantly and substantially reduce their nuclear arsenals to create conditions for the eventual realization of comprehensive and complete nuclear disarmament, Geng Shuang, China's deputy permanent representative to the UN, told the UN General Assembly (UNGA). The UNGA held a high-level meeting to mark the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons. As UN described, it provides an opportunity to educate the public and their leaders about the real benefits of eliminating such weapons, and the social and economic costs of

perpetuating them. Geng said during the meeting that the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons and the eventual establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free world serves the common interests of mankind and is the shared aspiration of all countries.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202209/1276193.shtml>

### **China's Mars rover finds no evidence of liquid water down to 80 meters in landing area but presence of saline ice may exist**

*Global Times, September 27, 2022*

Chinese scientists have further revealed the subsurface structure and stratification of Mars in the Utopia Planitia region where Zhurong - the rover of the country's Tianwen-1 Mars mission - landed, suggesting there was no evidence of the existence of liquid water down to 80 meters in the area but there could have been two major floods that probably shaped the region. The in-situ ground-penetrating radar survey of the Martian subsurface structure in a southern marginal area of Utopia Planitia conducted by the Zhurong rover of the Tianwen-1 mission showed that there was no direct evidence for the existence of liquid water within the radar detection depth range. However, the Chinese scientists said that they cannot rule out the presence of saline ice in the subsurface of the landing area, according to their latest journal on the findings published by Nature.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202209/1276243.shtml>

### **New US nuclear sub made for China, Russia war**

*Asia Times, September 27, 2022*

The US is designing its SSN(X) next-generation nuclear attack submarine in a significant shift from procuring Virginia class SSNs to a new class by the 2030s. The program addresses maintenance woes in its current nuclear attack submarine fleet



and reorients US undersea warfare capabilities to great power competition from China and Russia. The designation “SSN(X)” means that the exact design of the nuclear attack submarine class has not yet been determined, according to an August 2022 US Congressional Research Service (CRS) report. Although the Virginia class is built with incremental improvements called “blocks,” a new design that solves maintenance problems and includes game-changing technologies may represent the development of a new class altogether.

<https://asiatimes.com/2022/09/new-us-nuclear-sub-made-for-china-russia-war/>

### **Indian Ocean rivalry: China’s naval maneuvers irk New Delhi**

*Nikkei Asia, September 27, 2022*

Beijing has sold, gifted or is in talks to deliver submarines to Pakistan, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Thailand – countries that surround India. The client list has left analysts pondering the potential strategic implications. Meanwhile, at any given time, there are “between five to eight Chinese navy units” in the Indian Ocean, Kumar told the annual convention of the All India Management Association. Darshana Baruah, head of the Indian Ocean Initiative at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, said: “While China’s primary interests are in the Western Pacific, the Indian Ocean is where its vulnerabilities lie.” “Of the 10 countries that supply three-fourths of China’s crude oil, nine rely on a safe, secure and stable Indian Ocean to transport their goods,” she said. “As China continues to move forward in its maritime and global ambitions, securing the Indian Ocean will become a priority.”

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Spotlight/Asia-Insight/Indian-Ocean-rivalry-China-s-naval-maneuvers-irk-New-Delhi>

### **Chinese, Russian warships in ‘show of solidarity’ near Alaska**

*South China Morning Post, September 27, 2022*

A US Coast Guard ship on routine patrol in the Bering Sea near Alaska came across

Chinese and Russian warships conducting a joint operation that analysts say was a “show of solidarity”. The crew of the Kimball, a Honolulu-based cutter, first discovered a Chinese guided-missile cruiser about 75 nautical miles north of Kiska Island, Alaska, in the United States exclusive economic zone on September 19, the Coast Guard said. Kiska is part of the Aleutian Islands and lies roughly 2,000km (1,300 miles) southwest of Anchorage and about 1,100km (700 miles) from Russia. The US Coast Guard said the Kimball crew later identified another two Chinese naval ships in formation with four Russian naval vessels – including a Russian frigate – operating as a “combined surface action group” within the US zone. It said the operation could have been part of joint naval drills following Russia’s week-long Vostok 2022 war games that ended on September 7.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3193978/chinese-russian-warships-show-solidarity-near-alaska>

### **IAEA general conference to first review China-proposed agenda on AUKUS nuclear sub deal concerns**

*Global Times, September 28, 2022*

The issue of a nuclear submarine deal between the US, UK, and Australia, and inherent risks will officially be reviewed upon China’s proposal for the first time at the 66th annual International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) General Conference to be held from September 26 to 30 in Vienna, Austria, after IAEA members expressed great concern over the potential danger of nuclear proliferation, the Global Times learnt from the Chinese mission to the UN in Vienna. In September 2021, the US, the UK, and Australia announced the establishment of AUKUS, under which the US and the UK will assist Australia in acquiring nuclear-powered submarines. Leaders from the US, UK, and Australia said recently that they have made “significant progress” toward Australia acquiring a nuclear-powered submarine.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202209/1276365.shtml>



## China's stealth fighter jets now seeing duty in all 5 theatre commands

*South China Morning Post, September 28, 2022*

China's military is now operating its home-grown stealth fighter jet in all five of the country's theatre commands, according to an air force spokesman. "J-20 fifth-generation fighters are operating in the east, south, west, north and central [theatre commands], are increasingly used by forces, and are flying farther and farther," Senior Colonel Shen Jinke said. The warplane was being deployed in the East China Sea, the South China Sea and the Taiwan Strait, Shen said at a press conference promoting the China International Aviation and Aerospace Exhibition to be held in Zhuhai in November. When it made its maiden flight in 2011, the J-20 "Mighty Dragon" was considered a symbol of China's efforts to modernise the People's Liberation Army (PLA). With the jet's introduction, China became the second country after the United States to operate a stealth fighter capable of supersonic cruising speeds.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3194104/chinas-stealth-fighter-jets-now-seeing-duty-all-five-theatre>

## NATO accepts S.Korea's request to set up mission; closer security alliance 'risks exacerbating regional division'

*Global Times, September 28, 2022*

In a step further underpinning the security alliance between NATO and South Korea, NATO has announced it has accepted Seoul's request to designate its embassy in Belgium as its diplomatic mission to NATO, a move that experts said would undoubtedly exacerbate regional confrontation and division. Describing it as "an important step in NATO's strong partnership with the Republic of Korea," NATO pledged to strengthen dialogue and cooperation with new and existing partners in the Indo-Pacific to tackle cross-regional challenges. The announcement came after South Korean

President Yoon Suk-yeol, for the first time in history, attended a NATO summit in Madrid in June, to express the country's interest in underpinning a security alliance with the US' Western allies.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202209/1276344.shtml>

## U.S. doubles down on extra-large drone subs to counter China

*Nikkei Asia, September 29, 2022*

The U.S. Navy is moving to deploy extra-large underwater drones that can potentially conduct secret offensive and intelligence-gathering activities at a lower cost than conventional submarines, contributing to deterrence against China. U.S. Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin visited the Naval Information Warfare Center Pacific in San Diego on Wednesday. While there, he was briefed on the current status of the development of unmanned submarines and surface ships. Austin emphasized the need for "collaboration" in a "very sophisticated" field. "You all are operating on the cutting edge here, and I challenge you to keep pushing yourselves and keep innovating for the warfighter," Austin said

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/Indo-Pacific/U.S.-doubles-down-on-extra-large-drone-subs-to-counter-China>

## China's military companies tap new investors after U.S. sanctions

*Nikkei Asia, September 29, 2022*

For an indication of how China's military-industrial complex is dealing with U.S. sanctions, consider the case of China Satellite Communications. China Satcom, which Washington placed off-limits to U.S. investors, is preparing a private placement of 400 million new shares and has opened a bank account for the expected funds. "The process with regard to the private placement is moving along in an orderly way," Li Zhongbao, the company's chairman, told investors during an online conference on September 16. China Satcom and its controlling

shareholder, China Aerospace Science and Technology Corp. (CASC), were among 68 Chinese military-industrial companies, known as CMICs, whose equity Washington has targeted for sanctions, curbing U.S. investors' ability to back them financially. But while the restrictions make it more difficult for the companies to grow, Beijing is doing its best to fill the gap and keep the key strategic sector on track.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/US-China-tensions/China-s-military-companies-tap-new-investors-after-U.S.-sanctions>

### **Disengagement of Chinese, Indian troops in Jianan Daban conducive to peace in border areas: Defense Spokesperson**

*China Military Online, September 29, 2022*

The disengagement of Chinese and Indian troops in the area of Jianan Daban is conducive to promoting peace and tranquility in the border areas, said Senior Colonel Tan Kefei, a spokesperson for China's Ministry of National Defense, at a regular press conference. The spokesperson made such remarks when being asked to comment on what some analysts have said that the disengagement is conducive to easing up the tension between the two countries. According to Tan, in line with the consensus reached in the 16th Round of China-India Corps Commander Level Meeting, the front-line troops of the two militaries in the area of Jianan Daban recently staged disengagement simultaneously in a planned manner.

[http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2022-09/29/content\\_10188357.htm](http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2022-09/29/content_10188357.htm)

### **The new geopolitics of nuclear power**

*Chatham House, September 29, 2022*

Like Russia, Chinese government-owned nuclear corporations have started to make forays into export markets as part of its Belt and Road Initiative and 'Go Out' policy, which encourages companies to invest overseas. Both China and Russia have a

strong comparative advantage in offering competitive state-backed financing schemes for nuclear products and services. In the meantime, nuclear investment in advanced economies in the West have tended to remain stagnant. The International Energy Agency reports that of the 31 reactors built in the past five years, 27 are of Russian or Chinese design.

<https://www.chathamhouse.org/publications/the-world-today/2022-10/new-geopolitics-nuclear-power>

### **Chinese navy shows off growing fleet of advanced weaponry in new videos**

*South China Morning Post, September 29, 2022*

The Chinese navy has, for the first time, released video footage of its most advanced Type 094A nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine and Type 093 nuclear-powered attack submarine. The vessels appeared in a training video for China's first combat-ready aircraft carrier, the Liaoning. It's the first time that state news broadcaster CCTV has aired video of the Type 094A, also known as the Long March-18, since the submarine was put into service on April 23 last year as part of celebrations to mark the 72nd anniversary of the People's Liberation Army Navy. The Type 094A is capable of launching the JL-3 or Julang (Big Wave) ballistic missile, which has a range of more than 10,000km (6,200 miles) - enough to hit the US mainland.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3194302/chinese-navy-shows-growing-fleet-advanced-weaponry-new-videos>

### **Rapid growth of China's nuclear arsenal can be a threat to US, American General warns**

*The Daily Guardian, September 30, 2022*

China's rapid growth of its nuclear arsenal can be a threat to the US, American General Anthony Cotton has warned. General Anthony Cotton warned the

Senate Armed Services Committee about the threat of China's rapid growth of its nuclear arsenal, but China is still far from being a threat to the US, The Singapore Post reported. Recent geographical developments in China show the country's rapid building of missile silos which house its missiles. Beijing had 229 new fields under construction at Hami and Yumen, created as recently as 2021. As per the sources, China has a total of 350 warheads, which are ready to use, of which, 248 ballistic missiles are for land use, and 72 ballistic missiles are for deployment in the sea.

<https://theguardian.com/rapid-growth-of-chinas-nuclear-arsenal-can-be-a-threat-to-u-s/>

### **Fuel despatched for China's CFR-600 fast neutron reactor**

*World Nuclear News, September 30, 2022*

Two more shipments are due to follow this year from Elemash Machine-building plant, Rosatom's TVEL fuel company said, which will cover the initial load of the reactor core and the first refueling. Construction of unit 1 of what is also known as the Xiapu fast reactor demonstration project began in 2017. It is part of China's plan to achieve a closed nuclear fuel cycle. China National Nuclear Corporation announced in December 2020 that construction work had begun on a second unit at the plant. The aim has been for the first unit to be grid connected around 2023. The reactors will be 1500 MWt, 600 MWe, with 41% thermal efficiency, using mixed-oxide (MOX) fuel with 100 GWd/t burn-up, and with two sodium coolant loops producing steam at 480°C. Later fuel will be metal with burn-up 100-120 GWd/t. Breeding ratio is about 1.1, design operational lifetime 40 years. The design has active and passive shutdown systems and passive decay heat removal.

<https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Fuel-despatched-to-China-for-CFR-600-fast-neutron?feed=feed>

### **China and Russia to boost satellite navigation systems with new ground stations**

*South China Morning Post, September 30, 2022*

China and Russia have agreed to build satellite ground stations on each other's soil to improve how their global navigation systems work together, according to Russian space agency Roscosmos. The agreement aimed to make Russia's GLONASS and China's BeiDou systems more reliable and accurate, the Russian agency said in a statement. Under contracts China and Russia signed at a regular meeting on satellite navigation, GLONASS stations will be installed in three Chinese cities: Changchun in the northeast, Urumqi in the northwest and Shanghai in the east.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3194387/china-and-russia-boost-satellite-navigation-systems-new-ground>

### **D. Pakistan**

### **COAS, China's defence minister discuss CPEC**

*Business Recorder, September 20, 2022*

China's defence minister General Wei Fenghe on Monday had a meeting with Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa where both sides agreed that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is aimed at bringing more benefits and prosperity to the people of both countries. The army chief is on an official two-day visit to China during which he called on Defence Minister General Fenghe. According to a statement issued by Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), during the meeting, the two sides discussed the progress of the CPEC. The defence minister said that China greatly values its time-tested relations with

Pakistan and its army and looks forward to further expanding this cooperation. He termed Pak-China military cooperation “an important pillar of bilateral relations.”

<https://www.brecorder.com/news/40198517/coas-chinas-defence-minister-discuss-cpec>

### **PAC orders Pakistan Nuclear Regulatory Authority to prepare rules within one week**

*Associated Press of Pakistan, September 21, 2022*

Chairman Public Accounts Committee (PAC) Noor Alam Khan on Tuesday directed Pakistan Nuclear Regulatory Authority (PNRA) to submit agency’s rules before the PAC and the office of the Auditor General of Pakistan within one week. The official of AGP, presenting an audit para from the audit report of 2019-20 submitted that section 9(2) of National Command Authority (NCA) Act, 2010 states that the agency shall regulate all the matters relating to terms and condition of the service of the employees in the service of the authority, including their appointment, removal, promotion, transfer, integrity assessment, reliability, security clearance and other related matters.

Section 15 of National Command Authority (NCA) Act, 2010 states that the authority may make rules for carrying out the purposes of this act.

<https://www.app.com.pk/national/pac-orders-pakistan-nuclear-regulatory-authority-to-prepare-rules-within-one-week/>

### **US has limited security partnership with Pakistan, says Pentagon official**

*WION, September 22, 2022*

The Pentagon has said that it has a “limited security partnership” with Pakistan, key comments in the backdrop of the recent Washington announcement of a \$450 million package for Islamabad to sustain its F16

fleet. The Biden government’s decision, which was announced earlier this month reverses the decision of the previous Trump govt and helps Pakistan sustain its F16 programme. Speaking to a selected group of reporters, US Asst Sec of Defense Dr Ely S Ratner explained that the US has been engaging with its Indian counterparts on the issue “both in advance of the announcement..” and “during the “ mini 2+2 that happened earlier this month in Delhi. Ratner said, “It is important to be transparent as we could with Indian counterparts both in advance and during the decision and good opportunity for health exchange on both the US rationale for its limited security partnership with Pakistan and good opportunity to hear India’s concern about that”.

