



Delhi Policy Group

Advancing India's Rise as a Leading Power



DPG WEEKLY WORLD WATCH



Volume VI, Issue 35 | October 15, 2022

Delhi Policy Group

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

www.delhipolicygroup.org



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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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Your comments and feedback can be addressed to Angana Guha Roy at angana@dpg.org.in.

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Contents

South Asia.....	1
East & South East Asia	8
Central & West Asia	13
United States.....	15
Europe & Russia	16
Africa & Latin America	19

South Asia

India

[Can India Keep Balancing Russia and the West?](#)

October 13, 2022, Foreign Policy

Russian President Vladimir Putin's escalations in Ukraine have compounded diplomatic challenges for New Delhi.

[India should not rely on defence imports, says Rajnath Singh](#)

October 13, 2022, The Hindu

'Atmanirbharta' does not mean isolation, but ensures national security and autonomy through a modern military, says Rajnath Singh.

[INS Tarkash leads India's participation in multinational maritime exercise off South African coast](#)

October 12, 2022, India Narrative

Indian Naval Ship Tarkash is participating in the seventh edition of IBSAMAR – a joint multinational maritime exercise along with Brazilian and South African navies – off the coast of South Africa's Port Grequhrea, also known as Port Elizabeth.

[Indian naval ships enter UAE for long range training deployment](#)

October 10, 2022, Mint

As part of the long-range deployment training for the newly inducted officers of the Indian Navy, two ships of the Indian Navy INS Tir, and INS Sujata, and one ship of Indian Coast Guard Sarathi entered Port Rashid in Dubai, UAE. The ships were received by the Defence Attache at the Embassy of India in UAE and officials of the UAE Navy.

[Jaishankar says West armed 'dictatorship next door' so bought weapons from Russia: Can the West counterweigh now?](#)

October 12, 2022, Times Now

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar was speaking nothing but the truth when he said that for decades Pakistan received military aid from the west, pushing India closer to Russia, which has become a trusted partner over time. The same cannot be said for US-Pakistan relations, yet Islamabad has been given a boost with the F-16 upkeep deal. As all countries act pragmatically amid the geopolitical chaos, can anyone preach to the other?

[West did not supply weapons to India for decades: Jaishankar](#)

October 11, 2022, The Indian Express

After holding talks with his Australian counterpart Penny Wong in Canberra, Jaishankar also said that India and Russia have a long-standing relationship that has certainly served India's interests well.

Pakistan

[Massive power outage hits parts of country](#)

October 14, 2022, The News

Large swathes of Pakistan, including Sindh, Balochistan and Punjab, experienced a major power breakdown. The routine life came to a grinding halt for hours as power shortfall of 8,000MW emerged following tripping of transmission lines that affected multiple cities across Sindh, Balochistan and southern Punjab.

[Govt to shelve coal power project](#)

October 14, 2022, The Express Tribune

Pakistan has decided to shelve a plan to set up an imported coal-fired power plant at Gwadar under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) due to the high cost of imported fuel and its preference for local resources.

[Historic decline in cotton output feared](#)

October 14, 2022, The Express Tribune

Pakistan is going to face a historic decline of 43.08% in cotton production for the year 2022-23. A high-powered Federal Committee on Agriculture (FCA) was informed that cotton production is estimated at 6.3 million bales from an area of 2.1 million hectares, reflecting a decrease of 43.08% in production over the past year.

['Grave injustice' to terror victims, says India on Germany's call for UN role in Jammu and Kashmir](#)

October 9, 2022, Scroll.in

India opposed Germany's call for the "engagement of the United Nations" in the situation in Jammu and Kashmir, saying the comments were a "grave injustice" to victims of terrorism. "Germany has a role and responsibility with regard to the situation of Kashmir," German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock had said after bilateral talks with her Pakistani counterpart Bilawal Bhutto Zardari in Berlin on October 7.

