



# 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.

Since 2016, in keeping with India's increasing global profile, DPG has expanded its focus areas to include India's regional and global role and its policies in the Indo-Pacific. In a realist environment, DPG remains mindful of the need to align India's ambitions with matching strategies and capabilities, from diplomatic initiatives to security policy and military modernisation.

At a time of disruptive change in the global order, DPG aims to deliver research based, relevant, reliable and realist policy perspectives to an actively engaged public, both at home and abroad. DPG is deeply committed to the growth of India's national power and purpose, the security and prosperity of the people of India and India's contributions to the global public good. We remain firmly anchored within these foundational principles which have defined DPG since its inception.

### DPG WEEKLY WORLD WATCH

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## South Asia

### India

#### [MEA: China talks led to some disengagement](#)

June 10, 2022, The Times of India

Military and diplomatic dialogue with China has seen some progress and led to successful disengagement in a number of areas in eastern Ladakh the MEA.

#### [India-Australia maritime surveillance operation underway in Indian Ocean region](#)

June 8, 2022, The Print

A Royal Australian Air Force (RAFF) P-8A Poseidon aircraft has been deployed to India under a combined India-Australia maritime surveillance initiative, the Australian government said.

#### [The Quad's new maritime initiative has potential to spur militarization of the Indo-Pacific](#)

June 8, 2022, CNBC

The Quad countries want to jointly monitor movements of ships and submarines in the Indo-Pacific using satellites, a move analysts warn could potentially lead to militarization of the region.

#### [MEA Secy Saurabh Kumar highlights India's perspectives on terrorism, cybersecurity at ASEAN forum](#)

June 9, 2022, The Print

Secretary East in the Ministry of External Affairs, Saurabh Kumar on Thursday participated in the ASEAN Regional Forum Senior Officials' Meeting (ARF SOM) virtually and shared India's perspectives on the threat posed by terrorism and the challenges of cyber security.

#### [India participates in East Asia Summit Senior Officials' meet by Cambodia](#)

June 9, 2022, Business Standard

Ministry of External Affairs official and Former Ambassador to Myanmar and Iran, Saurabh Kumar took part in the East Asia Summit Senior Officials' meeting on Wednesday over a videoconference.

[India carefully monitors developments along border: Govt after US remark on Chinese build-up](#)

June 9, 2022, Mint

An American military commander said on Wednesday that some of the defence infrastructures that China is creating near its border with India in Ladakh are 'alarming'.

[India, Vietnam Ink New Military Logistics Support Pact](#)

June 9, 2022, The Defense Post

The governments of India and Vietnam have signed a Memorandum of Understanding on mutual logistics support for their armed forces.

["Will Never Accept Any Unilateral Change Of Status Quo": S Jaishankar](#)

June 7, 2022, NDTV

Speaking at an event to mark eight years of the NDA government, Mr Jaishankar said when it comes to security, India will do what it takes to ensure national well-being.

[India looks forward to joining the NSG, says External Affairs Minister Jaishankar](#)

June 7, 2022, The Hindu

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar was speaking on the foreign policy achievements of the government.

## **Pakistan**

[ISI given legal cover to screen government officials](#)

June 4, 2022, Dawn

The Pakistan prime minister has officially tasked the country's premier spy agency, Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), with the screening of civil servants before their induction, appointments and postings, as well as promotions. In doing so, the government has given legal cover to a practice that had already been in place, but had not been formalised as part of protocol.

[No major breakthrough yet as jirga returns from Kabul](#)

June 4, 2022, Dawn

A 57-member jirga negotiating with the outlawed Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) returned to Pakistan without any major breakthrough over the militants' demand for the reversal of FATA's merger with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The jirga consists of tribal elders, politicians and parliamentarians who met with senior

TTP leaders at Kabul's Inter-Continental Hotel for two days and held threadbare discussions over demands, including the most contentious issue of FATA's merger.

#### [Verification of Afghan refugees completed](#)

June 4, 2022, Dawn

The government, with the support of the UN refugee agency, has completed the verification of some 1.3 million registered Afghan refugees living in Pakistan. The Documentation Renewal and Information Verification Exercise (Drive) was aimed at updating and verifying the data of Afghans holding a Proof of Registration (PoR) card.

