



Delhi Policy Group

Advancing India's Rise as a Leading Power



DPG WEEKLY WORLD WATCH



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Delhi Policy Group

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

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ABOUT US

Founded in 1994, the Delhi Policy Group (DPG) is among India's oldest think tanks with its primary focus on strategic and international issues of critical national interest. DPG is a non-partisan institution and is independently funded by a non-profit Trust. Over past decades, DPG has established itself in both domestic and international circles and is widely recognised today among the top security think tanks of India and of Asia's major powers.

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DPG WEEKLY WORLD WATCH

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Contents

South Asia.....	1
East & South East Asia	6
Central & West Asia	12
United States.....	15
Europe & Russia	16
Africa & Latin America	18

South Asia

India

[China ready to work with India for 'sound growth' in ties: FM Wang Yi](#)

December 25, 2022, Hindustan Times

Indian and Chinese border troops clashed as recently as on December 9 in the Tawang sector of Arunachal Pradesh in the eastern sector of the Line of Actual Control .

[Tawang, Tibet and Taiwan](#)

December 25, 2022, Indian Defence Review

Unlike its aggressive strategic designs that resulted in the major clash with India in Ladakh's Galwan valley in June 2020, the latest India-China skirmishes in Tawang on December 9 seems to have political calculations or worries on Beijing's part over Tibet and Taiwan.

[If there is war in the Indian Ocean, will Indian Navy submarines match up to the task?](#)

December 27, 2022, Firstpost

The capability of the Pakistan Navy is less than that of its counterpart in India, but it is trying to steal a march on the Indian Navy. Defence experts believe that the time has come for India to further enhance its underwater capabilities

Pakistan

[SBP's forex reserves plunge to 8-year low](#)

December 22, 2022, Dawn

The foreign exchange reserves held by the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) continued their declining spree, plunging by \$584 million to reach \$6.1 billion as of Dec 16. According to the central bank's data, this is the lowest level of reserves since April 2014.

[Bilawal ends US visit with call to help flood victims](#)

December 23, 2022, Dawn

Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari concluded his week-long visit to the United States with an appeal to the international community to help Pakistan recover from the devastation of floods. His talks with senior US officials and lawmakers – including Secretary of State Antony Blinken – also focused on Pakistan's rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts.

[TTP chief claims all attacks launched from 'within Pakistan'](#)

December 18, 2022, Dawn

NoorWali Mehsud, leader of the outlawed Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), has attempted to rebuff the impression that they are getting any backing from the Afghan Taliban regime in Kabul, saying that his group was attacking Pakistan from "within its territory".

[Officials agree on talks with Kabul over border issues](#)

December 21, 2022, Dawn

With the efforts of a 16-member jirga that visited Kandahar to meet the Taliban officials amid tense situation at Chaman border, a flag meeting held between Pakistan and Afghan authorities at Friendship Gate agreed to resolve all border issues through talks.

[Militants storm Wana police station in South Waziristan, flee with weapons](#)

December 21, 2022, Dawn

Dozens of armed militants stormed a police station in Wana and escaped after looting arms and ammunition, police have confirmed. Militants armed with rocket launchers and heavy weapons forced their way into the police station, according to a cop, Rehman Wazir, who was inside at the time of the attack.

[25 terrorists killed in Bannu CTD hostage operation](#)

December 21, 2022, The News

Security forces stormed the Counter-Terrorism Department's (CTD) compound here, killing 25 terrorists, arresting two and forcing seven to surrender, said ISPR chief Maj Gen Ahmed Sharif. A junior commissioned officer and two sepoy were martyred while 10 soldiers, including three officers, were injured in the action.

[Four cops martyred, four injured in LakkiMarwat terror attack](#)

December 19, 2022, The News

Four policemen were martyred and as many sustained injuries when a group of terrorists attacked a police station in the Bragi village. The terrorists attacked the Bragi Police Station building, triggering an exchange of fire that continued for a long time.

[US concerned at TTP threat to Pakistan's security: US CENTCOM chief](#)

December 17, 2022, The Express Tribune

Amid the ongoing uptick in terrorist violence perpetrated by the outlawed Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), the top US military commander has said that

the United States is concerned at the threat posed by the TTP to Pakistan's security.

Afghanistan

[Afghanistan: Taliban arrest women protesting against university ban](#)

December 22, 2022, BBC

The Taliban have arrested five women taking part in a protest in the Afghan capital, Kabul, against the ban on women attending universities. Three journalists were also arrested. Protests are also understood to have taken place in the Takhar province.

