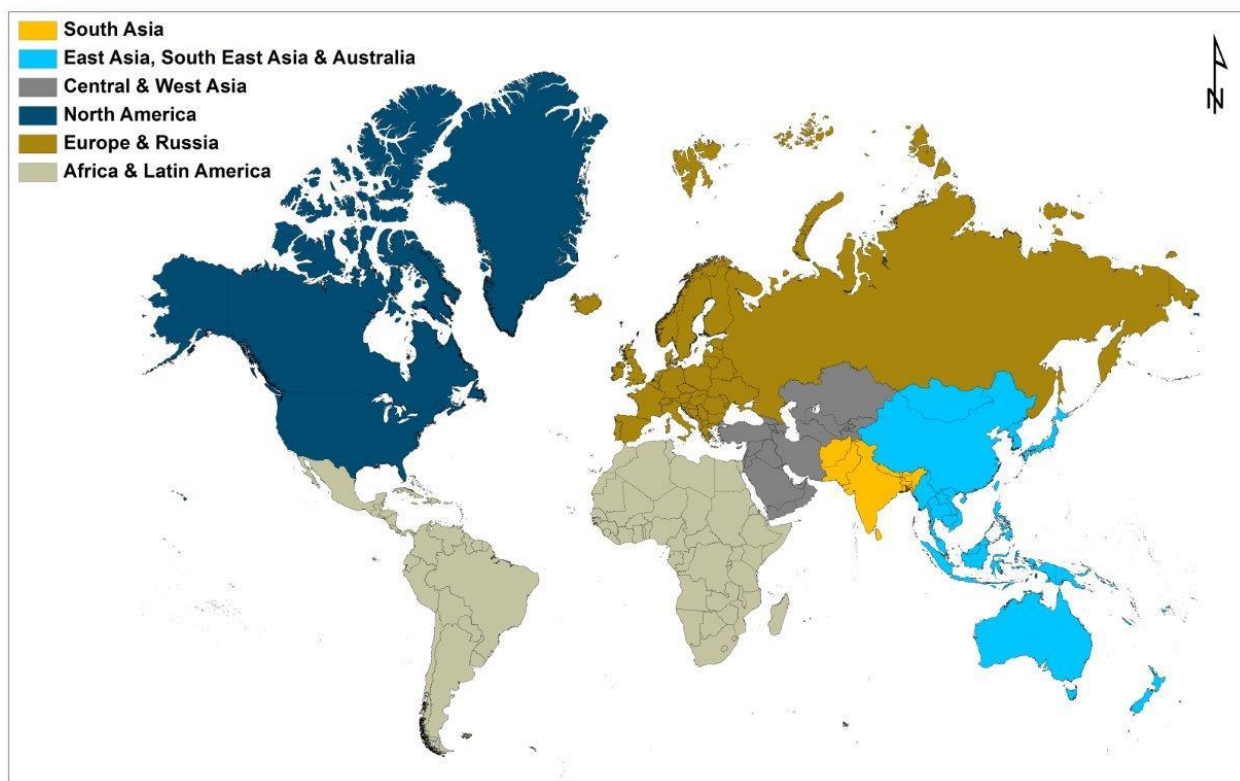




Delhi Policy Group

Advancing India's Rise as a Leading Power

DPG WEEKLY WORLD WATCH



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Delhi Policy Group

Core 5A, 1st Floor, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi- 110003

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ABOUT US

Founded in 1994, the Delhi Policy Group (DPG) is among India's oldest think tanks with its primary focus on strategic and international issues of critical national interest. DPG is a non-partisan institution and is independently funded by a non-profit Trust. Over past decades, DPG has established itself in both domestic and international circles and is widely recognised today among the top security think tanks of India and of Asia's major powers.

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South Asia

India

[With Bilawal present, Jaishankar calls for zero tolerance to terrorism](#)

July 30, 2022, The Times of India

While calling for urgently addressing the energy and food crisis triggered by the Ukraine crisis and Covid-19, foreign minister S Jaishankar said at the SCO foreign ministers' meeting in Tashkent that zero tolerance for terrorism in all its manifestation is a must.

[Indian Navy ships on sail to celebrate 75th Independence Day in six continents](#)

August 2, 2022, The Hindu Businessline

In a first of its kind effort, the Indian Navy warships are on sail to six different continents to celebrate 75th Independence Day as part of "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" and in the process demonstrate sailors' operational potential and diplomatic outreach.

