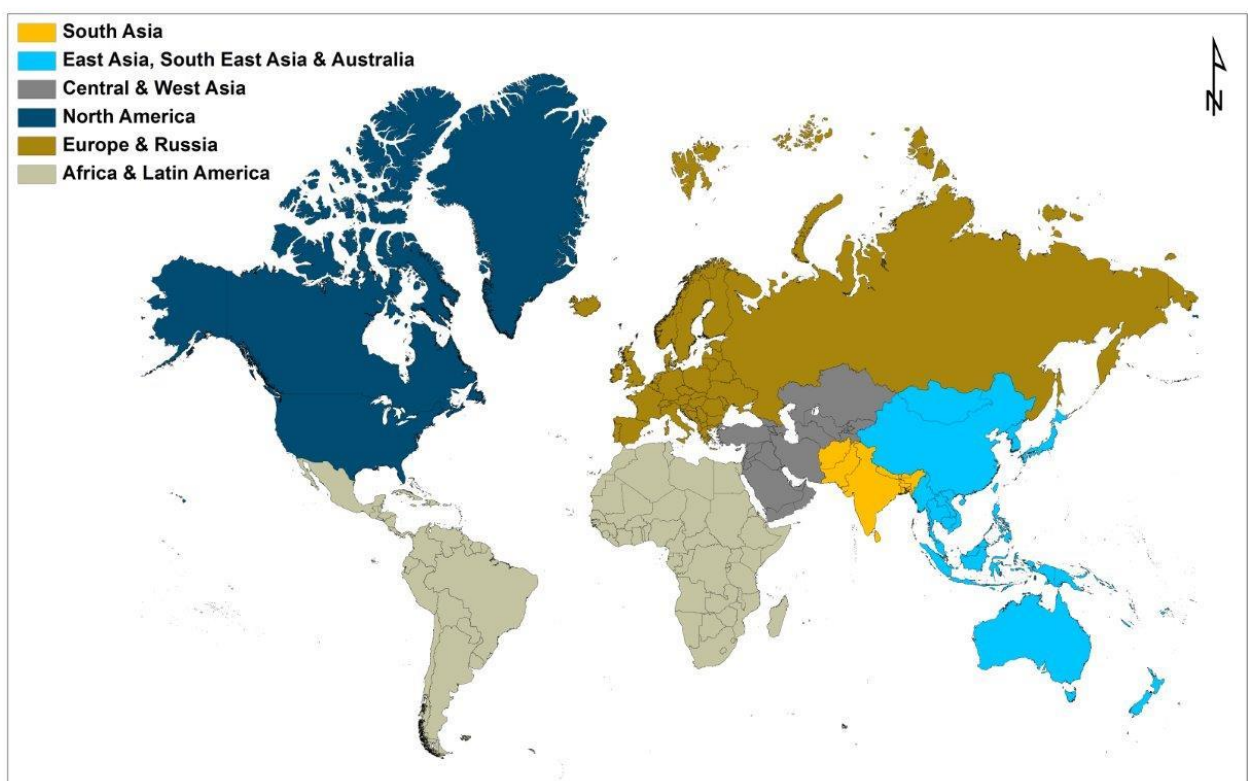




Delhi Policy Group

DPG WEEKLY WORLD WATCH



Volume III, Issue 15 | APRIL 12, 2019



DPG WEEKLY WORLD WATCH

Volume 3, Issue 15

ABOUT US

Founded in 1994, the Delhi Policy Group is among India's oldest independent think tanks with its primary focus on international and strategic issues of critical national interest. Over the past decades, the Delhi Policy Group has established itself in both domestic and international circles, particularly in the area of national security.

In keeping with India's increasing global profile as a leading power and the accompanying dynamism of India's foreign and security policy, the Delhi Policy Group has expanded its focus areas to include India's broader regional and global role; India's initiatives to strengthen its strategic periphery; India's political, security and connectivity challenges and policies across the Indo-Pacific; and the strategic partnerships that advance India's rise. To support these goals, the DPG undertakes research, publishes policy reports and organises conferences on strategic and geo-political, geo-economic, and defence and security issues.

DPG WEEKLY WORLD WATCH

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South Asia

India

[Arun Jaitley discusses India's economic reforms with investors in US](#)

April 11, 2019, The Economic Times

Finance Minister Arun Jaitley has discussed India's economic reforms and outlook for the future as he addressed investors here.