[Taliban says women banned from universities in Afghanistan](#)

December 20, 2022, Al Jazeera

Afghanistan's Taliban-run higher education ministry has said that female students would not be allowed access to the country's universities until further notice. A letter, confirmed by a spokesperson for the higher education ministry, instructed Afghan public and private universities to suspend access to female students immediately, in accordance with a Cabinet decision.

[Taliban release 2 Americans who were detained in Afghanistan](#)

December 21, 2022, NBC News

The Taliban released two Americans who had been detained in Afghanistan, State Department spokesperson Ned Price said. The releases were announced as the United Nations Security Council was meeting about Afghanistan. The move was a goodwill gesture – not part of a prisoner swap, he said.

[Death toll from Afghanistan tunnel fire rises to 31](#)

December 19, 2022, Reuters

The death toll from a fire in Afghanistan's landmark alpine Salang tunnel rose to 31. Thirty-seven people were also injured in the accident in Salang Tunnel, located about 90 km (56 miles) north of Kabul.

[Pakistan's top diplomat urges world to delink women's rights from Afghanistan's humanitarian, economic situation](#)

December 17, 2022, Anadolu Agency

Pakistan's top diplomat urged the international community to delink the situation of women's rights in Afghanistan from its humanitarian and economic situation while dealing with the Taliban – the country's de facto authority. "No one believes that by starving the people of Afghanistan we can

achieve our aim of women's empowerment or any other aim." Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari said

Bangladesh

[Strong Bangladesh-India ties to grow further in 2023 despite outstanding bilateral issues](#)

December 26, 2022, The Telegraph

The two countries have several pending issues with the most crucial being the sharing of waters in common rivers including the Teesta River

Nepal

[Why India needs a new Nepal strategy now](#)

December 26, 2022, TOI

The recently concluded elections in Nepal threw up a fractured verdict with a 'badly hung Parliament' at the Centre and hung assemblies in all seven federal provinces. Although the two largest parties – Nepali Congress (NC) and CPN (UML) – had envisaged prior to the polls that they would not fare well in the elections without alliances with smaller parties, the final result was neither the outcome nor the victory that they were waiting for.

Death of political principles

Sri Lanka

[India, Sri Lanka to start passenger ferry service between Puducherry, Kankesanthurai port in Jaffna district next month](#)

December 19, 2022, DD News

The ferry service will connect the Kankesanthurai port in Jaffna district and Puducherry. Sri Lanka's Ports and Shipping minister Nimal Siripala de Silva said that the Indian government had extended consent for the service. The passenger ferry service is likely to boost the tourism sector as well as strengthen the cultural ties between the two countries.

[Chinese-Funded Projects Deepen Sri Lanka's Economic Woes](#)

December 23, 2022, VOA

During the past decade, China funded the construction of massive infrastructure projects in Sri Lanka meant to boost the island nation's economy. However, after the economic collapse of the tiny Indian Ocean country earlier

this year, there were questions whether these projects had contributed to the worst crisis it has ever faced.

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East & South East Asia

China

[China ready to work with India, says Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi](#)

December 25, 2022, India TV

China-India relation: This statement came in the backdrop of the December 9 faceoff between the Indian and Chinese soldiers in Arunachal Pradesh's Tawang sector.

[China keen to develop stable relations with India, says Chinese FM Wang Yi](#)

December 25, 2022, Deccan Herald

China and India maintain communication through diplomatic and military channels and are committed to maintaining a stable border situation, the minister said.

[Arunachal Pradesh: ITBP building more LAC posts to foil future Chinese incursions](#)

December 26, 2022, Firstpost

Areas in the Yangtze plateau, where the latest clash between the Indian Army and the PLA had taken place on December 9, are among the places where these new ITBP order posts are to be built.

[Western narrative on China's COVID response hypocritical, to appease domestic audience](#)

December 26, 2022, Global Times

When China carried out dynamic zero-COVID approach, some Western media had been calling for China to reopen. But when China recently eased its COVID-19 measures, not surprisingly, they badmouth China's move.

Japan

[With focus on Nansei Islands, Japan prepares for potential Taiwan conflict.](#)

December 20, 2022. The Japan Times.

