



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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DPG WEEKLY WORLD WATCH

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South Asia

India

[Modi-Deuba talks in Lumbini will have comprehensive agenda: Foreign Secy](#)

May 13, 2022, The Print

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's talks with his Nepalese counterpart Sher Bahadur Deuba at Lumbini in Nepal on May 16 will have a comprehensive agenda to further expand cooperation in multiple areas including hydropower and connectivity, Foreign Secretary Vinay Mohan Kwatra said.

[Foreign Secretary Vinay Mohan Kwatra speaks to US Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman](#)

May 12, 2022, The Indian Express

The telephonic conversation came a day ahead of the second global virtual summit on Covid-19 being hosted by US President Joe Biden, which will be attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

[Why India Needs to Urgently Bridge Data Integration Gap for Better Maritime Security](#)

May 11, 2022, News 18

There is a need to bridge the data integration gap for creating a common operational picture that would provide India with a comprehensive maritime domain awareness.

[India-France ties: After PM Modi's visit, France ready to work on Make in India initiatives in space, defence](#)

May 9, 2022, Mint

India and France have agreed on setting up a bilateral strategic dialogue on space issues during Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent visit to France.

[Defence cooperation hardens the India–Australia relationship](#)

May 13, 2022, East Asia Forum

Emerging cooperation between India and Australia is widely understood as a response to the China challenge that is facilitated by multilateral groupings like the Quad. But the recent signing of the Australia–India Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA) on 2 April suggests the bilateral relationship is much more substantial.

Pakistan

[In first contact, Blinken invites Bilawal to US](#)

May 7, 2022, Dawn

Top-level contacts between Pakistan and the US recommenced as US Secretary of State Antony Blinken called Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari and invited him to a food security meeting at the UN headquarters in New York on May 18.

[CPEC projects' security to be reviewed every month: Ahsan](#)

May 7, 2022, Dawn

Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Ahsan Iqbal asked the Ministry of Interior to ensure a security review meeting is held every month on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

[Media told not to air content against army, judiciary](#)

May 10, 2022, Dawn

The Pakistan Electronic Media Regulation Authority (Pemra) issued directives to private electronic media, warning them of legal action in case of airing content against state institutions. "It has been observed that a few satellite TV channels are airing content which tantamounts to casting aspersions against state institutions i.e. armed forces and judiciary," said the Pemra directive.

[Chinese IPPs warn of closure if not paid Rs300bn](#)

May 10, 2022, Dawn

With more than Rs300 billion in stuck up dues, more than two dozen Chinese firms operating in Pakistan said that they would be forced to shut down their power plants this month unless payments were made upfront.

[Hunza, Gilgit disconnected after glacial lake flooding](#)

May 8, 2022, The News

A massive Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) occurred in Hunza district's Hassanabad village after the lake formed over the Shisper Glacier started discharging 5,000 cusecs water owing to premature melting. The massive Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) in Hunza from Shishper Glacier was mainly triggered because of an abrupt temperature rise in the Northern Areas due to the prevailing heatwave phenomenon.

[Political references ruffle military's feathers](#)

May 9, 2022, Dawn

The country's military and civil authorities took stern notice of attempts to "drag the army" into the political quagmire, passing "defamatory" remarks against the institution and its leadership and "spreading chaos" in the country through political statements, comments and social media trends. Both the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) and the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) issued separate statements, urging resident and overseas Pakistanis to refrain from such practices.

[Chinese confidence in Pakistan's security 'shaken'](#)

May 8, 2022, Dawn

There may have been no exodus of Chinese workers from Pakistan after the Karachi University attack, but they look less confident about the country's ability to protect them. "The Chinese confidence in Pakistan's security system's ability to protect their citizens and their projects is seriously shaken," said Senator Mushahid Hussain, chairman of the Senate Defence Committee.

[S Arabia's \\$3bn additional deposits 'tied to IMF programme revival'](#)

May 10, 2022, The News

The Saudi Arabian government makes possibility of offering up to \$3 billion additional deposit in Pakistan's central bank conditional to Islamabad's revival of IMF's stalled bailout programme.