<https://www.wionews.com/world/us-has-limited-security-partnership-with-pakistan-says-pentagon-official-518852>

### **Concern over ‘Hindu extremists’ controlling Indian N-arsenal**

*DAWN, September 27, 2022*

Pakistan’s establishment is worried that India’s nuclear arsenal is now controlled by Hindu extremist leaders, who had long been obsessed with nuclear nationalism. The concern, which has been discussed for some time in academic circles, was expressed by National Command Authority adviser Lt Gen retired Khalid Ahmed Kidwai, at the 8th workshop on Strategic Stability in South Asia, organised by the Centre for International Strategic Studies and The International Institute for Strategic Studies, the CISS said in a statement on Monday. “The custodial controls of India’s large triad of the nuclear arsenal have now fallen firmly in the hands of an extremist fundamentalist leadership,” he said, adding that the “toxic mix of poisonous ideology and custody of nuclear weapons” was a new phenomenon that was posing a serious threat to strategic stability in South Asia.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1712196>



## **Pakistan committed to peaceful S. Asia goal despite India threat: Akram**

*Pakistan Today, September 27, 2022*

Pakistan told the United Nations it has made several proposals to keep South Asia free of nuclear weapons since India's maiden nuclear test in 1974, but regretted that none of them drew a favourable response from the world community. Speaking at an event to commemorate the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, Munir Akram, Pakistan's permanent representative to the UN, reaffirmed Islamabad's commitment to its long-standing goal of a nuclear weapons-free world achieved in a universal, verifiable and non-discriminatory manner, with assurances of undiminished security for smaller nations.

"Despite continuing provocations and threats," Ambassador Akram said, "Pakistan remains committed to the goal of a peaceful and stable South Asia," pointing out that Islamabad, over two decades, proposed a number of initiatives to promote peace and security and prevent the emergence of nuclear weapons in South Asia.

<https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2022/09/27/pakistan-committed-to-peaceful-s-asia-goal-despite-india-threat-akram/>

### *Europe*

## **Polish PM says Russia will attempt to destroy Ukraine**

*Reuters, September 21, 2022*

Russia will attempt to destroy Ukraine and change its borders, Polish Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki said on Wednesday commenting on a partial mobilization announced by Moscow. "We will do all we can with our allies, so that NATO supports Ukraine even more so that it can defend itself," Morawiecki said, urging more help for Kyiv from western allies. Russian President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday called up 300,000 reservists to fight in Ukraine and said Moscow would respond

with the might of all its vast arsenal if the West pursued what he called its "nuclear blackmail" over the conflict there.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/polish-pm-morawiecki-says-russia-will-attempt-destroy-ukraine-2022-09-21/>

## **EU Should Take Action Before Winter to Tackle High Gas Prices - Commissioner**

*Sputnik International, September 30, 2022*

The European Union needs to take additional steps in order to resolve the issue of high gas prices before winter, European Commissioner for Energy Kadri Simson said. "What we decided today at the TTE [Transport, Telecommunications and Energy] Energy Council comes in a long list of measures we have already taken to address the energy crisis," Simson said on social media on Friday, adding "I agree with the ministers that we need to do more, in particular to address the issue of gas prices before the winter."

<https://sputniknews.com/20220930/eu-should-take-action-before-winter-to-tackle-high-gas-prices-commissioner-1101398010.html>

## **Sweden resumes arms exports to Turkey after NATO membership bid**

*Reuters, September 30, 2022*

Sweden's Inspectorate of Strategic Products (ISP) said on Friday reversed a ban against exporting military equipment to Turkey, following the Nordic country's decision to join the NATO military alliance and agreement to overcome Turkish objections. The Sweden and Finland sought membership to NATO earlier this year following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, but faced a hurdle as its application needs the approval of all 30 current members, with Turkey raising objections.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/sweden-resumes-arms-exports-turkey-after-nato-membership-bid-2022-09-30/>

## Finnish EPR reaches full capacity for first time

*WNN, September 30, 2022*

**Power output from the 1600 MWe Olkiluoto 3 EPR in Finland has reached 100% as commissioning tests of the reactor continue, operator Teollisuuden Voima Oyj (TVO) has announced. Regular electricity production is scheduled to start in December.** “The plant unit is now the most powerful nuclear power plant unit in Europe and the third most powerful globally,” TVO said. About 40% of Finland’s electricity is currently produced by the Olkiluoto plant. Olkiluoto units 1 and 2 produce approximately 21% of the total current electricity demand, with Olkiluoto 3 (OL3) producing about 19%, the company said. TVO noted that significant tests and irregular electricity production will follow during the unit’s ongoing commissioning.

<https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Finnish-EPR-reaches-full-capacity-for-first-time>

### Ukraine

## Ukraine allies see risk in Russia’s response to battlefield setbacks

*Reuters, September 18, 2022*

The top U.S. general warned on Sunday it was unclear how Russia would react to its battlefield setbacks in Ukraine, as Britain said Moscow’s forces had widened strikes on civilian infrastructure and were likely to expand their targets further.

Ukraine’s General Staff said Ukrainian forces repelled attacks by Russian troops in the areas of the Kharkiv region in the east and Kherson in the south where Ukraine launched counter-offensives this month, as well as in parts of Donetsk in the southeast.

<https://www.cnn.com/2022/09/18/ukraine-allies-see-risk-in-russias-response-to-battlefield-setbacks.html?&qsearchterm=nuclear>

## Will Kiev Get US F-16 Fighter Jets in Two Years or Ever Following Eastern Referenda?

*Sputnik International, September 21, 2022*

Ukraine has been quietly in talks with the US about getting F-16 Fighting Falcons, a single-engine multirole fighter aircraft, according to Politico. However, the warplanes wouldn’t arrive for two to three years even if a political decision is made on them, a US general presumed earlier this week. “The important thing to remember about an F-16 is that it’s not just a weapon but a relationship,” argued US investigative journalist and author Dan Lazare. “With it go trainers, technical consultants, maintenance personnel, etc. So in seeking to purchase such jets, Ukraine is seeking to establish a long-term partnership with the US that will be as close as possible. It wants to position itself as a forward striking force against Russia on behalf of the US and NATO and hopes that Washington will give its seal of approval to such an alliance.”

<https://sputniknews.com/20220921/will-kiev-get-us-f-16-fighter-jets-in-two-years-or-ever-following-eastern-referenda-1101059918.html>

## IAEA still working on Ukraine power plant plan despite Putin bluster

*Reuters, September 22, 2022*

The head of the United Nations atomic agency said on Wednesday he would not abandon a plan to create a protection zone around the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant despite Russian plans to mobilize new troops and hold a referendum in the region. Russia and Ukraine have blamed each other for shelling at the site of Europe’s biggest nuclear power plant that has damaged buildings close to its six reactors and risked nuclear catastrophe, including by cutting

power lines essential to cooling fuel in the reactors even though they are all shut down.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/iaea-still-working-ukraine-power-plant-plan-despite-putin-bluster-2022-09-21/>

### **Ukraine to slash ties with Iran over 'evil' drones supply to Russia**

*Reuters, September 24, 2022*

Ukraine said on Friday it would downgrade diplomatic ties with Iran over Tehran's decision to supply Russian forces with drones, a move President Volodymyr Zelenskiy called "a collaboration with evil". Zelenskiy said a total of eight Iranian-made unmanned aerial vehicles had been shot down so far in the conflict. Ukraine and the United States accused Iran of supplying drones to Russia, a charge Tehran denies.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/ukraine-says-it-downed-four-iranian-drones-zelenskiy-raps-tehran-2022-09-23/>

### **Ukrainians 'coerced into annexation vote'**

*GDN, September 24, 2022*

Russia launched referendums yesterday aimed at annexing four occupied regions of Ukraine, raising the stakes of the seven-month-old war in what Kyiv called a sham that saw residents threatened with punishment if they did not vote. Ukrainian officials said people were banned from leaving some occupied areas until the four-day vote was over, armed groups were going into homes, and employees were threatened with the sack if they did not participate. "Today, the best thing for the people of Kherson would be not to open their doors," said Yuriy Sobolevsky, the displaced first deputy council chairman of Kherson region.

<https://www.gdnonline.com/Details/1143417>

### **Ukraine military says Russian drones hit military objects in Odesa**

*Reuters, September 26, 2022*

Two drones launched by Russian forces into the Odesa region in Ukraine hit military

objects causing a fire and the detonation of ammunition, the South command of Ukraine's forces said on Monday. "As a result of a large-scale fire and the detonation of ammunition, the evacuation of the civilian population was organised," the command said in statement on the Telegram. "Preliminarily, there have been no casualties."

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/ukraine-military-says-russian-drones-hit-military-objects-odesa-2022-09-26/>

### **Heavy fighting as annexation vote in Ukraine enters final day**

*GDN, September 27, 2022*

Ukrainian and Russian forces were locked in heavy fighting in different parts of Ukraine on Tuesday as Russian-organised referendums in four regions Moscow hopes to annex drew to a close. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy said the Donetsk region in the east remained his country's – and Russia's – top strategic priority, with fighting engulfing several towns as Russian troops try to advance to the south and west. There were also clashes in Kharkiv region in the northeast – focus of a Ukrainian counter-offensive this month. And Ukrainian forces pressed on with a campaign to put out of action four bridges and other river crossings to disrupt supply lines to Russian forces in the south.

<https://www.gdnonline.com/Details/1143675>

## Ukraine 'sham' referendum results point to Russia annexation

*GDN, September 28, 2022*

Russian-installed officials in four occupied regions of Ukraine reported huge majorities of votes in favour of joining Russia as the United States planned a UN resolution condemning the referendums as shams and Russia remained defiant. The United States was also preparing a new round of sanctions against Russia should it annex Ukrainian territory and a \$1.1 billion arms package for Ukraine that will be announced soon, US officials said.

<https://www.gdnonline.com/Details/1143795>

### G. France

## Energy Price Increase to Affect Over 300 French Companies

*Sputnik International, September 19, 2022*

Over 300 French enterprises, which have not reduced their energy consumption, are set to face difficulties this winter due to surging energy prices, Industry Minister Delegate Roland Lescure said on Tuesday. "We are talking about several hundred enterprises, a little more than 300, which are warning us of [anticipated energy-related difficulties] and demand action. These businesses are under the ministerial control as they have consumed a lot of energy and could not review their contracts on energy consumption", Lescure told French broadcaster Sud Radio.

<https://sputniknews.com/20220920/energy-price-increase-to-affect-over-300-french-companies-1101009467.html>

## French strike reduces nuclear power output

*Reuters, September 22, 2022*

Strikes had reduced already low nuclear power generation in France by 1.7 gigawatts (GW) by 0617 GMT on Thursday, according to data from power group EDF (EDF.PA), which is under pressure to increase

production in time for the winter. Three reactors are operating at limited capacity due to the industrial action, with the disruption representing about 4.1% of total production on Thursday morning, the data showed.

<https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/french-strike-reduces-nuclear-power-output-2022-09-22/>

## French Foreign Minister Arrives in Kiev to Show Paris' Support, Discuss Nuclear Safety

*Sputnik International, September 27, 2022*

French Foreign Minister Catherine Colonna on Tuesday arrived in Kiev for her third visit since she assumed office in May to reiterate France's support and solidarity, as well as work on nuclear safety. "Good morning #Ukraine, it's good to be back. #Kyiv," Colonna said on Twitter, attaching a photo of her and French Ambassador to Ukraine Etienne de Poncins on a walk in Kiev. The minister plans to meet with her Ukrainian counterpart, Dmytro Kuleba, and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, according to the French foreign ministry.

<https://sputniknews.com/20220927/french-foreign-minister-arrives-in-kiev-to-show-paris-support-discuss-nuclear-safety-1101277979.html>

## France's Macron will meet with Germany's Scholz on Oct 3 to discuss Ukraine and energy crisis

*Reuters, September 30, 2022*

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz will meet with French President Emmanuel Macron in Berlin on Oct. 3 to discuss recent developments linked to the war in Ukraine and the European energy crisis, the Elysee said on Friday.

<https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/frances-macron-will-meet-with-germanys-scholz-oct-3-discuss-ukraine-energy-2022-09-30/>



## France sets course for a nuclear renaissance

*Financial Times, September 30, 2022*

As Europe's energy crisis and climate concerns swing momentum back behind nuclear power, the plans to build new reactor plants in France should have been a boost for an industry emerging from two decades of political reproval and dried up order books. Instead, France's nuclear renaissance, one of the most ambitious of the revivals contemplated by a growing number of governments, has been fraught with concerns. Critics question whether constructors still have the knowhow to build reactors and deliver them on time, and whether they can find enough people to get the work done.

<https://www.ft.com/content/f3ee59b4-bece-4a8a-bb77-8cd0b14255b7>

### H. Germany

## Germany promised Ukraine weapons but hasn't delivered. Now, anger toward Berlin is rising

*Reuters, September 16, 2022*

Ukraine's relations with Germany have soured this week, with Kyiv asking Berlin why it had reversed a decision to provide heavy weaponry to Ukraine, as it had earlier promised. Tensions over Germany's provision of promised Leopard tanks and infantry fighting vehicles to Ukraine – or more precisely, the lack thereof – came to a head this week. Ukraine's foreign minister, Dmytro Kuleba, publicly asked why Berlin was backtracking on a pledge made to send these weapons to Ukraine.

<https://www.cnn.com/2022/09/16/ukraine-slams-germany-for-failing-to-send-it-weapons.html?&qsearchterm=nuclear>

## German nuclear reactor leak poses no safety threat but complicates plans

*Reuters, September 19, 2022*

E.ON (EONGn.DE) has informed the German government of a leak at the Isar 2

nuclear power plant which has not compromised security but could complicate the government's winter energy plan, the environment ministry said on Monday.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/leak-reported-german-isar-ii-nuclear-plant-environment-ministry-2022-09-19/>

## Germany to deliver four more howitzers to Ukraine - German defence ministry

*Reuters, September 19, 2022*

The German military will supply Ukraine with four more Panzer howitzer 2000 tanks together with an additional ammunition package, the German defence ministry said on Monday. Delivery will be possible and follow immediately after discussions take place with industry on the early intake of refurbished ordnance from army maintenance, the ministry said in a statement.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/germany-deliver-four-more-howitzers-ukraine-german-defence-ministry-2022-09-19/>

## Germany Says EU Companies Should Stop Providing Funding to Mines in Russia - Reports

*Sputnik International, September 23, 2022*

Germany calls for a ban on EU companies providing funding to metal and rare-earth mines in Russia, the Financial Times reported on Friday. Earlier in the day, Bloomberg reported that Poland, Ireland, Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania plan to propose a ban on Russian LNG, put restrictions on nuclear energy cooperation, ban legal entities registered in the European Union from receiving funding from organizations associated with Russia and impose other restrictive measures as part of new EU sanctions against Russia.

<https://sputniknews.com/20220923/germany-says-eu-companies-should-stop-providing-funding-to-mines-in-russia-reports-1101153753.html>

## Germans Slam Scholz's Energy Address, Say Nation 'on Path to Poverty' Amid Price Hikes, Sanctions

*Sputnik International, September 25, 2022*

The German Finance Ministry reported in August that energy prices had spiked by 105 percent year-on-year in 2022 thanks to shock hikes in natural gas and electricity rates. Earlier this month, the Munich-based Institute for Economic Research said it expects the country to slip "into a winter recession" due to the energy crisis. Germans aren't buying Chancellor Olaf Scholz's promises on energy relief for low-income families and energy-intensive industries. "The legislative machine has begun churning and will organize the necessary support very, very quickly," Scholz said in a video address to the nation posted to his official Twitter account on Saturday. "Prices [for electricity, heat and gas] are too high and must go down," he added.