Japan's shifting security policy, highlighted in a series of key documents revised late last week, has put the spotlight on what will be its top priority in the coming years: reinforcing its far-flung southwestern islands, which would be uniquely exposed in the event of a conflict with China. More troops, new units, enhanced military capabilities and better medical provisions are just some of the elements laid out by Tokyo in the three documents, with Japan beefing up

defenses on and around the Nansei Islands amid concerns that a crisis akin to Russia's invasion of Ukraine could occur in the area.

[Japan's Kishida pledges 'bold investment' in people, startups.](#)

December 23, 2022. Nikkei Asia.

As a volatile year draws to a close with inflation and high prices straining businesses and households, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida stressed his government's intention to ramp up investment in various fields, from human resources to startups. "We will promote bold investments and reforms to concentrate our country's people and money" in fields like startups, innovations and decarbonization, he told an audience of businesspeople at the "2022 Special Lecture" event hosted by Nikkei, TV Tokyo Holdings and the Japan Center for Economic Research on Friday in Tokyo.

[Kishida considers replacing some Cabinet members amid low support rate.](#)

December 23, 2022. The Japan Times.

Prime Minister Fumio Kishida is considering replacing some Cabinet members by the beginning of the regular parliamentary session scheduled to start in January in the hope of reversing his declining support rate, according to government sources. Reconstruction minister Kenya Akiba, who has been grilled over political funds scandals by the opposition bloc, may be sacked by Kishida, the sources said Thursday.

[Cost of Living: Japan's Inflation hits a 41-year high.](#)

December 23, 2022. BBC.

Japan's core consumer price inflation edged up to 3.7% in November, the highest it has been since 1981. That was when a Middle East crisis disrupted oil production and caused energy prices to soar. But after decades of the country trying to boost inflation, Japanese consumers are now experiencing the pain of higher prices despite stagnant wages. Until now, the Bank of Japan (BOJ) had kept its ultra-loose monetary policy to boost its economy. But earlier this week, it surprised the market by raising the cap on the interest rate on its 10-year government bonds from 0.25% to 0.5%.

Korea

[Vietnam and South Korea Building Constructive Relations.](#)

December 20, 2022. Business Korea.

The Korea International Trade Association said in its report on Dec. 19 that the bilateral trade between South Korea and Vietnam has increased 164 times and their mutual investment has increased more than 145 times since the

establishment of their diplomatic relations in 1992. At present, Vietnam is the third-biggest trade partner for South Korea, behind China and the United States, and South Korea is the biggest foreign direct investor in Vietnam.

[U.S. deploys B-52 Bomber and F-22s in drill with South Korea.](#)

December 21, 2022. Nikkei Asia

An American nuclear-capable B-52H bomber and F-22 fighter jets participated in joint exercises with South Korea near the Korean Peninsula on Tuesday, the Defense Ministry in Seoul said, on the same day Pyongyang hinted at more missile launches. The drills were conducted near Jeju Island, in South Korea's air defense identification zone. South Korean F-35 and F-15 fighters participated as well. The B-52H is the primary strategic bomber for the U.S., capable of carrying large payloads at high speeds over long distances.

[A Year in Brinkmanship on the Korean Peninsula](#)

December 21, 2022. Foreign Policy.

2022 was a record-breaking year on the Korean Peninsula, though not the sort one would hope for. As of Dec. 19, North Korea launched a dizzying spate of ballistic missile tests—65 in total, eight of which were intercontinental ballistic missiles. The tests prompted sharp criticism from Washington and its allies as well as tit-for-tat responses from South Korea. By most accounts, the next item on North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's agenda seems to be a nuclear test—the nation's first since 2017. With few tools left in its diplomatic toolbox, the Biden administration has responded with what amounts to a shrug—a recognition that there is little it can do to stop North Korea. As one South Korean official told FP's Robbie Gramer, a North Korean nuclear test is more a matter of "when," not "if."

[South Korea sees new take on Malaysia's 'Look East Policy'](#)

December 21, 2022. Free Malaysian Today.

Given the importance of Asian regionalism in the 21st century today, South Korea foresees the Look East Policy (LEP) framework it established with Malaysia in 1983 could be further upgraded. The policy introduced by then prime minister Dr Mahathir Mohamad first made waves with Japan in 1982. Entering its 40th anniversary next year, South Korea is optimistic the policy it shares with Malaysia can boost growth amidst the current global challenges.

[N.Korea fires Ballistic Missiles toward East Sea.](#)

December 23, 2022. The Korea Herald.

