



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

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DPG WEEKLY WORLD WATCH

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South Asia

India

[Defence exports touch ₹13,000 crore: official](#)

July 8, 2022, The Hindu

India's defence exports for 2021-22 were estimated at ₹13,000 crore, the highest ever, Sanjay Jaju, Additional Secretary (Defence Production) in the Defence Ministry, said here on Friday. The U.S. was a major buyer, as also nations in Southeast Asia, West Asia and Africa.

[Bhadoria in Dhaka to Naravane in Yangon, foreign experience matters for CDS post](#)

July 9, 2022, The Print

India's military leaders have valuable foreign experience that they have gained from ground operations, professional military education and defence diplomacy.

['India's foreign policy should look at peace'](#)

July 8, 2022, The Hindu

The focus of India's foreign policy should not be limited to seeking a permanent seat in Security Council or revenge for historical wrongs and welfare and peace should be given more importance, Shivshankar Menon, former National Security Adviser said.

[In Bali meeting with Wang Yi, Jaishankar raises LAC issues](#)

July 7, 2022, The Hindu

Three months after they met in New Delhi, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and Chinese Foreign Minister and State Councillor Wang Yi held talks on the sidelines of the G-20 Foreign Ministers' meeting in Bali on Thursday. While the talks that lasted an hour appeared to be cordial, New Delhi and Beijing crossed swords over Prime Minister Narendra Modi's birthday greetings to the Dalai Lama, and Enforcement Directorate (ED) searches at the offices of the Chinese company Vivo in India.

[Jaishankar's Blinken & Lavrov talks focus on Ukraine crisis](#)

July 9, 2022, The Times of India

External affairs minister S Jaishankar held discussions on regional and global issues, with focus on the Ukraine situation, in bilateral meetings with his US and Russian counterparts, Antony Blinken and Sergey Lavrov, on the side-

lines of the G20 foreign ministers' meeting in Bali. Jaishankar also met French foreign minister Catherine Colonna.

[Shaped India-Japan ties, key person behind Quad](#)

July 9, 2022, The Indian Express

Abe was one of the most consequential leaders of Japan in its post-war history. He was Japan's longest serving Prime Minister, staying in the post from 2006 to 2007, and then from 2012 to 2020. During his time in office, Abe was a great friend of India – a relationship that he invested personally in – and shared a special rapport with Modi.

Pakistan

[Inflation surges to 13-year high amid sky-high fuel prices](#)

July 2, 2022, Dawn

Monthly inflation surged to 21.3 per cent in June, its highest pace in over 13 years, mainly fuelled by rising petroleum product prices. The spike comes as fuel prices have skyrocketed by around 90pc since the last week of May after the new coalition government scrapped costly fuel subsidies in an attempt to tame a surging fiscal deficit and revive a stalled International Monetary Fund (IMF) loan programme.

[Coal starts coming in from Afghanistan](#)

July 3, 2022, Dawn

"Coal from Afghanistan has started coming in a couple of days ago after the government directed the departments concerned, especially the Pakistan Railways, to make certain arrangements for a safe and rapid coal transport operation," the official said.

[CJCSC discusses defence ties with Iranian president](#)

July 3, 2022, Dawn

Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC) Gen Nadeem Raza, who is on an official visit to Islamic Republic of Iran, called on President Ebrahim Raisi in Tehran. According to an ISPR statement, matters of bilateral strategic interest and regional security environment, including the strengthening of security and defence cooperation between the two countries, came under discussion during the meeting.

[Pakistan seeks Qatar gas on deferred payment](#)

July 4, 2022, Dawn

Amid severe energy crunch and unprecedentedly expensive fuel imports, Pakistan is seeking more gas imports on deferred payments from Qatar, which is irritated by roadblocks to its infrastructure investment plans, particularly in import terminals.

[10 soldiers injured in North Waziristan suicide attack](#)

July 5, 2022, Dawn

At least 10 security personnel were injured, three of them seriously, when a suicide bomber attacked a convoy of security forces in North Waziristan tribal district.

[Law on missing persons soon: PM Shehbaz Sharif](#)

July 6, 2022, The News

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said that the government would bring in legislation on missing persons. He said his government's top priority was to provide relief to the poor strata, adding that they will be given more relief once the economic situation gets better. "From the day one, it has been our topmost priority to provide relief to the poorest segment of society from the tough economic situation," he said.

[RDA inflows reach \\$4.606bn till June](#)

July 6, 2022, The News

Pakistan received \$4.606 billion through the Roshan Digital Account (RDA) during September 2020 to June 2022 period, data from the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) showed. Inflows fetched under RDA had reached \$4.4 billion by the end of April 2022. In June, the foreign exchange inflows surged 32.27 percent to stand at \$250 million.

