DPG WEEKLY WORLD WATCH

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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

**India’s G-20 Presidency Is a Golden Opportunity**
November 25, 2022, Foreign Policy

New Delhi has the chance to shape the global agenda and advocate for its vision of multilateralism.

**On foreign policy, India is reliably unreliable**
November 24, 2022, The Economist

The shifting balance of power obscures the continuity in India’s global ambitions.

**India still punches below its weight in global affairs, says Brahma Chellaney**
November 16, 2022, Mint

India, despite accounting for a sixth of the world’s population, continues to punch below its weight in foreign affairs, according to veteran analyst Brahma Chellaney. In an interview to Mint, Chellaney cited India’s passive foreign policy as a major reason for this under-performance.

Pakistan

**Pakistan’s Real Political Choice Could Come This Week**
November 24, 2022, Foreign Policy

The next head of the Army will be the chief power broker in the nuclear nation.

**Is Imran Khan Pakistan’s Comeback Kid?**
November 21, 2022, Foreign Policy

Foreign Policy talked to the former prime minister about the recent attempt on his life, relations with Washington, and how he’d make Pakistan great.

**Pakistan’s Farmers Are Already Bracing for the Next Disaster**
November 16, 2022, Foreign Policy

In Sindh province, the food insecurity that followed extreme flooding may be a harbinger for the climate future.

Afghanistan

**How It All Fell Apart in Afghanistan**
November 17, 2022, Foreign Policy

The top U.S. watchdog for the conflict has a new theory.
**How Afghanistan’s Money Exchangers Have Worked Around the Taliban**

November 26, 2022, Foreign Policy

They are, increasingly, the only financial link that connects the country to the rest of the world.

**Bangladesh**

*Why Foreign diplomats in Dhaka must stop meddling in Bangladesh’s internal affairs*

November 18, 2022, Modern Diplomacy

During elections or anti-government movements in Bangladesh, the rush of foreign diplomats increases. Sometimes it goes beyond the bounds of diplomatic etiquette. Elections are internal affairs of any country. The country will decide how the elections will be held. The ambassador of Bangladesh appointed in Washington will certainly not talk about who will participate in the American elections, which party will follow which policy. Even if he talks, it doesn’t seem to be news in any US media. Talking about a country’s internal affairs is sad and meddling. But in our country, it often happens. We invite foreigners and hold meetings with them to resolve our political disputes. The responsibility is definitely ours.

**Both sides interested in signing partnership agreement**

November 25, 2022, Prothom Alo

EU respects Bangladesh’s stance to the proposal raised about Russia-Ukraine war at the United Nations.

**Nepal**

*Will Nepal’s new government rechart its economic and foreign policies?*

November 29, 2022, India Narrative

Amid dwindling economic situation, Nepal’s new government has its task cut out—chalking out clear economic and foreign policies especially as it is slated to graduate to a middle income nation status by December 2026. Kathmandu therefore must make use of the interim period for a smooth transition. But a lack of clarity in Nepal’s policies can dent inflow of foreign investments and other economic activities.

**Foreign policy challenges of new government**

November 16, 2022, The Annapurna Express

Issues related to foreign policy didn’t find much space during the election campaigns of major parties this time.
Sri Lanka

Exclusive: Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister Ali Sabry speaks to WION

November 23, 2022, WION

The country's incumbent Foreign Affairs Minister Ali Sabry spoke to WION’s principal correspondent Siddhant Sibbal. The Lankan Minister spoke about Chinese research trip that was earlier docked in his country's port.

24 Indian fishermen arrested by Sri Lanka Navy

November 30, 2022, The Indian Express

The fishermen were arrested on Monday evening in a joint operation by the Navy and the Sri Lanka Coast Guard off the coast of Karainagar in the northern Jaffna peninsula, a statement said.
East & South East Asia

China

The Weakness of Xi Jinping
November 2022, Foreign Affairs
How Hubris and Paranoia Threaten China's Future

China's new yuan loans at 1.21t yuan in November
November 12, 2022, China Daily
China's new yuan-denominated loans totaled 1.21 trillion yuan ($174 billion) in November, central bank data showed.

China displays advanced weapons, equipment at Pakistani defense expo
November 16, 2022, Global Times
China is displaying many advanced weapons and equipment, including drone and anti-drone systems, at an ongoing defense expo in Pakistan, a move analysts said on Wednesday indicates that the two countries' defense cooperation will continue to deepen under their ironclad friendship, with Pakistan's armed forces already operating advanced main battle equipment of Chinese origin.

China Military Power Report Examines Changes in Beijing's Strategy
November 29, US DOD
The 2022 China Military Power Report lays out the challenges facing the United States military as it works to manage relations with the emerging superpower.

Japan

Japan's Kishida Orders Defense Spending Hike to 2% of GDP
November 29, 2022, Bloomberg
Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida instructed his defense and finance ministers to increase national-security related expenditures to 2% of gross domestic product by fiscal 2027, putting a figure on the planned expansion for the first time.