[Why India's indigenously built aircraft carrier INS Vikrant worries China](#)

July 30, 2022, WION

INS Vikrant is set to operate MiG-29K fighter jets, Kamov-31 helicopters and MH-60R multi-role helicopters.

[Jaishankar meets visiting Maldives President: Neighbourhood first](#)

August 2, 2022, The Indian Express

Solih's visit to India from August 1 to 4 comes amid his widening political rift with Mohammed Nasheed, former President of the island nation and the current parliament speaker.

Pakistan

[Another delegation in Kabul for peace talks with TTP](#)

July 31, 2022, Dawn

A 17-member delegation of tribal elders and others reached Kabul to resume talks with the outlawed Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), just as a team of senior religious scholars returned home after negotiations with the TTP leadership. The eight-member ulema's delegation, led by Mufti Taqi Usmani, has returned from Afghanistan after holding meetings with the TTP leadership and Afghan Taliban.

[Six 'militants' killed, soldier martyred in Kech operation](#)

July 30, 2022, Dawn

At least six "armed militants" were killed in a heavy exchange of fire with security forces in the Hoshab area of Kech district during an operation, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said in a statement. A soldier, Hawaldar Hidayatullah, embraced martyrdom while another got injured during the exchange of fire.

[Heavy rains, floods hit Pakistan, Iran, Afghanistan trade](#)

July 30, 2022, Dawn

The trade between Pakistan and Iran was suspended after rains and flash floods washed away Quetta-Zahedan rail track at various points and brought Afghan transit trade to a halt due to flooding at the Pak-Afghan border and adjoining areas.

[Army chief reaches out to US on 'matter of economic security'](#)

July 30, 2022, Dawn

The head of Pakistan's military has reached out to Washington to request help in securing an early disbursement of funds from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), media reports and officials said. In a dispatch from New York, Nikkei Asia reported that "dwindling foreign reserves" have sparked "a scramble in Islamabad to avoid a default."

[Pakistan meets final condition for release of funds: IMF](#)

August 1, 2022, Dawn

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) confirmed that Pakistan had completed all prior actions for the revival of its loan programme but linked the approval of a \$1.18 billion disbursement by its executive board later this month to confirmation of \$4bn in additional inflows from Islamabad's friendly countries.

[Corps commander among six military personnel martyred in copter crash](#)

August 3, 2022, The News

Director-General of the Inter-Services Public Relations Maj-Gen Babar Iftikhar confirmed that all the six military personnel, including Commander 12 Corps Lt-Gen Sarfraz Ali, were martyred in a helicopter crash. DG said the wreckage of the unfortunate Pakistan Army helicopter, which had lost contact with the Air Traffic Control while on a relief operation, was found in Mus Goth, Lasbela.

[China rolls over \\$2bn loan for a year](#)

August 4, 2022, The News

China has rolled over \$2 billion loan in safe deposits for cash-strapped Pakistan's economy amid dwindling foreign exchange reserves. So far in totality, China has rolled over a \$4.3 billion loan, including \$2.3 billion in commercial loans and now \$2 billion in SAFE deposits, making it possible for Islamabad for bridging the external financing gap with a whopping amount of \$35.9 billion for the current fiscal year.

[Gen Bajwa contacts UAE, Saudi Arabia over Pakistan-IMF deal](#)

August 5, 2022, The News

Chief of Army Staff General Qamar Javed Bajwa has contacted the Saudi Arabian and UAE authorities and discussed Pakistan's deal with the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The lender has linked the disbursement of the tranche to the provision of \$4 billion financing gap, which Pakistan seeks to meet from friendly countries.

[World Bank blocks \\$335m loans](#)

August 5, 2022, The Express Tribune

In the middle of a serious economic crisis, the World Bank has cancelled or withheld a \$335 million concessionary loan quota for Pakistan after Islamabad failed to empower the debt office and could not harmonise the sales tax and property valuation procedures.

Afghanistan

[Taliban soldier killed in clash with Iran border guards](#)

August 1, 2022, The News

Clashes broke out between Iranian border guards and Taliban forces, with the Afghan side confirming one of their border officers was killed and another wounded. Both sides accused the other of opening fire first. "There was a clash between the border guards of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Taliban forces", said Meysam Barazandeh, governor of Iran's Hirmand county. He added, "the conflict was brief and has ended."