[Pakistan turns net importer of Afghan goods](#)

July 6, 2022, Dawn

As Pakistan's exports to Afghanistan saw a deeper drop since the Taliban took control of Kabul in August 2021, the government took a major decision to allow trade of all products to Kabul in the rupee via land routes owing to the non-availability of tradable currency through banking channels.

[Bilawal, Blinken call for boosting ties](#)

July 7, 2022, The News

Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari said that he had spoken to US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and they reaffirmed their mutual desire to further

strengthen bilateral ties between Pakistan and the United States by expanding engagements in different sectors.

[Oil, gas output down in FY2022 as fields running dry](#)

July 7, 2022, The News

Pakistan's oil and gas output shrank 3 percent and 2 percent respectively during the last fiscal year, numbers showed, mainly owing to output squeeze at different fields and no expansion in the sector.

[969MW project shut after damage detected](#)

July 7, 2022, Dawn

Amid countrywide electricity shortages, the 969-megawatt Neelum-Jhelum hydropower project, completed at an estimated approved cost of about Rs508bn, has been closed due to major cracks in its tailrace tunnel.

[PLL's \\$1bn LNG tender flop to worsen energy crisis](#)

July 8, 2022, The News

Pakistan's energy agonies will further soar in August as it will only have 700mmcfcd imported gas –six cargoes from Qatar and one from ENI- amid a shortfall of 500mmcfcd in the system as it did not receive a single offer in a \$1 billion LNG purchase tender, The News learnt.

Afghanistan

[India delivers 6 tons of medical assistance to Afghanistan: MEA](#)

July 1, 2022, The Statesman

India supplied the seventh batch of medical assistance to Afghanistan consisting of 6 tons of essential medicines as a part of its ongoing humanitarian assistance. The consignment was handed over to the Indira Gandhi Hospital, Kabul.

[Taliban hikes price of coal that Pakistan wants to import, shows who pulls the strings](#)

July 1, 2022, The Print

Facing allegations that it's becoming a 'puppet' of Pakistan, Afghanistan's Taliban regime has raised the price of coal. This comes hours after Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif decided to approve 'critical quality' coal imports from Afghanistan, in rupees, to save on foreign exchange and wean off reliance on South African coal.

[Taliban supreme leader warns foreigners not to interfere in Afghanistan](#)

July 2, 2022, CNN

The Taliban's supreme leader Mawlawi Haibatullah Akhundzada has once again warned foreigners not to interfere in Afghanistan during a rare speech at a gathering of Islamic clerics in Kabul. The reclusive leader told the conference that Afghanistan "cannot develop without being independent".

[Taliban convoy attacked in Afghanistan, 1 assailant killed](#)

July 4, 2022, The Print

One of the attackers who struck out at Taliban's convoy in Afghanistan's Herat has been killed. Unidentified men attacked a minibus carrying Taliban 207 Al-Farooq Corps members in the centre of Herat city.

[Thousands of Refugees Expelled from Iran, Pakistan Recently](#)

July 4, 2022, Tolo News

Nearly 5,000 Afghan refugees have been expelled from neighbouring Iran and Pakistan over the past three days. Officials at the ministry stated that many of the returnees have come from Iran where they encountered a census taken by the Iranian government.

[Muttaqi vows to help Afghan students return to India](#)

July 5, 2022, Afghanistan Times

Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi has promised to do all he can to help Afghan students return to India to complete their studies. Muttaqi held out the assurance at a meeting with dozens of Afghan students in Kabul.

[India Returns to Afghanistan with Small Diplomatic Presence](#)

July 7, 2022, VOA

India has re-established a diplomatic presence in Afghanistan by sending a technical team to reopen its Kabul embassy, ostensibly for humanitarian purposes, but analysts see it as an effort to secure New Delhi's strategic interests in the conflict-ridden country, where the Taliban's return has put Pakistan in a dominant position.

[Biden will rescind Afghanistan's designation as a major non-NATO ally](#)

July 7, 2022, CNN

President Joe Biden in a letter to Congress said that he will officially rescind Afghanistan's designation as a major non-NATO ally. In a letter to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, the President wrote: "In accordance with section 517 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended (22 U.S.C. 2321k), I am providing

notice of my intent to rescind the designation of Afghanistan as a Major Non-NATO Ally."

[Afghan envoy appreciates India's solidarity with earthquake hit Afghanistan](#)

July 7, 2022, Business Standard

Afghanistan's Ambassador to India Farid Mamundzay expressed appreciation for members of the diplomatic corps in India for their solidarity with the people affected by the recent earthquake in the Afghanistan provinces of Paktika, Khost, and Nangarhar.