North Korea fired two short-range ballistic missiles toward the East Sea at around 4:32 p.m. in Pyongyang's Sunan area, the Joint Chiefs of Staff of South

Korea said Friday. The latest provocation by North Korea is the first in five days following two midrange ballistic missile launches from Tongchang County, North Pyongan Province. They flew some 500 kilometers before falling into the sea off the east coast on Sunday. Further specifications of the latest missile, such as the range, altitude and speed, are being analysed, the JCS said. North Korea fired 65 ballistic missiles 36 times this year and three cruise missiles.

[North Korea Denies offering munitions to Russia.](#)

December 23, 2022. The Korea Herald.

North Korea on Friday rejected accusations by Japan and the US that it transported munitions to Russia by rail. "The DPRK remains unchanged in its principled stand on the issue of arms transaction between the DPRK and Russia which has never happened," the nation's state-run Korean Central News Agency said in an English-language statement citing a Foreign Ministry spokesperson. The statement came after the Tokyo Shimbun reported the previous day that the North transported artillery shells and other munitions via train linking the North's northeastern border city of Rason with Khasan in neighbouring Russia.

Southeast Asia

[No, Mauritius Will Not Give China a Military Base on the Chagos Islands.](#)

December 20, 2022. The Diplomat.

Is the sun about to set on Britain's control of the Chagos Islands? This remote archipelago of around 60 islands can be found halfway between East Africa and Southeast Asia. The Chagos group is governed by London as the British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT), one of 14 claimed Overseas Territories that constitute the remnants of the British Empire. Most of the international community, however, regards the Chagos Archipelago as belonging to Mauritius.

[Southeast Asia's reliance on not taking a stand is a dangerous bet](#)

December 20, 2022. The Japan Times

"Don't make us choose!" That has been, is, and almost certainly will continue to be Southeast Asia's reflexive response to intensifying geopolitical competition in the region. This mindset persists despite — or perhaps because of — a virtual transformation of the region's political and economic dynamics, two years of a global health pandemic and Russia's bloody invasion of Ukraine. Trying to distance themselves from the increasingly contentious relationship between China and Western governments makes sense for a lot of reasons. Yet for some outsiders, even those sympathetic to the region's position, refusal to acknowledge sharpening geopolitical reality risks devastating consequences.

[Indonesia's new Commander plans special South China Sea Operation.](#)

December 21, 2022. Nikkei Asia.

The new chief of the Indonesian military is expected to continue his predecessor's plans to hold larger joint drills with the U.S. and its allies while stepping up patrols near the South China Sea. But despite a navy background, his one-year term is seen falling short of Jakarta's need to boost its maritime defense. Adm. YudoMargono, who was sworn in to his new job on Monday, is the first top commander of the Indonesian Armed Forces (TNI) coming from the navy under Joko "Jokowi" Widodo's presidency. This is despite the president's pledge to boost Indonesia's maritime prowess during his 2014 election campaign. Before Margono, three army generals and an air force marshall had led the TNI since Jokowi took office the same year.

[AUSMIN 2022 Delivered the US and Australia a major Strategic Reset.](#)

December 22, 2022. The Strategist.

After their latest AUSMIN talks, Australia's defence and foreign ministers and their US equivalents noted that the alliance and partnership had never been stronger or more vital to regional peace and prosperity. They resolved to evolve their countries' defence and security cooperation to ensure they're equipped to deter aggression, to counter coercion and to make space for sovereign decision-making. This is a far cry from the mindset immediately after World War II. Australia's engagement in that conflict had been deep.

[Myanmar turns to small Russian nuclear reactors for energy solution.](#)

December 22, 2022. Nikkei Asia.

Myanmar's military leaders are moving forward with a plan to adopt Russian-built small modular nuclear reactors as the country grapples with an energy cliff caused by dwindling output from natural gas reserves. The Ministry of Electric Power and Rosatom, Russia's state-owned nuclear energy company, outlined a joint feasibility study on SMRs, in a memorandum of understanding signed late November. A typical nuclear reactor has an output of around 1,000 megawatts, while the maximum output of an SMR stands at several hundreds MW. Russia is considered a pioneer in that technology, ahead of the U.S. and the U.K.

[ASEAN's Myanmar rift highlighted as key members skip meeting.](#)

December 23, 2022. Nikkei Asia.