[Pakistan's net external debt soars almost \\$5bn](#)

May 13, 2022, Dawn

The Ministry of Economic Affairs (MEA) said Pakistan made a net addition of \$4.77 billion in the first half (July–December 2021) of the current fiscal year to its total external public debt of \$90.6bn. In its quarterly report on Foreign Economic Assistance (FEA) for July-December 2021, the MEA said the total external loan inflows during the first half of the year amounted to \$8.972bn against loan outflows of \$4.2bn, thus making a net addition of \$4.772bn.

[TTP extends truce to hold peace talks with Pakistan](#)

May 12, 2022, Dawn

The outlawed Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) has extended a ceasefire with the government of Pakistan in order to hold peace talks. Since the Afghan Taliban surged back to power last year, TTP attacks on Pakistan soil saw an uptick.

[Pakistan, US hold security talks ahead of FM Bilawal's visit](#)

May 12, 2022, Dawn

Pakistan and the United States completed their security level talks in Washington, days before a scheduled meeting between their foreign policy chiefs is scheduled to be held in New York. Inter-Services Intelligence Director-General (DG ISI) Lt-Gen Nadeem Anjum spent three days in Washington this week, meeting senior security officials, including US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan and CIA Director William J. Burns.

['Pakistan needs \\$10-12bn inflows urgently'](#)

May 12, 2022, The News

"Pakistan needs \$10-12 billion foreign currency inflows on immediate basis as the trade gap is surging day by day and it is expected to increase to \$50 billion in next two months," said Malik Mohammad Bostan, Chairman Forex Association of Pakistan.

[ADB hints at providing \\$2.5 billion loan to Pakistan](#)

May 13, 2022, The Express Tribune

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) indicated providing \$2.5 billion in additional loans to Pakistan, including \$1.5 billion before end of year, but the government will have to secure a good economic health certificate from the International Monetary Fund (IMF). "The ADB indicated the additional support of \$2.5 billion for the next fiscal year, from which \$1.5 billion to \$2 billion can be available in the ongoing calendar year", according to a statement issued by the Ministry of Finance.

[Unwise remarks about Gen Faiz draw army flak](#)

May 12, 2022, The Express Tribune

The army dismissed claims that Peshawar Corps Commander Lt General Faiz Hameed was sidelined, urging politicians to avoid making 'inappropriate statements' and dragging the military into politics. For a second time in less than a week the chief military spokesperson had to issue a statement against the backdrop of certain remarks made by politicians about the military leadership.

Afghanistan

[US and Tajikistan discuss the fate of helicopters transported from Afghanistan](#)

May 12, 2022, Khaama Press

According to John Mark, US Ambassador to Tajikistan, Washington and Dushanbe are discussing the fate of helicopters evacuated from Afghanistan. The remarks were made by the US ambassador at a news conference on May 11. According to the US official, Washington does not want to hand over the helicopters to the Taliban regime.

[Afghanistan central bank to inject \\$12 mn to stabilise local currency](#)

May 11, 2022, Business Standard

Afghanistan's central bank announced that it would further inject \$12 million into the local market to boost the national currency, afghani. The Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB) said in a statement that it was requesting all eligible banks and monetary service providers, among others, to participate in the auction.

[Poppy cultivation continues in Afghanistan despite Taliban's crackdown on drug trade](#)

May 10, 2022, India Today

Afghanistan has a long history of opium poppy cultivation. As of 2021, Afghanistan's harvest produces more than 90 per cent of illicit heroin globally. Recently, some big consignments of heroin were seized in India and it was revealed in the investigation that the supply route was Afghanistan.

[Afghanistan: Resistance Front claims killing of 22 Taliban members in Panjshir](#)

May 10, 2022, The Print

The National Resistance Front (NRF) claimed to have killed 22 Taliban members in the Panjshir conflict. NRF spokesman Sebghatullah Ahmadi, in a statement, said that the Taliban are under pressure in Panjshir and have suffered casualties, adding that six Taliban were captured and seven Taliban tanks were entirely destroyed. However, local Taliban leaders in Panjshir refuted the claims, claiming that only three had been wounded.