Japan PM Kishida's approval hits new low after ministers resign
November 27, 2022, Reuters
Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida's public support slipped to a new low in a poll published on Sunday, as a series of cabinet resignations has compounded anger over the ruling party's ties to a controversial religious group.
Korea

South Korean foreign policy in the Indo-Pacific era
November 2022, Brookings

Under President Yoon Suk-yeol, the South Korean government aims to release its own Indo-Pacific strategy by the end of 2022. Nevertheless, doubts still linger as to whether South Korea can play a larger strategic role beyond the Korean Peninsula, and cooperate with like-minded actors to strengthen the region's security architecture. This policy brief describes the evolution of South Korea's foreign policy role in the Indo-Pacific between former South Korean President Moon Jae-in's government (2017-2022) and the first year of the Yoon administration (2022-present). It also draws attention to the perspective of other regional actors, which to date have viewed South Korea as an important economic partner, but not necessarily a key strategic player in the region.

Japan and South Korea Are Still Haunted by the Past
November 23, 2022, Foreign Affairs
Confronting a Legacy of Forced—and Failed—Reconciliation

Southeast Asia

Cambodia Blacklists Myanmar From an ASEAN Meeting
November 21, 2022, Foreign Policy

The 10–nation bloc is taking baby steps to deny the coup leaders the legitimacy they crave.

Indonesia's balanced foreign policy: Lessons for other middle powers
November 17, 2022, Modern Diplomacy

Leaders of Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) member states have repeatedly said that they will follow an independent foreign policy, and would not like to view complex geopolitical issues from simplistic binaries. In the aftermath of the US withdrawal from the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), during the Presidency of Donald Trump, as well as the China-US trade wars, even those countries vary of China's increasingly aggressive behavior in the region have categorically said that they would not be compelled into choosing between Washington DC and Beijing.
Central & West Asia

Central Asia

Russia’s Great Reverse Migration
November 25, 2022, Foreign Policy

Central Asians used to flee the Soviet empire’s periphery for Moscow. Russia’s mobilization has sent escaping Muscovites in the other direction.

Uzbekistan Wants New Trade Relationship With U.S. To Compensate For Russia Sanctions
November 23, 2022, Forbes

What did Russia lose this year, China risks losing, and Uzbekistan wants? It’s most favored nation trade status, best known as Permanent Normal Trade Relations. Russian sanctions have hurt Uzbekistan, and as they’re just getting started on a path to a more modern economy, the land-locked, low-income Central Asian nation says it faces collateral damage caused by the sanctions regime.

West Asia

Political Change and Turkey’s Foreign Policy
November 14, 2022, Carnegie

Turkey is heading toward a set of twin elections that could have momentous consequences for the country’s future. In June 2023 at the latest, Turkish voters will be asked to choose a new president and a new parliamentary majority. For the past two decades, the Turkish political landscape has been dominated by the Justice and Development (AK) Party and its uniquely successful leader, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan. After having ruled the country single-handedly since 2002, Erdoğan became the first executive president of Turkey in 2018, following a tightly contested constitutional change. He has come out victorious in every round of elections since the start of his political career. And yet, after two decades, his popularity is faltering, raising the prospect of political change.

How the war in Ukraine is stress testing West Asia’s geopolitics
November 21, 2022, ORF

Gulf capitals are attracted towards the concept of ‘strategic autonomy’, one that is attractive on paper but challenging in practice.
United States

United States
On a U.S.-China Détente, Don't Believe the Hype
November 17, 2022, Foreign Policy
Smiles and handshakes won't erase Taiwan tensions.

Should the United States Pledge to Defend Taiwan?
November 15, 2022, Foreign Affairs
The United States should publicly adopt, as official policy, a pledge to use military force to defend Taiwan, and all the territories under its direct control, in the event of a Chinese invasion.
Europe

Olaf Scholz Is Undermining Western Unity on China
November 23, 2022, Foreign Policy
The German chancellor’s go-it-alone approach has alienated domestic, EU, and international partners.

The EU and Central Asia: by connecting regions, we are connecting people
November 15, 2022, EEAS
For centuries, connections between Europe and Central Asia have played a profoundly important role in shaping our societies. This was true long before trade flourished in the ancient world along the Silk Road, linking the civilisations of Europe and Asia, spreading wealth, culture, and mutual learning.

Russia

Russia’s Road to Economic Ruin
November 15, 2022, Foreign Affairs
The Long-Term Costs of the Ukraine War Will Be Staggering

All the Kremlin’s Trolls
November 18, 2022, Foreign Policy
How Russia’s invasion of Ukraine has put Moscow’s worldwide influence operations to the test.
Africa & Latin America

Africa

Africa and the new world order between the United States and China

The use of Africa as a pawn in the competition between the United States and China, Russia and other major powers, rather than sincerely promoting the interests of the African people, goes way back, and does not appear to be changing.

How Rwanda Became Africa’s Policeman

November 21, 2022, Foreign Policy

From Benin to Mozambique, President Paul Kagame is flexing his small country’s military muscle—and transforming the continent’s security landscape.

Biden’s Africa Summit Has Democracy on the Agenda, But Not the Invite List

November 21, 2022, Foreign Policy

Autocrats among those invited to summit in Washington.

Latin America

Is Latin America Stuck?

November 25, 2022, Foreign Affairs

Why the Region Could Face a New Lost Decade

From BRICS to BIC

November 18, 2022, Foreign Policy

At COP27, Lula paints his foreign-policy aspirations green.