[Exclusive: United Arab Emirates set to run Kabul airport in deal with Taliban, sources say](#)

July 8, 2022, Reuters

The Taliban and the United Arab Emirates are poised to strike a deal for the Gulf nation to run Kabul airport and several others in Afghanistan that could be announced within weeks. The Taliban, whose government remains an international pariah without formal recognition, have courted regional powers, including Qatar and Turkey, to operate Kabul airport, landlocked Afghanistan's main air link with the world, and others.

Bangladesh

[Is Bangladesh next to fall in China's debt-trap diplomacy?](#)

In a quest for rapid progress and development, Bangladesh is falling under the debt trap of China by sponsoring infrastructure projects.

Nepal

[Nepal exports over 3,000 sacks of cement to India for first time](#)

July 9, 2022, Business Standard

For the first time, Nepal has started exporting cement to India.

[Nepal: Indian embassy official inaugurates school built under Government of India assistance](#)

July 8, 2022, The Print

Karun Bansal, First Secretary, Embassy of India, inaugurated the third school building of Shree Secondary School, Buddhabhumi Municipality in Kapilvastu District, Nepal under the grant assistance from the Government of India.

[India gifts 75 ambulances, 17 school buses to Nepal](#)

July 4, 2022, India Today

India on Sunday gifted 75 ambulances and 17 school buses to Nepal as part of its ongoing efforts to build on the "robust and longstanding" partnership between the two countries and help the Himalayan nation bolster its infrastructure in the healthcare and education sectors.

Sri Lanka

[Sri Lanka economic crisis: President Gotabaya Rajapaksa flees as protesters storm residence](#)

July 9, 2022, India Today

Sri Lanka's President Gotabaya Rajapaksa fled his official residence in Colombo on Saturday moments before thousands of protesters broke through police barricades and stormed the compound.

[Sri Lankan Navy arrests 12 Indian fishermen](#)

July 3, 2022, The Hindu

The Sri Lankan Navy on Sunday arrested 12 Indian fishermen near the coast of Point Pedro in Jaffna, on charges of fishing illegally in the island's territorial waters. Their mechanised boat has been seized, Navy spokesman Captain Indika De Silva said.

East & South East Asia

China

[Wang-Blinken 'constructive' meeting in Bali reduces misunderstanding; China makes stance clear by raising four lists](#)

July 10, 2022, Global Times

Chinese State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi had a five-hour long meeting with US Secretary of State Antony Blinken in Bali on Saturday, during which Wang pointed out That the three China-US joint communiques are the real "guardrails" for bilateral relations. Wang also raised four lists for the US, including US' wrongdoings to be corrected, cases of concern to China, China-related bills of concern, and areas of potential cooperation.

[10 years on, world views China as established power different from West: GT surveys](#)

July 9, 2022, Global Times

Analysts said that China was very humble and keeping low profile but eager to know how the world would evaluate and comment about its development, even though China has surpassed Japan by becoming the second-biggest economy around the globe in 2010. As the Chinese people are learning to be citizens of a great power, the world is also learning to adapt to a rising China with fast growing strengths in every aspect. From questioning the sustainability of China's development, to getting used to the fact that China is a major world power with global influence, the world has also been through a process of understanding China in the past decade.

[Xi Jinping allies lay out Chinese president's global risk outlook in countdown to Communist Party congress](#)

July 8, 2022, SCMP

China is at a critical point in its ties with other countries, with risks mounting from international conflict and competition, a leading Communist Party theorist wrote in an article summarising President Xi Jinping's global outlook.

[China steps up use of combat aircraft in Taiwan sorties as military tries to extend its reach](#)

July 10, 2022, SCMP

The Taiwanese defence ministry says the PLA conducted 555 sorties into its air defence zone in the first half of the year. Defence analysts say the mainland's forces are developing their ability to control the skies over a longer range as part of preparations for a possible conflict.

Japan

[Japan mourns as body of assassinated PM Abe returns to Tokyo](#)

July 9, 2022, The Japan Times

Japan on Saturday mourned the assassination of former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, as the man who fatally gunned him down told police that he initially planned to attack a leader of a religious group. Abe died Friday after being shot from behind during a stump speech near a train station in Nara Prefecture. The murder of Japan's best-known politician rattled the country and sent shock waves worldwide, particularly given the nation's low levels of violent crime and strict gun laws.

[Japan, U.S., South Korea vow to closely cooperate to counter North Korea](#)

July 9, 2022, The Japan Times

On Friday, foreign ministers from Japan, the United States and South Korea agreed that the three nations would work together closely to deal with North Korea's nuclear and missile threats, including strengthening their regional deterrence. They also exchanged views on China, which has been intensifying maritime assertiveness in the Indo-Pacific region, and Russia's invasion of Ukraine started in February, Japanese Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi said.