<https://sputniknews.com/20220925/germans-slam-scholz-energy-address-say-nation-on-path-to-poverty-amid-price-hikes-sanctions-1101207945.html>

## Accord reached on keeping two German reactors in reserve

*WNN, September 28, 2022*

The German government has reached an agreement with the operators of Isar 2 and Neckarwestheim 2 on keeping the nuclear power plants on standby to supply power over the coming winter if needed. The agreement was reached between the Federal Ministry of Economics and Climate Protection (*Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Klimaschutz*, BMWK) and Energie Baden-Württemberg (EnBW) - operator of the Neckarwestheim 2 plant - and EOn group subsidiary PreussenElektra - operator of the Isar 2 plant. According to agreement, the two plants are to be transferred to an operational reserve after the end of their regular service life on 31 December in order to prevent an impending power grid

bottleneck in southern Germany. To make the reserve possible, the operators of the plants will now take steps to ensure that the reactors can continue to be operated beyond 31 December and until 15 April at the latest.

<https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/accord-reached-on-keeping-two-German-reactors-in-r>

## German govt infighting grows over nuclear power plant extension

*Reuters, September 28, 2022*

Infighting in Germany's ruling coalition grew on Wednesday over the country's nuclear power plants, as environmentalist Greens and pro-business Free Democrats bickered over a possible extension of their lifespan to try to tackle the energy crisis. Economy Minister Robert Habeck, of the Greens, said on Tuesday that he expects to have to extend the lifespans of the country's last two nuclear power plants to avoid possible outages and grid bottlenecks this winter.

<https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/german-minister-rejects-nuclear-plant-extension-beyond-winter-2022-09-28/>

## I. United Kingdom

### UK says Putin's threats must be taken seriously

*Reuters, September 21, 2022*

Russian President Vladimir Putin's speech on Wednesday was a worrying escalation and the threats he made must be taken seriously, British foreign office minister Gillian Keegan told Sky News. Putin ordered Russia's first military mobilisation since World War Two, warning the West that if it continued what he called its "nuclear blackmail" that Moscow would respond with the might of all its vast arsenal.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/uk-says-putins-threats-must-be-taken-seriously-2022-09-21/>

## UK Government Lifts Ban on Shale Gas Fracking in Response to Energy Crisis

*Sputnik International, September 22, 2022*

Opponents of ‘fracking’ – high-pressure fracturing of bedrock to extract trapped oil and gas – fear it will release potentially harmful substances or even cause earth tremors. The government of former PM Boris Johnson imposed a moratorium on the practice in November 2019. The British government has lifted a moratorium on ‘fracking’ for shale gas – as a solution to the self-inflicted energy crisis. Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) secretary Jacob Rees-Mogg announced the long-expected move on Thursday morning. He claimed the cancellation of the ban – imposed in November 2019 by Prime Minister Liz Truss predecessor and Conservative party-mate Boris Johnson – was made necessary by soaring gas and oil prices in the wake of Russia’s military operation in the Ukraine in February.

<https://sputniknews.com/20220922/uk-government-lifts-ban-on-shale-gas-fracking-in-response-to-energy-crisis-1101076777.html>

## British PM Truss tells allies to stand firm on Ukraine

*GDN, September 24, 2022*

British Prime Minister Liz Truss said allies should stand firm on Ukraine and ignore Russian President Vladimir Putin’s “sabre-rattling”. Truss, who met U.S. President Joe Biden and France’s Emmanuel Macron on her first foreign trip as prime minister to New York last week, in an interview with CNN called on like-minded democracies to be firm against “autocratic regimes”. Putin last week ordered a partial mobilisation of troops and raised the possibility of nuclear conflict. Truss said Putin was escalating his invasion of Ukraine because he wasn’t winning and had made a strategic mistake.

<https://www.gdnonline.com/Details/1143549>

## Russian military escalation and ‘bogus threats’ show Putin has been ‘outsmarted’ by the Ukrainians, says UK PM

*CNN, September 25, 2022*

Vladimir Putin’s announcement of increased military conscription to bolster Moscow’s invasion of Ukraine shows that the Russian President “has been outsmarted” by Kyiv, UK Prime Minister Liz Truss told CNN in an exclusive and wide-ranging interview. The new British leader, who takes power at a time of historic upheaval, told CNN’s Jake Tapper on “State of the Union” that Putin had ordered an immediate military escalation “because he isn’t winning.” “He made a strategic mistake, invading Ukraine,” Truss said in her first interview with a US network, which aired Sunday. “I think he has been outsmarted by the Ukrainians. We’ve seen the Ukrainians continue to push back against the Russian offensive. And I think he didn’t anticipate the strength of reaction from the free world.”

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/09/25/politics/liz-truss-jake-tapper-full-interview-intl/index.html>

## Initial tranches of men for Russia’s mobilisation have started arriving at military bases, Britain says

*GDN, September 26, 2022*

Britain said on Monday that initial tranches of men called up for Russia’s partial mobilisation have started arriving at military bases. “Russia will now face an administrative and logistical challenge to provide training for the troops,” the British Ministry of Defence said in an intelligence update. Many of the drafted troops will not have had any military experience for some years, the intelligence update added.

<https://www.gdnonline.com/Details/1143577>

## Russian military showing increased frailty in Ukraine war -British military chief

*Reuters, September 30, 2022*

Russia's mobilization has exposed the mounting pressure the Kremlin is under as its armed forces show signs of "increased weakness and frailty" in the war in Ukraine, Britain's Chief of Defense Staff Admiral Sir Tony Radakin said on Friday. "There are pressure points. There is some brittleness to the Russian armed forces," Radakin told a small group of reporters in Washington. But Radakin cautioned that the conflict was slow-moving, with Ukraine poised to take further, incremental advantage of Russian "pressure points." He did not predict any sudden Russian battlefield collapse.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/russian-military-showing-increased-frailty-ukraine-war-british-military-chief-2022-09-30/>

## UK spy chief warns of more aggressive Russian cyber attacks

*Financial Times, September 30, 2022*

The head of British intelligence agency MI5, Andrew Parker, on Monday warned of Russia acting in "increasingly aggressive ways" and utilising new technologies in its opposition to the west. "It is using its whole range of state organs and powers to push its foreign policy abroad in increasingly aggressive ways – involving propaganda, espionage, subversion and cyber-attacks. "Russia is at work across Europe and in the UK today. It is MI5's job to get in the way of that," Parker told the Guardian newspaper. The director general of the UK's domestic security service was speaking after British warships earlier this month shadowed a Russian aircraft carrier battle group through the North Sea, which was en route to the eastern Mediterranean.

<https://www.ft.com/content/37f5d1a5-c175-4cf0-a8b8-afb7f0599ebd>

## Russian military showing increased frailty in Ukraine war - British military chief

*Reuters, September 30, 2022*

Russia's mobilization has exposed the mounting pressure the Kremlin is under as its armed forces show signs of "increased weakness and frailty" in the war in Ukraine, Britain's Chief of Defense Staff Admiral Sir Tony Radakin said on Friday. "There are pressure points. There is some brittleness to the Russian armed forces," Radakin told a small group of reporters in Washington. But Radakin cautioned that the conflict was slow-moving, with Ukraine poised to take further, incremental advantage of Russian "pressure points." He did not predict any sudden Russian battlefield collapse.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/russian-military-showing-increased-frailty-ukraine-war-british-military-chief-2022-09-30/>

## *J. United States of America*

## U.S. announces new \$600 mln arms package for Ukraine

*Reuters, September 16, 2022*

U.S. President Joe Biden announced a new \$600 million arms package to help the Ukrainian military battle Russia, according to a White House memo sent to the State Department on Thursday. Biden authorized the assistance using his Presidential Drawdown Authority, which allows the president to sanction the transfer of excess weapons from U.S. stocks. The package includes High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems (HIMARS), night vision goggles, claymore mines, mine clearing equipment, 105mm artillery rounds and 155mm precision guided artillery rounds, the Pentagon said.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/us-announces-new-600-million-arms-package-ukraine-2022-09-15/>



## U.S. military base in Syria targeted in failed rocket attack

*Reuters, September 16, 2022*

A rocket attack targeting the U.S. military's Green Village base in northeast Syria failed to hit U.S. or coalition forces, or any equipment, the U.S. Central Command said. Three 107 mm rockets targeted the base on Sunday and a fourth rocket along with rocket tubes was found at the launch point, about 5 kilometers (3 miles) away, the command said in a statement. The Green Village base was targeted last month in violence between the U.S. military and Iran-backed militants leaving at least one U.S. military service member in Syria with a minor injury.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/us-military-base-syria-targeted-failed-rocket-attack-2022-09-19/>

## Biden warns Putin against using nuclear weapons; another nuclear plant hit by Russian strike

*Reuters, September 20, 2022*

Longtime Russian pop singer and celebrity Alla Pugacheva spoke out against the Ukraine war on an Instagram post to her 3.4 million followers, which received more than 600,000 likes and scores of supportive comments. Acts of public dissent are rare since Russia imposed a law threatening up to 15 years' imprisonment for spreading "fake news" about what Moscow calls its "special military operation" in Ukraine.

Russian troops struck a nuclear power plant in the country's southern Mykolaiv region, but while its buildings sustained damage, its reactors are functioning normally, Ukrainian state energy officials said.

<https://www.cnbc.com/2022/09/19/russia-ukraine-live-updates.html?&qsearchterm=nuclear>

## Biden accuses Russia of 'irresponsible' nuclear threats, violating U.N. charter

*GDN, September 21, 2022*

U.S. President Joe Biden accused Russia on Wednesday of making "reckless" and "irresponsible" threats to use nuclear weapons and said Moscow had violated the core tenets of United Nations membership by invading Ukraine.

Speaking at the United Nations General Assembly in New York, Biden slammed Russian President Vladimir Putin for starting an unprovoked war that some 40 U.N. members were helping Ukraine fight through funding and weapons.

<https://www.gdnonline.com/Details/1143241>

## US has privately warned Russia against using nuclear weapons in Ukraine for several months

*CNN, September 23, 2022*

The US has privately communicated to Russia for the past several months that there will be consequences if Moscow chooses to use a nuclear weapon in the Ukraine war, according to US officials. It was not immediately clear how or when the warnings were sent. The State Department was involved, according to one official. The Biden administration has also leaned heavily on intelligence channels to communicate sensitive messages to Moscow throughout the buildup and prosecution of Russia's war in Ukraine, including recently in the negotiations over wrongfully detained Americans.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/09/23/politics/us-russia-ukraine-nuclear-weapons/index.html>

## US Threatens Russia With 'Catastrophic' Consequences for Using Nukes in Ukraine

*Sputnik International, September 25, 2022*

The White House has warned Russia that there will be catastrophic consequences if Moscow uses nuclear weapons in Ukraine, US national security adviser Jake Sullivan said. Russian President Vladimir Putin said this week that Moscow would accept any outcome of referendums in Donbas and Russia-held territories and would spare no means to defend its territorial integrity. Sullivan told ABC News on Sunday that the White House had taken Putin's warning seriously.

<https://sputniknews.com/20220925/us-threatens-russia-with-catastrophic-consequences-for-using-nukes-in-ukraine-1101214387.html>

## Feds commit \$50 million to for-profit nuclear fusion companies, chasing the 'holy grail' of clean energy

*Reuters, September 26, 2022*

The Department of Energy officially announced that \$50 million will go toward private nuclear fusion companies in public-private partnerships. The U.S. government has put federal money into fusion science research since the 1950s and today invests about \$700 million per year into fusion research, Andrew Holland, the CEO of the fusion industry trade group, told CNBC. This is the first time substantial amounts of money have gone to for-profit companies.

[cnbc.com/2022/09/26/feds-commit-50-million-to-for-profit-nuclear-fusion-companies.html?&qsearchterm=nuclear](https://www.cnbc.com/2022/09/26/feds-commit-50-million-to-for-profit-nuclear-fusion-companies.html?&qsearchterm=nuclear)

## DOE to work on relationships as waste programme develops

*WNN, September 26, 2022*

The US Department of Energy (DOE) has issued a new report based on public feedback to help inform its consent-based process to identify sites for the consolidated interim storage of the USA's used nuclear fuel. The department said it will work to build trust

and relationships as the process goes forward. The DOE issued a request for information (RFI) in December 2021, in which it asked the public for feedback on the consent-based siting process itself; removing barriers for meaningful participation, especially for groups and communities who have not historically been well-represented in such conversations; and the role of interim storage as a part of the USA's waste management system.

<https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/DOE-to-work-on-relationships-as-waste-programme-de>

## US warnings against Putin's nuclear threats mark a sobering moment for the world

*CNN, September 26, 2022*

That the United States should be forced to warn Russia publicly, and in more strident terms privately, not to use nuclear weapons is a mark of how dangerous the battle for Ukraine has become – and how much more risky it might get. The war is in a critical new phase. Kyiv's forces have won victories in the east using billions of dollars in Western-provided arms and Russian President Vladimir Putin has responded by pouring thousands more men onto the frontlines. Facing increasing political pressure at home, isolation abroad and battlefield humiliations, the Russian leader ratcheted up his nuclear brinkmanship last week in warning that he could use all weapons systems available to him if he considered Russia's territorial integrity under threat.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/09/26/politics/us-warns-putin-nuclear-weapons-analysis/index.html>

## No change to U.S. nuclear posture due to Russia threats, Pentagon says

*Reuters, September 27, 2022*

Despite Russian threats to Ukraine and NATO about the use of nuclear weapons, the Pentagon has not seen any changes

that would lead it to alter the posture of American nuclear forces, a spokesman said on Tuesday. "We obviously take these threats seriously. But at this stage, we've not seen anything that would cause us to adjust our own nuclear posture at this time," Brigadier General Patrick Ryder told a news briefing.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/no-change-us-nuclear-posture-due-russia-threats-pentagon-says-2022-09-27/>

### **White House requests Ukraine nuclear security funding to expand assistance due to nuclear power plant concerns**

*CNN, September 27, 2022*

The White House requested \$35 million be included in the short-term government funding bill to assist Ukraine's nuclear security as US officials continue to closely watch the precarious conditions around Europe's largest nuclear power plant, according to an administration official. The additional funds would serve to bolster the significant assistance already provided by the US National Nuclear Security Administration to Ukrainian officials in the months since Russia invaded the country, the official said. It comes as US officials and their international counterparts have been on high alert over the potential for a nuclear accident at the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant in southern Ukraine.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/09/27/politics/ukraine-funding-request-nuclear-power-plant/index.html>

### **US believes it's unlikely Putin will use a nuclear weapon but threat has 'elevated'**

*CNN, September 28, 2022*

US officials believe that the likelihood Russian President Vladimir Putin will use a tactical nuclear weapon in his struggling war in Ukraine is perhaps the highest it has been since Russia invaded in February – but is still not probable, multiple officials familiar with the latest intelligence tell CNN. The intelligence community is closely watching

for any signs that Putin's calculus has changed after the Russian president was widely perceived last week to be escalating his past threats to use nuclear weapons. The threat is certainly "elevated" compared to earlier in the year, according to multiple sources. The US in recent months has been privately warning Russia not to take such a catastrophic step.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/09/28/politics/us-putin-nuclear-weapon-not-probable/index.html>

### **US Air Force issues RFP for microreactor project**

*WNN, September 28, 2022*

The US Department of the Air Force, in partnership with the Defense Logistics Agency Energy, has issued a request for proposal (RFP) for a microreactor to be built at Eielson Air Force Base in Alaska. According to documents accompanying the RFP, which is available via the sam.gov website, the US government intends to award a firm-fixed price contract for the construction, provision, testing, operation, management, maintenance, and eventual removal of a "nuclear microreactor energy production facility", or EPF, to deliver electricity and steam on the base. The contract will be funded using annual appropriations and the contract term may not exceed 30 years, consisting of periods for construction, testing, energy production and delivery, and EPF removal.

