

DAILY TRACKERNUCLEAR ISSUES

1. Nuclear Care Partners will mark the National Day of Remembrance for Nuclear Weapons Program Workers this year by offering former atomic energy workers a pin commemorating the Savannah River Site in Aiken, South Carolina. Nuclear Care Partners, whose California office is in Livermore, provides free benefits guidance and in-home care for former atomic workers who have developed serious workplace-related illnesses. Typically, Nuclear Care Partners organizes community events for the National Day of Remembrance, but said it decided not to this year because of continuing concerns over the COVID-19 pandemic.

Source:https://www.independentnews.com/news/livermore_news/nuclear-care-partners-to-mark-national-day-of-remembrance-for-nuclear-weapons-program-workers/article_9fa8a844-34da-11ec-a2dc-4b72cda4cf58.html

2. The Russian Foreign Ministry published on Monday its latest report on "the total number of strategic offensive arms," a tally required every six months by both Moscow and Washington as per their bilateral New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START) that entered into force in 2011. The deal provides for limits and mutual verifications measures on the world's two largest nuclear weapons stockpiles and it was nearly set to collapse as former President Donald Trump left office on January 20 without renewing it ahead of the set decade-later expiration date of February 5. Incoming President Joe Biden agreed with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin to extend the pact, however, two days before the deadline.

Source:<https://www.newsweek.com/russia-us-latest-nuclear-weapons-counts-moscow-nato-ties-collapse-1642486>

3. During the Cold War, the UK possessed over 550 nuclear warheads, but the US didn't regard it as a threat. It conducted 45 nuclear tests starting in 1952, but these were not characterized as "provocations." If anything, the US supported the UK in its nuclear weapon development. It was even generous enough to provide its own nuclear weapons to the British military at a time when the latter's nuclear weapon production had slowed. Each of North Korea's six nuclear tests has resulted



in it being criticized for its “provocations” and hit with UN sanctions. It is estimated to have dozens of nuclear warheads, which are regarded as a serious security threat.

Source: https://english.hani.co.kr/arti/english_edition/english_editorials/1016524.html

NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

1. By definition, there can be no proper theory without a prior and underlying focus on discernible commonalities. Indeed, the systematic discovery of commonalities or regularities constitutes the beginnings of any science, and science represents the only reasonable way to approach the many-sided issues of nuclear war avoidance. There are, to be sure, alternative patterns of inquiry, but these distracting patterns must be based on faith, “common sense” or overt *anti-reason*.

Source: <https://moderndiplomacy.eu/2021/10/24/to-prevent-a-nuclear-war-americas-overriding-policy-imperative/>

2. During the Cold War, the UK possessed over 550 nuclear warheads, but the US didn’t regard it as a threat. It conducted 45 nuclear tests starting in 1952, but these were not characterized as “provocations.” If anything, the US supported the UK in its nuclear weapon development. It was even generous enough to provide its own nuclear weapons to the British military at a time when the latter’s nuclear weapon production had slowed.

Source: https://english.hani.co.kr/arti/english_edition/english_editorials/1016524.html

MISSILES/BIO WEAPONS

1. A new focus on hypersonic glider weapons, after a reportedly successful Chinese test, is helping drive an arms race that is eclipsing hopes of a return to disarmament by the world’s major powers. The Chinese test on 27 July, first reported by the Financial Times, involved putting into orbit a nuclear-capable glider, travelling at five times the speed of sound, which then re-entered the atmosphere and performed some turns on its way to a target.

Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/oct/22/hypersonic-glider-weapons-china-new-arm-race>

2. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons has 55 States Parties and entered into force on 22 January 2021. As 122 states voted in favour of its adoption at the United Nations General Assembly in 2017, it can be assumed that the number of states parties to the treaty will soon increase. The treaty obliges states parties to prohibit the development, testing, production and possession of nuclear weapons, as well as the use or threat of use of such weapons. However, the nine nuclear-weapon states – which stockpile more than 14,000 atomic bombs at a cost of 100 billion dollars a year – and their European allies did not participate in the negotiations and continue to modernise their nuclear arsenals: the United States, the People’s Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, France, India, Pakistan, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea and Israel.

Source: <https://www.pressenza.com/2021/10/the-peace-that-the-treaty-on-the-prohibition-of-nuclear-weapons-is-building/>

UN REFORMS

1. United Nations Day is celebrated every year on October 24. This year will mark the intergovernmental organisation’s 76th year since the foundation. The day marks the anniversary of the day when the UN Charter entered into force in 1945. Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday recalled India's efforts towards world peace and global wellness while addressing the 82nd edition of his radio programme 'Mann Ki Baat'. He also said that this is the day observed as 'United Nations Day'.

Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/world/north-korea-human-rights-un-investigation-7592073/>

2. On the 76th anniversary of United Nations Day, India's External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar reaffirmed India's commitment to the UN. He reiterated the importance of "reformed multilateralism"



that demonstrates "rebalancing, fairness and multipolarity." He further stated that India will play a constructive role in increasing the United Nations' 'effectiveness and reliability.'

Source: <https://www.republicworld.com/world-news/rest-of-the-world-news/un-day-2021-eam-jaish-ankar-reaffirms-indias-commitment-to-united-nations.html>

3. More than half of Afghanistan's population is facing acute hunger as the country has been thrown into one of the world's largest food crises. Almost 23 million Afghans will be hungry due to conflict, drought and an economic downturn that is severely affecting livelihoods and people's access to food as a harsh winter looms, the UN has warned; an increase of nearly 35% compared with last year.

Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2021/oct/25/countdown-to-catastrophe-half-of-afghans-face-hunger-this-winter-un>