#### [10pc duty imposed on Chinese petroleum](#)

June 4, 2022, Dawn

Pakistan imposed a 10 per cent regulatory duty on the import of petroleum products from China after a massive 673pc surge in duty-free imports to Rs250 billion this year with a revenue loss of Rs25bn under the garb of the China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement (CPFTA).

#### [Pakistan's GDP expansion to slow down to 4pc: World Bank](#)

June 9, 2022, Dawn

The World Bank says GDP growth in Pakistan is expected to be 4.0 per cent in 2022-23, slower from 5.7pc in 2020-21, as foreign demand slows significantly and policy support is withdrawn to contain external and fiscal imbalances.

#### [Trade deficit widens to record \\$43.33bn in July-May FY22](#)

June 3, 2022, The News

Trade deficit has widened to a record \$43.33 billion in July-May period of the current fiscal year on sky-high oil import bill, which may worsen the country's current account balance and further weaken the rupee.

#### [Pakistan to repay \\$23bn foreign debt in next fiscal year](#)

June 4, 2022, The News

Pakistan's total foreign debt servicing is projected to climb up to \$23 billion for the upcoming budget 2022-23 as repayment of commercial loans has now assumed a major chunk of the outstanding amount of \$6 billion out of the total obligations. In an alarming development, the country will have to repay on account of amortization and mark-up amount owed by the public sector alone to the tune of \$49.23 billion over the next five years period from 2022-23 to 2026-27.

### [Cabinet approves terms for \\$2.4bn loan from China](#)

June 5, 2022, The News

The Finance Ministry has obtained approval from the federal cabinet for a syndicated loan facility of \$2.4 billion from the China Development Bank and its consortium for a three-year period at six-month SHIBOR (Shanghai Inter-Bank Offered Rates) plus 1.5 percent margin. The rate was reduced by one percent as compared to the previous facility.

### [Govt unveils Rs9.5 trillion federal budget for 2022-23](#)

June 10, 2022, The Express Tribune

The coalition government headed by the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) presented its "growth and investment-oriented" budget for Financial Year 2022-23 in the National Assembly. Miftah Ismail, while presenting the budget proposals, said that out of total Rs9.502 trillion budget, an amount of Rs3,950 billion had been allocated for debt servicing and Rs800 billion earmarked for the Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP 2022-23).

### [Defence budget up by 2.7% amid economic crunch](#)

June 11, 2022, The Express Tribune

The federal government has proposed a 2.69 per cent increase in the defence budget as Pakistan is facing an economic crunch and thus resorting to unpopular measures to avoid a potential default. The budget document showed that the defence outlay for fiscal year 2022-23 would be Rs1,523 billion as compared to the revised defence spending of Rs1,483 earmarked for the ongoing fiscal. However, the proposed increase in defence spending reaches 11 per cent when compared with the pre-revision budget of Rs1,370 billion.

## **Afghanistan**

### [Millions of dollars went missing as Afghanistan fell, watchdog says](#)

June 7, 2022, The Washington Post

Tens of millions of dollars disappeared from Afghan government bank accounts during the Taliban takeover in August, according to a U.S. government watchdog report, the latest in a series detailing the collapse of the Afghan government and its military. The assessment by the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction, or SIGAR, examined allegations that Afghan government officials took tens of millions of dollars with them as they fled the country.

### [Ex-Afghan Leaders Made Off With Less Than \\$1 Million While Fleeing Taliban Advance](#)

June 6, 2022, VOA

Tales of Afghanistan's former president and his senior advisers fleeing the country in helicopters laden with millions of U.S. dollars, as Taliban fighters closed in on Kabul, appear to be overblown, according to an interim report by American investigators. Russia's embassy in Kabul first floated the allegations of the Afghan cash heist August 16, a day after Afghan President Ashraf Ghani and senior aides departed, telling the RIA news agency that the ex-president left the country with four cars and a helicopter full of cash, worth an estimated \$169 million.

### [Germany Says Taliban Are Leading Afghanistan 'Into Downfall'](#)

June 7, 2022, VOA

Germany urged the global community to collectively tell Afghanistan's Islamist Taliban rulers that they "are heading in the wrong direction" and called for strictly linking any economic aid for the war-torn country to the human rights of Afghans. "The situation is dire and the Taliban are leading the country into a downfall," German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock told a news conference during a visit to neighbouring Pakistan.