<https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/US-Air-Force-issues-RFP-for-microreactor-project>

### **'Complete and utter nuclear blackmail': Fiona Hill on Putin's brinksmanship**

*CNN, September 28, 2022*

The Russia expert says Putin believes the West will eventually capitulate, as he looks to regain lost momentum in his war on Ukraine.

<https://edition.cnn.com/videos/tv/2022/09/28/amanpour-fiona-hill-russia-putin-war-ukraine.cnn>

## US Intends to Adopt Resolution on Ukraine Bypassing UN Security Council, Report Suggests

*Sputnik International, September 29, 2022*

The US government wants the UN to take action against Russia, Politico reported on Thursday, citing US officials, adding that Joe Biden's administration could adopt a resolution bypassing the UN Security Council that would condemn Moscow's plans to add Donbass territories and call on Russia to cease hostilities in Ukraine. On Tuesday, US Ambassador to the UN Linda Thomas-Greenfield told reporters that the US would submit to a vote in the UN Security Council a draft resolution condemning referendums on the accession of the Kherson and Zaporozhye regions, as well as the Donetsk and Lugansk people's republics to Russia at the end of this week or early next week.

<https://sputniknews.com/20220929/us-intends-to-adopt-resolution-on-ukraine-bypassing-un-security-council-report-suggests-1101341866.html>

## U.S. confirms American citizen killed in rocket attack in Iraqi Kurdistan

*Reuters, September 29, 2022*

U.S. State Department deputy spokesperson Vedant Patel on Thursday confirmed that a U.S. citizen was killed in the Iranian rocket attack that targeted dissident sites in Iraq's Kurdistan region on Wednesday. [read more](#)

Patel said he could not make any further comment on the case due to privacy considerations.

Washington said on Wednesday no U.S. officials or military personnel were killed in the strike.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/us-confirms-american-citizen-killed-rocket-attack-iraqi-kurdistan-2022-09-29/>

## US and Europe condemn 'sabotage' as suspicion mounts that Russia was behind pipeline leaks

*CNN, September 29, 2022*

The US and Europe are closing ranks, signaling to Moscow their unity over the war in Ukraine won't be shattered by what they say is the "sabotage" of dual undersea gas pipelines that could represent a possible new front in energy warfare. The transatlantic allies have yet to directly blame Russia for what they say are leaks in the pipelines from Russia to Germany that followed underwater explosions. European security officials on Monday and Tuesday observed Russian Navy support ships in the vicinity of the leaks, CNN reported Wednesday, citing two Western intelligence officials and one other source familiar with the matter. But it remains unclear, according to these sources, whether the ships were connected to the explosions, and three US officials said that the US has no thorough explanation yet for what happened, CNN's Katie Bo Lillis, Natasha Bertrand and Kylie Atwood reported. On Thursday, Germany's ambassador to the United Kingdom said a fourth leak was discovered and that there was a "very strong indication" these were acts of sabotage.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/09/29/politics/pipeline-leaks-russia-suspicion-analysis/index.html>

## Pentagon working to form new command to coordinate arming and training Ukraine

*CNN, September 29, 2022*

The Pentagon is working to form a new command to coordinate arming and training Ukraine, according to two US officials, in an effort to streamline what was a largely ad hoc process rapidly



created in the wake of Russia's invasion. The new command, which would be based at Wiesbaden in Germany, would fall under Gen. Christopher Cavoli, the commander of US European Command, which has led the multinational effort to train Ukrainian military forces on advanced Western weapons and deliver those weapons to the border with Ukraine, one official said. It is expected to be led by a 3-star general.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/09/29/politics/pentagon-new-command-arming-training-ukraine/index.html>

### **What is Behind Washington's Persistence in Funding Ukraine Despite Public Sentiment?**

*Sputnik International, September 29, 2022*

Moscow has repeatedly denounced the continuous flow of weapons to Kiev from Ukraine's western allies, first and foremost the US, which Russia claims "has actually turned Washington into a part of the Ukraine conflict". Despite the current "intense propaganda to 'support Ukraine'" in the United States, "most US citizens could not find Ukraine on a map," Rick Sterling, an investigative journalist and author, has told Sputnik.

<https://sputniknews.com/20220929/what-is-behind-washingtons-persistence-in-funding-ukraine-despite-public-sentiment-1101344981.html>

### **US Senate Passes Bill to Avoid Government Shutdown, Authorize \$12.4Bln in New Ukraine Aid**

*Sputnik International, September 29, 2022*

The US Senate on Thursday passed legislation to fund the US government and avoid a shutdown, as well as authorize \$12.4 billion in new funding for Ukraine-related areas. Senate lawmakers passed the legislation in a vote of 72-25, with 60 votes needed to advance the bill. Three senators did not vote. The legislation, which now heads to the House of Representatives for consideration, would maintain fiscal year

2022 funding levels through December 16, avoiding a government shutdown set to start on midnight Friday.

<https://sputniknews.com/20220929/us-senate-passes-bill-to-avoid-government-shutdown-authorize-124bln-in-new-ukraine-aid-1101354757.html>

### **US to Request Emergency UN General Assembly Session Over Referenda**

*Sputnik International, September 30, 2022*

Russia launched a special military operation in Ukraine in February in response to calls for help from the Donetsk and Lugansk people's republics, as Kiev intensified its attacks on the regions. The republics of Donetsk and Lugansk, and the Ukrainian regions of Zaporozhye and Kherson held referendums on the accession to Russia from September 23-27, with the majority voting in favor of joining Russia. On Friday, Russian President Vladimir Putin signed decrees recognizing the independence and sovereignty of the Kherson and Zaporozhye regions. The DPR and the LPR proclaimed their independence from Ukraine in 2014 after holding self-determination referendums.

<https://sputniknews.com/20220930/live-updates-ukrainian-forces-shell-lugansk-republic-with-himars-missiles-lpr-1101360116.html>

### **Ex-US Secretary of State Kissinger Says Did Not Think It Wise to Include Ukraine in NATO**

*Sputnik International, September 30, 2022*

Former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger said on Friday that he did not think it was a wise US foreign policy decision to attempt to include Ukraine in NATO after the fall of the Soviet Union. "The basic challenge arose when the wall in Berlin collapsed... From the Russian point of view, the United States then attempted to integrate this whole region [Eastern Europe], without exception, into an American-led strategic system,"

Kissinger said. "I thought it was not a wise American policy to attempt to include Ukraine into NATO." Earlier in the day, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said that Ukraine is applying to join NATO in a fast-track manner.

<https://sputniknews.com/20220930/ex-us-secretary-of-state-kissinger-says-did-not-think-it-wise-to-include-ukraine-in-nato-1101391973.html>

## US Officials Tell Congressmen at Closed Briefing That Iran Nuclear Deal Talks Have Stalled

*Sputnik International, September 30, 2022*

Biden administration officials told US lawmakers in a closed briefing that negotiations to revive the 2015 Iran nuclear deal are stalled, Congressman Darrell Issa's office confirmed to Sputnik. Media reported, citing Issa, that US officials in a closed briefing told lawmakers that it appears negotiations are at a standstill.

<https://sputniknews.com/20220930/us-officials-tell-congressmen-at-closed-briefing-that-iran-nuclear-deal-talks-have-stalled-1101398702.html>

## U.S. has not seen acts indicating Russia contemplating nuclear attack

*Reuters, September 30, 2022*

The United States has not yet seen Russia take any action that suggests it is contemplating the use of nuclear weapons amid its invasion of Ukraine, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said on Friday, despite what he called "loose talk" by Russian President Vladimir Putin about their possible use.

"We are looking very carefully to see if Russia is actually doing anything that suggests that they are contemplating the use of nuclear weapons. To date, we've not seen them take these actions," Blinken told a news conference in Washington with his Canadian counterpart.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/us-has-not-seen-action-suggesting-russia-is-contemplating-using-nuclear-weapons-2022-09-30/>

## White House official says details on AI chip export rule coming soon

*Reuters, September 30, 2022*

The Biden administration could shed more light on a possible new rule for exporting high-performance artificial intelligence chips to China "relatively soon," a White House official said Friday. Tarun Chhabra, an official with the National Security Council who focuses on technology issues, said letters sent from the U.S. Department of Commerce to Nvidia Corp (NVDA.O) and Advanced Micro Devices Inc (AMD.O) last month asking them to stop shipments of chips that can be used for applications like natural language processing and nuclear weapons research were likely precursors to further regulation.

<https://www.reuters.com/technology/white-house-official-says-details-ai-chip-export-rule-coming-soon-2022-09-30/>

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<https://www.reuters.com/world/us-has-not-seen-action-suggesting-russia-is-contemplating-using-nuclear-weapons-2022-09-30/>

## **NATO says Putin's 'serious escalation' will not deter it from supporting Ukraine**

*Reuters, September 30, 2022*

NATO accused Russian President Vladimir Putin on Friday of provoking "the most serious escalation" of the war in Ukraine since it began, but said he would not succeed in deterring the alliance from supporting Kyiv. "We have the combination of the mobilisation in Russia, combined with the reckless, dangerous nuclear rhetoric, and then today's illegal annexation, or attempt to annex parts of Ukraine," NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/nato-says-putins-serious-escalation-will-not-deter-it-supporting-ukraine-2022-09-30/>

### **West Asia**

#### **K. Bahrain**

## **Bahrain needs "drone age" rules**

*News of Bahrain, September 25, 2022*

With the launch of the iPhone14, Bahrain entered the sci-fi world of drones in a unique way. Batelco, in collaboration with the Bahrain International Circuit (BIC) delivered the first iPhone14 in the Kingdom at a midnight launch by drone. Given the traffic on Bahrain's streets especially on weekends, does this mean we can look forward to commercial use of drones to beat the crush of vehicles on our streets? Of course, this may quickly lead to hazardous air traffic conditions, so we have to be careful what we wish for.

<https://www.newsofbahrain.com/views/84272.html>

## **Focus on ways to advance Bahrain-Japan strategic partnership**

*News of Bahrain, September 27, 2022*

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida explored opportunities to advance the Bahrain-Japan strategic

partnership, in view of the long-standing relations and progress made in various fields. HRH Prince Salman yesterday held a meeting with Prime Minister Kishida at Akasaka Palace in Tokyo as they discussed prospects for joint cooperation, the latest regional and international economic developments, and issues of common interest. His Royal Highness highlighted the depth of Bahrain-Japan relations, noting the Kingdom's commitment to furthering bilateral ties, with the support of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

<https://www.newsofbahrain.com/bahrain/84399.html>

### **L. Iran**

## **Pakistan to send delegation to Iran to boost ties**

*Islamic Republic News Agency, September 16, 2022*

Pakistan will send a delegation to Iran to advance trade collaborations in various areas, including in energy sector, the office of the prime minister of Pakistan said in a statement on Friday. Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi and Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif met on Thursday on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit in Samarkand, Uzbekistan. Sherif reiterated his invitation to President Raisi to visit Pakistan at the earliest convenience and the president renewed his invitation to the premier to visit Iran, according to the statement.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/84888855/Pakistan-to-send-delegation-to-Iran-to-boost-ties>

## **Raisi: Guarantees needed to ensure 'lasting removal' of sanctions**

*Tehran Times, September 16, 2022*

Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi has said that U.S. sanctions must be lifted to reach an agreement to revive 2015 nuclear deal, noting guarantees must be established to ensure their "lasting removal". "Removal

of sanctions should be accompanied with the resolution of safeguards. There are some political and baseless accusations against Islamic Republic of Iran when it comes to safeguard issues," Raisi told Al Jazeera in the city of Samarkand, where he attended the Shanghai Cooperation Organization meeting on Thursday. "So, we should finalize these safeguard issues," he said. "Regarding the guarantees, if we have the trustworthy guarantees, and we have the lasting removal of the sanctions, not temporary removal of sanctions, and if there is a lasting solution for the safeguard issues, for sure it is possible to reach agreement," the president said.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/476777/>  
Raisi-Guarantees-needed-to-ensure-lasting-removal-of-sanctions

### **Xi calls ties with Iran strategic, backs Iran's membership in BRICS**

*Tehran Times, September 16, 2022*

The Chinese president on Friday praised Iran's independent position toward international developments and called the relations between Beijing and Tehran "strategic". "The relations of Iran and China is strategic and will develop irrespective of any international event," Xi Jinping said in a meeting with Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi who has attended the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit in Samarkand, Uzbekistan. Xi also pointed to Iran's important position in the region and the larger world and said, "China supports the membership of Iran in BRICS." BRICS is the acronym coined to associate five major emerging economies: Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. Xi also invited Raisi to visit China.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/476779/Xi-calls-ties-with-Iran-strategic-backs-Iran-s-membership-in>

### **Raisi meets Pakistan PM, says Iran see no limit in ties with Islamabad**

*Tehran Times, September 16, 2022*

Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi, who held talks on Thursday with Pakistan's Prime

Minister Shehbaz Sharif in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, said his country sees no limit to develop relations with Islamabad. President Raisi and Prime Minister Sharif had visited Samarkand to attend the summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) hosted by Uzbekistan. "Iran does not consider any limit for developing relations with Pakistan," Raisi noted, highlighting the importance of relations between the two neighboring countries. The two sides also welcomed cooperation in the field of energy and emphasized the need to remove the obstacles in implementing the projects for the purpose.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/476780/Raisi-meets-Pakistan-PM-says-Iran-see-no-limit-in-ties-with>

### **SCO final statement stresses need for all sides' commitment to JCPOA**

*Islamic Republic News Agency, September 17, 2022*

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Conference in its final statement asked for all sides' full commitment to nuclear agreement with Iran. In the final statement of the conference held in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, it is said that the JCPOA member countries must remain committed to all their obligations in the framework of the UN Security Council resolution 2231. It adds that the member countries in the SCO ask every side in the JCPOA to remain fully and effectively committed to their nuclear agreement obligations. The SCO heads of states, meanwhile, stressed the need for expanding defense and security cooperation among themselves, inclusive of holding joint war-games aimed at combatting terrorism at global level, and improvement of methods for uprooting terrorism.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/84889376/SCO-final-statement-stresses-need-for-all-sides-commitment-to>



## Raisi urges expansion of ties with India in meeting with PM

*Islamic Republic News Agency, September 17, 2022*

Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi said in a meeting with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday that the two countries could leverage existing capabilities to expand ties. The meeting took place on the sidelines of the 22nd Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit in Samarkand, Uzbekistan. During the meeting, Raisi said that boosting ties with India was among Iran's foreign policy priorities, describing the current relationship between the two nations as friendly. The Iranian President said that Tehran and New Delhi could elevate their relations and expand collaborations by leveraging the existing capabilities in oil, gas, and transportation, especially Chabahar-Central Asia route which connects the Indian Ocean to Central Asia, as well as cooperation in regional and international issues where they share common views.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/84889435/Raisi-urges-expansion-of-ties-with-India-in-meeting-with-PM>

## No deal without guarantees

*Tehran Times, September 19, 2022*

Iranian President Ayatollah Seyed Ebrahim Raisi has made it clear that without guarantees there will be no deal. He made the remarks before heading to New York on Monday for high-level meetings during the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly. He added, "We cannot trust the Americans because of the behaviour that we have already seen from them. That is why if there is no guarantee, there is no trust." President Raisi further elaborated on the issue of guarantees in a separate interview with Al Jazeera. "If it's a good deal and fair deal, we would be serious about reaching an agreement. It needs to be lasting. There needs to be guarantees. If there were a guarantee, then the Americans could not withdraw from the deal," Ayatollah Raisi said in an interview with CBS's 60 Minutes.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/476893/No-deal-without-guarantees>

## AEOI chief: IAEA intends to close case of alleged locations

*Islamic Republic News Agency, September 19, 2022*

Head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) Mohammad Eslami stressed on Monday that messages delivered by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to us show that they intend to close the case of alleged locations. Referring to the messages from the IAEA, Eslami said that IAEA wants to close the case of alleged locations. He expressed hope that the IAEA would be honest in this case and would not waste its time anymore, adding that they should not think that in such cases they can exert maximum pressure. Referring to the agreement with the IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi, Eslami added that Iran will answer the questions on the condition that IAEA closes the case.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/84891861/AEOI-chief-IAEA-intends-to-close-case-of-alleged-locations>

## Iran president demands US 'guarantees' on nuclear deal

*Iraqi News, September 19, 2022*

Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi demanded US "guarantees" it will not withdraw again from a nuclear deal if it is revived ahead of his debut visit to the United Nations. With Western hopes fading for restoration of the landmark 2015 agreement with world powers, the hardline cleric said in a US television interview that he would still back a "good deal and a fair deal". But he said: "It needs to be lasting. There needs to be guarantees." "We cannot trust the Americans because of the behavior that we have already seen from them. That is why if there is no guarantee, there is no trust," he told CBS News' "60 Minutes" program.