Foreign ministers from five of ASEAN's 10 members met here (Bangkok) on Thursday to discuss recent developments in Myanmar, even as the rest skipped the meeting amid differing stances on the country's military rule. Thailand, whose armed forces have strong ties to their counterparts in Myanmar hosted

the unofficial gathering with Myanmar's military appointed Foreign Minister WunnaMaung Lwin.

[Vietnam arrests former ambassador to Japan on bribery charges](#)

December 23, 2022. Nikkei Asia.

Vietnam has arrested its previous ambassador to Japan on allegations of accepting bribes when organizing repatriation flights amid the coronavirus pandemic, authorities said Thursday. Vu Hong Nam and other officials are suspected of taking bribes to give certain people priority on flights home for Vietnamese nationals who had been left stranded when international travel was locked down, according to local media.

Central & West Asia

Central Asia

[Infrastructure Failure Tests Kazakhstan's Government](#)

December 14, 2022, The Diplomat

Kazakhstan's President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev said the heating crisis that left the northeastern town of Ekibastuz at -30 degrees Celsius for 10 days was the product of "irresponsible governance" and threatened to make an example of those who failed to coordinate the work of the power plant.

[Turkmenistan Turns Up Pro-Russian Propaganda, Warns Against Western Media, 'Agents'](#)

December 14, 2022, RFE/RL

Pro-Russian propaganda efforts are underway in Turkmenistan, with officials in the authoritarian state vilifying the West for supporting Kyiv and whitewashing Moscow's image amid its unprovoked attack on Ukraine.

[Uncle Samad Wants You! Tajikistan Taking Extreme Measures to Get Recruits Amid Failed Army Draft](#)

December 15, 2022, RFE/RL

Tajikistan's latest military call-up season is embroiled in controversy over claims that local authorities cut off electricity and shut down mosques to force families to get their sons to enlist in the army. But despite the extreme measures, authorities have failed to meet the enlistment quota and have extended the draft until mid-December.

[Public Participation, the Achilles Heel of International Investments in Uzbekistan](#)

December 16, 2022, The Diplomat

Earlier this year, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development approved a waste management project in the Karakalpakstan region of Uzbekistan. People living in the settlements adjacent to landfills slated for expansion under an EBRD project were not adequately consulted.

West Asia

[PM Modi Extends Hanukkah Festival Greetings to Israel](#)

December 18, 2022, Outlook India

Prime Minister Narendra Modi greeted Benjamin Netanyahu and those celebrating the Jewish festival of Hanukkah. Netanyahu is the prime minister-elect of Israel.

[PM-designate Benjamin Netanyahu To Visit India In 2023, Says Israeli Ambassador Naor Gilon](#)

December 17, 2022, WION

Israel's Ambassador to India Naor Gilon has said Benjamin Netanyahu, who is Israel's PM-designate, will be visiting India next year once he takes charge. India and Israel are celebrating 30 years of the establishment of diplomatic ties and a Prime Ministerial visit is something that has been considered.

[India To Engage With All Countries in Energy Sector, Including Russia: Hardeep Singh Puri](#)

December 16, 2022, Moneycontrol

"We look forward to more comprehensive and intensified engagement with all countries in the sector of energy, including Russia," Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri said at the Curtain Raiser event of India Energy Week (IEW).

[CIA head: Russia Looking To Support Iran, Posing Threat To US Allies in the Middle East](#)

December 17, 2022, The Times of Israel

CIA Director William Burns says the start of a 'full-fledged defence partnership' between Tehran and Moscow already has an effect in Ukraine, could have 'an even more dangerous impact on the Middle East'.

[Iran Won't 'Seek Permission' To Boost Russia Ties, Rejecting US Alarm](#)

December 18, 2022, The Times of Israel

Iran's Foreign Ministry said it would not "seek permission from anyone" to expand relations with Russia, dismissing US concerns over a growing military partnership between Tehran and Moscow.

[Benjamin Netanyahu Takes To Saudi Arabia's AL Arabiya To Push For Normalisation With Israel](#)

December 16, 2022, Middle East Eye

Benjamin Netanyahu has taken to Saudi Arabian state television to claim that normalisation with Riyadh is key to peace between Israel and Palestine.

United States

United States

[China Aims to Rebuild US Ties in Diplomatic Push for 2023](#)

December 25, 2022, Bloomberg

China said it will strive to “recalibrate” its relationship with the US and increase communication with Europe as the country outlines its major diplomatic tasks for next year.