[Driver killed as school van attacked in Swat](#)

October 11, 2022, The News

A driver was killed and a student injured when an unidentified person opened fire on a school van in the Gulibagh area of the Swat district. According to Ali Bach, Station House Officer (SHO) of the Charbagh Police Station, an unknown person opened fire on the van which was carrying children to a private school. He said the driver identified as Hussain Ahmad, son of, Inayatullah Rahman, aged 32, was killed and a student, 11, was left injured in the attack.

[12 major generals promoted to lieutenant general rank](#)

October 12, 2022, The News

Twelve Major Generals of Pakistan Army have been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant General, the Inter-Services Public Relations said. The promoted officers included the Vice Chief of General Staff (VCGS-A) Nauman Zakaria, who has served as Director-General of Military Operations, VCGS-B Major General Shahid Nazir and Director General Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) Major General Babar Iftikhar.

[GB minister, tourists allowed to leave after ultimatum from militants](#)

October 9, 2022, Dawn

A senior minister among several travellers, including foreign tourists, trapped on Babusar Road near Thak Village of Chilas, were allowed to pass through the area after officials held negotiations with militants. During the talks, the militants gave a 10-day ultimatum to the authorities to meet their demands.

['Anti-Afghan Taliban' police officer shot dead in Quetta](#)

October 11, 2022, Dawn

An 'anti-Afghan Taliban' former police officer was shot dead by unknown gunmen in the provincial capital. The gunmen on a motorcycle opened fire on Abdul Samad Achakzai who was riding a motorbike along with his brother. Samad Achakzai was a police commander in the previous Ashraf Ghani government in Kabul.

[Orders came from 'elsewhere' while I was PM, says Imran](#)

October 13, 2022, Dawn

Former prime minister Imran Khan said that during his three-and-half-year tenure, decision-making powers did not lie with him, even though he was in charge of running the affairs of the country.

[KP protests denounce resurgence of violence](#)

October 12, 2022, Dawn

The family of a school van driver, killed in a gun attack, ended their over 40-hour protest following successful negotiations with the administration and buried his body, as various districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa erupted with massive protests in solidarity with the people of Swat.

[Army contingent heads to Qatar for World Cup security](#)

October 11, 2022, Dawn

A contingent of Pakistan Army left for Qatar to assume security duties for the FIFA World Cup 2022. The contingent consisting of officers, junior commissioned officers and other Pakistan Army personnel departed from Nur Khan Airbase in Rawalpindi. The troops will assist the Qatari government in security duties for the global event.

[IMF's FY23 projections for Pakistan fail to account for flood impact](#)

October 12, 2022, Dawn

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) further lowered its global economic growth forecast to below 2 per cent amid stubborn higher inflation with a warning that the worst was yet to come. In its World Economic Outlook (WEO) 2023 – Countering the Cost-of-Living Crisis, the global lender of last resort forecast Pakistan's GDP growth rate at 3.5pc and inflation at around 20pc with a disclaimer -- "the 2022 projections for Pakistan are based on information available as of the end of August and do not include the impact of the recent floods".

Afghanistan

[India arrests six Pakistani nationals with heroin in the Arabian Sea](#)

October 8, 2022, Reuters

Indian authorities arrested six Pakistani nationals and seized heroin worth tens of millions of dollars from a Pakistani fishing boat in the Arabian Sea near the western state of Gujarat. "The heroin seized was smuggled from Afghanistan and the Pakistani men arrested are being questioned to understand the modus operandi," Deepan Bhadrans, a senior Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) official in Gujarat state, said.

[Special relationship: India delivers 13th batch of medical aid for Afghan people](#)

October 11, 2022, Hindustan Times

India has supplied the 13th batch of medical assistance, consisting of essential medicines and medical and surgical items, to Afghanistan. The aid was provided in continuation of India's "special relationship with the people of Afghanistan and in view of the urgent appeals made by the United Nations to assist the Afghan people", the ministry said.

[Taliban say Afghanistan secure enough for big projects](#)

October 12, 2022, The Washington Post

The Taliban said there is enough security across Afghanistan to restart major economic projects that stopped due to decades of war, despite a slew of attacks rocking the country since the group seized power more than a year ago.