[US Drone Strike in Afghanistan Kills Al-Qaida Leader](#)

August 2, 2022, VOA

Senior White House officials say they have concluded with "high confidence" that al-Qaida leader Ayman al-Zawahiri was the only one killed in a drone strike

in Kabul, and that they were aware that senior members of the Taliban's Haqqani network knew he was in Afghanistan.

[Taliban claim 'no knowledge' of slain Al Qaeda leader Al-Zawahiri in Afghanistan](#)

August 4, 2022, France 24

The Taliban said they are investigating what they described as "claims" that al-Qaida chief Ayman al-Zawahiri was killed in a U.S. drone strike in the Afghan capital. However, the group insisted in a statement that it "has no knowledge of the arrival and residence" of al-Zawahiri in Afghanistan.

[Afghanistan receives \\$40 mn humanitarian aid in cash, forex reserve soars](#)

August 3, 2022, Business Standard

Afghanistan has received \$40 million in cash as humanitarian aid, the Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB), the country's central bank, said in a statement. "As part of a series of humanitarian aid, the country received 40 million dollars in cash that arrived in Kabul.

Bangladesh

[PM Modi, Sheikh Hasina to inaugurate Maitree Power Project in Bangladesh](#)

July 31, 2022, Hindustan Times

While PM Sheikh Hasina will be able to guide the country to economic progress during present global instability, her biggest threat are the Islamist parties who are out to orchestrate violence against minorities in the republic.

Nepal

[India and Bangladesh seek to sign deal on real-time flood data sharing with Nepal](#)

July 31, 2022, The Kathmandu Post

After the meeting between Nepal and Bangladesh on Thursday, a bilateral meeting between Nepal and India is expected in early September.

Sri Lanka

[Sri Lanka brushes aside Indian concerns on Chinese ship](#)

August 2, 2022, The Economic Times

Sri Lanka on Tuesday brushed aside Indian concerns over a scheduled visit by a Chinese ship, saying it was coming only to refuel and replenish supplies.

East & South East Asia

China

[Taiwan Says China's Military Drills Simulate Attack On Its Main Island](#)

August 6, 2022, NDTV

Taipei's forces "detected multiple batches of Communist planes and ships conducting activities around the Taiwan Strait, some of which crossed the median line."

[China halts military, climate change talks, sanctions Pelosi in 'unprecedented' countermeasures, showcases 'resolve in protecting core interest'](#)

August 5, 2022, Global Times

China on Friday announced eight countermeasures in response to US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's highly provocative visit to the island of Taiwan, including cancelling China-US theater commanders talk, defense policy coordination talks, military maritime security consultative mechanism and suspending cooperation on illegal immigration repatriation, drug control and climate change.

[Crackdown on Chinese firms undercuts India's attractiveness](#)

August 4, 2022, Global Times

The Indian government is looking into cases of alleged tax evasion by three Chinese mobile companies - Oppo, Vivo India and Xiaomi, the Financial Express reported, citing India's Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

[Political parties of various countries strongly oppose Pelosi's visit to China's Taiwan region](#)

August 4, 2022, Xinhua

Political parties of various countries on Wednesday expressed strong opposition to the visit by Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi to China's Taiwan region, saying it severely violated China's sovereignty and territorial integrity, undermined peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait.

Japan

[C. Raja Mohan writes: It's time India and Japan rethink their nuclear policy](#)

July 26, 2022, The Indian Express

C. Raja Mohan writes: Delhi will have to respond, sooner than later, to the dramatic changes in the global environment triggered by the rise and assertion of China. With partners, India and Japan can form credible deterrence.

[Japan to extend additional surveillance drones to Ukraine](#)

August 5, 2022, Japan Today

Japan said Thursday it will provide Ukraine with approximately a dozen camera-equipped surveillance drones to aid the country suffering aggression by Russia.

[Japan remains open to dialogue with China: Hayashi](#)

August 8, 2022, Japan Today

Japanese Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi said on Friday that Japan remains open to dialogue with China as keeping communications intact is more important when ties are strained.

[China cancels bilateral meeting with Japan after G7 Taiwan statement](#)

August 5, 2022, Japan Today

The Chinese foreign ministry said on Thursday that a meeting between China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi and his Japanese counterpart on the sidelines of ASEAN events in Cambodia had been cancelled.

[Japan says five Chinese ballistic missiles landed inside EEZ near Okinawa](#)

August 4, 2022, The Japan Times

Five ballistic missiles launched by China's military during exercises around Taiwan on Thursday were believed to have landed inside Japan's exclusive economic zone for the first time, Defense Minister Nobuo Kishi said.