### [India exploring resumption of diplomatic presence in Afghanistan](#)

June 7, 2022, Hindustan Times

The Indian government is close to a decision on resuming a diplomatic presence in Afghanistan though the move will not amount to a recognition of the Taliban setup in Kabul. The issue of India again having a diplomatic presence in Kabul figured at a meeting on June 2 between joint secretary JP Singh, the external affairs ministry's pointperson on Afghanistan, and the Taliban's acting foreign minister Amir Khan Muttaqi.

## **Bangladesh**

### [Cross-Border Bus Service Between India, Bangladesh Resumes After 2 Years](#)

June 10, 2022, NDTV

Except for the Dhaka-Sylhet-Shillong-Guwahati-Dhaka route, service on four other routes would resume from Friday and the first bus would start from Motijheel at 7:00 am.



### [Bangladesh asks India to allow export of 10 lakh tonnes wheat](#)

June 11, 2022, The Economic Times

The government of Bangladesh has requested India to allow export of 10 lakh tonnes of wheat without delay and cited that the Bangladeshi importers' have Letters of Credit (LC) which were issued before India banned wheat exports.

## **Nepal**

### [Stalled Nepal-China Railway Line Indicates Kathmandu Won't Jeopardize Its Sovereignty](#)

June 11, 2022, News 18

In March 2022, when Chinese foreign minister Wang Yi traveled to Kathmandu, he told the Nepal government that China is ready to do a 'technical study' of the proposed railway line connecting the railway line from Shigatse that lies in Tibet to Kathmandu.

### [Nepal starts exporting 364 MW electricity to India](#)

June 11, 2022, The Hindu

This is also the first time that any private sector-generated electricity is being sold to India's power exchange market

## **Sri Lanka**

### [Willing to work with India to help Sri Lanka, says China](#)

May 22, 2022, The Hindu

"Recognising" the Indian government's "great efforts" in supporting Sri Lanka, China on Wednesday expressed willingness to work with India and the international community to help Sri Lanka tide over its crushing economic crisis.

### [China says India made 'great efforts' to help Sri Lanka; South Asia remains its priority](#)

June 9, 2022, The Indian Express

India has rushed about USD 3 billion in assistance in the form of line credit and other modes to help Sri Lanka which has virtually declared insolvency and defaulted on all foreign loans.

## [China ready to ease Sri Lanka's debt burden](#)

June 9, 2022, Financial Times

Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesman Zhao Lijian speaking to reporters on Wednesday about Sri Lanka's debt crisis said China is ready to play a constructive role in easing the island nation's debt burden.

## East & South East Asia

### China

#### [Pentagon chief meets Chinese counterpart for first time in Singapore](#)

June 10, 2022, Defense News

U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin has met his Chinese counterpart for the first time on the eve of a major Asian security forum in Singapore, with both sides agreeing to maintain lines of dialogue in the future.

#### [China warns it will smash any 'Taiwan independence' acts](#)

June 10, 2022, China Daily

If anyone dares to split Taiwan from China, the Chinese military will resolutely smash any "Taiwan independence" acts even at the cost of war, the Chinese defense minister told his US counterpart.

#### [China's imports from India fall 36.9% in Jan-May, but room for growth 'unlimited'](#)

June 9, 2022, Global Times

China's imports from India plunged in the first five months of this year by the highest rate of decline among China's major trading partners, while China's exports to India surged over 28 percent year-on-year, official data showed.

#### [China-CEEC cooperation 'pragmatic, effective,' FM says after Czech considers exiting from '16+1' investment platform](#)

June 10, 2022, Global Times

Anyone without prejudice will come to the conclusion that China-Central and Eastern Europe Countries (CEEC) cooperation is pragmatic and effective, and China is willing to work with CEEC to jointly promote cooperation mechanism further and deeper to benefit the people of all countries, China's Foreign Ministry said on Friday, in response to the Czech Republic's consideration of exiting from China's 16+1 investment platform for CEE.

#### [Chinese mission to EU refutes European Parliament's resolution on Xinjiang](#)

June 10, 2022, Xinhua

Chinese Mission to EU on Thursday refuted a resolution passed by the European Parliament that criticized the human rights situation in Xinjiang.

## [Steering China toward a strong maritime country](#)

June 8, 2022, Xinhua

World Oceans Day that falls this year provides an opportunity for countries around the world to celebrate the importance of the ocean and to ponder how to interact with it in a sustainable manner.