[Japan, S Korea, U.S. foreign ministers plan 3-way talks this week](#)

July 7, Japan Today

Japan, South Korea, and the United States arranged a meeting of their foreign ministers last week on the Indonesian resort island of Bali, sources familiar with the matter said Wednesday, with North Korea expected to top the agenda. According to the sources, the trilateral talks may take place on the sidelines of a two-day Group of 20 foreign ministerial meeting, due to begin Thursday.

[Industry minister to visit Australia next week for Quad energy meeting](#)

July 6, 2022, The Japan Today

Japan's industry minister said Tuesday he would make a five-day trip to Australia next week to attend the first energy meeting with his counterparts from the Quad group to deepen cooperation over renewable power. Koichi Hagiuda, economy, trade, and industry minister, said he would discuss how to take advantage of new technologies related to hydrogen, ammonia, carbon capture and storage, and carbon recycling when he meets with his counterparts from Australia, India and the United States.

[Japan and Argentina condemn Russia for invading Ukraine](#)

July 06, 2022, The Japan Times

Japan and Argentina on Thursday condemned Russia for its ongoing invasion of Ukraine while pledging to work together in responding to global food and energy price surges. During their meeting in Bali, Indonesia, on the fringes of the Group of 20 gatherings, Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi and his Argentine counterpart Santiago Andres Cafiero shared the view that Russia's aggression is a unilateral change of the status quo by force and a clear violation of international law.

[Japan protests Chinese navy sailing near disputed islands](#)

July 5, 2022, The Japan Today

Japan lodged a protest with China on Monday over a Chinese naval vessel sailing near disputed islands, a Japanese official said, as reports of Russia also sending its navy ship to the area. The islands in the East China Sea, known as the Senkaku by Tokyo and the Diaoyu by Beijing, are at the centre of a long-running dispute between Japan and China.

Korea

[First homegrown KF-21 fighter jets ready to take off. What's ahead?](#)

July 8, 2022, The Korea Herald

South Korea's first homegrown KF-21 fighter jet is gearing up for its inaugural flight test scheduled for late July. KF-21 Boramae fighter prototypes have been undergoing low, medium and high-speed taxi tests since June 25 and will continue until July 13. S. Korea's strategy is to concurrently pursue development and production phases from early 2024.

[Military to establish 'strategic command' by 2024 to control three-axis system](#)

July 6, 2022, The Korea Herald

The South Korean military will establish a new command in response to missile and nuclear threats from North Korea, the Ministry of National Defense said. The three-axis system refers to the South Korean military's response plan to intercept and destroy North Korea's nuclear weapons, missiles, and critical facilities such as its command. It includes the Kill Chain, the Korea Air and Missile Defense and the Korea Massive Punishment and Retaliation plan.

[U.S. Fighter Jets Arrive for Joint Exercises](#)

July 6, 2022, Chosunilbo

Six F-35A stealth fighters from the U.S. Air Force arrived in South Korea on Tuesday to participate in a 10-day joint drill with the South Korean Air Force. The U.S. is ramping up warnings to North Korea as the renegade country prepares for another nuclear test. The U.S. is sending the F-35As to the Korean Peninsula for the first time since the Vigilant Ace joint air exercise in December 2017.

[South Korea seeks to reinvigorate economic ties with Latin America](#)

July 5, 2022, The Korea Herald

South Korean Foreign Minister Park Jin proposed resuming talks on free trade with Mexico, the ministry said Tuesday, as the government seeks to reinvigorate ties with South America. During their first bilateral talk, the Korean minister suggested the two countries resume negotiations for a free trade agreement, discussions for which have stalled since 2008. Aside from the negotiation with Mexico, South Korea is in talks for a trade agreement with Mercosur, a regional trade bloc of Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay.

[S. Korea, Singapore vow stern measures against N. Korean missile provocations](#)

July 7, 2022, The Korea Herald

Seoul's Foreign Ministry said that South Korean Foreign Minister Park Jin and Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong agreed to strengthen bilateral cooperation in handling North Korea's missile provocations. Having signed the Korea-Singapore Digital Agreement in 2021, the ministers reaffirmed their commitments to enhance digital technology cooperation. They also agreed to exchange views on regional affairs and to strengthen their partnership on economic and security fronts.

[S. Korea's top diplomat attends G-20 meeting in Indonesia](#)

July 8, 2022, The Korea Herald

South Korean Foreign Minister Park Jin joined a Group of 20 (G-20) foreign ministers' meeting in Indonesia on Friday to discuss regional and global issues in his debut on the multilateral diplomatic stage as Seoul's top diplomat. It also set the stage for Park's bilateral talks with his counterpart from the world's 20 advanced and emerging economies. Russia's invasion of Ukraine is also high on the agenda at this year's gathering as a way to strengthen multilateralism amid global energy.