[Taliban tightens gender segregation rules in Afghanistan's Herat](#)

May 12, 2022, Al-Jazeera

Men and women dining out together or strolling in parks is now forbidden in Afghanistan's western city of Herat, Taliban authorities have said. The new restrictions follow last week's order for women across Afghanistan to fully

cover when in public and appeared to signal the Taliban's tightening grip on power.

Bangladesh

[ED raids Bangladesh nationals living in West Bengal as Indian citizens](#)

May 13, 2022, The Print

The ED on Friday said it has raided multiple premises of Bangladesh nationals and their associates in West Bengal as part of an investigation against them on charges of undertaking fraudulent financial deals worth crores by "posing" as Indians.

[China remains wary of Bangladesh diversifying its defense supplies](#)

May 11, 2022, The Print

China, being one of the largest defense suppliers of Bangladesh, is wary of Dhaka diversifying its defense supplies and acquiring quality defense items from India, Europe and the US.

Nepal

[Nepal to ask India to develop West Seti project that has been idle for six decades](#)

May 11, 2022, The Kathmandu Post

Deuba says 1,200MW project will be discussed with Modi, who visits Lumbini on May 16, to seek Indian investment.

[Modi to build on India-Nepal shared heritage on Lumbini trip](#)

May 10, 2022, Hindustan Times

It is at the historic Lumbini site that PM Modi will meet PM Deuba and give a strong push to the bilateral relationship as improving relations with Nepal has always been a very high priority for the Indian Prime Minister

Sri Lanka

[Sri Lanka's New PM Takes Charge, Says "Thank Prime Minister Modi"](#)

May 13, 2022, NDTV

Sri Lanka Crisis: Ranil Wickremesinghe, 73, was sworn-in as Sri Lanka's 26th Prime Minister on Thursday to stabilise the country's debt-ridden economy and end the political turmoil.

[China infra projects in focus as crisis worsens in Sri Lanka](#)

May 11, 2022, The Hindu

An airport without planes, a revolving restaurant with no diners, a debt-laden seaport – Sri Lanka's economic crisis has been exacerbated by Chinese-funded projects that stand as neglected monuments to government extravagance.

[Indian high commissioner meets new Sri Lanka PM Ranil Wickremesinghe](#)

May 13, 2022, Hindustan Times

The meeting between Gopal Baglay and Wickremesinghe took place a day after the latter assumed the premiership of his country for a sixth term.

East & South East Asia

China

[US intelligence officials warn China is 'working hard' to be able to take over Taiwan militarily](#)

May 10, 2022, CNN

The US intelligence community believes that China is actively attempting to build a military capable of taking over Taiwan -- even in the face of US support for the island, top US intelligence officials told Congress.

[Full text of Xi Jinping's speech at ceremony marking centenary of Communist Youth League of China](#)

May 12, 2022, Global Times

Speech at a Ceremony Marking the Centenary of the Communist Youth League of China.

[Xi, Macron speak on phone, agree related parties should support Russia-Ukraine peace talks](#)

May 10, 2022, Global Times

Chinese President Xi Jinping on Tuesday held a phone conversation with French President Emmanuel Macron, as both sides agreed that related parties should support Russia and Ukraine to resume peace through negotiations.

[Satellite images 'suggest China is practising missile strikes on targets in Taiwan and Guam'](#)

May 12, 2022, SCMP

Analysts say new images of mock targets in the Taklamakan desert suggest the PLA is refining its strike capacity to hit smaller ships.

[China hits out at WHO chief's 'irresponsible' criticism of zero-Covid policy as censors target UN social media account](#)

May 11, 2022, SCMP

The foreign ministry accused Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus of not having a 'proper understanding of the facts. Internet users noted screen grabs of a post on the UN's Weibo account and even pictures of Tedros had also been banned.