Korea

[Yoon, Pelosi talk over phone, without meeting in person](#)

August 4, 2022, The Korea Times

President Yoon Suk-yeol spoke with U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi over the phone, Thursday, opting for an alternative that dispelled worries he was snubbing the No. 3 official in the U.S. government by not meeting her in person.

[Seoul wary of 'Pelosi effect' on ties with Beijing](#)

August 3, 2022, The Korea Times

A visit by U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi to South Korea is likely to perplex Seoul further in the handling of its relations with China, which are already at an inflection point due to pending bilateral yet volatile issues.

[Top S. Korean, U.S. diplomats discuss Indo-Pacific strategy](#)

August 5, 2022, The Korea Times

The top diplomats of South Korea and the United States had discussions on regional and global issues, including relations with China, in Phnom Penh.

[S. Korea's first lunar orbiter successfully reaches ballistic lunar transfer trajectory](#)

August 5, 2022, The Korea Herald

South Korea's first lunar orbiter Danuri launched into space on Friday morning, and successfully reached the ballistic lunar transfer trajectory, a path that will take it toward the moon, the Ministry of Science and ICT said.

[FM calls for inter-Korean dialogue during brief encounter with North's envoy at ASEAN meetings](#)

August 6, 2022, The Korea Herald

South Korean Foreign Minister Park Jin has called for an unconditional dialogue between the two Koreas during his brief exchange with a North Korean envoy participating in the ASEAN Regional Forum in Phnom Penh, Seoul officials said.

Southeast Asia

[Myanmar generals banned from ASEAN until peace plan progress](#)

August 6, 2022, Al Jazeera

Foreign ministers expressed disappointment at Myanmar military administration's failure to implement crisis plan agreed upon in April 2021.

[At ASEAN-India foreign ministers' meeting, focus on elevating cooperation](#)

August 5, 2022, Hindustan Times

The meeting also took forward discussions held at the special ASEAN-India foreign ministers' meeting hosted by India in June to commemorate the 30th anniversary of relations between the two sides.

[Strong arguments over Taiwan at lively ASEAN meeting](#)

August 8, 2022, The Straits Times

The chair of this week's Asean meetings said on Saturday (Aug 6) that discussions among foreign ministers over Taiwan tensions were lively and included some strong arguments, but it was better disputes were handled with words.

Central & West Asia

Central Asia

[SCO Remains a Space For Stability and Development, Says Kazakh Foreign Minister in Tashkent](#)

July 29, 2022, The Astana Times

Kazakhstan intends to continue cooperation with the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) member states in all areas, said Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan Mukhtar Tileuberdi at the SCO Foreign Ministers Council meeting on July 29.

[Uzbekistan: Authorities close consultation on constitutional reform](#)

August 1, 2022, Eurasianet

Uzbekistan has closed the public consultation period for a planned overhaul of the constitution – a process that would have ended in early July but for a bout of unrest in the autonomous republic of Karakalpakstan.

[Pope Francis To Visit Kazakhstan In September, Expected To Meet With Russian Orthodox Patriarch Kirill](#)

August 1, 2022, RFE/RL

Pope Francis will visit Kazakhstan in September to attend an event regularly organised by the Central Asian nation's authorities that will also be attended by the Russian Orthodox Patriarch Kirill.

[Chinese FM offers reassurance on whirlwind tour of Central Asia](#)

August 1, 2022, Eurasianet

China is a dependable, hands-off and generous partner when the times are hard. That was, in essence, the message that Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi had for his hosts during a tour of Central Asia this week.

[Probe Launched After Notorious Kyrgyz Kingpin Killed While In Custody](#)

August 1, 2022, RFE/RL

Kyrgyz authorities say they have launched a probe into the death while in custody of a notorious criminal boss who has been linked to another infamous kingpin for whom the United States has offered a \$1 million reward.

[Uzbekistan confirms plan to sign deal on new railroad from China](#)

August 3, 2022, Eurasianet

Tashkent has confirmed plans to sign an agreement on the construction of a railroad linking China with Uzbekistan via Kyrgyzstan, which has been on the table for a quarter of a century.

[Kazakhstan "separatists" sentenced amid poisonous Kremlin rhetoric](#)

August 4, 2022, Eurasianet

A married couple in northern Kazakhstan have been sentenced to five years' imprisonment after calling for Russia to absorb their region, a local court announced the day after Russia's ex-president appeared to question Kazakh sovereignty.

