

DAILY TRACKER

NUCLEAR ISSUES

1. Many secrets about Pakistan's nuclear programs were muted forever with the death of Abdul Qadeer Khan. He had shaped Pakistan's nuclear arsenal despite the scrutiny of the international community and adversary nations. Khan's death has brought the focus of the world back on the threat of the nukes falling into Jihadi hands. The concern has increased as many believe that the only country where nukes can fall into terrorists' hands is Pakistan. Watch the video to know more.

Source: <https://www.news18.com/videos/ivideos/why-pakistans-nuclear-weapons-falling-into-hands-of-terrorists-remains-a-real-possibility-4311053.html> 11 October 2021

2. They claim **UFOs** disabled weapons systems at nuclear bases and even started activating **missiles** by starting launch sequences before later shutting it down. Former Air Force officer, Robert Salas, was the on-duty commander of an underground launch control facility assigned to Malmstrom Air Force Base in Montana on March 24, 1967.

Source: <https://www.dailystar.co.uk/news/aliens-tampered-nuclear-weapons-could-25185906> 11 October 2021

3. A United States Navy nuclear engineer and his spouse have been arrested on espionage charges after allegedly attempting to sell confidential information, the US Department of Justice said. According to court records unsealed on Sunday, Jonathan Toebbe and his wife, Diana Toebbe, were arrested and charged with violating the Atomic Energy Act after attempting to sell the design of nuclear-powered warships to a person they believed was a representative of a foreign power.

Source: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/10/10/navy-engineer-arrested-for-selling-us-military-intelligence> 11 October 2021

4. During a joint press conference Sunday alongside Prime Minister Naftali Bennett in Jerusalem, German Chancellor Angela Merkel said that negotiations over the return to the nuclear deal have entered "very decisive weeks." She stressed that every day that goes by without an agreement, Iran continues to enrich uranium.

Source: <https://www.timesofisrael.com/bennett-tells-visiting-merkel-iran-closer-than-ever-to-nuclear-weapon/> 11 October 2021

NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

1. For much of Pakistan and the East, he was a flamboyant James Bond-like figure, a superspook who built the bomb that the Islamic world coveted. For India and the West he was a Dr No, the nuclear spy who stole secrets and operated in the shadowy nuclear blackmarket to assemble Pakistan's nuclear option "by hook or by crook". Till last month, in his own country, Abdul Qadeer Khan was a hero who could do no wrong. In March 1990 when he was given the nation's second-highest civilian award, the Hilal-i-Imtiaz, the citation said: "The name of Dr Abdul Qadeer Khan will be inscribed in gold letters in the annals of the national history of Pakistan." Last week, those gold letters were repainted in scarlet as 67-year-old Khan not only brought disgrace to himself and his country but put the world at grave risk of loose nukes and dirty bombs finding their way into the wrong hands.

Source: <https://www.indiatoday.in/india-today-insight/story/from-the-archives-how-abdul-qadeer-khan-hawked-pakistani-nuclear-secrets-in-international-market-1863279-2021-10-10> 11 October 2021

2. The recent Quad leaders meeting in the White House on September 24 appears to have shifted focus away from its original framing as a security dialogue between four countries, the United States, India, Japan and Australia. Instead, the United States seems to be moving much closer to Australia as a strategic partner and providing it with nuclear submarines. Supplying Australia with U.S. nuclear submarines that use bomb-grade uranium can violate the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) protocols. Considering that the United States wants Iran not to enrich uranium beyond 3.67 percent, this is blowing a big hole in its so-called rule-based international order—unless we all agree that the rule-based international order is essentially the United States and its allies making up all the rules.

Source: <https://towardfreedom.org/story/archives/asia-archives/what-does-india-get-out-of-being-part-of-the-quad/> 11 October 2021

3. Chief of the Iranian Atomic Energy Organisation (IAEO) Mohammed Eslami told the State TV that Iran has produced more than 20 kilogrammes of 20 per cent more enriched uranium, more than what the United Nations' International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) had reported last month. In September, IAEA reported that Iran had 84.3 kilogrammes of 20 per cent more enriched uranium, which stood at 62.8 kilogrammes in June. Eslami explained that according to the 2015 nuclear deal that the United States, Britain, France, Germany, Russia and China had signed, and which is also known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), the other countries were to provide the 20 per cent more enriched uranium that Iran needed to keep its nuclear research reactor running, and that this was not delivered. There was also the promise of economic incentives to Iran for limiting its nuclear programme, and that this too did not happen. The United States under President Donald Trump had walked out of the agreement in 2018, and the Americans had imposed crippling economic sanctions.