## **Japan**

### ["Ukraine May Be East Asia Tomorrow": Japan Defence Minister](#)

June 11, 2022, NDTV

"Japan is surrounded by actors that possess, or are developing, nuclear weapons, and that openly ignore rules," Nobuo Kishi said in Singapore at the Shangri-La Dialogue, Asia's premier security meeting.

### [Japan vows bigger security role in Asia-Pacific to tackle threats](#)

June 10, 2022, Al Jazeera

Prime Minister Kishida announces plans to boost country's diplomatic and security role amid Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

### [UN elects new council members including Japan, Switzerland](#)

June 10, 2022, The Economic Times

U.N. member nations elected five countries to join the powerful U.N. Security Council on Thursday with no suspense or drama because all were unopposed - Ecuador, Japan, Malta, Mozambique and Switzerland.

### [Japan and Singapore to launch talks on defense equipment transfer pact](#)

June 11, 2022, The Japan Times

Japan and Singapore will start negotiations to reach a deal on the transfer of defense equipment and technology, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said Saturday after meeting with his Singapore counterpart, Lee Hsien Loong.

## **South Korea**

### [Japan, U.S., South Korea say peace, stability of Taiwan strait important](#)

June 11, 2022, Kyodo News

Defense chiefs from Japan, the United States and South Korea on Saturday highlighted the importance of "peace and stability" in the Taiwan Strait at a time when China has raised regional tensions by putting military pressure on democratically governed Taiwan.

### [S.Korea, US, Japan discuss combined military exercise](#)

June 11, 2022, Daji World

The defense chiefs of South Korea, the US and Japan discussed combined military exercises, including missile warning drills, during their talks in Singapore on Saturday amid North Korea's growing security threats.

### [S.Korea, U.S. condemn N.Korea nuclear test preparations](#)

June 11, 2022, Reuters

Defence ministers of South Korea and the United States on Saturday condemned North Korea's preparations for a nuclear test, saying this and a series of missile launches threaten the peace and safety of the Korean peninsula and the international community.

## **Southeast Asia**

### [Myanmar Junta Not Invited to India Meeting With ASEAN Foreign Ministers](#)

June 9, 2022, The Irrawaddy

For the fourth time, the Myanmar military regime has been excluded from an international meeting, with India's decision not to invite the junta's foreign minister to its upcoming meeting with Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) foreign ministers next week.

### [As supply chain patterns evolve, ASEAN is more relevant](#)

June 10, 2022, The Statesman

Business of all sizes is having to grapple with issues ranging from rising inflation to conflict in Europe and renewed lockdowns in China. Amid these uncertainties, commerce remains an important driver of economic growth, with Standard Chartered predicting global trade will grow by 70 per cent to \$30 trillion by the end of the decade.

### [Why more European firms are choosing Vietnam over China](#)

June 9, 2022, The Indian Express

A combination of geopolitical tensions and higher costs are pushing large firms to look for alternative production sites. Vietnam's strong economic performance in recent years has drawn the attention of European firms.

[India & Vietnam seal 'rare' 10-yr vision statement among key defence pacts as China threat looms](#)

June 8, 2022, The Print

During Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's 3-day visit, the two sides also agreed to fast-track a \$500-million line of credit to Vietnam which it can use to buy key equipment from India.

[Singapore, Japan ink enhanced agreement on defence cooperation](#)

June 11, 2022, CNA

Singapore and Japan have signed an enhanced memorandum on defence exchanges that identifies new areas of cooperation, the Ministry of Defence (MINDEF) said in a statement.

## Central & West Asia

### Central Asia

#### [Kazakhs Vote For Constitutional Changes Ending Nazarbaev's Grip On Country](#)

June 6, 2022, RFE/RL

Kazakhstan's Central Election Commission says voters in a weekend referendum were overwhelmingly in favour of proposed constitutional amendments aimed at decentralising decision-making and stripping former President Nursultan Nazarbaev of "national leader" status.

#### [Kazakhstan rebrands its oil to avoid Russian sanctions contagion](#)

June 6, 2022, Eurasianet

Kazakhstan has renamed the oil it exports through Russian ports in a bid to avoid contagion from Russia's new pariah status. The rebranding came after the European Union pledged last week to block all Russian oil arriving by sea by the end of this year.

#### [Second Smuggling Tunnel Discovered Under Kyrgyz-Uzbek Border](#)

June 7, 2022, RFE/RL

Kyrgyz officials say they have found a second tunnel along the Kyrgyz-Uzbek border purportedly used to illegally cross the border as well as for smuggling goods. The State Committee for National Security said that the tunnel leading to the Uzbek side of the border was discovered in the town of Kara-Suu in the southern Osh region.