<https://www.iraqinews.com/arab-world-news/iran-president-demands-us-guarantees-on-nuclear-deal/>

## Nuclear chief: IAEA intending to close anti-Iran cases

*Fars News, September 20, 2022*

Head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) Mohammad Eslami said the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has voiced readiness to drop cases against Tehran, and underlined that the maximum pressure campaign against his nation is destined to failure. "Messages delivered by the United Nations nuclear agency to us show that they intend to close the case of alleged locations," Eslami stated on Monday. He expressed hope that the IAEA would be "honest" in this case and would not "waste its time" anymore, adding that they should not think that in such cases they can exert "maximum pressure".

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010629000169/Nclear-Chief-IAEA-Inending-Clse-Ani-Iran-Cases>

## Iran's nuclear chief, IAEA's Grossi discuss continuation of cooperation in Vienna

*Fars News, September 20, 2022*

Vice-President and Head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) Mohammad Eslami and Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Rafael Grossi in a meeting in Vienna on Tuesday discussed the continuation of mutual cooperation. Eslami is in Vienna to participate in 66th IAEA General Conference. During the meeting in the Austrian capital today, Eslami and Grossi reviewed ways for continuing their cooperation in the field of atomic energy and also the technical issues. In a relevant development on Monday while addressing the 66th Annual Regular Session of the IAEA General Conference in Vienna, Eslami made called on the IAEA to stop putting forward unfounded claims against Iran's nuclear program. "The IAEA should refuse to rely on baseless information, which has been proposed by untrustworthy sources," he

said, urging the United Nations (UN) nuclear watchdog to pursue reliable and powerful verification.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010705000225/Iran's-Nclear-Chief-IAEA's-Grssi-Discss-Cnainain-f-Cperain-in-Vienna>

## Iran showcases ballistic missiles, radar and missile systems during military parades

*Fars News, September 22, 2022*

On Thursday, the Iranian Armed Forces held military parades across the country and in the Persian Gulf waters to mark the Sacred Defense Week. Forces from the Iranian Army, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), Police, Border Guards, and Basij are participating in the parades. During the parade in Tehran, the Iranian Armed Forces unveiled a surface-to-surface ballistic missile, Rezvan, for the first time. Rezvan is a liquid-fuel single-stage missile with a detachable warhead that has a range of up to 1,400 kilometers. It can be launched from a variety of fixed and mobile platforms. IRGC Commander Major General Hossein Salami introduced the Rezvan Missile as the one capable of entering the atmosphere with a speed that is eight times higher than the speed of sound.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010631000129/Iran-Shwcases-Ballisic-Missiles-Radar-and-Missile-Sysems-Dring>

## IRGC air force unveils new missiles on Sacred Defense Week

*Islamic Republic News Agency, September 22, 2022*

Aerospace Force of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) unveiled for the first time on Thursday a sample of its missiles dubbed "Sevvom-e Khordad"- in Persian means the third day of the third month of the Iranian calendar year- with air defense system and 200-km range. The unveiling

ceremony was held on the first day of Sacred Defense Week started today (September 22.) Sacred Defense Week starts in Iran on September 22. The Week is annually celebrated nationwide to mark martyrs and war veterans of the Iraqi imposed war on Iran in 1980-88. Sevvom-e Khordad air defense system is capable of countering different types of air targets including helicopter, fighter, drone and cruise missile.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/84895382/IRGC-air-force-unveils-new-missiles-on-Sacred-Defense-Week>

### **US imposes sanctions on Iran's security forces**

*Islamic Republic News Agency, September 22, 2022*

As part of the United States sanctions campaign against the Islamic Republic of Iran, the US Treasury Department has imposed new sanctions on six Iranian figures, including Iran's security officials. The US Treasury Department claimed on Thursday that the six figures are being sanctioned because of what it said was violence against women and peaceful protestors. The department issued sanctions on top directors of the Ministry of Information, the Basij Force, Islamic Republic of Iran Army Ground Forces and the Law Enforcement Command of Islamic Republic of Iran. Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi ordered Minister of Interior Ahmad Vahidi to investigate the reason and details of the death of an Iranian Kurdish woman named Mahsa Amini.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/84895736/US-imposes-sanctions-on-Iran-s-security-forces>

### **Iran will always be in danger if Safeguards probes are not closed, Raisi says**

*Tehran Times, September 23, 2022*

Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi on Thursday stuck to his position regarding nuclear talks with world powers, saying he saw no point in a deal that did not close investigations by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on claims of undeclared nuclear sites. "How can we have a lasting agreement if these probes are not

closed?" he told a news conference on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly, Reuters reported. "To reach a real and assuring deal the safeguards probes in the IAEA should be closed otherwise Iran will always be on brink of danger," Raisi added. "The deal should have economic benefits for the Islamic Republic of Iran. Those who want to work with us ask who can we work with you when there is not deal?" the president asked.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/476986/Iran-will-always-be-in-danger-if-Safeguards-probes-are-not-closed>

### **Iran discloses surface-to-surface ballistic missile with 1400-km range**

*Tehran Times, September 23, 2022*

The one-stage ballistic missile, named Rezvan, is powered by solid fuel and equipped with a detachable warhead. It was disclosed by the IRGC Aerospace Force while an annual military parade was held near the shrine of Imam Khomeini in southern Tehran to mark Saddam Hussein's military invasion of Iran on September 22, 1980.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/476984/Iran-discloses-surface-to-surface-ballistic-missile-with-1400-km>

### **Iran's lead nuclear negotiator to meet UN watchdog chief amid dispute over probe**

*The Time of Israel, September 24, 2022*

The head of Iran's atomic energy agency said Saturday he will meet next week with the chief of the UN's nuclear watchdog, as attempts to revive the country's nuclear deal stall. "I will go to Austria to take part in the annual general conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, where I will meet with Director General Rafael Grossi," Iran's chief nuclear negotiator Mohammad Eslami told state television.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/irans-lead-nuclear-negotiator-to-meet-un-watchdog-chief-amid-dispute-over-probe/>

## **IRGC strikes terrorist bases in northern Iraq**

*Tehran Times, September 24, 2022*

The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) on Saturday pounded terrorist bases in northern Iraq with artillery fire. The attack was conducted by ground forces of the IRGC. Units belonging to the Hamzeh Seyed al-Shohada base launched the operation to “destroy the positions of anti-Iran terrorist groups affiliated with global arrogance in northern Iraq who have in recent days trespassed on Iran’s northwestern borders and attacked some border bases of our country,” the IRGC said in a statement. It added that the IRGC security forces gave a decisive response to the terrorists’ attacks after officials in northern Iraq refrained from taking an appropriate measure and paying due attention to numerous warnings given to them against the deployment and activity of anti-revolution mercenaries and terrorists against Iran, Press TV reported.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/477030/IRGC-strikes-terrorist-bases-in-northern-Iraq>

## **Iran FM says U.S. has sent messages in recent days to save nuclear deal**

*Tehran Times, September 25, 2022*

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian who is in New York for the annual UN conference announced on Saturday that he has received messages in recent days from American sides in which they have said Washington is determined and has the “goodwill” to reach an agreement to revive the 2015 nuclear deal, officially called the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). Amir Abdollahian said he has instead sent messages to the Americans that it is necessary that they show “determination and goodwill” for achieving an agreement. “Even in the recent days the American side declared to us that they have the necessary will and goodwill for reaching an agreement, and we told them to show their determination and goodwill in a realistic way and prove that we can reach the point of an agreement,” Amir

Abdollahian told IRNA and IRIB correspondents in New York.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/477040/Iran-FM-says-U-S-has-sent-messages-in-recent-days-to-save-nuclear>

## **Iran indicts 14 in top nuclear scientist’s assassination**

*i24 News, September 26, 2022*

Iran charged 14 people in connection with the killing of top nuclear scientist Mohsen Fakhrizadeh, who died in an attack Tehran has attributed to Israel, according to the Islamic Republic News Agency on Monday. According to Monday’s state news agency report, those indicted were charged with crimes that include “corruption on earth, contribution to intelligence and espionage for the Zionist regime, collusion aimed at disrupting Iran’s security and endangering the Islamic country’s security.”

<https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/middle-east/iran-eastern-states/1664193645-iran-indicts-14-in-top-nuclear-scientist-s-assassination>

## **Iran, UN nuclear watchdog restart dialogue**

*Tehran Times, September 27, 2022*

Head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) Mohammad Eslami arrived in Vienna on Sunday to participate in the International Atomic Energy Agency General Conference of 2022. Eslami met with IAEA Director-General Rafael Grossi on the next day to discuss the state of play between Iran and the Agency. After the meeting, Grossi announced the resumption of dialogue with Iran on a set of issues that have stymied the conclusion of the Vienna talks over reviving the 2015 Iran nuclear deal, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). “Dialogue has restarted with #Iran on clarification of outstanding safeguards issues,” the IAEA chief said on Twitter.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/477095/Iran-UN-nuclear-watchdog-restart-dialogue>



## IAEA head meets with Iranian atomic chief amid dispute on undeclared nuclear sites

*The Time of Israel, September 27, 2022*

The chief of the UN's nuclear watchdog said Monday he had met with the head of Iran's atomic energy agency, as attempts to revive the country's nuclear deal stall. Efforts to salvage a tattered 2015 agreement – which offered an easing of international sanctions in exchange for a drastic limitation of Iran's nuclear activities – have flailed since then-US president Donald Trump had America withdraw from it in 2018.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/iaea-head-meets-with-iranian-atomic-chief-amid-dispute-on-undeclared-nuclear-sites/>

## Iran unveils upgraded training drone

*Tehran Times, September 28, 2022*

The Iranian Army's Aerial Division on Wednesday unveiled an upgraded version of the Shahab training drone. The drone has the ability to identify targets, possesses a flight height of 11,000 feet and its flight duration is eight hours, the officials declared. The flight radius of the UAV which is meticulously designed for training activities is 10 km, although it has the ability to increase the flight radius for the reconnaissance mission at a range of 200 km. The Shahab training drone is an upgraded version of Safir, according to media reports. This UAV is built according to training activities and therefore possesses special aerodynamic capabilities, as well as a strong structure.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/477136/Iran-unveils-upgraded-training-drone>

## For Iran, the IRGC's regional role is as important as the nuclear deal

*Arab News, September 28, 2022*

As the latest round of talks in Vienna is declared to have failed, what seems a side issue in the negotiations over the Iran nuclear deal may in fact be as important as the agreement itself. The role of the Islamic

Revolutionary Guard Corps in exporting the revolution was always at the table, either directly or indirectly, and is fundamental to Iranian policy in the region. The regional role of the IRGC is included in the preamble of Iran's constitution of 1979, in which it is given the responsibility for "fulfilling the ideological mission of jihad in God's way; that is, extending the sovereignty of God's law throughout the world." This translates into militias wreaking havoc in the region and crushing revolts at home. From an Iranian perspective, the US has been defeated three times over the past 40 years – twice by military action and the third time by the negotiations over the 2015 nuclear deal, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2171481>

## Iran's air force showcases shahab training drone

*Fars News, September 28, 2022*

The 'Shahab' training drone is used for surveillance purposes, and it was unveiled at the Eqtedar (Strength) Exhibition where all types of manned and unmanned aircraft of Iran Air Force are displayed. Shahab surveillance drone can fly at the height of 11,000 feet for 8 hours and its flight radius is 10 km which can be increased to 200 km for reconnaissance missions. The unmanned aerial vehicle also has an inverted V-shaped tail in order to maintain its balance during takeoff, flight and landing. Shahab drone is an upgraded and advanced version of its predecessor Safir (Envoy) and is significantly lighter.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010706000699/Iran's-Air-Frce-Shwcases-Shahab-Training-Drne>

## Iran presents demands from IAEA at 66th conference in Vienna

*Islamic Republic News Agency, September 29, 2022*

Mohammad Eslami, Head of Atomic Energy Organization of Iran, have

attended the 66th Annual Regular Session of the IAEA General Conference in Vienna, Austria, and delivered a speech to the event. On the sidelines of the conference, Eslami has held talks with the IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi, members of delegation from Rosatom- Russia's nuclear energy corporation and Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Szijjarto.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/84899985/Iran-presents-demands-from-IAEA-at-66th-conference-in-Vienna>

### **IRGC smashes terrorist strongholds by 73 missiles, tens of drones**

*Fars news, September 29, 2022*

Commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Ground Force Brigadier General Mohammad Pakpour said that his forces have pounded terrorist sites in Iraq's Kurdistan region with dozens of ballistic missiles and suicide drones, and vowed that the IRGC will continue to pound the terrorists' bases. Commenting on the ongoing military operation in Northern Iraq Brigadier General Pakpour stated so far 73 surface-to-surface ballistic missiles and tens of kamikaze drones have hit the terrorist bases which led to "complete destruction" of the designated targets. "These targets were scattered across 42 points," he explained, adding that they were 400 km away from each other in some cases.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010707000087/IRGC-Smashes-Terris-Srnghlds-by-3-Missiles-Tens-f-Drnes>

### **Raisi says he lamented France's passiveness regarding JCPOA**

*Tehran Times, September 30, 2022*

Speaking in his 7th live interview since he took office late on Wednesday, President Ebrahim Raisi said he lamented France and its President Emmanuel Macron for its passiveness regarding the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), the official name for the 2015 nuclear deal.

Speaking about his meeting with Macron in New York on the sidelines of the 77th United Nations General Assembly, Raisi said that the main point he emphasized was that the Americans unilaterally withdrew from the JCPOA and the Europeans failed to fulfill their obligations. "Mr. Macron agreed that the Europeans did not fulfill their commitments. I said that this time we should focus on adherence to commitments. Our positions were such that he said that he will personally go and talk to the Americans and Europeans and will explain our positions to them and will inform us about it," the president stated.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/477174/Raisi-says-he-lamented-France-s-passiveness-regarding-JCPOA>

### **Iran urges UN to maintain cooperative interaction between OPCW, Syria**

*Tehran Times, September 30, 2022*

Iran has urged the UN Security Council to support the productive communications between the Syrian government and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW). Amir Saeed Irvani, Iran's ambassador and permanent representative to the UN, highlighted Syria's efforts to carry out its obligations under the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) during the Security Council meeting on Thursday. He emphasized that adopting a politicized approach and applying double standards to the Syrian chemical file will only divert technical discussions and can damage the Council's credibility and authority. The senior Iranian diplomat to the UN continued by emphasizing that the Islamic Republic has consistently denounced the use of chemical weapons by any party, anywhere, and under any circumstances.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/477177/Iran-urges-UN-to-maintain-cooperative-interaction-between-OPCW>

*M. Israel*

## **Romania looks set to be first European country to buy Israel's Iron Dome**

*Haaretz, September 20, 2022*

Romanian Defense Minister Vasile Dincu declines to discuss the missile defense system or Russia's war on Ukraine but says his country is eager to purchase radar and drones from Israel.