[Lok Sabha elections: BJP vows tax cuts, kisan sops, hard line on culture, nationalism, security](#)

April 9, 2019, The Times of India

A strong focus on national security, an ambitious expansion of income support to all farmers for small and marginal farmers and traders, Rs 10 lakh accident insurance for traders under GST and a promise of lower taxes and Rs 100 lakh crore investment in infrastructure are highlights of the BJP manifesto.

[India planning new action, claims Pakistan; MEA calls it 'war hysteria'](#)

April 8, 2019, The Indian Express

At a press conference in his home town of Multan, Pakistan's Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi said the Pakistani government had "reliable intelligence that India is devising a new plan".

[Not aware of any audit of F-16s in Pakistan, says Pentagon](#)

April 7, 2019, The Times of India

Claims and counterclaims continue to fly over India's insistence that it shot down an F-16 during its skirmish in Pakistan following New Delhi's retaliatory strike on Balakot.

[Intercepts, Awacs photos: IAF underlines it got Pakistan F-16](#)

April 6, 2019, The Indian Express

The camera and radar images, which prove that the F-16 was shot down, have been lost with the Mig-21 Bison aircraft — piloted by Wing Commander Abhinandan — which crashed on the Pak side of the LoC, officials said.

[For the dustbin of history](#)

April 6, 2019, The Indian Express

Article 35A is manifestly unconstitutional. It is detrimental to the integration of the Kashmiri people with the rest of India. Sixty-five years after its enactment, the time is ripe to consign the Article to the dustbins of history.

[IAF refutes US media report, reiterates it shot down Pak F-16 jet in aerial combat](#)

April 5, 2019, The Indian Express

The Foreign Policy Magazine reported that two senior US defense officials with direct knowledge of the situation informed it that American personnel recently counted Islamabad's F-16s and found none of the planes missing.

Pakistan

[Inside Balakot madressah where India said it killed 'terrorists'](#)

April 12, 2019, DAWN

A madressah on a remote hilltop in a northeastern region of Pakistan that was the target of an Indian air strike just over six weeks ago has limped back to normality.

[No use for armed militias anymore: Imran Khan](#)

April 10, 2019, Afghanistan Times

Pakistan's Prime Minister Imran Khan said that his country will no longer allow armed militias to operate in his country, saying there is no use for these groups anymore.

[China may give special \\$1b market access to Pakistan after June: Dawood](#)

April 11, 2019, The Nation

Pakistan and China are currently holding parleys in Beijing to finalise second phase of China-Pakistan free trade agreement

[Pakistan, China to amend railways ML-1 agreement](#)

April 11, 2019, Daily Times

It has been agreed between Pakistan and China to revisit an agreement that underpins the ML-1 project of the Pakistan Railway. The initiative has been taken to reduce the construction time of the strategically important scheme, and to complete it in three phases.

[Pakistan, China reject criticism against CPEC](#)

April 9, 2019, Pakistan Today

Pakistan and China rejected criticism against the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a mega multibillion-dollar infrastructure project under Beijing's global Belt and Road Initiative.

[Pakistan seeks apology from Britain over Jallianwala massacre, 1943 Bengal famine](#)

April 12, 2019, DAWN

Pakistan has demanded a formal apology from Britain over the 1919 Jallianwala Bagh massacre and the Bengal famine of 1943 during World War II.

[Next year and a half will be difficult for country's economy: Hammad Azhar](#)

April 11, 2019, DAWN

Minister for Revenue Hammad Azhar reiterated that the next year and a half will prove to be a difficult period for the country's economy.

[US reviewing its assistance to Pakistan: Top Trump admin official](#)

April 12, 2019, Business Standard

The relations between Pakistan and the US nosedived after Trump last year accused Islamabad of giving nothing to Washington but "lies and deceit" and providing "safe haven" to terrorists.

[Pakistan releases 100 Indian fishermen](#)

April 12, 2019, Business Standard

A Hundred Indian fishermen holed up in Pakistani jail arrived here after being released through Attari-Wagah border earlier this week.

Afghanistan

[Taliban rejects participation in Loya Jirga for peace](#)

April 10, 2019, Afghanistan Times

The Taliban group on Wednesday rejected participation in the forthcoming Loya Jirga for Peace slated for April 29, terming it a symbolic Jirga aimed at prolonging Kabul administration stay in power.