[Hazaras rally in Balochistan against persecution in Afghanistan](#)

October 13, 2022, Dawn

Hundreds of people belonging to the Hazara community, including women and children, held a protest rally against last month's suicide bombing at an educational centre in Kabul which left 52 people, most of them students, dead. Members of the Hazara community, including elders, ulema and members of civil society, gathered in the Hazara Town area and took out the protest rally, carrying placards and banners inscribed with slogans seeking end to what they called genocide of the members of their community and stopping acts of terrorism against them.

[Trump signed order for immediate 'large-scale troop withdrawals' from Afghanistan after election loss](#)

October 13, 2022, Los Angeles Times

After the 2020 election, then-President Trump rushed to sign an immediate withdrawal order to pull troops out of Afghanistan in what a member of the congressional committee investigating Jan. 6, 2021, described as evidence he knew his term was coming to an end.

[US Places More Sanctions on Taliban Over Treatment of Women](#)

October 11, 2022, VOA

The United States announced new sanctions against the Taliban as punishment for their repressive treatment of women and girls in Afghanistan. Secretary of State Antony Blinken unveiled the new visa restriction policy for current or former members of the Taliban and others involved in repressing women through restrictive policies and violence.

Bangladesh

[Feature: China-Bangladesh friendship bridge becomes tourist hotspot with Islamic, Chinese characteristics](#)

October 12, 2022, Xinhua

The architectural heritage across the Islamic world is impressively rich and Bangladesh, as a Muslim-majority country, is no exception.

[Bangladesh should tap blue economy: Dutch-Bangla Chamber](#)

September 19, 2022, Tbsnews

Bangladesh should devise mid- and long-term strategies to explore the "blue economy" as the country's maritime resources remained untapped despite the victory against neighbouring countries in the international tribunal on maritime boundaries in 2014.

Nepal

[As Nepal puts Agniveer recruitment on the back burner, India must tread cautiously](#)

October 8, 2022, The Indian Express

Recent remarks by General Manoj Pandey on redistribution of Gorkha vacancies to other army units could have been avoided.

[In the shadow of giants? How Nepal is navigating the US-China tussle and what it means for India](#)

October 10, 2022, Scroll

In the third episode of Spotlight South Asia, host Sushant Singh looks at the shifts in Nepal and its politics with guest Amish Raj Mulmi.

Sri Lanka

[India abstains on Sri Lanka vote at Human Rights Council](#)

October 6, 2022, The hindu

Foreign Minister Sabry accused the Core Group of nations that tabled the resolution of going beyond its mandate by including economic issues.

[Paris Club ready for close coordination with China, India on Sri Lanka debt talks](#)

October 13, 2022, Reuters

The Paris Club creditor nations last month reached out to China and India seeking to coordinate closely on Sri Lanka's debt talks, but is still awaiting a reply.

East & South East Asia

China

[The rising way - How did CPC lead China from poverty to xiaokang?](#)

October 13, 2022, Global Times

The Communist Party of China (CPC) will convene its 20th National Congress on October 16 to bring China's development to the next stage. This congress is being held after China has accomplished its first centenary goal of building xiaokang - a moderately prosperous society in all respects by 2021 - and to start the second centenary goal of building a modern socialist country that is prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced and harmonious by 2049.

[US' new national security report lack of creativity, full of viciousness: Global Times editorial](#)

October 14, 2022, Global Times

The White House released its new National Security Strategy (NSS). This is a routine of every US government and an important document that reflects and guides the incumbent government's internal affairs and diplomacy. But after reading the 48-page document, the international community generally feels a strong sense of unease and concern. The "national security" pursued by the US will come at the expense of the security of other countries. If the path and direction stated in the report is followed, the superpower of the US will sooner or later go to the opposite side of world peace and stability, and the consequences will be unimaginable.

[China launches new environmental satellite](#)

October 13, 2022, Xinhua

China launched a new satellite for disaster reduction, emergency management, and environment monitoring from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre in northern Shanxi Province.