[China warns US against attempts to dominate outer space](#)

May 11, 2022, SCMP

China's ambassador for disarmament affairs Li Song tells UN that an arms race in space would leave a 'sword of Damocles' hanging over the world.

Japan

[Yoon tells Japanese lawmakers he opposes politicizing historical issues](#)

May 12, 2022, Japan Today

South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol told Japanese lawmakers on Wednesday he has no intention of using wartime history issues with Japan for domestic political gains, in yet another sign the new leader will seek to repair frayed bilateral ties.

[South Korea's new foreign minister vows to build future-oriented ties with Japan](#)

May 12, 2022, The Japan Times

South Korea's new Foreign Minister Park Jin pledged Thursday to build a future-oriented relationship with Japan while underlining the new administration's plan to diversify Seoul's diplomacy with other countries.

[China, Ukraine set to dominate EU-Japan summit](#)

May 11, 2022, Deutsche Welle

Tokyo is showing an increasing willingness to play a larger role in global security issues as it seeks support from Europe for its own most pressing concern – an increasingly influential and expansionist Beijing.

[Japan gears up to confront China as tension escalates in Taiwan Strait: Report](#)

May 10, 2022, ANI

Japan appears to be gearing up for armed conflict in the East China Sea as China's invasion of Taiwan is becoming increasingly likely in the wake of the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

[Japan expects launch of U.S. Indo-Pacific economic plan during Biden visit](#)

May 10, 2022, The Japan Times

U.S. President Joe Biden's visit to Japan this month is expected to coincide with the formal launch of a new U.S. economic strategy for the Indo-Pacific, even as

China seeks “very aggressively” to fill a void since Washington quit a regional trade pact, Tokyo’s ambassador to the United States said

Korea

[North Korea fires missile toward sea: South Korea](#)

May 12, 2022, The Times of India

South Korea says North Korea fired an unidentified missile toward the sea.

[South Korea's high-speed 5G mobile revolution gives way to evolution](#)

May 13, 2022, Reuters

South Korea was the first country to launch a fifth-generation mobile network in 2019, heralding a warp-speed technological transformation to self-driving cars and smart cities.

[North Korea May Launch A Missile Ahead Of Biden's Asia Trip: White House](#)

May 13, 2022, NDTV

White House spokesperson Jen Psaki said Biden is expected to visit South Korea and Japan from May 20-24 and hold talks with his Korean and Japanese counterparts.

[South Korea's new President Yoon Suk Yeol previously vowed a tougher stance on North Korea](#)

May 10, 2022, The Hindu

South Korea’s new President says he’ll present “an audacious plan” to improve North Korea’s economy if it denuclearises.

Southeast Asia

[US president Joe Biden welcomes Southeast Asian leaders with clean energy, maritime pledges](#)

May 13, 2022, Firstpost

Top leaders from eight of the 10 members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations flew to Washington for the two-day summit.

[With China in focus, Biden makes \\$150 million commitment to ASEAN leaders](#)

May 13, 2022, Reuters

U.S. President Joe Biden opened a gathering of Southeast Asian leaders with a promise to spend \$150 million on their infrastructure, security, pandemic preparedness and other efforts aimed at countering the influence of rival China.

['Deep Sea Warrior' completes sea trial mission in South China Sea](#)

May 12, 2022, CGTN

The Chinese research vessel Exploration 2 carrying the deep-sea manned submersible "Deep Sea Warrior" returned home Wednesday after completing a trial mission of a deep-sea in-situ laboratory in the South China Sea.

[China's ties with Philippines 'to strengthen' under Marcos](#)

May 12, 2022, TRT World

Chinese ambassador to the Philippines says bilateral relations between the two countries "will only become stronger" under the next administration.

[Toyota to make EV parts in India for domestic, countries in ASEAN bloc](#)

May 11, 2022, Business Standard

Toyota Motor Corp plans to make India a manufacturing hub for electric vehicle parts to meet demand there as well as for export to Japan and some ASEAN countries, a senior company executive said.