[Afghan-Taliban meet in Doha delayed for 19th](#)

April 11, 2019, The Nation

The meeting between Afghan politicians and the Taliban which was initially scheduled for April 14 in Qatar was postponed to April 19 as per the decision of the newly-established Reconciliation Leadership Council – which is chaired by President Ashraf Ghani, the Presidential Palace confirmed in a statement.

[Afghanistan Welcomes EU's Support for Peace Process](#)

April 10, 2019, Daily Outlook Afghanistan

President Ashraf Ghani on Tuesday welcomed the EU's readiness to support the Afghan peace process and its implementation.

[Washington-Tehran worse relation's impact on Afghanistan](#)

April 9, 2019, Afghanistan Times

Parliamentarians and political analysts express concerns over the fresh escalation of Iran-US tensions as a new threat for Afghanistan.

[US House urges briefing by Khalilzad on Afghan Peace](#)

April 11, 2019, The Kabul Times

The Foreign Affairs Committee of the US House of Representatives in a letter has called for a briefing by the Special Representative for Afghanistan Reconciliation Zalmay Khalilzad, who left Kabul on Sunday after a series of talks with Afghan leaders, politicians and civil society members.

Bangladesh

[Bangladeshi naval ship visits Vietnam](#)

April 8, 2019, Xinhua Net

Guided missile corvette BNS Prottoy of the Bangladesh Navy arrived in here on Monday, beginning its four-day friendship visit to the city.

[Bangladesh keen to sign free trade agreement with South American bloc](#)

April 11, 2019, The Daily Star

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Md Shahriar Alam expressed keen interest to sign Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with South American trade bloc MERCOSUR at an early date to tap the under-exploited South American market.

[US issues another travel advisory for Bangladesh within 7 days](#)

April 11, 2019, Dhaka Tribune

The USA has issued yet another travel advisory, within seven days of the previous alert, warning its nationals to exercise increased caution while travelling across Bangladesh.

[Chinese govt to play mediator in sending back Rohingyas refugees from Bangladesh to Myanmar](#)

April 9, 2019, The Economic Times

In a significant development, the Chinese Communist Party (CPC) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the ruling Bangladesh Awami League last week. It is noteworthy that after meeting Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, the visiting CPC Central Committee international development minister Song Tao confirmed that the discussions included Chinese mediation in ensuring repatriation of the Rohingya refugees from Bangladesh.

Nepal

[Nepal, China to pen transit trade pact protocol during president's Beijing visit](#)

April 10, 2019, The Himalayan Times

Nepal and China are preparing to formally sign the protocol of the Nepal-China Transit Transport Agreement during President Bidhya Devi Bhandari's upcoming visit to the northern neighbour to attend the second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation at the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jinping.

[China-donated school handed over to Nepal as part of earthquake reconstruction effort](#)

April 7, 2019, Global Times

The school officially resumed operation in 2018, but the formal handover was not carried out until nearly one year later, during which time the Chinese side continuously improved and replenished educational facilities, Cao Guofeng, the Chief Executive Officer of the Nepal-China Kailash Culture Association, a group responsible for the supervision of the whole project, told the Global Times.

[Nepal Army capable to deal with security threats: PM](#)

April 11, 2019, The Himalayan Times

Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli has lauded Nepal Army for its capability to deal with security challenges and various possible security threats in the country.

[Canada and Nepal want to up trade, tourism and investment](#)

April 7, 2019, Nepali Times

The first time many Nepalis heard about Nepal and Canada working together was when the Taliban massacred 13 Nepali security personnel guarding the Canadian Embassy in Kabul in 2016.

Bhutan

[Borders close for Indian elections](#)

April 11, 2019, Kuensel Online

People from across the border who work in Phuentsholing and Bhutanese who live across the border left the town. Within an hour, the country's commercial hub was less noisy and emptier.

[How Can Bhutan Brand Itself Internationally? Singapore Expert Gives Take On Nation Branding](#)

April 11, 2019, Daily Bhutan

Singaporean author and consultant Mr Koh Buck Song gave his perspectives on how Bhutan can advance itself with nation branding.