<https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/2022-09-20/ty-article-magazine/premium/romania-looks-set-to-be-first-european-country-to-buy-israels-iron-dome/00000183-5b1f-d9c4-a1e3-df9f7ca60000>

## **Israel successfully tests advanced anti-ship missile system**

*Haaretz, September 21, 2022*

The 'Gabriel 5' missile system will 'help protect Israel's strategic assets,' the military said following the test conducted by the navy. The 'Gabriel 5' missile system will 'help protect Israel's strategic assets,' the military said following the test conducted by the navy.

<https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/2022-09-21/ty-article/premium/israel-successfully-tests-advanced-anti-ship-missile-system/00000183-5ff6-ddc8-ab9b-5ffe66330000>

## **Abandon defunct Iran deal and negotiate a better one, Lapid tells UK's Truss**

*The Jerusalem Post, September 22, 2022*

Prime Minister Yair Lapid urged his British counterpart, Liz Truss, to abandon the defunct Iran deal and begin talks with Tehran for a better agreement that would prevent the Islamic Republic from becoming a nuclear state. In their meeting at the UN on Wednesday on the sidelines of the General Assembly's 77th opening session, Lapid told Truss that Israel's expectation is the advancement of a longer and stronger

deal that will provide a response to the full range of threats stemming from Iran. Downing Street said Truss confirmed there was "a need for a long-term strategy to contain the threat from Iran."

<https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-717842>

## **Lapid: Iran can be forced into a better deal with strong military threat**

*The Jerusalem Post, September 25, 2022*

Prime Minister Yair Lapid stressed that a better deal than the JCPOA nuclear deal could be reached with Iran if a believable military option is placed on the table, in an interview published by Walla on Sunday morning. "In 2015, when President Obama pressed the Iranians to reach a deal, he publicized the bunker-busting bombs the United States had developed. Iranians always blink when presented with the power of a superpower. The only time they shut down their military weapons program was in the US invasion of Iraq. They were scared."

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-718111>

## **Ukraine asks Israel for intel on Iran's support to Russia**

*i24 News, September 25, 2022*

'The Israelis gave us some intelligence, but we need much more'. Ukraine asked Israel to share intelligence on Iran providing support to the Russian army, Israeli sources told the media. American and Ukrainian officials have previously accused Tehran of selling hundreds of drones to Moscow that are being used in its attacks on Ukrainian targets.

<https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/ukraine-conflict/1664088965-ukraine-asks-israel-to-share-intelligence-on-iran-s-support-to-russia-report>

## Israeli nuclear chief tells IAEA: Iran is 'leading factor' in Mideast instability

*The Time of Israel, September 28, 2022*

Israel's nuclear chief tells the International Atomic Energy Agency conference that Iran is "the leading factor" in instability in the Middle East, and that Israel will not accept Tehran obtaining a nuclear weapon. "The ongoing unrest in the Middle East is a threat to peace and security worldwide, and requires the attention of all member states," says Brig. Gen. (ret.) Moshe Edri, head of Israel's Atomic Energy Commission. "One country is the leading factor in the instability of the region."

[https://www.timesofisrael.com/liveblog\\_entry/israeli-nuclear-chief-tells-iaea-iran-is-leading-factor-in-mideast-instability/](https://www.timesofisrael.com/liveblog_entry/israeli-nuclear-chief-tells-iaea-iran-is-leading-factor-in-mideast-instability/)

## Israel may share nuclear tech with Abraham Accords states - Israeli atomic chief

*The Jerusalem Post, September 28, 2022*

Israel may share aspects of its nuclear technology and knowledge with countries that are part of the Abraham Accords, Israel Atomic Energy Commission Director-General Moshe Edri said Wednesday. "We are hopeful that the new spirit in our region, as demonstrated in the Abraham Accords, will mark a path forward for meaningful direct dialogue within our region, including in the nuclear fora," he said in a speech to the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna. "Israel's state-of-the-art technology provides us with significant levels of knowledge and capabilities, which we are ready to share with others, of course, under the IAEA umbrella."

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-718327>

## Israel seeks technological cooperation with US

*Al-Monitor, September 28, 2022*

The term "strategic dialogue" in referring to talks between Israel and the United States is linked in people's minds to issues such as

the Iranian nuclear program, ensuring Israel's military superiority, the geopolitics of the Middle East and military intelligence cooperation between the two sides. The strategic dialogue launched this week in Washington by two high-ranking delegations is unusual in the defense-security context, described as a "strategic high-level dialogue on technology." As strange as it may sound, the technological cooperation between these two longtime and deeply engaged allies has been found lacking. Israel does not have a foothold in the giant US labs with their cutting-edge work on quantum computing, artificial intelligence and many other sensitive innovative fields.

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/09/israel-seeks-technological-cooperation-us#ixzz7gcwk9JE3>

## Israel's atomic chief wants 'nuclear fora' with Abraham Accords nations

*i24 News, September 29, 2022*

Israel's atomic chief said Wednesday that the Jewish state could share aspects of its nuclear technology and knowledge with countries that are part of the Abraham Accords. "We are hopeful that the new spirit in our region, as demonstrated in the Abraham Accords, will mark a path forward for meaningful, direct dialogue within our region, including in the nuclear fora," said Moshe Edri, director-general of the Israel Atomic Energy Commission.

<https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/israel/diplomacy/1664464312-israel-s-atomic-chief-wants-nuclear-fora-with-abraham-accords-nations>

## IDF to use armed drones for targeted killings in West Bank

*The Jerusalem Post, September 29, 2022*

IDF commanders in the West Bank have been given the green light to use armed drones to carry out targeted killings of Palestinian terrorists, with the approval of Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Aviv Kohavi. According to sources, commanders will



now be allowed to use the platforms not only as cover and intelligence for forces during operations but also to carry out strikes should armed gunmen be identified as posing imminent threats to their troops. The order comes as Israeli security forces have encountered a significant rise in shooting attacks and massive gunfire during arrest raids, specifically in the northern West Bank cities of Jenin and Nablus.

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-718422>

### **N. Jordan**

#### **Eager Lion 2022 manoeuvres conclude in Jordan with participation of Saudi Armed Forces**

*Saudi Gazette, September 16, 2022*

The activities of the 10th round of the multinational "Eager Lion 2022" maneuvers concluded in Jordan, in the presence of Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the Jordanian Armed Forces Major General Yousef Al-Hunaiti, Head of the Saudi Armed Forces Education and Training Authority Major General Adel bin Mohammad Al-Balawi and a number of senior military officials from the participating countries.

<https://saudigazette.com.sa/article/625045/SAUDI-ARABIA/Eager-Lion-2022-maneuvers-conclude-in-Jordan-with-participation-of-Saudi-Armed-Forces>

### **O. Kuwait**

#### **Kuwait's military receives third batch of Eurofighter Typhoon jets**

*Arab News, September 28, 2022*

Kuwait's military said it received two more Eurofighter Typhoon Tranche 3 jets, making it the third batch out of a total of 28 aircraft the country has ordered, Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) reported. The jets, one of the latest multi-role fighters, characterized by electronic warfare and high-speed response capabilities, aim to enhance the combat readiness of the Kuwait Air Force, the air force said in a statement. The jets that Kuwait has received so far have achieved 100 flying hours, the statement added. A

ceremony was held at the Ali Al-Salem Al-Sabah Air Base to mark the aircraft's landing, according to KUNA.

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2171641/middle-east>

#### **Kuwait supports peaceful use of nuclear power**

*Kuwait Times, September 29, 2022*

Kuwait Foreign Minister Dr Sheikh Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah took part in the IAEA 66th general conference of 2022 in Vienna on Tuesday, giving a speech addressing both members and constituents alike. He began by thanking the members for their efforts to put together the conference and also thanked Director General of the IAEA, Rafael Grossi and his staff for their efforts to uphold such a gathering in materializing the agency's goals. He said that Kuwait had donated \$200,000 for the final stage of the modernization of its nuclear applications laboratories in Seibersdorf, near Vienna, putting the total amount of Kuwaiti donations to the project since its launching in 2015 at \$1.7 million. In the subsequent review of the 2021 yearly report of the agency, the minister expressed Kuwait's satisfaction with the path of cooperation taken between Kuwait and the IAEA.

<https://www.kuwaittimes.com/kuwait-supports-peaceful-use-of-nuclear-power/>

### **P. Qatar**

#### **Qatar elected as member of IAEA Board of Governors**

*Gulf of Times, September 29, 2022*

Qatar was elected for membership of the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for the period 2022-2024 during the 66th IAEA General Conference, currently being held in Vienna. This step reflects the international community's confidence in the constructive role played by Qatar in implementing the tasks of the Vienna-based agency. Qatar had been a member

of the IAEA Board of Governorstwotimesbefore,from2013- 2015 and from 2016-2018. The Board of Governors is one of the main policy- making bodies of the IAEA. The 35-member board reviews and approves decisions related to the agency's budget, operational programmes, safeguard agreements and safety standards, and has the power to appoint the agency's Director General with the approval of the General Conference.

<https://www.gulf-times.com/story/725140/Qatar-elected-as-member-of-IAEA-Board-of-Governors>

### **Q. Saudi Arabia**

#### **Saudi Arabia calls on Iran to urgently fulfill its nuclear commitments**

*Saudi Gazette, September 25, 2022*

Foreign Minister Prince Faisal Bin Farhan called on Iran to urgently fulfill its nuclear commitments. Prince Faisal reiterated in the speech of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia he delivered on Saturday before the 77th UN General Assembly in New York, the need to resolve the Russian-Ukrainian crisis through a political solution to protect civilians.

He urged the international community to work to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons. Prince Faisal affirmed the Kingdom's commitment to the United Nations Charter, but also stressed the need to reform the Security Council. "We support the principles of international legitimacy aimed at maintaining international peace and security, and calling for cooperation on the basis of mutual respect for the sovereignty and independence of states, resolving disputes by peaceful means, and not resorting the threat of force."

<https://saudigazette.com.sa/article/625370/SAUDI-ARABIA/Saudi-Arabia-calls-on-Iran-to-urgently-fulfill-its-nuclear-commitments>

#### **Saudi Arabia works with IAEA to develop human capabilities in nuclear technology sector: Minister**

*Saudi Gazette, September 26, 2022*

Minister of Energy Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman stated on Monday that Saudi Arabia is working with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in building a program for developing human capabilities in the nuclear technology sector. Prince Abdulaziz made these remarks while delivering the Kingdom's speech at the IAEA conference in Vienna. He indicated that as a result of the program, Saudi Arabia's national capabilities have grown rapidly to keep pace with the best international standards.

The minister indicated the Kingdom's affirmation of its policy on the importance of developing peaceful uses of nuclear technology with the highest standards of transparency and reliability. Saudi Arabia reiterates the importance of concerted international efforts to implement the treaty's provisions, and stresses the importance of not politicizing non-proliferation issues and preserving the states' rights to benefit from peaceful nuclear technology and to invest in national natural resources.

<https://saudigazette.com.sa/article/625425/SAUDI-ARABIA/Saudi-Arabia-works-with-IAEA-to-develop-human-capabilities-in-nuclear-technology-sector-Minister>

#### **Saudi Arabia developing national capabilities in nuclear technology: Minister**

*Arab News, September 26, 2022*

Saudi Arabia is working to enhance people's skills and abilities in the nuclear technology sector and its regulatory

aspects, the Kingdom's minister of energy said. Speaking at the 66th General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency in Austria, Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman spoke of the importance of his government developing peaceful uses for nuclear technology with the highest standards of transparency, reliability and the highest levels of safety. "As a result of these programs, national capabilities have grown rapidly to keep pace with the best international standards," he said, later adding: "We are also working in cooperation and coordination with the agency to develop national plans to enable nuclear energy to contribute to the national energy mix."

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2169821/business-economy>

### **Saudi Arabia's flag raised at IAEA HQ for being among donors to modernize nuclear labs**

*Saudi Gazette, September 26, 2022*

Saudi Minister of Energy Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi attended the ceremony to raise Saudi Arabia's flag at the Agency's headquarters in Vienna, and thus becoming among the countries that are contributing to the Agency's initiative to modernize its Seibersdorf laboratories (ReNuAL2). Speaking on the occasion, Prince Abdulaziz said that the Kingdom appreciates the main and important role of the IAEA in enhancing safety standards as these donations develop their capabilities in a way that enhances its vital role in harnessing the atom for peace. "These contributions are aimed to maximize the use of nuclear technologies and provide resources and services to IAEA member states to ensure the safe use of nuclear technology," Prince Abdulaziz added.

<https://saudigazette.com.sa/article/625439/SAUDI-ARABIA/Saudi-Arabias-flag-raised-at-IAEA-HQ-for-being-among-donors-to-modernize-nuclear-labs>

### **IAEA chief says Saudi Arabia is 'important partner'**

*Saudi Gazette, September 26, 2022*

The Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Rafael Mariano Grossi described Saudi Arabia as an important partner for the agency. Minister of Energy Prince Abdulaziz Bin Salman and Grossi discussed Saudi Arabia's nuclear power program perspectives, capacity-building, and SMRs potential. Grossi said he's looking forward to building on this important partnership. Prince Abdulaziz currently in Vienna is participating in the 66th regular session of the IAEA general conference.

<https://saudigazette.com.sa/article/625441/SAUDI-ARABIA/IAEA-chief-says-Saudi-Arabia-is-important-partner>

### **Saudi Arabia, US sign MoU on cooperation in nuclear safety**

*Saudi Gazette, September 28, 2022*

Saudi Arabia's Nuclear and Radiological Regulatory Commission (NRRC) signed here on Wednesday a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission, related to the technical information and cooperation in the nuclear safety. It was co-signed by CEO of the NRRC Dr. Khalid Al-Issa and Chairman of the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission Christopher Hanson. The signing of the MoU came within the activities of the 66th General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). – SPA

<https://saudigazette.com.sa/article/625531/SAUDI-ARABIA/Saudi-Arabia-US-sign-MoU-on-cooperation-in-nuclear-safety>

### **Crown Prince: Internal self-sufficiency of military industries jumps from 2% to 15%**

*Saudi Gazette, September 28, 2022*

Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohammed bin Salman met at the

headquarters of the Ministry of Defense in Jeddah on Wednesday, Prince Khalid bin Salman, Minister of Defense, and military commanders. The Crown Prince expressed his thanks and appreciation for the sincere efforts of the Ministry of Defense personnel and the great progress they have achieved with the implementation of the Ministry's development program, and the increase in the internal self-sufficiency of the military industries from 2% to 15%. He hoped that it will reach 50% under the command and supervision of the Minister of Defense and the Ministry personnel.

<https://saudigazette.com.sa/article/625496/SAUDI-ARABIA/Crown-Prince-Internal-self-sufficiency-of-military-industries-jumps-from-2-to-15>

### R. Syria

#### Syria calls for taking serious steps to compel Israel to join Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

*Syrian Arab News Agency, September 17, 2022*

Syria called on International Community to take a clear decision and serious practical steps to compel Israel joining Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and inspect all its facilities by International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) without preconditions. "The International Community must take serious steps in order to oblige Israel to join Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons," Syria's permanent representative to UN and other international organizations in Vienna, Ambassador Hasan Khaddour, said in a statement before IAEA Board on Item "12" related to applying IAEA safeguards in the Middle East, Khaddour condemned the US bias to Israel and its double standards policy regarding the proliferation of mass destruction weapons.