Central & West Asia

Central Asia

[Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan regulate crypto with eyes on energy deficits](#)

May 9, 2022, Eurasianet

Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan have introduced new regulations for cryptocurrency mining. The changes indicate anxieties over the technology's grid-busting electricity consumption. Kazakhstan has added reporting requirements for existing investors in the sector, with would-be miners expected to produce a detailed plan before getting the green light.

[Tajikistan: ISKP claims new cross-border attack, officials deny](#)

May 9, 2022, Eurasianet

Islamic State militants based in Afghanistan claim to have mounted yet another attack on a neighbouring country – Tajikistan this time. Authorities in Dushanbe have said that bullets were shot across the border during fighting between Taliban forces and fighters with the ISKP, as the Islamic State Khurasan Province group is known.

[Tajik Officials 'Secretly Ordering' Universities To Draft Hundreds Of Students Into Army](#)

May 11, 2022, RFE/RL

Authorities in Tajikistan have put pressure on hundreds of university students to enlist in the national army and even threatened them with expulsion if they refuse, students and officials claim.

[Kazakh President Emphasises Importance Of China-Europe Transportation Route Bypassing Russia](#)

May 11, 2022, RFE/RL

Kazakh President Qasym-Zhomart Toqaev said after a visit to Ankara for talks with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan that a new transportation route connecting China with European markets bypassing Russia is important for the two nations.

[Kyrgyzstan: Public commission created to investigate deadly 2017 plane crash](#)

May 11, 2022, Eurasianet

The president of Kyrgyzstan has approved the formation of a public commission to investigate the circumstances around a cargo plane crash in 2017 that claimed the lives of 39 people and destroyed dozens of homes.

[Kazakh Group Defending Rights Of Ethnic Kin In Xinjiang To Create Political Party](#)

May 12, 2022, RFE/RL

A group in Kazakhstan involved in defending the rights of ethnic Kazakhs in China's northwestern region of Xinjiang has announced it will create a political party in the Central Asian state.

[Earthquake Hits Eastern Uzbekistan Near Border With Afghanistan](#)

May 12, 2022, RFE/RL

An earthquake measuring 5.7 magnitude has rocked the eastern part of Uzbekistan. The European Mediterranean Seismological Centre said the quake on May 12 struck 97 kilometres northwest of Termiz, a city on the Uzbek-Afghan border with about 140,000 residents.

[Kazakhstan seals deal to produce Turkish drones under licence](#)

May 13, 2022, Eurasianet

Kazakhstan is poised to begin manufacturing Turkish-designed ANKA attack drones under a licence agreement concluded this week. This arrangement was among several military cooperation deals inked during President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev's visit to Ankara this week.

West Asia

[In Video Message to Israeli People on Their 74th Independence Day, PM Modi Speaks of Deepening Ties](#)

May 05, 2022, Hindustan Times

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday (May 5) expressed the hope that the India-Israel relationship will be deepened further in future as he greeted the Israeli people on the occasion of their 74th Independence Day.

[External Affairs Minister Dr. Jaishankar Says PM Modi's 2017 Israel Visit was 'Goosebump Moment' for Him](#)

May 06, 2022, The Times of India

Calling the relationship between India and Israel "truly special", External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Israel in 2017 was a "goosebump moment" for him.

[MoS External Affairs Muraleedharan, Qatar Counterpart Hold Discussions on Development in Doha](#)

May 09, 2022, The Economic Times

"Delighted to meet Qatar's State Minister for Foreign Affairs, H.E Mr Soltan bin Saad Al-Muraikhi in Doha. Had a productive discussion on Energy, Trade, Investment, Education, P2P contacts and diaspora welfare. Confident that the partnership will continue to clock newer heights," tweeted the Union Minister.

['Qatar's Investments in India Increase Fivefold in Two Years'](#)

May 09, 2022, The Peninsula Qatar

Minister of State for External Affairs and Parliamentary Affairs of India H E V Muraleedharan said Qatar's investments in India have increased fivefold over the past two years.

