

DAILY TRACKER

NUCLEAR ISSUES

1. Nuclear power utilized to generate electricity that is both dependable and environmentally friendly. According to Dietmar Detering, a German entrepreneur, Nuclear energy could be the key to resolving the climate catastrophe.
Source: <https://www.cnet.com/news/how-nuclear-power-plants-could-help-solve-climate-crisis/>
2. Despite a year-over-year increase in natural gas costs, gas consumption for power generation has increased dramatically in New York, despite the fact that nuclear power output has decreased since the Indian Point facility was permanently shut in April. The growing gas consumption coincides with an aggressive decarbonization plan that will effectively eliminate gas-fired power generation by 2040.
Source: <https://www.spglobal.com/platts/en/market-insights/latest-news/natural-gas/111621-feature-gas-fired-power-increased-with-nuclear-plant-closure-path-to-climate-goals-unclear>
3. A new generation of nuclear reactors could hold the key to a sustainable future. Building a working reactor, even a modest one, necessitates precise and meticulous technical and paper-pushing operations. It's understandable that regulations are lengthy.
Source: <https://time.com/6117041/nuclear-energy-reactors-green/>
4. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has teamed up with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and 37 other United Nations institutions to find artificial intelligence (AI) applications that will help the UN achieve its Sustainable Development Goals.
Source: <https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/iaea-teams-up-with-itu-and-un-family-to-promote-ai-for-good>
5. Sberbank, a Russian bank, would lend \$800 million (TL 8.3 billion) to Akkuyu Nuclear Inc. for the construction of four units at the Akkuyu Nuclear Power Plant over a seven-year period (NPP).
Source: <https://www.dailysabah.com/business/energy/russiansberbank-to-loan-800m-for-turkeys-akkuyu-nuclear-plant>
6. The IAEA this week launched its biggest radiation protection training course in Arabic. The six-month Postgraduate Educational Course in Radiation Protection and the Safety of Radiation Sources (PGEC), designed for Arabic speaking countries in Asia.
Source: <https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/arabic-radiation-protection-and-safety-course-launches>

MISSILES/ BIO WEAPONS

1. India has placed orders for HAMMER (Highly Agile Modular Munition Extended Range) missiles



from France to enhance the capabilities of its LCA Tejas fighter jets. This was placed under the emergency procurement powers as was done for the same missiles to be equipped on the Rafales.

Source: <https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/hammer-missiles-france-lca-tejas-indian-air-force-defence-1877170-2021-11-16>

2. Russia's anti-satellite missile test blew its own satellites, creating debris that forced the International Space Station (ISS) crew to shelter in capsules. The development drew serious condemnation from the US.

Source: <https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-59299101>

3. P15B stealth guided-missile destroyer is scheduled to be commissioned into the Indian Navy on November 21. It is one of the four "Visakhapatnam" class destroyers to be indigenously designed.

Source: <https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/visakhapatnam-all-you-need-to-know-india-stealth-guided-missile-destroyer-1877459-2021-11-16>

4. Russia admitted to destroying one of its satellites during a missile test on Tuesday, but denied that it had put the International Space Station in jeopardy.

Source: <https://www.deccanherald.com/international/russia-admits-destroying-satellite-with-space-missile-strike-1051533.html>

5. On Tuesday night, the the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) fired two missiles from the Golan Heights towards an empty building south of Damascus. It is unclear whether the missiles were fired from an aircraft or were surface-to-surface ones.

Source: <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/israel-launches-2-missiles-into-syria-1-shot-down-report-685192>

6. Chinese officials and observers expressed deep concern over the news of India positioning its BrahMos missiles along the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/alarm-bells-in-china-as-indian-army-deploys-brahmos-missile/>

7. The US has expressed its "concern" over the delivery of S-400 Triumf surface-to-air missile systems from Russia to India. Though they are yet undecided over the manner in which to react with the deal.

Source: <https://www.deccanchronicle.com/world/america/161121/us-expresses-concern-over-delivery-of-russias-s-400-missile-system.html>

8. Bofors, Barak missiles, AgustaWestland choppers, multiple scandals that had rocked Congress in the 1980s.

Source: <https://www.wionews.com/photos/indias-major-defence-scams-bofors-barak-missiles-agustawestland-choppers-more-428943#bofors-howitzer-scam-428929>

9. China has been building targets in the shape of U.S. Navy aircraft carriers in their remote deserts. Together with other targets, designed to represent American warships, they are believed to be part of the Chinese Navy's Anti-Ship Ballistic Missile (ASBM) program. Providing China with a potentially game-changing capability.