#### [Demonstrators Picket Chinese Embassy In Kazakh Capital As Chinese Minister Visits](#)

June 8, 2022, RFE/RL

Several protesters have gathered outside the Chinese Embassy in the Kazakh capital, Nur-Sultan, demanding the release of relatives they say are being illegally held in China's northwestern Xinjiang Province, as Foreign Minister Wang Yi visits the Central Asian country.

#### [China hectors Central Asia to steer clear of big power politics](#)

June 8, 2022, Eurasianet

Central Asian countries should stay out of geopolitical conflicts, China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi has warned his counterparts from the region during a visit to Kazakhstan.

## West Asia

### [India, Israel Adopt 'Vision Statement' To Boost Defence Cooperation](#)

June 02, 2022, Business Standard

Marking 30 years of diplomatic ties between the two countries, India and Israel adopted a "vision statement" which will pave the way for strengthening defence cooperation in future

### [PFI's Sherif Received Funds from Chinese Firm in Oman: Enforcement Directorate](#)

June 03, 2022, The Economic Times

The Indian Enforcement Directorate (ED) has claimed that it has found a 'Chinese link' to the funding of Popular Front of India (PFI). According to people in the know, a man who worked with a Chinese national in Oman is under probe for 'arranging more than ₹1 crore for PFI under the guise of trading'.

### [Qatar's Investment in India Grows 5 Times Since March 2020, Can Be Substantially Increased: Vice President Naidu](#)

June 05, 2022, Mint

Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu said Qatar's investment in India has grown five times since March 2020, however, it is still below the potential level and can be significantly increased.

### [Saudi Arabia Condemns Indian Ruling Party Leader's Blasphemous Comments against Prophet Muhammad](#)

June 05, 2022, Saudi Gazette

Saudi Arabia condemned the statements of the spokesperson of India's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) insulting Prophet Muhammad.

### [Saudi Arabia's Abdul Latif Jameel to Invest \\$220m In Indian EV Firm Greaves Electric Mobility](#)

June 02, 2022, Gulf News

Saudi Arabia's Abdul Latif Jameel will invest \$220 million in the Indian EV manufacturer, Greaves Electric Mobility. The latter is one of the biggest names in India's two- and three-wheeler space.

### [Turkey, Pakistan Vow to Enhance Bilateral Ties With 'Strategic Perspective'](#)

June 02, 2022, China.org.cn

"We are ready to further strengthen Turkey-Pakistan relations with a strategic perspective in line with the history, friendship and potential of the two countries," Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan told a joint press conference in Ankara with visiting Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.



### [Iran to Face Censure From Major European Countries and US Amid Stalled Nuclear Talks](#)

June 06, 2022, Firstpost

Major European countries and the United States are expected to seek to censure Iran when the UN's atomic watchdog IAEA meets this week amid stalled talks to revive the 2015 nuclear deal.

### [Possibility of Returning To Iran Nuclear Deal 'Shrinking', Says EU Foreign Policy Chief](#)

June 05, 2022, Middle East Monitor

"The possibility to strike a deal and return to JCPOA is shrinking. But we still can do it with an extra effort," Josep Borrell said on Twitter, following a phone call with Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian.

### [Israel, UAE Boost Ties With Free Trade Pact](#)

May 31, 2022, Reuters

Israel signed a free trade agreement with the United Arab Emirates, its first with an Arab state and one which eliminates most tariffs and aims to lift their annual bilateral trade to more than \$10 billion.

### [OPEC+ Brings Forward Oil Output Rises as Biden's Saudi Visit Looms](#)

June 03, 2022, News 18

Saudi Arabia and other OPEC+ states agreed to bring forward oil production rises to offset Russian output losses to ease surging oil prices and inflation and smooth the way for an ice-breaking visit to Riyadh by US President Joe Biden.

### [Oil Rallies as China's Emergence From Lockdown Puts Upward Pressure On Demand](#)

June 06, 2022, The National News

Oil prices extended their bull run in early trading on Monday (June 06) as the market factored in higher demand from China, the world's biggest importer of crude, which is currently easing Covid-19 restrictions. Benchmark Brent crude price stands at USD 120.70 a barrel, while WTI crude at USD 119.90 a barrel.