[Saudi, Indian Naval Exercise Heralds New Era in Ties](#)

May 07, 2022, Arab News

Vessels from the First Training Squadron of the Indian Navy – INS Tir and INS Sujata along with Indian Coast Guard ship Sarathi – arrived at Jeddah port for a training exchange with the Royal Saudi Navy.

[UAE Minister of Economy to Lead High-Level Business Delegation to India This Week](#)

May 08, 2022, The Economic Times

UAE Minister of Economy Abdulla bin Touq Al Marri will be leading a high-level business delegation to India this week to discuss ways to further promote trade and investments between the two countries.

[Attack on Sinai Checkpoint Kills 11 Egyptian Troops, Says Army](#)

May 07, 2022, Arab News

Egypt's military said Saturday at least 11 troops, including an officer, have been killed in a militant attack in the restive northern part of the Sinai Peninsula.

[Ayatollah Khamenei: Syria Now Looked Upon As A Power Despite Devastation of War](#)

May 08, 2022, Press TV

In a meeting with Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, Leader of the Islamic Revolution in Iran, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei said despite the devastation done to Syria by years-long war, the country is now looked upon as a major power.

[US Senate Passes Non-Binding Motion Against Return to Original Iran Nuclear Deal](#)

May 05, 2022, The Times of Israel

The US Senate passed a non-binding motion demanding that any nuclear agreement reached with Iran also address the Islamic Republic's ballistic missile program and support for proxies in the region.

[EU Suggests IRGC Terror Delisting Compromise in Attempt to Save Iran Nuclear Talks](#)

May 07, 2022, The Times of Israel

The European Union is making a last-ditch attempt to kickstart stalled nuclear talks between P5+1 and Iran, which have reached an impasse over Iran's demand that Washington removes the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) from the US terror list.

[Iran Says EU Nuclear Talks Envoy To Visit Tehran Seeking To Save the Deal](#)

May 07, 2022, Reuters

The European Union's Iran nuclear talks coordinator Enrique Mora is to visit Tehran on Tuesday (May 10) as the EU seeks to break the deadlock and save the 2015 accord.

[OPEC+ Sticks To Modest Oil Output Hike Despite Price Rally](#)

May 05, 2022, Moneycontrol

OPEC+ agreed to another modest monthly oil output increase, arguing that the producer group could not be blamed for disruptions to Russian supply and saying China's coronavirus lockdowns threatened the outlook for demand.

[Report: Saudi Arabia to Invest in Israel Through Jared Kushner's Equity Fund](#)

May 08, 2022, Israel Hayom

Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund (PIF) is said to commit \$2 billion to Affinity Partners, effectively allowing, for the first time, investment in Israeli firms. Riyadh and Tel Aviv do not maintain formal diplomatic relations. The move is seen as yet another public expression of the warming ties between the two.

[CIA Chief Burns Met with Saudi Crown Prince on a Secret Trip to Jeddah, Report Says](#)

May 03, 2022, Middle East Eye

CIA Director William Burns met with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman last month during an unannounced trip to Saudi Arabia as the Biden administration looks to repair ties with its Gulf ally.

United States

United States

[US proposes pick-and-choose Indo-Pacific economic framework](#)

May 13, 2022, Hindustan Times

The United States sees India's participation in the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) as "very important", it views India as a "vital partner" in its economic engagement in the region, and has been "engaging very actively" with the Indian government to address questions about the framework, the State Department has said. Washington is also designing the framework to prioritise "flexibility and inclusion", and participating countries can join IPEF without necessarily joining all the four pillars of the framework -- a pick-and-choose arrangement that could make India more open to coming on board.

[Blinken heads to Europe for NATO, trade meetings](#)

May 12, 2022, Al Arabiya

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken will travel to Germany on Saturday for a meeting of NATO foreign ministers on their response to the war in Ukraine, the State Department said.