['A sea change': Biden reverses decades of Chinese trade policy](#)

December 26, 2022, Politico

Forget tariffs. Biden's actions to crack down on Beijing's tech development will do more to hinder the Chinese economy – and divide the two nations – than Trump ever did.

[China warns US of consequences over its commitment to Taiwan](#)

December 26, 2022, Firstpot

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said Beijing has 'taken firm and resolute measures, which have strongly deterred anti-China elements in the US and the 'Taiwan independence' forces'.

[US, China and the art of the chip war](#)

December 24, 2022, Asia Times

US bans accelerating China's techno-nationalism and chip self-sufficiency and may boost not undermine its military-industrial complex.

Europe & Russia

Europe

[India-EU free trade agreement: Why we need to change our approach to negotiations](#)

December 26, 2022, The Indian Express

India should, like the EU, maintain high transparency by publicly articulating its position on critical issues

[Europe set the bar on Russian gas high enough to leave India unaffectedThe impact of the gas price cap on India may, however, be muted as the EU, fearing disruptions to domestic gas supplies in winter](#)

December 25, 2022, Business Standard

The impact of the gas price cap on India may, however, be muted as the EU, fearing disruptions to domestic gas supplies in winter, set the bar very high

[A 'Golden, Green, Great' Opportunity For India As G20 President To Address Global Challenges: Danish Envoy](#)

December 26, 2022, ABP Live

In an exclusive interview to ABP LIVE, Ambassador of Denmark to India Freddy Svane said he hopes India will give a new direction to world as G20 President.

Russia

[Is Putin Finally Getting Smart About His Ukraine Disaster?](#)

December 14, 2022, American Enterprise Institute

The Ukrainian winter will be brutal, but it won't bring the war to a freezing halt. Ukraine and Russia both face key decisions that could reshape the conflict diplomatically and militarily. Perhaps the most worrying possibility for Ukraine, and for the US, is that Russian President Vladimir Putin will finally start showing the strategic smarts he has demonstrated in the past.

[The great gamble on the Russian oil price cap](#)

December 15, 2022, The Hindu

The Group of Seven (G7) countries, the European Union and Australia have imposed a price cap on Russian sea-borne oil to make it harder for Russia to fund its war against Ukraine. The attempt to cut Russia's oil revenues without drastically affecting global oil supplies may be too fine a balancing act in the longer run.

[New EU Sanctions Target Russian Military-Industrial Complex](#)

December 16, 2022, RFE/RL

The European Union said on December 16 that its latest round of sanctions will hit Russia's military-industrial complex, as well as people and groups that are attacking Ukrainian civilians or kidnapping children.

[What will happen to ethnic Russians in Donbass and Crimea, if Ukraine and NATO emerge victorious from the current conflict?](#)

December 17, 2022, Russia Today

Nine years ago, about eight and a half million people lived in Donbass and Crimea, according to Ukrainian statistics. Most of them spoke Russian as their native language. Many identified as ethnic Russians. All of them are now considered by Moscow to be Russian citizens. Thus, if the NATO-backed regime in Kiev re-conquers those regions, there are fears that retribution against the locals could be ruthless and bloody.

Africa & Latin America

Africa

[China-US Competition Seems to be Working for Africa](#)

December 16, 2022, The Diplomat

But African leaders will need to keep working to reap the full benefits.

[Cyber the main focus of US-Africa military exercise](#)

December 23, 2022, Defence Connect

Cyber is set to be the key focus of an international military exercise between the US and over a dozen nations in Africa.

[10 Things to Know about the U.S.-China Rivalry in Africa](#)

December 7, 2022, United States Institute of Peace

The U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit is about U.S. relations with the continent – but China sits in the background

Latin America

[World Bank to lend \\$500 million to help Brazil meet climate goals](#)

December 26, 2022, India Today

The initiative adopts an approach to lending linked to sustainability to help Brazil meet its climate goals.

[Can Venezuela Meet Its 2023 Oil Production Targets?](#)

December 26, 2022, Oil Price

Venezuela is planning on oil to finance 63 percent of its budget for 2023, a figure slightly higher than this year's, Reuters reported Dec. 5. The stronger reliance on oil comes as the U.S. government reviews its sanctions on the South American country's state-owned oil company, PDVSA, first imposed in 2019.

[Uruguay's global ambitions shake up Latin America's Mercosur trade bloc](#)

December 26, 2022, Financial Times

As political alliances in the region shift, Montevideo's decision to 'open up to the world' exacerbates tensions.



DPG

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