Japan

[Japan, US conduct joint drill involving aircraft carrier](#)

October 9, 2022 The Jakarta Post

Japan and the United States are conducting a joint military drill involving US aircraft carrier Ronald Reagan in areas around Japan in light of North Korea's continued missile launches, Japan's Defense Ministry said.

[Japan foreign minister to visit Singapore, Malaysia this weekend](#)

October 7, 2022 The Jakarta Post

Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi will visit Singapore and Malaysia this weekend as part of efforts to step up Japan's cooperation with ASEAN in achieving a free and open Indo-Pacific.

[Indonesia, Japan discuss cooperation on boosting coastal defense](#)

October 13, 2022 Antara News

Commander of the Indonesian National Armed Forces General Andika Perkasa and Chief of Staff of the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force General Yoshida Yoshihide have discussed cooperation in the military sector, including strengthening coastal defense.

[Japan considers clarifying Abe's diplomatic legacy in security guideline](#)

October 12, 2022 The Japan Times

The government is planning to highlight diplomatic initiatives advocated by assassinated former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in its long-term security policy guideline slated to be updated by the end of this year, a government source said.

[Malaysia, Japan agree to upgrade relations to comprehensive strategic partnership, says Saifuddin](#)

October 9, 2022 Malay Mail

Malaysia and Japan have agreed for the Strategic Partnership between the two countries to be upgraded to a Strategic Comprehensive Partnership, said Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Saifuddin Abdullah. Saifuddin said in order to coordinate the upgrade, Malaysia has started discussions at the official level by identifying areas of cooperation for the benefit of both countries.

[Japan ready to take appropriate action on volatile yen](#)

October 13, 2022 The Japan Times

Japan stands ready to take appropriate steps against excess volatility in the foreign exchange market and is watching currency movements with a great sense of urgency, top government spokesman Hirokazu Matsuno said.

Korea

[Kim touts "strengthened" Russia cooperation in message to Putin](#)

October 7, 2022 The Jakarta Post

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un said cooperation between his country and Russia has been "strengthened as never before" in a message sent to celebrate Russian President Vladimir Putin's 70th birthday, state-run media said.

[South Korea delivers big interest rate hike, offers dovish hints.](#)

October 12, 2022, AlJazeera.

South Korea's central bank has raised interest rates by a half percentage point and flagged more to come as a surging dollar pushed up import costs, but there were signs policymakers may be considering slowing the pace of tightening. The Bank of Korea (BOK) raised its benchmark policy rate to 3 percent, as expected, following a quarter percentage point hike in August.

[South Korea faces growing calls to reconsider nuclearisation to counter North threat.](#)

October 13, 2022, South China Morning Post.

[South Korea](#) is facing growing calls to acquire nuclear weapons to counter threats from the North, including tactical atomic bombs ready for use on the battlefield, analysts say. The South's nuclearisation would mean redeploying US tactical nuclear weapons to the country that were pulled out in the 1990s, or acquiring home-grown ones. However, the [United States](#) is unlikely to accept either option in the foreseeable future, according to analysts.

[North Korea says it has deployed nuclear-capable long-range cruise missiles](#)

October 13, 2022 The Japan Times

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un oversaw a test of "long-range strategic cruise missiles," state media reported, in yet another sign that Pyongyang is increasingly deploying even more powerful missiles capable of delivering nuclear bombs to its neighbours.

[South Korea loses election for membership at UNHRC for first time](#)

October 12, 2022 The Korean Herald

South Korea was not re-elected as a member of the United Nations Human Rights, conceding to Bangladesh and the Maldives, among others. It is the first time the country has been turned down membership since the council was established in 2006.

[S. Korea, Japan to hold working-level consultations on wartime forced labor](#)

October 11, 2022

South Korea and Japan plan to hold working-level diplomatic consultations over their protracted row over wartime forced labour and other bilateral issues, the foreign ministry said. Lee Sang-ryeol, the ministry's director general for Asia and Pacific affairs, is scheduled to meet with his Japanese counterpart, Takehiro Funakoshi, at the Seoul foreign ministry in Seoul.