<https://sana.sy/en/?p=283997>

#### Russian MoD: 45 of Jabhat al-Nusra terrorists eliminated in Idleb

*Syrian Arab News Agency, September 19, 2022*

The Russian Air Force bombed a headquarters for Jabhat al-Nusra terrorist organization in Idleb Province, which led to the elimination of 45 terrorists, including field leaders, according to Deputy Head of the Russian Coordination Center in Hmeimim Oleg Egorov. "On the seventeenth of this month, the Russian Air Force launched an air raid on a base for Jabhat al-Nusra terrorist organization in the vicinity of Sheikh Yousef village in Idleb province, which resulted in the elimination of 45 terrorists, including the leaders, Bilal Saeed and Abu Dijana al-Deiri, and a number of weapons stores were destroyed," Egorov said in a press statement on Monday.

<https://sana.sy/en/?p=284208>

### S. United Arab Emirates

#### Turkiye sells its famed battle-tested drones to UAE as ties mend

*Daily Sabah, September 21, 2022*

Turkish defense firm Baykar has delivered 20 of its pioneering armed drones to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) this month and could sell more, two sources said Wednesday, as a diplomatic detente between the former regional rivals expands into military contracts. International demand for Baykar's drones soared after their impact in conflicts in Syria, Ukraine and Libya, where their laser-guided armor-piercing bombs helped repel an offensive by UAE-supported forces two years ago.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkiye-sells-its-famed-battle-tested-drones-to-uae-as-ties-mend>



## UAE to Buy Israeli Air Defense Tech in First Deal Since Accords, Sources Say

*Haaretz, September 22, 2022*

Israel has agreed to sell an advanced air defense system to the United Arab Emirates, two sources familiar with the matter said, in the first such known deal between them since they forged ties in 2020. The deal reinforces how, for some Arab states, resolving the decades-long Israel-Palestinian conflict has now been overshadowed by national priorities, such as security and the economy.

<https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/2022-09-22/ty-article/uae-to-buy-israeli-air-defense-tech-in-first-deal-since-accords-sources-say/00000183-65b6-dce0-a3ff-f5beff780000>

## UAE's Barakah nuclear energy plant starts up third unit

*Arab News, September 23, 2022*

UAE's Nawah Energy Co. has successfully started Unit 3 of the Barakah Nuclear Energy Plant, located in Abu Dhabi's Al Dhafra Region, its parent company the Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation announced on Thursday. The launch has been achieved a year after the start-up of Unit 2, with the next key milestone being the connection of Unit 3 to the national electricity grid in the coming weeks, WAM reported. Unit 3's startup reflects the progress being made in bringing the four units of the Barakah Plant – the first multi-unit operational nuclear plant in the Arab World – online and accelerating the decarbonisation of the UAE's power sector on the way to Net Zero by 2050.

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2168136/business-economy>

## Israel to sell advanced air defense system to UAE

*i24 News, September 23, 2022*

Israel agreed to sell an advanced air defense system to the United Arab Emirates (UAE), in the first such deal between the allies since they established ties in 2020 in a US-

brokered normalization accord, Reuters reported on Friday citing unnamed sources. Israel approved a UAE request in the middle of the summer and would reportedly supply the Gulf state with Rafael-made SPYDER mobile interceptors, declining to provide further details due to the sensitive nature of the deal.

<https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/israel/diplomacy/1663925433-israel-to-sell-domestic-produced-air-defense-system-to-uae>

## T. Turkiye

### Turkish contractor IC Ic'tas' reaches deal with Russia on Akkuyu

*Daily Sabah, September 16, 2022*

Turkish contractor IC Ic'tas' got back the Akkuyu nuclear power plant construction contract after reaching an agreement with Russia, sources said Friday. Akkuyu is the world's first nuclear power plant project implemented through a build-own-operate model. Under the long-term contract, Rosatom has agreed to provide the power plant's design, construction, maintenance, operation and decommissioning. Last month, Russian state nuclear energy company Rosatom terminated a contract with IC Ic'tas', its Turkish partner, over alleged "violations" in the contract.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/energy/turkish-contractor-ic-ictas-reaches-deal-with-russia-on-akkuyu>

### Russian state firm signs \$9.1bn loan deal to fund nuclear plant in Turkiye

*Middle East Eye, September 16, 2022*

A Russian state-owned company signed a \$9.1bn loan deal with Gazprombank in August to fund the construction and development of Turkey's Akkuyu nuclear power plant, according to the official documents. In a public announcement on Wednesday, Rosatom Corp published the deal signed on 3 August, which opens a line of credit to finance Akkuyu Nuclear JSC, its subsidiary in Turkey. The official documents suggest the money would be

used for the following: \$7bn for construction and operation of a nuclear power plant at the Akkuyu site, including four power units with VVER-1200 reactors. \$1.6bn for financing the acquisition and development of a uranium deposit in Kazakhstan. \$500m for financing expenses for the acquisition and development of lithium assets.

<https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/russia-turkey-gazprombank-akkuyu-plant-loan-fund>

### **Turkiye, Russia reach deal resolving nuclear plant dispute, media report**

*Reuters, September 17, 2022*

President Tayyip Erdogan said Turkey and Russia had reached a deal resolving a dispute over a nuclear power plant being built at Akkuyu in southern Turkey, reinstating a Turkish contractor, broadcaster NTV and other media said on Saturday.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/turkey-russia-reach-deal-resolving-nuclear-plant-dispute-erdoganmedia-2022-09-17/>

### **Turkiye's 1st nuclear power plant to start operating next year**

*Mehr News Agency, September 19, 2022*

Minister of Energy and Natural Resources of Turkey Fatih Donmez announced that Turkey's first nuclear power plant will start operating next year. "An agreement has been reached regarding the Akkuyu Nuclear Power Plant. Our ministry, as well as the president, have made great efforts to encourage the parties involved in this project to reach a consensus and overcome the problems that have arisen," Donmez told news sources on Monday. He went on to say that the work will continue at a faster pace as they have to start operating the first unit in 2023.

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/191606/Turkey-s-1st-nuclear-power-plant-to-start-operating-next-year>

### **F-16 fighters: Erdogan**

*Daily Sabah, September 21, 2022*

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Tuesday said that he has received "positive" feedback

from two U.S. senators he met with in New York on their potential support for the sale of F-16 fighter jets to Türkiye. Türkiye has been seeking to modernize its air fleet and sought to buy 40 F-16 jets and nearly 80 modernization kits from the U.S. President Joe Biden has said he supports the sale and that he would work to convince lawmakers to deliver the F-16 jets for Türkiye's air force. Erdogan earlier this month said his country may turn to other countries such as Russia if the U.S. fails to follow through on its promise to deliver F-16s after a bill recently approved by American lawmakers created a new hurdle for any purchase by Türkiye.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/us-senators-gave-positive-feedback-on-f-16-fighters-erdogan>

### **Turkiye sells its famed battle-tested drones to UAE as ties mend**

*Daily Sabah, September 21, 2022*

Turkish defense firm Baykar has delivered 20 of its pioneering armed drones to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) this month and could sell more, two sources said Wednesday, as a diplomatic detente between the former regional rivals expands into military contracts. International demand for Baykar's drones soared after their impact in conflicts in Syria, Ukraine and Libya, where their laser-guided armor-piercing bombs helped repel an offensive by UAE-supported forces two years ago. Now the United Arab Emirates and its ally Saudi Arabia are hoping to benefit from their rapprochement with Türkiye to counter a growing security challenge from Iran and its proxy forces, military sources say.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkiye-sells-its-famed-battle-tested-drones-to-uae-as-ties-mend>

### **Array of new defense platforms to crown centennial of Republic of Türkiye**

*Daily Sabah, September 21, 2022*

A range of new long-awaited platforms, which will be delivered in 2023 when

Turkiye marks the 100th anniversary of the Republic, promise to display the latest breakthrough achieved by the lucrative Turkish defense industry. Aiming to provide security forces with the most advanced equipment developed with indigenous resources under the Presidency of Defense Industries (SSB), the Turkish defense industry will take critical steps in many projects in about a year. The National Combat Aircraft (MMU), the most and carried out by Turkish Aerospace Industries (TAI), will leave the hangar on March 18, 2023. The TF-X MMU, a fifth-generation jet with similar features to Lockheed Martin's F-35 Lightning II, will replace the F-16 jets, which are planned to be phased out by the 2030s. It will make its maiden flight in 2025 and start its duty in 2028.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/array-of-new-defense-platforms-to-crown-centennial-of-republic-of-turkiye>

### **Erdogan may speak with Biden as F-16 talks 'go on positively'**

*Daily Sabah, September 22, 2022*

Negotiations with the United States on sales of F-16 fighter jets are "going on positively," President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said on Thursday, adding that he may later discuss this issue over the phone with U.S. President Joe Biden. The remarks come just two days after Erdogan said that he had received "positive" feedback from two U.S. senators he met with in New York on their potential support for the sale of F-16s to Turkiye. Turkiye has been seeking to modernize its air fleet and sought to buy 40 F-16 jets and nearly 80 modernization kits from the U.S. Biden has said he supports the sale and that he would work to convince lawmakers to deliver the F-16 jets for Turkiye's air force.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/erdogan-may-speak-with-biden-as-f-16-talks-go-on-positively>

### **Turkiye says Malaysia, Indonesia interested in buying its armed drones**

*Daily Sabah, September 26, 2022*

Malaysia and Indonesia have expressed a keen interest in buying armed drones from Turkish defense firm Baykar, which has

supplied the weapons to several countries after battlefield successes, Turkiye's top diplomat said on Monday. Foreign Minister Mevlut C'avus'oglu also expressed hopes his country would be able to sell the unmanned combat aerial vehicles to Japan. "Many Asian countries, especially Malaysia and Indonesia, show great interest in our defense industry products. Agreements are being signed," C'avus'oglu told a press conference in Tokyo. Turkiye sees big potential in deepening defense ties with Japan, the minister said, on a visit there to attend the funeral of former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkiye-says-malaysia-indonesia-interested-in-buying-its-armed-drones>

### **Turkiye to send more troops, arms to TRNC amid tensions with Greece**

*Daily Sabah, September 29, 2022*

Foreign Minister Mevlut C'avus'oglu said Turkiye will deploy more forces to the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) to help meet the Turkish Cypriots' needs. Speaking at a youth gathering in Pamukkale province, the foreign minister said Turkiye is determined to protect the rights and interests of Turkish Cypriots in the Eastern Mediterranean and Aegean. "We will deploy more forces to protect Turkish Cypriots and provide anything they need in terms of arms," he said.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/politics/diplomacy/turkiye-to-send-more-troops-arms-to-trnc-amid-tensions-with-greece>

### **Turkiye to reinforce military presence in Northern Cyprus**

*i24 News, September 29, 2022*

'The United States... will lead to an armament race on the island with this step'. Turkey will reinforce its military presence in Northern-Cyprus after the United States lifted defense trade restrictions on the Mediterranean island country, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said Wednesday. Earlier this month, the US State Department said Secretary of State Antony Blinken lifted the



defense trade restrictions for Cyprus for the fiscal year 2023.

<https://www.i24news.to/en/news/middle-east/levant-turkey/1664462614-turkey-to-reinforce-military-presence-in-northern-cyprus>

## U. Iraq

### Air Force Command plans achieving 100% transfer of responsibility to Iraq

*Iraqi News Agency, September 16, 2022*

Air Force Command revealed Friday plans to achieve a 100% transfer of responsibility to Iraqi hands, while affirming the leadership in suppressing Deash terrorism. The Commander of the Air Force, Lieutenant-General Shihab Jahid, told the Iraqi News Agency (INA): "The requirements that the Iraqi Air Force needs are of two types: technical and training," noting that "the requirements complete skills using weapons, reduce accidents and reflect positive results on affiliates, pilots and maintenance personnel. He added that "the Air Force has many foreign dealings, given that its weapons are diverse," noting that "each type of aircraft has contracts, maintenance with the manufacturer, and training courses so that Iraq is qualified to work on it." He pointed out that "the Air Force is now in the modern planning period, and there is a prepared plan that started in 2020 to the end of 2025," noting that "the plan includes placing all aircraft operating in the Air Force with a transfer rate of more than 80%."

<https://ina.iq/eng/21876-air-force-command-plans-achieving-100-transfer-of-responsibility-to-iraq.html>

## East Asia

### V. Japan

### France sends latest nuclear shipment to Japan

*France 24, September 17, 2022*

The fuel was due to leave the northern French port city of Cherbourg earlier this

month but was delayed by the breakdown of loading equipment. Environmental activists have denounced the practice of transporting such highly radioactive materials, calling it irresponsible. The previous transport of MOX fuel to Japan in September 2021 drew protests from environmental group Greenpeace. MOX fuel is a mixture of reprocessed plutonium and uranium. "The Pacific Heron and Pacific Egret, the specialised ships belonging to British company PNTL, left Cherbourg harbour on September 17. They will ensure the shipment of MOX nuclear fuel to Japan," French nuclear technology group Orano said in a statement Saturday.

<https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20220917-france-sends-latest-nuclear-shipment-to-japan>

### Map Shows How Close Super Typhoon Nanmadol Is to Japan's Nuclear Plants

*Newsweek, September 19, 2022*

Super Typhoon Nanmadol hit southwest Japan on Monday, bringing damaging winds and torrential rains with it, killing at least one person, injuring many others and displacing thousands as the nation calls for an evacuation. A storm tracker map currently shows the typhoon tracking northeast. Further down its journey, the storm could hit just south of the Shika Nuclear Power Station, one of the country's many nuclear power plants. Despite the strong storm surging toward the power station, Andrew Whittaker, a nuclear power plant expert and professor at State University of New York at Buffalo, told *Newsweek* that nuclear power plant buildings are designed for "extreme environmental loadings, including wind, wind-borne missiles, and earthquake shaking."

<https://www.newsweek.com/map-shows-how-close-super-typhoon-nanmadol-japans-nuclear-plants-1744138>



## Japan PM says willing to meet North Korea leader amid nuclear fears

*Hindustan Times, September 21, 2022*

Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida on Tuesday renewed his offer to meet North Korea's reclusive leader Kim Jong Un, as tensions simmer over Pyongyang's nuclear program. Addressing the United Nations General Assembly, Kishida said that Japan still stood by diplomacy set out two decades ago by former prime minister Junichiro Koizumi on his historic visit to Pyongyang. "Japan is prepared to engage in dialogue on matters of mutual concern," Kishida said. "I am determined to meet with Chairman Kim Jong Un without any conditions and will miss no opportunity to take actions with all my dedication," he said.

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/world-news/japan-pm-says-willing-to-meet-north-korea-leader-amid-nuclear-fears-101663733155294.html>

## Fumio Kishida's Great Nuclear Leap

*Foreign Policy, September 23, 2022*

A decade ago, the Great East Japan earthquake became a three-fold disaster: A 9.0-magnitude seismic thrust from the Pacific Ocean flatlined more than 120,000 buildings, a 128-foot rush of tsunami waves battered Japan's eastern coastline, and Fukushima's 860-acre Daiichi power plant all but collapsed. The ordeal would result in the most expensive natural disaster in history. Once the waters receded, so did Japan's appetite for nuclear power, which before then had made up 30 percent of its power mix. But Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida may be turning over a new leaf. He is revitalizing a suite of dormant nuclear reactors shut down since the disaster and investing billions of dollars into next-generation nuclear technology. It's part of a plan to put nuclear reactors back in the resource- and energy-hungry country's mix.