Sri Lanka

[Sri Lanka's former defence chief accused of torture and killing after being served lawsuit in US grocery parking lot](#)

April 10, 2019, Independent

Sri Lanka's former defence chief accused of torture and killing after being served lawsuit in US grocery parking lot

[Sri Lanka builds fastest railway line first time after independence with China's assistance](#)

April 10, 2019, Business Today

The project was financed by the Export-Import Bank of China (China Exim Bank) and the contract was awarded to the China National Machinery Import and Export Corporation.

[Myanmar, Sri Lanka vow to deepen bilateral cooperation in various sectors](#)

April 12, 2019, Xinhua Net

Myanmar and Sri Lanka have vowed to further strengthen bilateral relations and deepen bilateral cooperation in various sectors, according to Myanmar's Foreign Minister.

[India, Sri Lanka agree for greater defence cooperation](#)

April 8, 2019, The Economic Times

India and Sri Lanka Monday agreed to enhance bilateral cooperation in the defence sector, including training Sri Lankan military personnel, as foreign secretary Sanjay Mitra called on President Maithripala Sirisena.

[EU urges Sri Lanka not to end moratorium on death penalty](#)

April 8, 2019, Business Standard

The European Union is urging Sri Lanka not to end its four-decade moratorium on the death penalty, saying capital punishment is not an effective deterrent to counter illicit drugs and related crimes.

Maldives

[MDP's massive victory in Maldives boosts Delhi's strategic outreach in Indian Ocean](#)

April 8, 2019, The Economic Times

Modi announced a \$1.4 billion financial assistance package for the Maldives, which under Yameen, was closing access across sectors for India.

[Maldives ruling party pledges probe into Chinese deals after landslide win](#)

April 10, 2019, Reuters

Maldives former president Mohamed Nasheed, whose party won a landslide in the archipelago's parliamentary election, on Tuesday pledged to conduct a thorough probe into deals with China.

East & South East Asia

China

[China played constructive role in easing recent tension between India and Pakistan: Envoy](#)

April 10, 2019, The Economic Times

The Chinese envoy touched upon a range of issues, including contentious ones, in a write-up published in a Chinese embassy journal titled China-India Review.

[China able to handle complex trade ties with US](#)

April 11, 2019, Global Times

The US Commerce Department announced Wednesday that 37 Chinese companies and schools are listed as "unverified" entities which US companies should treat with caution.

[China opposes US military in Taiwan region](#)

April 10, 2019, China Daily

China resolutely opposes the US having any official or military interactions with the Taiwan region, a mainland spokesman said.

[Indian election won't affect ties with China](#)

April 10, 2019, Global Times

With about 900 million voters eligible to cast a ballot, the Indian elections kick off on Thursday. While the final result will be delivered one month later, both Chinese and Indian experts told the Global Times on Wednesday that Sino-Indian ties will not be influenced, no matter who wins the election.

[China slams Australia's untenable charges about Falun Gong](#)

April 11, 2019, Global Times

China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs slammed some Australian media which have been fabricating stories about "China interfering in Australia's internal affairs" and colluding with the Falun Gong cult to make up evidence.

[China ready to better align BRI with Slovenia's development strategy: Li](#)

April 12, 2019, Global Times

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang said here that China is willing to better align the Belt and Road Initiative with the development strategy of Slovenia.

[China, Slovakia agree to further cooperation, ties](#)

April 12, 2019, Xinhua Net

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang and Slovak Prime Minister Peter Pellegrini said that the two countries are ready to further promote cooperation and enhance bilateral ties.

[Chinese envoy calls for efforts to boost women's participation in peacekeeping](#)

April 12, 2019, Xinhua Net

A Chinese envoy asked for more efforts from the international community to boost women's participation in peacekeeping.

[Bank of China issues bonds for Belt and Road Initiative: report](#)

April 12, 2019, Xinhua Net

Bank of China (BOC), one of the country's major commercial lenders, has issued 3.8 billion U.S. dollars worth of multi-currency bonds to raise low-cost funding for medium and long-term projects related to the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), China Daily reported.

Japan

[In post-INF Treaty world, China, U.S. risk arms escalation](#)

April 12, 2019, The Asahi Shimbun

Dunhuang in northwest China was a major stop on the ancient Silk Road, but U.S. military experts at first thought they were observing a different sort of mirage rising in the Gobi Desert about 100 kilometers to the west.