[Yoon criticizes NK provocations, stresses military cooperation with Japan](#)

October 11, 2022

President Yoon Suk-yeol criticized North Korea for making nuclear threats against the world, saying there is nothing to be gained through nuclear weapons. Yoon also vowed to establish solid security cooperation with the US and Japan amid growing criticism from the opposition party.

South East Asia

[FPDA militaries to train against supply chain disruptions amid 'uncertain' geopolitical environment](#)

October 11, 2022 CAN

Member states of the Five Power Defence Arrangements (FPDA) said on October 11 they will include supply chain disruptions in future military exercises, as defence chiefs vowed to continue training realistically to ensure the 51-year-old pact remains relevant.

[Indian workers rescued from digital job scams in Southeast Asia](#)

October 8, 2022 Aljazeera

India's government says it has rescued about 130 Indians who were forced to work in Myanmar, Laos and Cambodia after they were lured by agents who had offered well-paying job opportunities in the information technology sector that turned out to be fake.

[Singapore, Japan to pace up talks on defense equipment](#)

October 9, 2022 The Jakarta Post

The foreign ministers of Japan and Singapore agreed to seek an early conclusion of a bilateral deal on defense equipment and technology transfer, as Tokyo aims to counter China's maritime assertiveness in the Indo-Pacific region.

[AFP kicks off naval exercises with US, Australia](#)

October 12, 2022 Manila Bulletin

The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) launched two naval exercises with the United States and Australia in Cebu, on October 11. This is the first time that Maritime Training Activity (MTA) "SAMA-SAMA" and "LUMBAS" were held simultaneously, and it will be attended by 742 military personnel from the respective navies of the three countries.

[Myanmar junta sentences Suu Kyi to 6 more years for corruption](#)

October 12, 2022 The Jakarta Post

Myanmar's junta sentenced ousted leader Aung San Suu Kyi to another six years in prison for corruption, a source with knowledge of the case said, taking the Nobel laureate's total jail time to 26 years.

[Biden doesn't exclude meeting Putin in Bali](#)

October 7, 2022 The Jakarta Post

President Joe Biden did not rule out meeting with Russian leader Vladimir Putin during the G20 summit next month in Asia. "That remains to be seen," the US leader told reporters when asked if he'd use the G20 gathering in Bali, as an opportunity to talk directly with Putin.

[US sanctions Myanmar arms dealers as it ramps up pressure on junta](#)

October 7, 2022

The US government imposed sanctions on arms dealers linked to the Myanmar military regime and others, in the latest effort to hold the junta accountable for its brutal treatment of its citizens following the coup in February 2021.

Central & West Asia

Central Asia

[Kyrgyzstan Cancels Planned CSTO Exercises](#)

October 9, 2022, RFE/RL

Bishkek has announced that it is cancelling military exercises for the Moscow-led Collective Security Treaty Organization which were to be held in Kyrgyzstan this week. The exercises were scheduled for October 10-14 and were to include military personnel from all six CSTO members -- as well as from five other states, including Serbia, Syria, and Uzbekistan.

[Kazakh president bemoans shrinking lake, doesn't mention China's take](#)

October 10, 2022, Eurasianet

President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev of Kazakhstan has raised concern over the future of his country's largest lake while declining to mention that its fate mostly depends on Chinese activities upstream.

[Kyrgyzstan: Border deal secretly rushed through amid more grumbling](#)

October 12, 2022, Eurasianet

Lawmakers in Kyrgyzstan are being pressed by the government to quickly ratify a border demarcation agreement with Uzbekistan that is provoking mounting anger and frustration among the public.

[What Is Happening with Sovereign Debt in Central Asia?](#)

October 14, 2022, The Diplomat

China maintains close trade and economic ties with the countries of the former Soviet Union, including the provision of concessional loans. Since the early 2000s the Central Asian republics have largely kept their debt levels stable.

West Asia

[EAM Jaishankar to Visit Egypt from October 15-16 to Boost Trade and Investment](#)

October 13, 2022, Hindustan Times

Union External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar will visit Egypt from October 15-16 to review bilateral relations with the country's top leadership, and to promote trade and investments with one of India's biggest trading partners in Africa.