[Seoul's foreign minister underscores values of freedom, human rights in talks with China](#)

July 8, 2022, The Korea Times

South Korean Foreign Minister Park Jin and his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi agreed to communicate in their first in-person bilateral meeting regularly. Seoul's Foreign Minister urges Beijing to lead Pyongyang to dialogue and stop its nuclear provocations. The bilateral talks come amid intensifying rivalry between China and the United States.

Southeast Asia

[US, China in a diplomatic tug-of-war for Marcos](#)

July 9, 2022, Asia Times

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi is in the middle of a wide-reaching Southeast Asia tour, marking Beijing's latest counter to America's rising diplomatic outreach to the strategic region. Wang's most crucial trip on his ongoing five-nation itinerary, however, is arguably to the Philippines under newly elected president Ferdinand Marcos Jr. Amid a new Cold War in the region, both Washington and Beijing have been actively courting the new man in Malacañang Palace to enhance their strategic footprint in Southeast Asia.

[Russia's Lavrov is pariah at G-20 event, but only for some](#)

July 9, 2022, The Straits Times

Russia's Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov attended a meeting of finance ministers from the Group of 20 industrialised nations in Bali on Friday (July 8), despite his country's pariah status in Europe and elsewhere over its brutal war in Ukraine. Russia's invasion drove two central topics of discussion at the annual event: global disruptions of food and energy supplies. Lavrov engaged in diplomatic talks with his counterparts from China, India, Brazil, Turkey, Argentina, and Indonesia.

[Why Vietnam can't and won't leave Russia's side](#)

July 7, 2022, Asia Times

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov met this week with Vietnamese Foreign Minister Bui Thanh Son, Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh and Communist Party General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong. Vietnam is Russia's top Southeast Asian partner and is viewed as a lynchpin for maintaining stable relations in the region. Vietnamese state media underscored that the visit further solidifies Russia as one of Vietnam's pre-eminent diplomatic partners.

[Chinese FM Pledges 'Closer' Ties with Myanmar's Military Government](#)

July 5, 2022, The Diplomat

Wang Yi's visit to Myanmar for a Lancang-Mekong Cooperation (LMC) summit was the first stop on a five-nation tour of Southeast Asia. He vowed to build a closer relationship with military-ruled Myanmar on Sunday, becoming the highest-ranking Chinese official to visit the country since last February's coup.

Central & West Asia

Central Asia

[Effective climate action in Central Asia requires tweaks in donor approaches – report](#)

July 4, 2022, Eurasianet

Environmental degradation and climate change are deepening human security dilemmas in Central Asia. In developing effective responses, foreign governments and international donors need to abandon a “one-size-fits-all” approach, and adopt more targeted policies that establish clear benchmarks while accounting for the region’s legacy of authoritarianism and graft.

[Uzbekistan Says 18 Killed In Karakalpakstan Unrest](#)

July 4, 2022, RFE/RL

The office of Uzbekistan’s prosecutor general said on July 4 that 18 people were killed during unrest in the Central Asian nation’s restive autonomous republic of Karakalpakstan that broke out last week over plans to curtail its autonomy.

[Uzbekistan claims shelling near Afghanistan border](#)

July 5, 2022, Eurasianet

The authorities in Uzbekistan have said that an area in the south of the country was shelled, presumably from neighbouring Afghanistan. The Foreign Ministry said five projectiles struck at around 4:20 p.m. local time on July 5, but that they did not explode.

[Tajikistan banks on GBAO construction boom to soothe tempers](#)

July 7, 2022, Eurasianet

As Tajikistan’s government consolidates its control over the restive Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region following the forceful suppression of recent unrest, it is now seeking to soothe anger with investments into large infrastructure projects that it says will generate jobs and prosperity.

[Kazakh President Calls For New Oil Export Routes After Russia Suspends Key Pipeline](#)

July 7, 2022, RFE/RL

Kazakhstan’s president called for diversifying the country’s oil supply routes, a day after a Russian court suspended operations on a major export pipeline. The comments highlighted Kazakh worries about getting its oil--which is a major source of revenue--out to world.

West Asia

[PM Modi Congratulates Yair Lapid for Assuming Israeli Premiership](#)

July 01, 2022, The Indian Express

Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Yair Lapid for assuming the premiership of Israel and said he looks forward to furthering the bilateral strategic partnership as the two countries celebrate 30 years of full diplomatic relations.

[After Prophet Row, PM Meets UAE President, Both Underline Ties](#)

June 29, 2022, The Indian Express

Prime Minister Narendra Modi met UAE President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, popularly known as MBZ, and conveyed condolences on the death of the former president of the Gulf nation, Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan. The two leaders also reviewed bilateral ties.