[South Korea WTO appeal succeeds in Japanese Fukushima food dispute](#)

April 12, 2019, The Asahi Shimbun,

South Korea won the bulk of its appeal on Thursday in a dispute at the World Trade Organization over import bans and testing requirements it had imposed on Japanese seafood in the wake of the 2011 Fukushima nuclear disaster.

[Back-to-back resignations deal big blow to Abe administration](#)

April 11, 2019, The Asahi Shimbun

Not even Prime Minister Shinzo Abe could save Yoshitaka Sakurada this time and retain him in the post of Olympic minister.

[Japan extending sanctions against North Korea for two more years](#)

April 10, 2019, The Asahi Shimbun

Japan will extend its sanctions against North Korea for an additional two years because Pyongyang has taken no concrete action toward abandoning its nuclear and missile development programs, the government said.

[F-35 stealth fighter that crashed off Japan didn't send distress signal before Pacific plunge](#)

April 11, 2019, The Japan Times

An F-35A stealth fighter that crashed in the Pacific during an exercise this week did not send an emergency alert, the Air Self-Defense Force said Thursday.

[JCG vessel to stop at China-linked port / Tour to include 2 countries wooed by Belt and Road Initiative](#)

April 8, 2019, The Yomiuri Shimbun

A Japan Coast Guard training vessel carrying officer candidates is planning port calls in Greece and Sri Lanka, two nations involved in China's "Belt and Road Initiative" to build a giant economic bloc.

Korea

[Trump, Moon look for way to curb N. Korea nukes](#)

The Yomiuri Shimbun, April 12, 2019

U.S. President Donald Trump and South Korea's Moon Jae-in agreed Thursday on the importance of nuclear talks with North Korea, but the two leaders aren't completely aligned on whether sanctions will pressure Kim Jong Un to give up his nuclear weapons or drive him away from the negotiating table.

[Korea's F-35A procurement unaffected by crash in Japan: ministry](#)

April 11, 2019, The Korea Herald

Following the recent crash of an F-35A in Japan, countries who also deploy the stealth fighter jet manufactured by US-based Lockheed Martin have raised concerns regarding its safety and functioning.

[Parties give mixed responses to Moon-Trump summit outcome](#)

April 12, 2019, The Korea Herald

Rival political parties gave mixed assessments of the latest summit between South Korea and the United States Friday, with the ruling Democratic Party hailing the meeting for reaffirming the strong alliance between the two countries.

[Japanese military attache visits S. Korea's defense ministry: source](#)

April 11, 2019, The Korea Herald

A Japanese military attaché visited South Korea's defense ministry on Thursday to discuss the agenda for annual trilateral security talks among Seoul, Washington and Tokyo slated for next month, a ministry official said.

[NK leader re-elected as chairman of State Affairs Commission](#)

April 12, 2019, The Korea Herald

North Korean leader Kim Jong-un has been re-elected as chairman of the State Affairs Commission, the communist state's highest decision-making body, in a key parliamentary meeting, state media reported Friday.

[China has important role in denuclearization, peace on Korean Peninsula: new envoy](#)

April 7, 2019, The Korea Times

Jang Ha-sung, Seoul's new ambassador to Beijing, said Sunday that China has a critical role to play in realizing denuclearization and peace on the Korean Peninsula.

Southeast Asia

[United States will be the Philippines' only military ally, foreign chief Teodoro Locsin says amid South China Sea tensions](#)

April 7, 2019, South China Morning Post

The United States will remain the Philippines' only military ally, Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr said, amid an increased Chinese presence near a disputed island in the South China Sea.

[Maldives president seeks to investigate China deals that left the country with debts worth US\\$3 billion](#)

April 5, 2019, South China Morning Post

The Maldives heads for a parliamentary election on Saturday with President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih seeking a majority for his party to investigate debts to China, which it fears could run as high as US\$3 billion and risk sinking the economy.

[\\$14.5b deal signed with China on Malaysia's East Coast Rail Link: Mahathir's office](#)

April 5, 2019, The Straits Times

Malaysia Rail Link SdnBhd and China Communications Construction Company Ltd have signed a supplementary agreement that will pave the way for the resumption of the East Coast Rail Link (ECRL) project.

[US warship in drill near disputed islands](#)

April 11, 2019, The Straits Times

A United States warship laden with high-tech fighter planes took centre stage in key war games in the Philippines yesterday, brandishing military might as fresh tensions bubble in the contentious South China Sea.