[US spars with China, Russia over N Korea's nuclear programme sanctions](#)

May 12, 2022, Business Standard

The United States clashed with China and Russia on Wednesday over their strong opposition to the US push for new UN sanctions on North Korea over its missile and nuclear programs.

[US Edits Its 'US-Taiwan Relations' Page, Removes Sentence 'Taiwan Is Part Of China'](#)

May 10, 2022, News 18

The United States dropped a subtle hint to China that it is ready to change its stance on Taiwan as it changed the wording on its US-Taiwan relations page. The change that stood out was that it excised the sentence 'The US does not support Taiwan independence' completely on the updated page.

[China-US relations: Washington says it is still against Taiwan independence despite 'fact sheet' change](#)

May 12, 2022, SCMP

Both State Department spokesman Ned Price and White House Indo-Pacific coordinator Kurt Campbell say the US position regarding Taiwan has not changed.

Europe & Russia

Europe

['Barbaric war on Ukraine': EU's von der Leyen denounces Russia](#)

May 12, 2022, Al Jazeera

European Commission president calls Russia the 'most direct threat' to international order during annual EU officials meeting in Tokyo.

[Commission adopts €2 billion Partnership Agreement with Finland for 2021-2027](#)

May 12, 2022, Europa

The funds will support Finland in promoting economic, social and territorial cohesion, with a focus on key EU priorities such as the green and digital transition. The funds will also contribute to the country's competitive, innovative and sustainable growth.

[Statement by President von der Leyen and President Biden on occasion of the second Global COVID-19 Summit](#)

May 12, 2022, Europa

The United States of America and the European Union are implementing the U.S.-EU Agenda for Beating the Global Pandemic, Vaccinating the World, Saving Lives Now and Building Back Better Health Security of 22 September 2021. Presidents Biden and Von Der Leyen reaffirmed milestones in their strong cooperation towards the five headline goals of the Agenda.

[EU oil ban adds pressure on Russia but obstacles remain: Analysts](#)

May 12, 2022, Al Jazeera

For a complete embargo to be successful, the bloc has yet to convince countries which rely more heavily on Russian energy supplies.

[Ukraine invasion, Russia-China pact most direct threat to world order: EU chief](#)

May 12, 2022, Hindustan Times

The commission President made the remarks in Tokyo where the top EU officials have gone for an annual round of talks.

["Very Important For Us:" Ukraine Wants Spot "Reserved" In European Union](#)

May 12, 2022, NDTV

"It is not about the fastest possible membership for Ukraine in the EU. But what is very important for us is for this spot to be reserved for Ukraine," he said.

Russia

[NATO leaders ignoring nuclear war risks – Russia](#)

May 7, 2022, Russia Today

Russia's envoy to the US has warned in an interview that NATO powers are not treating the risk of nuclear war with due gravity, claiming that the West, and not Moscow, is driving brinkmanship amid tension rivalling the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis.

[G7 Countries Pledge to Stop Importing Russian Oil](#)

May 8, 2022, The Moscow Times

The entire G7 club of rich nations is "committed to phasing out or banning the import of Russian oil," the White House said, escalating pressure on President Vladimir Putin over the invasion of Ukraine.

[Russian Ambassador Doused With Red Paint At Ceremony In Warsaw](#)

May 9, 2022, RFE/RL

Protesters in Poland doused Russian Ambassador Sergei Andreyev with red paint as he attempted to lay flowers at a Soviet military memorial cemetery in Warsaw for Red Army soldiers who died during World War II.

[Russia's Ukraine operation 'preemptive' – Putin](#)

May 9, 2022, Russia Today

Russia's military operation in Ukraine was a preemptive move against future aggression, President Vladimir Putin has outlined during his address at the Victory Day parade in Red Square in Moscow.

[Putin Demands Action As Devastating Wildfires In Russia Claim 16 Lives](#)

May 10, 2022, RFE/RL

Russian President Vladimir Putin has called on regional officials to act quickly in battling forest fires amid a series of blazes in Siberia and the Urals that have killed 16 people in recent weeks, raising fears that this season may be even worse than last year, the worst on record.