[Russia's Putin Hails Ties as He Meets UAE President](#)

October 11, 2022, AL Jazeera

Russian President Vladimir Putin has hailed his country's ties with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) during a meeting with the Gulf state's leader and welcomed a recent decision by oil-producing nations to limit production as a key to stabilising the global energy market.

[Qatar's Emir, Putin Discuss Ukraine Conflict's Impact on Energy Markets](#)

October 13, 2022, Reuters

Qatar's Emir and Russian President Vladimir Putin discussed the Ukraine crisis and its impact on energy markets during a meeting on the side-lines of a summit in Kazakhstan.

[5 Ways The Israel-Lebanon Maritime Deal Matters](#)

October 12, 2022, CNN

Amid decades of hostility, Lebanon and Israel reached a historic maritime border deal, finally demarcating a disputed area in the Mediterranean Sea that is believed to be rich in oil and gas.

[Canada to Ban Iran's IRGC Leadership from Entry](#)

October 9, 2022, Middle East Monitor

Canada said it would ban the senior leadership of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) from entering the country, in a set of moves intended to punish the organisation and Tehran's leadership for the violent crackdown on protests and the downing of a plane two years ago.

[Arab League Condemns Potential UK Move of Israel Embassy to Jerusalem](#)

October 6, 2022, The New Arab

The Secretary-General of the Arab League has warned the UK against any possible move of its Israel embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, as the Palestinian foreign ministry said it would be launching a campaign to stop the potential British action.

[US Approves \\$3 billion NASAMS Air-Defense System for Kuwait](#)

October 7, 2022, Defence News

The US State Department approved a \$3 billion medium-range missile defence system - National Advanced Surface-to-Air Missile System (NASAMS) sale for Kuwait. .

United States

United States

[US: Indian American groups launch voting campaigns ahead of midterm elections](#)

October 13, 2022, Hindustan Times

The Foundation for India and Indian Diaspora Studies (FIIDS), a US-based non-profit institution for policy research and awareness, launched the #IndoAmericanVotesMatter campaign to increase the participation of American voters in the US 2022 elections.

[In US security strategy, China 'only competitor', India key partner](#)

October 14, 2022, The Indian Express

The National Security Strategy lists the security concerns and challenges of the US and the plans to deal with them. A year and a half into its term, the Biden administration's latest NSS spoke of a "decisive decade".

[Xi Jinping's Endgame: A China Prepared for Conflict With the U.S.](#)

October 14, 2022, Wall Street Journal

Since rising to power, a decade ago, Xi Jinping has unleashed an array of campaigns to help ensure that China would prevail in, or at least withstand, a confrontation with the West. He has bolstered China's military, reorganized the economy and remade society around a more ideologically committed Communist Party.

[India-US partnership on clean energy is now institutionalised: Hardeep Puri](#)

October 14, 2022, Hindustan Times

Union minister for petroleum and natural gas, Hardeep Singh Puri, speaks to HT about the India-US bilateral relationship and the larger geopolitics of energy.

Europe & Russia

Europe

[NATO Deputy Secretary General underlines importance of "strategic solidarity" between Europe and North America.](#)

October 10, 2022, NATO Newsroom.

Speaking at a European Union budget conference in Brussels on October 10, Deputy Secretary General Mircea Geană called for "strategic solidarity" between Europe and North America as the best response to a more dangerous and unpredictable security environment.

[European weapons manufacturers scramble to adapt to wartime demand](#)

October 11, 2022, Reuters.

European arms manufacturers have urged the European Union to help coordinate weapons procurement as they scramble to boost production to meet soaring demand for the war in Ukraine. Meeting ahead of a NATO defence minister gathering in Brussels, defence company executives said their industry had been geared up for EU states spending less on defence rather than more, after decades of peace in Europe.

[India to weigh Russia's offer on Sakhalin-1 oil project](#)

October 11, 2022, AlJazeera.