Source: <https://www.gulftoday.ae/opinion/2021/10/11/nuclear-programme-problem> 11 October 2021

MISSILES/BIO-WEAPONS

1. This project, being spearheaded by scientists at the China Academy of Launch Vehicle technology, could be a cause of worry for the US. According to the reports, this missile could cruise at six times the speed of sound and cover around 3,000 kilometers in 25 minutes. It is poignant to note that research into the electromagnetic effects of nuclear weapons on communication and electrical systems dates back to the 1950s. Global military powers like the US, Russia, China, and North Korea have since made strides in the research and development of EMP weapons systems and the addition to this new-age hypersonic technology race may give Beijing an edge over its arch-rival, the US.

Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/chinas-new-electromagnetic-missile-can-cripple-us-indian-econom/> *11 October 2021*

2. The Philippine Navy received its first-ever surface-to-air missiles from a French-based missile company last week, as part of its Frigate Acquisition Project under the military's modernization program. On Friday, October 8, the Navy received the Mistral 3 Surface-to-Air Missiles at the Subic Bay International Airport. The Navy said they will be used for *BRP Jose Rizal* (FF150) and *BRP Antonio Luna* (FF151), which are the Philippine military's most modern naval warships.

Source: <https://www.rappler.com/nation/philippine-navy-received-surface-to-air-missiles> *11 October 2021*

3. The country received its first ever surface-to-air missiles that will be used for the Philippine Navy's two missile-capable frigates. The Mistral 3 surface-to-air missiles that will be placed on Philippine Navy frigates BRP Jose Rizal and BRP Antonio Luna arrived at the Subic Bay International Airport on Oct. 8. "The arrival of these missiles will greatly capacitate our frigates in the conduct of their maritime operations," said Commander Benjo Negranza, director of the Philippine Navy naval public affairs office. Vice Admiral Adeluis Bordado, Philippine Navy's flag officer-in-command, confirmed it is the first time that the country acquired such a missile.

Source: <https://www.cnnphilippines.com/news/2021/10/10/PH-receives-surface-to-air-missiles.html> *11 October 2021*

UN REFORMS

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1. Established by the UN General Assembly in its resolution 62/136 of 18 December 2007, this international day recognizes "the critical role and contribution of rural women, including indigenous women, in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty."

Source: <https://guardian.ng/ama-press-releases/international-day-of-rural-women-theme-rural-women-cultivating-good-food-for-all/> *11 October 2021*

2. In a historic ruling on the harmful effects of climate change on children's rights, the Child Rights Committee has found that a State party can be held responsible for the negative impact of its carbon emissions on the rights of children both within and outside its territory.

Source: <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/un-child-rights-committee-rules-countries-bear-cross-border-responsibility-harmful> **11 October 2021**

3. UN chief calls on Taliban to keep promises to observe rights of women, girls

Source: <https://www.aninews.in/news/world/us/un-chief-calls-on-taliban-to-keep-promises-to-observe-rights-of-women-girls20211011230520/> **11 October 2021**

4. U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has written to world leaders calling on them to clinch a deal on curbing fisheries subsidies as negotiations near their final phase at the World Trade Organization in Geneva, a document showed. However, in a sign of the challenges, the head of the talks had to delay what was meant to be a series of daily meetings starting this week to finalise the wording of a draft agreement because of outstanding "macro" differences between members, a WTO spokesperson confirmed. In the letter dated Sept. 29, Guterres called on world leaders "to join me in pushing for agreement at WTO to end harmful fisheries subsidies before the end of this year" in a rare intervention of the U.N. chief in WTO matters. The talks, which environmentalists see as the biggest hope for reversing declining fish stocks, were given a boost in 2015 when U.N. members made a ban as part of their Sustainable Development Goals. WTO Director-General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, who began in March, is hoping to finalise a deal at a major ministerial conference at the Geneva headquarters beginning next month. One of the most challenging aspects of the negotiations is the question of exemptions for WTO members with developing country status, some of which are major subsidies like China. "There are some very, very tough issues that need to be addressed ... the discussions on exemptions, the going is very tough," WTO spokesperson Keith Rockwell said this month.

Source: <https://thediplomat.com/2021/10/un-strikes-deal-for-access-to-bangladeshi-refugee-island/> **11 October 2021**

5. North Korean leader Kim Jong-un stressed the need for improving people's livelihoods, as he held a session to mark the 76th founding anniversary of the country's ruling Workers' Party, state media reported on Monday. He delivered the remarks during his "important" speech, titled "Let us further



improve party work in line with the demands of the period of fresh development of socialist construction", according to Pyongyang's official Korean Central News Agency

Source: <https://www.sify.com/news/kim-jong-un-urges-improvement-in-peoples-livelihoods-news-international-vklekegjccaja.html> *11 October 2021*