[Russian President Putin Pushes INSTC To Connect India; Describes it as a 'Truly Ambitious Project'](#)

July 01, 2022, The Economic Times

Russian President Vladimir Putin has strongly pushed the International North South Transport Corridor (INSTC) as the key connectivity link between Russia and India via Iran by describing it as a truly ambitious project notwithstanding China hard pressing BRI as a mega connectivity initiative in the Eurasian region.

[Russia May Be India's Biggest Crude Supplier in June, a Historic First](#)

July 01, 2022, Business Standard

India is turning away from its favourite crude—Iraqi Basrah, a staple for state-run refiners led by IOC. Displacing Iraq is Russia, which became India's biggest crude supplier in June for the first time, pushing Iraq to the second position.

[After Price Cap Talks, Russian Oil To Get Expensive, Should India Be Worried?](#)

June 29, 2022, Mint

After the United States, Germany and Japan agreed to explore a price cap on Russian oil exports, eyes are now on India which imports 10% of its oil from Russia. "We have begun talks with India about how a price cap would work and what the implications would be," White House national security adviser Jake Sullivan said.

[Abraham Accords Success Continues in Bahrain Negev Forum Meeting - Jerusalem Post Editorial](#)

June 27, 2022, The Jerusalem Post

Despite the current political turmoil in Israel, all states involved plan to present President Biden with a united front promoting regional cooperation and countering a nuclear Iran.

[Egypt's FM: 'NATO Middle East' Not Currently On The Table](#)

July 01, 2022, The Jerusalem Post

Despite reports circulating in the media of the imminent formation of a military alliance in the Middle East similar to NATO, this is not likely to happen anytime soon, Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry said during a press conference in Bahrain.

[OPEC, Allies Struggle to Meet Oil Production Targets](#)

June 29, 2022, The Wall Street Journal

As President Biden prepares to go to Saudi Arabia in July, OPEC members say the cartel and its allies have fallen far behind on their oil-production targets and are in their weakest position in recent years to help tame high crude prices.

[Chances for Iran Nuclear Deal Worse after Doha Talks: US official](#)

July 01, 2022, Reuters

The chances of reviving the 2015 Iran nuclear deal are worse after indirect U.S.-Iranian talks in Doha that ended without progress, a senior U.S. official said.

[President Biden Says He'll Aim to 'Deepen Israel's Integration in Region' During Visit](#)

June 30, 2022, The Times of Israel

US President Joe Biden said that one of the purposes of his upcoming trip to the Middle East is to "deepen Israel's integration in the region." US President said the trip was not about Saudi Arabia, even though Riyadh will be hosting the summit; makes no mention of Palestinian issue.

[Jordan Denies Plan To Build Military Alliance With Israel](#)

June 30, 2022, Middle East Monitor

"This issue is not on the agenda of the US President Joe Biden's visit to the region," Jordanian Foreign Minister Al-Safadi said, stressing: "there is no Arab alliance that Israel will be part of. There have been no proposals for such a thing."

[NATO Reaches a Deal with Turkey to Admit Sweden and Finland, Secretary-General Says](#)

June 28, 2022, CNBC

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said the world's most powerful military alliance reached a deal to admit Sweden and Finland after resolving the concerns of holdout Turkey.

United States

United States

[Brittney Griner Pleads Guilty to Drug Charges in Russian Court](#)

July 7, 2022, The New York Times

Brittney Griner pleaded guilty to drug charges in a Russian courtroom on Thursday, as the wrangling over the American basketball star's fate shifted increasingly to the diplomatic arena — a daunting prospect for Ms. Griner's supporters amid America's rift with Moscow over the war in Ukraine.

[U.S. Aims to Expand Export Bans on China Over Security and Human Rights](#)

July 5, 2022, The New York Times

The Biden administration is applying lessons learned from controls on Russia during the Ukraine war to try to limit China's military and technological advances.

[Anger as families of US detainees in Middle East left off Blinken call](#)

July 5, 2022, The Guardian

Family members of several US nationals who are being held in Saudi Arabia and Egypt were not invited to attend a recent call with Antony Blinken, the secretary of state, in a move that was called "infuriating and discriminatory" by one critic.

[U.S. won't push Ukraine to negotiate, NSC's Kirby says](#)

July 7, 2022, Politico

It's not the United States' role to push Ukraine to negotiate a settlement with Russia, even if the Biden administration thought that it was the right thing to do, John Kirby said Sunday. "President Zelenskyy," John Kirby said, "gets to determine how victory is decided and when and on what terms."