Central & West Asia

[Turkmenistan: Rebuilding bridges](#)

April 10, 2019, Central Asia News.net

The myth of Turkmenistan's economic buoyancy has been readily abetted over the years by international financial institutions. Even they are starting to revise their story, albeit slightly.

[In 'Great Game Lite,' Russia and China compete for influence in Kyrgyzstan](#)

April 12, 2019, The Times of Central Asia

Geopolitically, Kyrgyzstan is in between Russia and China, and the Central Asian nation has been maneuvering to take a maximum advantage of its two great neighbors' interest in this small but strategically located country.

[Uzbekistan and Austria expand economic cooperation](#)

April 12, 2019, The Times of Central Asia

Tashkent hosted a regular meeting of Uzbekistan–Austria Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation on April 9, the Jahon information agency reported.

[Iran, Kazakhstan Hold 16th Round of Political Talks in Tehran](#)

April 10, 2019, Central Asian News.net

The 16th round of political consultations between deputy foreign ministers of Iran and Kazakhstan was on Wednesday, April 21, in Tehran.

[Israeli spacecraft Beresheet reaches moon but landing unsuccessful](#)

April 12, 2019, Reuters

The Israeli spacecraft Beresheet reached the moon on Thursday but its planned controlled, or "soft", landing was unsuccessful, the support team said.

[The Specter of Isis lingers In Syria](#)

April 12, 2019, The Jerusalem Post

Territorial ISIS is gone, but that hardly means that the terrorist group is fully vanquished.

[With all votes counted, Netanyahu's election win confirmed; New Right misses out](#)

April 12, 2019, The times of Israel

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was confirmed as the big winner of Israel's general elections on Thursday night, when the Central Elections Committee published the completed tallies of Tuesday's election, a full 60 hours after the polling stations closed.

[Iran Welcomes Egypt's 'Withdrawal' from Arab NATO](#)

April 12, 2019, Iran Front Page

Iran's Foreign Ministry Spokesman Bahram Gassemi says Tehran welcomes reports that Egypt has withdrawn from being a member of a NATO-style Arab alliance.

[Russia And Turkey are Now Deeply entwined On Trade And Defense](#)

April 11, 2019, The Jerusalem Post

On April 8, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan met in Moscow. The meeting comes as Russia is seeking to increase trade with Turkey, and Ankara has agreed to acquire Russia's S-400 air defense system.

[Russia to produce some S-400 components in Turkey](#)

April 12, 2019, Daily Sabah

Russia's presidential spokesperson Dmitry Peskov said Thursday that the country could produce some components of the S-400 air defense system in Turkey, with an agreement between Ankara and Moscow.

[Saudi Led Coalition strikes Yemen's Capital](#)

April 10, 2019, The Jerusalem Post

The Saudi-led coalition carried out air strikes in Yemen against two Houthi targets in Sanaa, the capital, early on Wednesday, its spokesman said.

United States

[Trump says sanctions on North Korea to stay in place](#)

April 12, 2019, Al Jazeera

US President Donald Trump and South Korea's Moon Jae-in agreed on Thursday on the importance of nuclear talks with North Korea, but the two leaders aren't completely aligned on whether sanctions would pressure Kim Jong Un to give up his nuclear weapons or drive him away from the negotiating table.

[U.S. Denies Entry To Leader Of Movement To Boycott Israel](#)

April 11, 2019, NPR

The U.S. government has denied entry to Palestinian activist Omar Barghouti, co-founder of the BDS movement, which urges boycott, divestment and sanctions to pressure Israel on security and settlement policies in the West Bank.

[US, China agree on trade deal enforcement](#)

April 12, 2019, Straits Times

The United States and China have largely agreed on a mechanism to police any trade agreement they reach, including establishing new enforcement offices, US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin has said.

[U.S. Readies \\$11 Billion in Tariffs on E.U.](#)

April 9, 2019, The New York Times

The United States and the European Union are preparing to impose tit-for-tat tariffs on each other's products, the latest escalation in a 14-year fight over government aid given to Boeing and European rival Airbus.

[Julian Assange: Wikileaks co-founder arrested in London](#)

April 12, 2019, BBC News

Assange took refuge in the embassy in 2012 to avoid extradition to Sweden over a sexual assault case that has since been dropped.