West Asia

[US, Iran to Resume Nuclear Talks; U.S. Expectations 'in check'](#)

August 3, 2022, Reuters

Top Iranian and U.S. officials will resume talks in Vienna this week on reviving the 2015 nuclear pact, officials from both countries said, though they played down chances of a breakthrough and placed the onus on each other to compromise.

[Biden Administration Approves Potential Multibillion-dollar Arms Sales to Saudi Arabia and UAE](#)

August 2, 2022, CNN

The Biden administration approved and notified Congress of possible multibillion-dollar weapons sales to both Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

[OPEC+ Agrees to Tiny Oil Output Rise in Setback for Biden](#)

August 3, 2022, Reuters

OPEC+ is set to raise its oil output goal by 100,000 barrels per day, an amount analysts said was a setback to U.S. President Joe Biden after his trip to Saudi Arabia to ask the producer group's leader to pump more to help the United States and the global economy.

[U.S. Eyes Sanctions Against Global Network It Believes is Shipping Iranian Oil](#)

July 31, 2022, The Wall Street Journal

The U.S. is considering sanctions that would target a United Arab Emirates-based businessman and a network of companies suspected of helping export

Iran's oil, part of a broader effort to escalate diplomatic pressure on Tehran as U.S. officials push to reach a deal on Iran's nuclear program.

[US Calls Out Iran Supreme Leader Khamenei for Claiming West Controlled by 'Zionist Merchants'](#)

July 29, 2022, The Times of Israel

Washington's antisemitism monitor tore into Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei after he tweeted that Western powers are a mafia controlled by "Zionist merchants."

[President Raisi Tells Xi: Iran Fully Backs 'One China' Policy against 'Destructive' US Unilateralism](#)

July 29, 2022, Press TV (Iran)

"Support for the One China policy is a definite and principled policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran," Raeisi said in an hour-long phone conversation with Chinese President Xi Jinping.

[Yemen Truce Extension Likely But 'War is Coming' Again, Southern Official Says](#)

July 29, 2022, Reuters

Yemen's warring parties are likely to agree on an extension of a truce but all sides are warily preparing for fresh hostilities, an official from southern Yemen's political leadership said.

United States

United States

[Team Biden to Unveil New U.S. Africa Strategy](#)

August 5, 2022, Foreign Policy

The strategy seeks to grapple with China's growing influence in Africa without painting African countries as geopolitical pawns.

[US: Biden Admin Delays Minuteman III Missile Test Amid Tensions Over Taiwan, Says Report](#)

August 4, 2022, News 18

The Biden administration postponed a routine test launch of an Air Force Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile to avoid escalating tensions with Beijing amid China's show of force near Taiwan.

[Nancy Pelosi tells Taiwan US commitment to democracy is 'ironclad'](#)

August 4, 2022, Business Standard

After a trip that drew China's wrath, a defiant Nancy Pelosi concluded her visit to Taiwan on Wednesday with a pledge that the American commitment to democracy remains ironclad.

[N Korea calls Pelosi 'destroyer of international peace' over Taiwan visit](#)

August 6, 2022, Business Standard

North Korea called US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi the worst destroyer of international peace and stability, accusing her of inciting anti-North Korea sentiment and enraging China.

[China Punishes Taiwan After US Speaker Nancy Pelosi's Visit](#)

August 3, 2022, NDTV

The trip by Pelosi, the highest-profile elected US official to visit Taiwan in 25 years, has ignited a diplomatic firestorm.

Europe & Russia

Europe

[Lithuania only EU state to back Pelosi on Taiwan](#)

August 3, 2022, EU Observer

Lithuania has become the only EU country to publicly endorse a controversial US visit to Taiwan by House speaker Nancy Pelosi.

[China Military Drills Around Taiwan Unjustified, Says EU Diplomatic Chief](#)

August 4, 2022, NDTV

"There is no justification to use a visit as pretext for aggressive military activity in the Taiwan Strait," EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs said.

[China summons EU, Japanese envoys over G7 statement on Taiwan](#)

August 5, 2022, Andolou Agency

Beijing lodges protest, calls G7 foreign ministers' statement 'a blatant political provocation'

[China summons European diplomats over statement on Taiwan](#)

August 5, 2022, Euro News

China summoned European diplomats in the country to protest statements issued by the Group of Seven nations and the EU criticising Chinese military exercises surrounding Taiwan.