[Give CAATSA waiver, deepen defence and energy ties with India: US Congressmen](#)

July 7, 2022, Hindustan Times

Congressman Ro Khanna, a member of HASC, Andy Barr, a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and Ronnie Jackson, a retired rear admiral and member of HASC, have proposed the India-specific amendments.

[Top US General Mark Milley speaks with Chinese counterpart](#)

July 7, 2022, Al Jazeera

Top US General Mark Milley has held a phone call with his Chinese counterpart Li Zuocheng, emphasising the need to "responsibly manage competition"

between Washington and Beijing, the Pentagon said. The call on Thursday comes amid growing tensions between the United States and China over regional and global issues, including posture on Taiwan and Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

[US, Israel push Arab allies for joint defence pact amid Iran tensions](#)

July 7, 2022, Reuters

The United States and Israel are seeking to lay the groundwork for a security alliance with Arab states that would connect air defence systems to combat Iranian drone and missile attacks in the Middle East, four sources familiar with the plan said.

[US to send Ukraine advanced NASAMS air defense weapons in \\$820 million package](#)

July 2, 2022, Defense News

The Pentagon on Friday announced \$820 million in new Ukraine military aid that includes advanced mid- to long-range air defense systems and counter-artillery radars to respond to Russia's heavy use of long-range strikes in the war.

Europe & Russia

Europe

[Ukraine can't have NATO-style security guarantees from the West, Germany says](#)

July 6, 2022, Politico

Western assurances for the country won't amount to the 'mutual defence' enshrined in Article 5 of the NATO treaty, Chancellor Olaf Scholz says. Western countries are willing to safeguard Ukraine's future existence with security guarantees but they can't amount to a similar level of protection as the NATO military alliance provides, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz said Wednesday.

[Lavrov accuses France of breaching 'diplomatic etiquette' over release of Macron-Putin call](#)

July 2, 2022, Politico

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said that the publication of a call between French leader Emmanuel Macron and Russian President Vladimir Putin, which took place just four days before Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, was a breach of "diplomatic etiquette." The call, which took place just days before Russia's full-scale attack on Ukraine, was published last week in a documentary.

[Latvia to reinstate compulsory military service amid Russia's war on Ukraine](#)

July 6, 2022, Politico

Latvia will reinstate compulsory military service for young men in response to Russian aggression, Defense Minister Artis Pabriks announced on Tuesday. 15 years after abolishing the measure, Riga plans to make all men aged 18-27 complete 11 months of training. More Latvians with military training will act to deter Russia from targeting its smaller neighbour in a so-called zero-warning attack, Pabriks said in a tweet.

[Germany Sees Russian Pipeline Part Released in Gas De-Escalation](#)

July 8, 2022, Bloomberg

Germany expects Canada to release a key Russian pipeline part caught up in sanctions, a move that both Berlin and Moscow have said could ease the squeeze on gas flows to Europe.

[Boris Johnson resigns as British prime minister](#)

July 7, 2022, Reuters

Boris Johnson resigned as Britain's prime minister, bowing to calls from ministerial colleagues and lawmakers in his Conservative Party.

[Italy's economy minister says growth could end this year even after strong Q2](#)

July 8, 2022, Reuters

Italian economic growth was probably strong in the second quarter but could slow or even stop in the coming months as inflationary pressures rise, Economy Minister Daniele Franco said.

Russia

[Russia Approves Bill Recognizing Civilians Sent to Ukraine War as Veterans](#)

July 5, 2022, The Moscow Times

Russia's lower house of parliament has passed new legislation giving civilians who have contributed to Moscow's invasion of Ukraine the same status as war veterans. The legislation will include doctors, technical specialists, construction workers and journalists who have worked with Russian troops in occupied areas of Ukraine, according to lawmakers.

[Russia's space chief speaks out on nationalisation](#)

July 5, 2022, Russia Today

Russian officials should seize control over companies producing key satellite components like radiation-hardened electronics, the head of the Russian Roscosmos space agency, Dmitry Rogozin, said.

[FSB Official Takes Over Moscow-Occupied Kherson Region](#)

July 5, 2022, The Moscow Times

An official from Russia's powerful FSB security services took over the government of the Moscow-occupied Kherson region in southern Ukraine, Kremlin-installed authorities said. Sergei Yeliseyev, until now the deputy head of government in the Russian exclave of Kaliningrad, "became head of the government in the Kherson region".

[Russian State Duma equals defection during armed conflict to treason](#)

July 5, 2022, TASS News Agency

The Russian State Duma passed a bill in the second reading, which equals defection to the enemy during an armed conflict to treason. The bill amends Article 275 of the Russian Criminal Code.