India maintains a "healthy dialogue" with Russia and will look at what is offered following an announced ownership revamp to the Sakhalin-1 oil and gas project, Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri has told the Reuters news agency. Russia last week issued a decree allowing it to seize Exxon Mobil's 30 percent stake and gave a Russian state-run company the authority to decide whether foreign shareholders, including India's ONGC Videsh, can retain their participation in the project.

[Gas taps can still be turned on to EU, says Vladimir Putin](#)

October 12, 2022, BBC News.

President Vladimir Putin has said the gas taps can be still turned on for Russian supplies to the EU, despite sharp political disagreements. Russia has not delivered gas to Europe via the Nord Stream 1 line since August, and Nord Stream 2 was halted after Russia invaded Ukraine. The February invasion led to gas price hikes, and EU customers face record tariffs this winter.

[Russian authorities arrest eight people following Crimea bridge blast.](#)

October 12, 2022. CNN.

Eight people have been detained over blast that damaged the only bridge connecting annexed Crimea with Russia, marking a critical juncture in Moscow's invasion of Ukraine. Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB) claimed the main intelligence department of the Ukraine's Ministry of Defense, its head Kyrylo Budanov, and its employees and agents organized the "terrorist attack" on the Kerch Strait road-and-rail bridge.

[U.S. predicts Ukraine will battle through winter; allies bolster air defenses](#)

October 13, 2022, Reuters.

Ukraine is expected to battle through harsh winter conditions to try to recapture even more territory from Russia, U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin said, as allies announced delivery of new air defences and committed more aid in the wake of Russian missile strikes.

Russia

[Kremlin responds to rumoured status change of Ukraine military operation](#)

October 10, 2022, Russia Today

Moscow has denied rumours that the military operation in Ukraine is being redesignated as a counter-terrorism campaign, following Kiev's attack on the Crimean Bridge. There has been no decision yet on shifting to a counter-terrorism campaign, according to spokesperson Dmitry Peskov.

[Belarus Says Forming Joint Military Group with Russia](#)

October 10, 2022, The Moscow Times

Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko said Minsk and Moscow have agreed to deploy a joint regional group of military forces in response to alleged "aggravations" on Belarus' western border, Belarusian state media reported.

[Hungary defends ties with Russia](#)

October 10, 2022, Russia Today

Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Szijjarto has defended his recent meeting with Russia's top diplomat Sergey Lavrov, explaining that somebody has to talk to Moscow to keep Hungarian homes warm in winter, referring to the looming energy crisis in Europe, exacerbated by EU sanctions on Moscow and a sharp decrease in Russian energy supplies.

[Oil Exports Helping Cushion Russian Economy – IMF](#)

October 11, 2022, The Moscow Times

Russia's recession will be less severe than expected due to oil exports and relatively stable domestic demand, according to the latest IMF forecasts. While the IMF estimates Russia's economy to have contracted by 21.8% during the second quarter at a quarterly annualized rate, for the year as a whole the Russian economy is now forecast to contract only 3.4%.

[Putin hints at culprits behind Nord Stream sabotage](#)

October 12, 2022, Russia Today

Those who benefit the most from the damage caused to the Nord Stream gas pipelines in the Baltic Sea are the ones responsible for it, Russian President Vladimir Putin has said. The pipeline explosions have made it easier to force American LNG on Europe, the Russian president says.

[Putin Tells Erdogan Russia Could Create 'Gas Hub' in Turkey](#)

October 13, 2022, The Moscow Times

Russian President Vladimir Putin told his Turkish counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan that Moscow would consider developing a "gas hub" in Turkey, with Russia's supplies to Europe disrupted by Ukraine-related sanctions and leaks at key pipelines.

[Peskov Says Russia Remains 'Open For Talks' With Ukraine, 'Interested Nations'](#)

October 13, 2022, RFE/RL

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov says Moscow remains "open for talks" with Kyiv on Russia's ongoing unprovoked invasion of Ukraine, stressing that the "goals of the special military operation" in Ukraine's east "remain unchanged."