Russia

[Japan's calls to drop 'Vostok' exercise near Kuril Islands pointless — Russian envoy](#)

July 29, 2022, TASS News Agency

Japan's demarches regarding Russia's 'Vostok 2022' military exercise were rejected, because they are ungrounded and pointless, Russian Ambassador to Japan Mikhail Galuzin said on Russian TV.

[Russia Suspends Gas Supplies to Latvia](#)

July 30, 2022, The Moscow Times

Russian energy giant Gazprom suspended gas supplies to Latvia following tensions between Moscow and the West over the conflict in Ukraine and sweeping European and U.S. sanctions against Russia.

[Russia Adopts Updated Maritime Doctrine; Lists U.S., NATO As Primary Threats](#)

July 31, 2022, RFE/RL

Russian President Vladimir Putin has signed a decree approving an updated maritime doctrine that outlines the country's coastal borders and lists NATO and the United States as Russia's main threats.

[Putin Reveals Imminent Delivery Of New Hypersonic Missiles](#)

July 31, 2022, Russia Today

Russia's naval fleet will start receiving the newest Zircon hypersonic anti-ship cruise missiles "in the coming months," President Vladimir Putin has said.

[Russia Accuses 'Radical' Kosovo of Displacing Serbs in Border Row](#)

August 1, 2022, The Moscow Times

Russia has accused "radical" Kosovo of attempting to displace Serbs from the north of the Balkan country with new border rules that have renewed tensions.

[Indian business interested in Russian market – Russia's ambassador](#)

August 2, 2022, TASS News Agency

Considering the exit of a number of Western corporations from Russia, Indian business is particularly interested in the Russian market, Russian Ambassador to New Delhi Denis Alipov said in an interview.

[New Russian Foreign Policy Priority Outlined](#)

August 3, 2022, Russia Today

The promotion of free trade and regional integration across greater Eurasia may become a priority for Russian foreign policy for years to come, says Aleksey Drobinin, who is a senior strategist at the Russian Foreign Ministry.

[Boom To Bust: Putin Sacrifices Gazprom's Lucrative European Market, 'Geopolitical Heft' In War With Ukraine](#)

August 4, 2022, RFE/RL

Russian President Vladimir Putin's decision to launch a large-scale assault on Ukraine – and his moves to cut gas exports to the European Union over its support for Kyiv following the February 24 invasion -- have cost Gazprom a lucrative future on the continent.

[Russia Says 'Ready' to Discuss Prisoner Exchange With U.S.](#)

August 5, 2022, The Moscow Times

Russia is "ready" to discuss a prisoner swap with Washington at the presidential level, its foreign minister said a day after the drug conviction of U.S. basketball star Brittney Griner.

Africa & Latin America

Africa

[US Secretary of State Blinken to visit Africa as tension with China and Russia intensifies](#)

August 5, 2022, Brookings

Secretary of State Antony Blinken and his team are in sub-Saharan Africa from August 7 to 12, paying visits to three countries: South Africa, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), and Rwanda.

[Sudan condemns Chadian group's killing of 18](#)

August 6, 2022, Digital Journal

Sudan's foreign ministry on Saturday condemned the killing of 18 Sudanese people during an attack by an armed group from Chad, state media reported.

Latin America

[Venezuela and Colombia agree to re-establish diplomatic ties](#)

July 28, 2022, Al Jazeera

Countries will name new ambassadors when Colombia's President-elect Gustavo Petro takes office next month, officials say .Venezuela and Colombia agreed to re-establish diplomatic ties.

[How China Took Latin America](#)

July 31,2022, Wall Street Journal

The Inter-American Development Bank opened doors all over the region for Beijing.

[Explained: What is in Chile's proposed new constitution?](#)

July 30, 2022, The Indian Express

The first time in Chile's history a constitution was drafted democratically. The proposed new text was written by a 154-member body elected through a popular vote.

[Argentina's new economic minister promises to stop printing money](#)

August 4, 2022, Al Jazeera

Printing money fuels inflation which is now over 60 percent in Argentina and expected to reach 90 percent by year end.

[US seeks possession of Venezuelan 747 grounded in Argentina](#)

August 3, 2022, AP News

The U.S. Justice Department said Tuesday it is seeking possession of a Venezuelan cargo jet that has been grounded in Argentina since early June because it was previously owned by an Iranian airline that allegedly has ties to terror groups.



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India
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