[Moscow Orders Jewish Agency to Halt Russia Operations – Reports](#)

July 5, 2022, The Moscow Times

Russian officials have allegedly ordered the Jewish Agency for Israel to stop all activity inside the country in a measure that could impact thousands of Russian Jews who want to repatriate to Israel, The Jerusalem Post reported.

[Finland Moves To Fortify Border With Russia](#)

July 7, 2022, RFE/RL

Finland moved toward fortifying its border with Russia, as lawmakers authorised barriers and allowed the closure of the entire 1,300-kilometre border under exceptional circumstances. The vote by the Finnish parliament comes as the country moves rapidly to join the NATO alliance, abandoning decades of neutrality in response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

[Putin Says Russia Hasn't Even Started In Ukraine As He Dares West To Try To Defeat Russia On Battlefield](#)

July 7, 2022, RFE/RL

Russian President Vladimir Putin has warned that Russia has barely started its military action in Ukraine and challenged Western countries supporting Kyiv to try to defeat Russia on the battlefield. Putin accused Western allies of fueling the hostilities, charging that "the West wants to fight us until the last Ukrainian."

[Russia launches trade with India via Eastern branch of INSTC involving Central Asian states](#)

July 7, 2022, The Economic Times

Russian logistics firm RZD Logistics has stated that it has commenced transportation by full container trains from Russia to India by the eastern branch of the International North-South Transport Corridor involving transport infrastructure of Russia, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Iran and India.

Africa & Latin America

Africa

[Clashes continue in DRC despite de-escalation pact with Rwanda](#)

July 7, 2022, Al Jazeera

Clashes have broken out in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo between its military and M23 rebels, a civil society and a rebel source said, a day after a bilateral agreement to de-escalate diplomatic tensions over the rebellion.

[M23 – why armed African group Indian soldiers helped defeat in 2013 is back in the news](#)

July 8, 2022, The Print

Resurgence of M23, a rebel group thought to be defunct until last year, has led to blame game between Rwanda and Democratic Republic of the Congo, although peace efforts are under way.

[Sudan activists to unite under 'revolutionary council'](#)

July 8, 2022, Africa News

Pro-democracy groups in Sudan announced a "revolutionary council" Thursday to close ranks against coup leader General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, rejecting his offer of a civilian government, as protesters keep pressing for his resignation.

[At 20, African Union has achieved much but the work goes on](#)

July 8, 2022, DW

The launch of the African Union on July 9, 2002, was met with great optimism. The AU has since accomplished much to unlock Africa's potential and secure prosperity, but there is more to do.

[Impact of Chinese loans in Africa far more complex than portrayed](#)

July 8, 2022, The Print

Online research paper, IJSER reported that some scholars argue that Chinese loans have created a debt trap in Africa, and China is leveraging on the debt trap to strategically penetrate Africa's political landscape.

[Chinese Communist Party opens school in Tanzania to train party officials from region](#)

July 8, 2022, The Economic Times

The Chinese Communist Party (CPC) has funded and built a leadership school in Tanzania to train political party officials from countries of Southern Africa

in what will be the first such initiative in the continent having major ramifications.

Latin America

[Migration surges at Mexico-U.S. border](#)

July 7, 2022, CGTN

In recent years, Mexico has tracked a record number of undocumented immigrants entering its territory.

[Ukraine asks Paraguay for Mercosur's help](#)

July 7, 2022, Merco Press

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenski Wednesday asked his Paraguayan colleague Mario Abdo Benítez to bring the other Mercosur leaders to support his war-torn country through its plight following Russia's invasion.

[Argentina protests the designation of Protected Areas in South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands](#)

July 8, 2022, Merco Press

The Argentine government in a protest note addressed to the United Kingdom pointed out its complete rejection of UK's intended designation of the entire landmass of South Georgia & the South Sandwich Islands (SGSSI) as Specially Protected Areas.

[Argentine minister off on European tour to buy new submarine](#)

July 8, 2022, Merco Press

Argentina's Defence Minister Jorge Taiana and a team of top-ranking Navy officers are on a trip to Europe to hold talks with several shipyards for the purchase of a new submarine to replace the ARA San Juan, it was reported.

[Argentina has always been supportive of India's membership of Nuclear Suppliers Group: Ambassador Hugo Javier Gobbi](#)

July 7, 2022, The Hindu

Argentina is open to expanding bilateral as well as multilateral nuclear cooperation with India, ambassador of Argentina Hugo Javier Gobbi said on Wednesday. Speaking to The Hindu exclusively, the senior diplomat said Argentina shared India's vision for a multipolar world and would pursue membership at the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) while deepening commercial and political links with India with a perspective of "south-south" cooperation.



Delhi Policy Group
Core 5A, 1st Floor,
India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road
New Delhi - 110003
India
www.delhipolicygroup.org