[Julian Assange's charges are a direct assault on press freedom, experts warn](#)

April 12, 2019, The Guardian

The charge sheet accusing Julian Assange of engaging in criminal theft of US state secrets contains a direct assault on fundamental press freedoms and could have a devastating effect on the basic acts of journalism, leading first amendment scholars and advocacy groups have warned.

[Julian Assange should not be extradited to US - Jeremy Corbyn](#)

April 12, 2019, BBC News

Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn has said the UK government should not extradite Julian Assange to the US, where he faces a computer hacking charge.

Europe & Russia

[Brexit: UK and EU agree delay to 31 October](#)

April 11 2019, BBC

The new deadline - 31 October - averts the prospect of the UK having to leave the EU without a deal on Friday, as MPs are still deadlocked over a deal.

[UK stands down 6,000 no-deal Brexit staff - after spending £1.5bn](#)

April 11, 2019, The Guardian

The government has stood down an army of 6,000 civil servants who had been preparing for a no-deal Brexit, at an estimated cost of £1.5bn.

[France Provides Pakistan Training on Rafale Jets After India Deal Signed - Media](#)

April 11, 2019, Sputnik News

The French Air Force is providing training to foreign pilots in a bid to boost exports of its Rafale fighter jet, local media reported. The aircraft manufacturer Dassault Aviation was reportedly training Pakistani pilots on the Rafale even after they signed a deal with India.

[Germany exporting weapons to Saudi Arabia and UAE – reports](#)

April 11, 2019, Deutsche Welle

Germany's secret security council has allowed weapons shipments to members of the war coalition in Yemen. European nations have called for Germany to lift their ban on weapons exports to the Middle East.

[Putin Announces Arctic Expansion Plans at International Forum – Highlights](#)

April 12, 2019, The Moscow Times

With Russia's economy faltering under an onslaught of Western sanctions, Russian President Vladimir Putin attended the 5th International Arctic Forum in St. Petersburg this week to promote the resource-rich region's development.

[Icelandic President Meets with Putin](#)

April 11, 2019, Iceland Monitor

Icelandic President Guðni Th. Jóhannesson met with Russian President Vladimir Putin in St. Petersburg, Russia, yesterday. They both attend the fifth International Arctic Forum, which opened there

[Russian diplomat slams Assange's prosecution as US political elite's revenge](#)

April 12, 2019, TASS

Prosecution of WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange is the US political elite's revenge over information that he made public, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said.

[Russia to bring up Assange's arrest within international organizations](#)

April 11, 2019, TASS

Moscow intends to bring up Wikileaks founder Julian Assange's arrest within international organizations, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said

[Diplomat slams Tokyo for its demarche over Russian sovereignty on South Kurils](#)

April 11, 2019, TASS

Tokyo's statements relating to the South Kuril Islands run contrary to the agreements reached by Russian President Vladimir Putin and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on taking measures to sign a peace treaty between the countries, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said at a briefing.

[Moscow vows tit-for-tat response to persecution of Russian media in France](#)

April 11, 2019, TASS

Zakharova explained that Russia had to make such a decision after reporters from RT and Sputnik had been denied access to numerous events taking place in France.

Africa & Latin America

[Sudan's president ousted by military after months of protests](#)

April 11, 2019, NBC News

President Omar al-Bashir, who ruled Sudan with an iron fist for 30 years, was overthrown in a coup by the armed forces which announced a two-year period of military rule to be followed by elections.

[Sudan military seizes power from Omar al-Bashir: Full statement](#)

April 12, 2019, Al Jazeera

Full text of General Awad Ibn Auf's statement declaring the overthrow and arrest of Sudan's President Omar al-Bashir.

[Sudan protesters reject army takeover after removal of president](#)

April 11, 2019, The Guardian

Protesters in Sudan have vowed to continue their campaign for democratic reform just hours after the army announced that the 30-year rule of the country's president, Omar al-Bashir, would be replaced by a military-led transitional council.

[Coup 'not appropriate response' to Sudan's challenges, says AU](#)

April 11, 2019, Daily Monitor

The African Union criticised the military ouster of Sudan's veteran president Omar al-Bashir and called for calm and restraint.

[Omar al-Bashir deposed: How the world reacted](#)

April 12, 2019, Al Jazeera

A round-up of international reaction following the toppling of Sudan's long-time rule after months of protests.