[Russian Lawmakers Propose Granting Prisoners Amnesty for Enlisting](#)

October 13, 2022, The Moscow Times

Russian lawmakers have proposed a bill that would allow the granting of amnesties to prisoners enlisting to fight in Ukraine, according to Senator Olga Kovitidi.

Africa & Latin America

Africa

[Paris Trial Opens Over Crimes Against Humanity in Liberia.](#)

October 10, 2022, VOA.

A former Liberian rebel went on trial in Paris on charges of crimes against humanity, torture and acts of barbarism during the West African country's civil war in the 1990s. Kunti Kamara, 47, is accused of "complicity in massive and systematic torture and inhumane acts" against civilians in Liberia's Lofa county in 1993-1994, as one of the leaders of the Ulimo armed group. He was then less than 20 years old.

[ISIS- linked militants are threatening huge natural gas reserves the world needs badly right now.](#)

October 10, 2022, CNN.

Asmani Dadi had heard rumours about the insurgents. Then, one day, they came true. It was July 2020 and Dadi was a student in the town of Mocímbo da Praia, northern Mozambique. "They came ... from the forest and began to kill people. When they found children, ... they stole them back to the forest. And when they find men... they cut off their heads," Dadi recalled. The attack was just one in a festering insurgency by ISIS-linked militants in the southern African nation that has killed at least 4000 civilians and displaced nearly one million people, according to the United Nations Refugee Agency, UNHCR.

['It's about ethics': Nigeria urges British Museum to follow US and repatriate bronzes](#)

October 11, 2022, The Guardian.

The culture minister of Nigeria has urged the British Museum to follow the example of the Smithsonian Institution, which returned ownership of 29 Benin bronzes to Nigeria at a celebratory event in Washington. Lai Mohammed praised the move by the US National Museum of African Art, which follows a recent restitution agreement with Germany that included the handover of two Benin bronzes. Last year, Mohammed's ministry formally requested the return of Benin artefacts from the British Museum in London.

['Overlapping shocks' are undoing efforts to end hunger in Africa, UN warns](#)

October 11, 2022, The Guardian.

Decades of work to reduce hunger in Africa are being reversed as the continent struggles to cope with conflict, climate crisis and the global economic downturn, the UN's Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) has warned.

[Eritreans hunted down as military call-up intensifies over Ethiopia's Tigray war](#)

October 12, 2022, BBC News.

Eritrean authorities have intensified military mobilisation and are hunting down draft dodgers across the country, as the war in neighbouring Ethiopia escalates, multiple Eritrean sources have told the BBC. The latest round-ups are the worst so far as women have not been spared, with many elderly mothers and fathers detained in a bid to force their children, who have gone into hiding, to surrender, they say. They spoke on condition of anonymity as Eritrea is a highly restrictive state that controls almost all aspects of people's lives.

[African states divided on UN vote against Russia](#)

October 13, 2022, BBC News.

Twenty-six African countries voted in favour of a UN resolution rejecting Moscow's contentious referendums in four Ukrainian regions that it declared part of Russia. Nineteen countries abstained, including Eritrea that had previously voted to reject a UN resolution condemning Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Latin America

['More bullets, more bloodshed': Haiti aid groups warn against request for foreign forces](#)

October 9, 2022, The Guardian.

Medical NGOs and civil society groups in Haiti have warned that the government's plan to request foreign military intervention to restore order will only cause more bloodshed in the beleaguered nation. The government formally authorized the prime minister, Ariel Henry, to request "specialized armed forces" to take back control of Port-au-Prince from the hundreds of gangs who have tightened their grip over the capital in recent weeks.

[US and Mexico make deal to ease Venezuela migration](#)

October 13, 2022, BBC News.

The US and Mexico have agreed to a plan that allows some Venezuelan migrants to enter the US -but those who arrive illegally will be sent back to Mexico. It is hoped the deal will ease pressure at the US-Mexico border, where a steady flow of Venezuelans continues to arrive as they flee the crisis-hit nation. Starting immediately, flights will be arranged for 24,000 migrants to arrive in the United States.



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