[Russia to help Belarus build missiles – Lukashenko](#)

May 10, 2022, Russia Today

Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko said at a meeting with military officials that his country will build a new missile system with Moscow's help.

[Russia Steps Up Bombardment Of Azovstal In Mariupol, Missiles Strike on Odessa](#)

May 10, 2022, RFE/RL

Fighting in eastern and southern Ukraine intensified on May 10 as missile strikes hit the southern port of Odessa in an apparent effort to disrupt supply lines, and the United States warned that Russian President Vladimir Putin is preparing for a long war.

[Russia Responds With Sanctions After Kyiv Shuts Off Gas Flow Through One Transit Route](#)

May 11, 2022, RFE/RL

Russia has imposed sanctions against units of Gazprom Germania and dozens of other former subsidiaries in countries that have imposed sanctions on Russia after Kyiv halted the use of a major transit route for Russian gas.

[Russia's oil revenues up 50% this year – Bloomberg](#)

May 12, 2022, TASS News Agency

Russia's oil revenues are up 50% this year even as trade restrictions following the special military operation in Ukraine spurred many refiners to shun its supplies, Bloomberg reported citing the International Energy Agency (IEA).

[Finland's NATO Membership 'Definitely' Threatens Russia – Kremlin](#)

May 12, 2022, The Moscow Times

Finland's possible NATO membership "definitely" threatens Russia's security, the Kremlin said, adding that Moscow is ready to take further steps to "balance the situation." Helsinki is expected to announce a formal decision on a membership bid this weekend.

[Putin intends to hold bilateral meetings at CSTO summit in Moscow – Kremlin](#)

May 13, 2022, TASS News Agency

A number of bilateral meetings with the leaders of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) are scheduled with Russian President Vladimir Putin at the summit marking the anniversary of the association, Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters.

Africa & Latin America

Africa

[Sudanese protests against military rule persist](#)

May 12, 2022, Africa News

Sudanese demonstrators are back on the streets to protest against the military in power and ask for the implementation of a civil government. Large crowds could be seen around the presidential palace in Khartoum responding to calls from several dissident groups on May 12. This is the most important turnout since the holy month of Ramadan.

[Ghana determined to solve debt crisis without IMF help – Finance minister](#)

May 12, 2022, Africa News

Ghana is committed to managing its debt without assistance from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Finance Minister Ken Ofori-Atta said.

[Somali radicals attack African Union military base](#)

May 12, 2022, Presna Latina

The Al-Shabab radical group used mortars to attack an African Union military base in the center of Somalia, with no casualties reported so far, the Garowe Online website reported.

[Africa: US Interested in Africa Mining Investments, Says American Official](#)

May 11, 2022, All Africa

A top U.S. energy official says Russia's war on Ukraine has driven home the need to diversify supply chains, and that Africa can benefit from this. Jose Fernandez made the comment to VOA Wednesday at an annual conference on African mining in Cape Town, South Africa.

Latin America

[What's Ahead for India and Latin America?](#)

May 12, 2022, Americas Quarterly

There is increasing evidence that Latin America's recent entente with China is deepening the region's dependence on commodities. But closer economic ties with India could have the opposite effect—and at a crucial moment, as the region recovers from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and supply chain crises.

[Why Latin America Needs a New World Order](#)

May 10, 2022, News Click

In recent years, the region has experienced a new wave of progressive governments. The idea of regional integration has, therefore, returned to the table.

[Venezuela begins imports of Iranian heavy oil for refining -PDVSA documents](#)

May 10, 2022, Reuters

Venezuela has begun importing Iranian heavy crude to feed its domestic refineries, documents from the state-run oil company PDVSA showed, a deal that widens a swap agreement signed last year by the U.S. sanctioned countries.

[Mexico's President threatens to skip Americas summit unless US invites every country](#)

May 10, 2022, CNN

Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador threatened to boycott next month's Summit of Americas, saying Tuesday that his participation will not be confirmed unless host country United States invites Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela.



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