Kishida wants to boost the share of fission from the paltry 5 percent share it had in 2020 to 22 percent by 2030.

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2022/09/23/fumio-kishida-nuclear-green-energy-fukushima/>

## Japan bans chemical weapons-related goods to Russia, concerned by nuke threats

*Reuters, September 26, 2022*

Japan has decided to ban exports of chemical weapons-related goods to Russia in an additional sanction against Moscow over its invasion of Ukraine, and is "deeply concerned" about the possible use of nuclear weapons, Chief Cabinet Secretary Hirokazu Matsuno said on Monday.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/japan-bans-chemical-weapons-related-goods-russia-concerned-by-uke-threats-2022-09-26/>

## Japan's restart of nuclear reactors will help Europe's winter energy supply -IEA chief says

*Reuters, September 27, 2022*

Japan's restart of more nuclear power plants would help ease Europe's energy supply fears during the winter as more liquefied natural gas (LNG) will become available to the global market, the head of the International Energy Agency (IEA) said on Tuesday.

<https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/japans-restart-nuclear-reactors-will-help-europes-winter-energy-supply-iea-chief-2022-09-27/>

## 1st Time In Five Years, US Navy Holds 'Trilateral Drills' With Asian Allies Amid North Korean Aggression

*The Eurasian Times, September 30, 2022*

The drill came just one day after North Korea launched two ballistic missiles toward its eastern waters, totaling three

in a week. The fact that this trilateral anti-submarine exercise was held for the first time in five years gave it additional significance. The one-day exercises have not been held since 2017 because the previous progressive South Korean administration wanted to strengthen inter-Korean ties and promote disarmament discussions between Pyongyang and Washington, which have been stuck since 2019.

<https://eurasianimes.com/1st-time-in-five-years-us-navy-holds-drills-with-key-asian-allie/>

### W. South Korea

#### US carrier arrives in South Korea as warning to North

*GDN, September 24, 2022*

A US aircraft carrier arrived in South Korea yesterday for the first time in about four years, set to join other military vessels in a show of force intended to send a message to North Korea. USS Ronald Reagan and ships from its accompanying strike group docked at a naval base in the southern port city of Busan ahead of joint drills with South Korean forces. Its arrival marks the most significant deployment yet under a new push to have more US 'strategic assets' operate in the area to deter North Korea.

<https://www.gdnonline.com/Details/1143421>

#### US VP Harris set to visit Korean DMZ after Kim's missile test

*GDN, September 27, 2022*

US Vice President Kamala Harris will visit the de-militarised zone (DMZ) separating the Koreas on Thursday in a bid to show Washington's commitment to the South's security, according to US and South Korean officials. The visit, announced on Tuesday, comes days after North Korea fired a ballistic missile towards the sea and amid fears of a possible nuclear test as the Biden administration's attempts at outreach to North Korean leader Kim Jong Un have failed.

<https://www.gdnonline.com/Details/1143673>

#### South Korea sees Oct.16-Nov.7 window for N.Korea nuclear test

*Reuters, September 28, 2022*

North Korea has completed preparations for a nuclear test and a possible window for carrying it out could be between Oct. 16 and Nov. 7, South Korean lawmakers briefed by its spy agency said on Wednesday.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/skorea-spy-agency-says-nkorea-nuclear-test-may-occur-between-oct-16-nov-7-yonhap-2022-09-28/>

#### US VP condemns North Korea's 'nuclear rhetoric'

*DW News, September 29, 2022*

A day after North Korea test-fired two of its banned ballistic missiles, US Vice President Kamala Harris and South Korean President Yoon Suk-yeol condemned Pyongyang's "provocative nuclear rhetoric." Yoon and Harris also asserted their commitment to the complete denuclearization of the Korean peninsula. Harris vowed to strengthen ties to South Korea, calling relations between the two countries "a linchpin of security and prosperity on the Korean peninsula." Also Vowing to strengthen the alliance, Yoon called Harris' visit "another turning point" in achieving that goal.

<https://www.dw.com/en/in-seoul-us-vice-president-kamala-harris-condemns-north-korean-nuclear-rhetoric/a-63275981>

### X. North Korea

#### North Korea's Nuclear Fail-Safe

*Foreign Policy, September 16, 2022*

Last week, North Korea announced its most significant update to its nuclear weapons law in almost a decade, clarifying the nuclear chain of command in the event that Kim Jong Un kicks the bucket before he can press the button. The law offers little new for longtime North Korea watchers, but it does offer insight

into how Pyongyang seeks to ensure deterrence if its supreme leader were to be killed by an adversary's attack. "In case the command and control system over the state nuclear forces is placed in danger owing to an attack by hostile forces," the new policy reads, "a nuclear strike shall be launched automatically and immediately to destroy the hostile forces including the starting point of provocation and the command according to the operation plan decided in advance."

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2022/09/16/north-korea-nuclear-weapons-law-kim-jong-un/>

### **Imagery shows N.Korea may soon launch new missile submarine - think tank**

*Reuters, September 22, 2022*

North Korea may be preparing to launch a new submarine believed to be capable of firing ballistic missiles, a U.S.-based think tank reported on Thursday, citing commercial satellite imagery.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/imagery-shows-nkorea-may-soon-launch-new-missile-submarine-think-tank-2022-09-21/>

### **South Korea, US, Japan Reaffirm Joint Stance on North Korea's Missile Threats**

*The Diplomat, September 23, 2022*

South Korean Foreign Minister Park Jin met his U.S. and Japanese counterparts, Antony Blinken and Hayashi Yoshimasa, on Thursday on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly. "The Secretary and Foreign Ministers underscored the importance of working together to address the DPRK's destabilizing behavior and advance our shared goal of achieving the complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula," the joint statement said. DPRK is an acronym of North Korea's official name: Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

<https://thediplomat.com/2022/09/south-korea-us-japan-reaffirm-joint-stance-on-north-koreas-missile-threats/>

### **North Korea all set for another nuke test: Why the world should be worried**

*Economic Times, September 24, 2022*

Pyongyang's meticulous preparation and obsession with nukes could pave the path for incredible destruction. North Korea might conduct a nuclear test during US Vice President Kamala Harris' upcoming trip to South Korea and Japan as Pyongyang has given signals of such a possibility, Yonhap News Agency reported citing a senior administration official. "It is possible and we previously said that the DPRK is preparing to conduct a nuclear test," the official claimed on Friday when asked about the possibility of a North Korean nuclear test during Harris' trip next week. DPRK stands for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, North Korea's official name.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/new-updates/north-korea-all-set-for-another-nuke-test-why-the-world-should-be-worried/articleshow/94413972.cms>

### **North Korea fires a missile as U.S. and South Korea get ready for military exercises**

*NPR, September 25, 2022*

North Korea fired a short-range ballistic missile Sunday toward its eastern seas, extending a provocative streak in weapons testing as a U.S. aircraft carrier visits South Korea for joint military exercises in response to the North's growing nuclear threat. South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said the missile launched from the western inland town of Taechon flew 600 kilometers (370 miles) cross-country on a maximum altitude of 60 kilometers (37 miles) before landing in waters off North Korea's eastern coast. South Korea's presidential office said National Security Director Kim Sung-han called an emergency National Security Council meeting where members denounced the launch as a clear violation of U.N. Security

Council resolutions and accused the North of raising tensions in the region.

<https://www.npr.org/2022/09/25/1124971097/north-korea-missile-south-korea-us-joint-military-exercises>

### **North Korea fires ballistic missiles, marking fourth in a week**

*CNBC, September 30, 2022*

North Korea fired unspecified ballistic missiles toward the east coast on Saturday, South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said, marking Pyongyang's fourth launch in a week as it ratchets up tension in the Korean peninsula. The launch comes after the United States and South Korea held the Ulchi Freedom Shield, the biggest joint military drill in about five years, and follows U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris' visit to South Korea this week. Japan's coast guard also reported at least two suspected ballistic missile tests by Pyongyang. NHK, citing a government source, said that a second missile had landed outside Japan's exclusive economic zone. North Korea fired missiles before and after Harris' visit to South Korea, extending a record pace in weapons testing this year as it increases the threat of a credible nuclear power that can strike the United States and its allies.

<https://www.cbc.com/2022/09/30/north-korea-fires-ballistic-missiles-marking-fourth-in-a-week.html>

### **Y. Australia**

### **Fast Track Aussie Nuclear Submarine Development, Says MP on AUKUS Anniversary**

*USNI News, September 16, 2022*

An Australian member of parliament wants to speed up the delivery of nuclear-powered submarines to Canberra to send a clear message to China and Russia that Australia will defend its sovereignty against their aggressive ambitions. Andrew Hastie, speaking at a Hudson Institute event on the anniversary of the historic agreement to build a nuclear-submarine force in Australia and share advanced technology between Canberra, London and

Washington, said Australia wants the submarine capability in

“the next decade if not sooner.” He added that this insistence on building up sovereign defense is a lesson Australia learned from Ukraine's resistance to Russia's invasion this year and China's aggressive moves against Taiwan.

<https://news.usni.org/2022/09/16/fast-track-aussie-nuclear-submarine-development-says-mp-on-aukus-anniversary>

### **France offers four submarines to Australia despite the stab in the back of AUKUS**

*Navy Recognition, September 16, 2022*

Exactly one year ago, Australia, through its then Prime Minister Scott Morrison, announced its intention to procure nuclear-powered general-purpose attack submarines (SSN) as part of its alliance with the United States and the United Kingdom (AUKUS). This was to provoke a serious diplomatic crisis with Paris since this decision implied the cancellation of a contract for the delivery of twelve Barracuda class submarines by Naval Group to the Royal Australian Navy (RAN). However, with tensions mounting in the Indo-Pacific region, Australia, which has no nuclear industry, is not expected to have an ANS by 2040... And the six Collins-class submarines that the RAN is currently deploying will have reached the end of their potential well before that deadline. Hence the risk of a major capability breakdown in the years to come.

<https://www.navyrecognition.com/index.php/naval-news/naval-news-archives/2022/september/12202-france-offers-four-submarines-to-australia-despite-the-stab-in-the-back-of-aukus.html>

### **AUKUS sees progress in Australia getting nuclear-powered submarine**

*Nikkei Asia, September 24, 2022*

The leaders of the United States, United Kingdom and Australia said in a



statement on Friday marking the one-year anniversary of the AUKUS security pact that they have made “significant progress” towards Australia acquiring a nuclear-powered submarine. “We are steadfast in our commitment to Australia acquiring this capability at the earliest possible date,” the statement said. AUKUS is seen as an effort by the Western allies to push back against China’s growing power and influence, particularly its military buildup, pressure on Taiwan and deployments in the contested South China Sea. The heart of the AUKUS agreement is a plan to provide Australia with the technology and capability to deploy conventionally armed, nuclear-powered submarines.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/Indo-Pacific/AUKUS-sees-progress-in-Australia-getting-nuclear-powered-submarine>

### **AUKUS’ plan to expedite Australia’s nuclear sub construction an act of nuclear proliferation under ‘naval nuclear propulsion’ cover: Chinese mission to UN**

*Global Times, September 26, 2022*

The Chinese mission to the UN in Vienna warned in an exclusive statement sent to the Global Times on Sunday that the latest move by AUKUS to plan to expedite Australia’s nuclear submarine construction is a blatant defiance of and trampling on the international nuclear non-proliferation system, and is an act of nuclear proliferation under the pretext of “naval nuclear propulsion.” A spokesperson of the Chinese mission to the UN and other international organizations in Vienna made the comment after leaders of the US, UK and Australia said on Friday marking the one-year anniversary of the AUKUS security pact that they have made “significant progress” toward Australia acquiring a nuclear-powered submarine.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202209/1276076.shtml>

## *Z. Miscellaneous*

### **Ukraine to dominate as world leaders gather at United Nations**

*GDN, September 18, 2022*

Russia’s invasion of Ukraine and a global food crisis aggravated by the war will be the focus of world leaders when they convene at the United Nations in New York this week, a gathering that is unlikely to yield any progress toward ending the conflict. “It would be naive to think that we are close to the possibility of a peace deal,” said UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres ahead of the high-level meeting of the 193-member UN General Assembly, which starts on Tuesday. “The chances of a peace deal are minimal, at the present moment.”

<https://www.gdnonline.com/Details/1142908>

### **World leaders lash Russia over Ukraine invasion, referendum plans**

*GDN, September 20, 2022*

World leaders meeting at the United Nations in New York denounced Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, as Moscow-installed leaders in occupied areas of four Ukrainian regions announced plans to hold referendums on joining Russia in coming days. In the apparently coordinated move, pro-Russian figures announced referendums for Sept. 23-27 in Luhansk, Donetsk, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia provinces, representing around 15% of Ukrainian territory, or an area about the size of Hungary. “The Russians can do whatever they want. It will not change anything,” Ukraine’s Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba said on Tuesday in response to reporters’ questions at the United Nations where leaders were arriving for a General Assembly meeting likely to be dominated by the war in Ukraine.

<https://www.gdnonline.com/Details/1143165>

## **Bilfinger CEO: Putin's 'incredibly dangerous' nuclear threats raise the risk of an unprecedented disaster**

*Reuters, September 23, 2022*

Speaking in a rare, televised address on Wednesday, Putin warned that if the territorial integrity of Russia is threatened, the Kremlin would "certainly use all the means at our disposal to protect Russia and our people. It is not a bluff." It comes as pro-Moscow regional leaders in Kremlin-controlled areas of southern and eastern Ukraine announced referendums on joining Russia. Beatrice Fihn, executive director of the International Campaign to Abolish nuclear weapons, said Putin's threats drastically increase the risk of escalation to a nuclear conflict.

<https://www.cnn.com/2022/09/23/russia-ukraine-war-putins-nuclear-threats-raise-the-risk-of-disaster.html?&qsearchterm=nuclear>

## **IAEA increases projection of nuclear power growth**

*WNN, September 26, 2022*

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) director general Rafael Mariano Grossi says that climate change and the energy crisis has led to more countries seeing nuclear power as a solution, as the IAEA increases its forecast for future nuclear capacity. It is the second successive year that the IAEA has revised up its annual projection - last year's upwards revision was the first since the 2011 Fukushima Daiichi nuclear accident, and this year's figure shows that "we are at a defining moment in the world's transition to a more secure, stable and affordable energy future," Grossi said. Speaking at the opening of the IAEA's general conference in Vienna, Austria, he also said he hopes to continue detailed talks with Ukraine and Russia about a safety and security zone around the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant.

<https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/IAEA-increases-projection-of-nuclear-power-growth>

## Contribute Articles

Indian Pugwash Society welcomes research articles from students, researchers and faculties on Space, Missile, nuclear technology, WMD proliferation, arms control, disarmament, export controls and other related issues. Articles should be crisply written and should address contemporary debates in the policy arena. Manuscripts submitted for the consideration of the Indian Pugwash Society should be original contributions and should not have been submitted for consideration anywhere else. For further assistance, please contact us at : indianpugwashsociety@gmail.com

The Indian Pugwash Society aims to promote the study, discussion, and knowledge of and to stimulate general interest in, and to diffuse knowledge in regards to problems relating on WMD proliferation, arms control, disarmament, space security, export controls, nuclear technology and other related issues. This newsletter is part of the project "Emerging Nuclear Order in Asia: Implications for India" sanctioned to us by Department of Atomic Energy-Board of Research in Nuclear Sciences (DAE-BRNS).

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