### [GCC Members Stand United on Russia-Ukraine Crisis, Saudi Foreign Minister Says](#)

June 01, 2022, The National News

Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries have highlighted the negative repercussions of the Russia-Ukraine conflict during meetings with top

diplomats from both countries, says Saudi Arabia's foreign minister. Prince Faisal bin Farhan's remarks came during his opening speech at the GCC meeting.

## United States

### United States

#### [China becoming more 'coercive and aggressive', says US defence chief](#)

June 11, 2022, The Indian Express

Taiwan has complained for years of repeated Chinese air force missions into its air defence identification zone, which is not territorial airspace but a broader area it monitors for threats.

#### [India and US need to cooperate more closely in Indo-Pacific to counter China's malign goals: Congressman Wilson](#)

June 10, 2022, The Economic Times

The US and India must cooperate more closely in the Indo-Pacific to realise the full spirit of their strategic partnership, a top American lawmaker has said, asserting that the partnership should be robust to counter China's malign goals in the region.

#### [India's FDI rank rises to 7th position despite falling inflows: UNCTAD](#)

June 10, 2022, Business Standard

India jumped one position to 7th among the top recipients of foreign direct investment (FDI) in the last calendar year (2021) despite FDI inflows into the country declining, according to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

#### [President Biden Looks For Ways To Increase U.S. Refining Capacity](#)

June 10, 2022, Oilprice.com

U.S. President Joe Biden continues to look for ways to bring down the high cost of gasoline—and the latest efforts have him taking a hard look at U.S. refinery capacity.

#### [US President Joe Biden Faces Criticism At Americas Summit](#)

June 10, 2022, NDTV

Joe Biden heard an earful over his decision to exclude the leftist leaders of Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela on the grounds that they are autocrats.

## Europe & Russia

### Europe

#### [India, France hope India-EU trade pact to conclude before 2024](#)

June 9, 2022, Business Standard

India and France on Wednesday hoped for the conclusion of the proposed free trade agreement between India and European Union before 2024, an official statement said.

#### [China, India and Turkey to siphon more Russian oil ahead of EU ban](#)

June 9, 2022, Nikkei Asia

China and India are continuing to increase imports of Russian oil in a dramatic reshaping of global trade in energy, according to the latest industry data. But the ability of Asia to absorb more production will be tested as the European Union winds down imports from Russia in response to the invasion of Ukraine.

#### [Energy & Environment – India, China could buy Russian oil rejected by EU](#)

June 6, 2022, The Hill

Some of the oil the EU will forgo under its new embargo could wind up fueling countries in Asia.

#### [China and Poland's friendship may lead way to European-China cooperation](#)

June 11, 2022, China Daily

China is willing to work with Poland to move the traditional friendship forward, enhance mutual trust and deepen exchanges and cooperation to continue to promote the healthy and stable development of bilateral ties, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi said.

### Russia

#### [Russia-China foreign trade rises by 35% in 2021](#)

June 4, 2022, TASS News Agency

The volume of foreign trade between Russia and China grew by 35% in 2021, surpassing \$157 Bn, according to Russia's trade representative in China Alexey Dakhnovsky.

#### [Putin warns Ukraine against long-range missiles](#)

June 5, 2022, Russia Today

Russia will hit targets it has so far not struck if long-range missiles are delivered to Ukraine, Russian President Vladimir Putin has warned. The Russian

president noted that the shipment of US-made multiple-launch rocket systems confirmed by President Joe Biden on Tuesday is unlikely to bring anything new to Kiev's forces.

### [Russia Announces Retaliatory Sanctions Against U.S. Officials, Business Leaders](#)

June 6, 2022, RFE/RL

Russia has imposed sanctions on 61 U.S. officials, including Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen and Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm and the heads of leading defence and media companies, the Russian Foreign Ministry says.

### [Russian FM reacts to being barred from foreign visit](#)

June 6, 2022, Russia Today

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov on Monday slammed NATO and the EU for using the lowest means to pressure other countries. The statement came after Bulgaria, North Macedonia, and Montenegro closed their airspace for the diplomat's plane heading to Serbia.

### [Shoigu, Turkish counterpart discuss navigation security in Black Sea — ministry](#)

June 7, 2022, TASS News Agency

Russian Defence Minister Sergey Shoigu spoke by phone with Turkish National Defence Minister Hulusi Akar and they discussed the security of navigation in the Black Sea in connection with the issue of grain exports from Ukraine, the Russian ministry said.