[Nigerian troops evacuate 'entire town' in security operation: UN](#)

April 11, 2019, Al Jazeera

Nearly 10,000 people from Jakana were relocated to camp in Maiduguri, swelling the population of existing camps.

[UN urges Nigerian govt to protect over 10,000 Jakana residents forced to relocate to Maiduguri](#)

April 11, 2019, Daily Post

The United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator in Nigeria, Mr. Edward Kallon, has called on the Government of Nigeria to provide humanitarian assistance to and protect up to 10,000 women, men and children who were forced to relocate to Maiduguri, the capital of Borno State, from a town of 40 kilometers away.

[DRC: Kabila's FCC coalition sweeps gubernatorial seats](#)

April 11, 2019, Africa News

Supporters of former leader Joseph Kabila in DR Congo have won majority of the seats in the recently held governorship elections.

[How far can Haftar get with his Tripoli offensive?](#)

April 8, 2019, Al Jazeera

Recent territorial gains and the upheaval in Algeria allowed Khalifa Haftar to advance on western Libya.

[The true face of Libya's Khalifa Haftar](#)

April 9, 2019, RFI

The head of the United Nations has appealed for an immediate halt to fighting in Libya after Khalifa Haftar's forces claimed responsibility for an airstrike on Tripoli's only functioning airport.

[US urges Haftar to stop attack on Tripoli](#)

April 8, 2019, The Libya Observer

The United States urged Khalifa Haftar's forces to stop military operations in Tripoli and return to "the status quo positions."

[Haftar's attack on Tripoli deepens Italy-France dispute](#)

April 11, 2019, The Libya Observer

The Italian Interior Minister Matteo Salvini said he won't sit and watch if there are some parties using war to gain benefits from Libya.

[World Bank preparing to become 'deeply involved' in Venezuela](#)

April 12, 2019, Al Jazeera

Newly installed World Bank Group president David Malpass said on Thursday that the development lender is preparing to become "deeply involved" in Venezuela, "but the situation is still troublesome on the ground".

[Venezuela in crisis: 'There is no water, no power, no nothing'](#)

April 11, 2019, Al Jazeera

Repeated power grid failures in Venezuela have led to water shortages across the country.

[On Pompeo's Latin America visit, Venezuela crisis and China trade loom large](#)

April 12, 2019, Reuters

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo on Friday began a three-day visit to Chile, Paraguay and Peru, a clutch of fast-growing countries in a region where China's growing presence is a concern for Washington and Venezuela's crisis has escalated.

[US wants UN to recognise Guaido as Venezuela's leader](#)

April 11, 2019, The Hindu

US Vice President Mike Pence has called on the UN to recognise Juan Guaido as Venezuela's President and to revoke the credentials of the incumbent Nicolas Maduro government's ambassador to the international organisation.

[The Trouble with Argentina's Economy](#)

April 10, 2019, Project Syndicate

In 2018, Argentina experienced a currency crisis and stagflation. Annual inflation reached 47.6%, GDP fell by 2.5%, and unemployment and poverty increased.

[Thousands rally in Brazil to protest Lula's first year in prison](#)

April 8, 2019, CGTN

Several thousand supporters of former Brazilian president Lula Inacio da Silva rallied on Sunday outside the prison where he has now been held for a year, as they demanded his release and chanted slogans against current leader Jair Bolsonaro.

[Violence in Mali Causes 260,000 Refugees and Displaced Persons](#)

April 4, 2019, Prensa Latina

The conflicts in Mali have caused 260,000 internal refugees and nearly three million people in need of assistance, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reported in Bamako.

[Massacre in Mali: Are US & French anti-terror operations fueling ethnic tensions?](#)

April 4, 2019, RT

A brutal massacre in central Mali which killed 160 people, including children, has raised concerns that US and French anti-terrorism operations in the African nation are inflaming ethnic tensions.

[25 years after genocide: Rwanda is emerging like a colossus – Obasanjo](#)

April 4, 2019, PM News

Former Nigerian President, Chief Olusegun Obasanjo on Thursday reflected on the 1994 genocide in Rwanda and declared that 25 years after the strife, the East African country is emerging like a colossus.

[Khalifa Haftar declares war on Tripoli](#)

April 4, 2019, The Libya Observer

The commander of the self-styled army Khalifa Haftar has declared war on the Libyan capital, Tripoli, and all of the forces under the Presidential Council's government in there.



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