### [Russian State Duma Votes To Quit European Court Of Human Rights](#)

June 7, 2022, RFE/RL

The Russian State Duma has passed a pair of bills to end the jurisdiction of the European Court of Human Rights in the country. The bills passed nearly unanimously on June 7, with only one deputy from the opposition Communist Party voting against. They must be signed by President Vladimir Putin in order to become law.

### [Russian fisheries will replace Japanese in waters near Kurils islands — Deputy PM](#)

June 9, 2022, TASS News Agency

Water area around Kuril Islands, abandoned by Japanese fishermen, will soon be occupied by Russian fishing companies, Deputy Prime Minister and Presidential Plenipotentiary in the Far Eastern Federal District Yury Trutnev said at a plenary meeting of the Far East media summit.

## Africa & Latin America

### Africa

#### [Africa: China Looks to Africa in Race for Lithium](#)

June 4, 2022, All Africa

It is the new gold rush, and China is leading the hunt as prices surge. Only it's not gold everyone's looking for, it's lithium. Many say the future of electric vehicle production and, more broadly, combatting climate change, depend on the rare metal.

#### [China to Hold First Horn of Africa Peace Conference in Ethiopia](#)

June 9, 2022, All Africa

China said it will host the first ever Horn of Africa peace conference in Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa on June 20-21.

#### [China's Trade Ties With Africa Continue To Strengthen](#)

June 10, 2022, Economist

Trade between China and Africa is growing. The General Administration of Customs of China recently noted that bilateral trade between China and Africa amounted to US\$254.3 billion in 2021, an increase of 35.3% from 2020. In the first quarter of 2022, China's Customs Data confirmed that trade between the two regions increased by 23%, to US\$ 64. 8 million.

#### [South Sudan backs up internal dialogue in Sudan](#)

June 9, 2022, Sudan Tribune

South Sudan said it backed up internal dialogue taking place in neighbouring Sudan from which it seceded, describing efforts being exerted by the regional and international organizations as the best approaches to ending issues of political and security nature.

#### [Ethiopia says willing to resume dam talks with Egypt, Sudan](#)

June 10, 2022, ABC News

A senior Ethiopian official says his country is interested in resuming talks with Egypt and Sudan on a huge and controversial Blue Nile dam that will be Africa's largest hydroelectric power plant.

## Latin America

### [OAS needs to stay away from coups, Argentine FM tells Summit](#)

June 9, 2022, Merco Press

Argentine Foreign Minister Santiago Cafiero Wednesday told attendees at the Summit of the Americas in Los Angeles that the Organization of American States (OAS) must never again legitimize destabilization processes in the region.

### [Venezuela can become port of entry into Latin america, Maduro tells Erdogan](#)

June 9, 2022, Merco Press

Venezuelan leader Nicolás Maduro Wednesday offered Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan to turn Venezuela into a port of entry into Latin America.

### [Food insecurity hits nearly 60% of Brazilians, study shows](#)

June 9, 2022, Merco Press

A study from the Brazilian Research Network on Food Sovereignty and Security released Wednesday showed that 58.7% of Brazilians lived with food insecurity, which replicated data not seen since 1993.

### [Biden highlights democracy's role at LA Summit](#)

June 9, 2022, Merco Press

US President Joseph Biden underscored the importance of democratic rule throughout the Americas but made no reference to his decision not to invite Cuba, Venezuela, and Nicaragua to the IX Summit of the Americas held in Los Angeles through June 10.

### [UN chief attends Summit of the Americas' plenary session](#)

June 9, 2022, Prensa Latina

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres is participating on Thursday in the Summit of the Americas in Los Angeles, the United States, an event widely criticized for the exclusion of Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela.

### [Ecuador wins seat on UN Security Council](#)

June 9, 2022, Prensa Latina

The United Nations General Assembly voted overwhelmingly Thursday for Ecuador to occupy one of the 10 rotating seats on the Security Council for the 2023-2024 term.

[Bolsonaro tilts towards closer Brazil-U.S. ties at unlikely meeting with Biden](#)

June 9, 2022, Reuters

Brazil and the United States should forge closer ties after the two countries drifted apart for ideological reasons, Brazil's far-right President Jair Bolsonaro said on Thursday at a first official meeting with his U.S. counterpart Joe Biden.





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