Source: <https://www.navalnews.com/naval-news/2021/11/aircraft-carrier-killer-what-anti-ship-ballistic-missiles-are-and-who-has-them/>



10. On Friday, Democratic U.S. Representative Ilhan Omar introduced legislation to prevent the sale of \$650 million air-to-air missiles to Saudi Arabia, President Joe Biden's first big military sale to the kingdom.
Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/us-lawmaker-looks-block-first-major-saudi-arms-deal-under-biden-2021-11-12/>
11. The Indian Navy said on Tuesday that the last of the four Project 15B stealth guided missile destroyers, will be commissioned by 2024. Preparations are high for welcoming the first one, Visakhapatnam.
Source: <https://www.news18.com/news/india/navy-to-add-project-15b-missile-destroyers-to-its-arsenal-by-2024-commission-visakhapatnam-on-nov-21-4450094.html>
12. General John Hyten, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the second in-command in the U.S. military, revealed new details of last summer's Chinese hypersonic weapons test.
Source: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/china-hypersonic-weapons-test-details-united-states-military/>
13. According to the U.S. Department of Defense official directing research into the developing and disruptive technology, the Army will field the first battle-ready hypersonic weapon within a year or two, and the Navy will not be far behind.
Source: <https://www.airforcemag.com/us-army-likely-to-field-dods-first-hypersonic-weapons-in-a-year-or-two/>
14. At a ceremony in Jhansi on November 19, the Indian Prime Minister will hand over locally built military gear to the armed services, including the light combat helicopter (LCH), unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), and electronic warfare equipment for warships.
Source: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/pm-modi-to-hand-over-light-combat-helicopter-to-iaf-on-november-19-101636987763657.html>

NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

1. The nuclear and military expansion in China increases the likelihood of conflict in Asia. China's nuclear delivery vehicles and accompanying infrastructure, according to the Pentagon, indicate that it may already have a "nuclear triad" capable of firing missiles from the air, land, and sea.
Source: <https://www.latimes.com/world-nation/story/2021-11-17/la-fg-china-military-buildup-nuclear-missiles>
2. The Vatican Secretary of State addressed a conference on disarmament in Assisi. He claimed that the difficulty is to apply forward thinking strategies to achieve the common good while avoiding deterrent reasoning.
Source: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/vatican-city/news/2021-11/parolin-elimination-of-nuclear-weapons-a-moral-and-humanitarian.html>

3. Australia is developing a nuclear-powered submarine, but it will not carry nuclear weapons. Thus, it will not violate any of Australia's international commitments on the problem of nuclear proliferation, said Foreign Secy HV Shringla.
Source: <https://twitter.com/ANI/status/1440253062090661894>
4. Nuclear proliferation emerged as one of the prominent topics of discussion in the virtual meeting between Xi Jinping and President Joe Biden on November 15.
Source: <https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/the-xi-biden-virtual-summit-a-gamechanger/>
5. President Xi advised French President Emmanuel Macron to maintain foreign policy autonomy. This suggestion reflects a new dynamic in great power relations that could have a big impact on France's involvement in the Indo-Pacific.
Source: <https://www.geopoliticalmonitor.com/aucus-and-france-as-an-indo-pacific-power/>
6. Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi said during a phone call with Russian President Vladimir Putin on Tuesday that the Islamic Republic is serious about ending all sanctions against Iran. According to the 2015 nuclear deal, officially known as the JCPOA, the talks are aimed at ending illegal sanctions against Iran.
Source: <https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/467129/Iran-serious-to-bring-an-end-to-all-sanctions-Raisi-tells-Putin>
7. According to the UN's atomic watchdog, International Atomic Energy Agency, Iran has raised its stockpile of highly enriched uranium in violation of a 2015 agreement with Western powers.
Source: <https://www.arabnews.com/node/1969941/middle-east>
8. The agreement between Xi and Biden on nuclear discussions is clouded by deep scepticism. Despite progress at the virtual summit, analysts warn that putting measures in place will be tough.
Source: <https://www.ft.com/content/968c299c-83b4-42e5-8d65-8078beec6c7c>
9. Experts in Tokyo debate AUKUS, the new security collaboration between the US, the United Kingdom and Australia, and Japan's ambivalent attitude.. The AUKUS illustrates that the US is speeding up its efforts to counter China's rising naval strength.
Source: <https://thediplomat.com/2021/11/japans-ambivalent-aukus-response/>
10. AUKUS, the trilateral partnership, will provide means for the US, Australia, and the UK to work together in the Indo-Pacific to counter China's growing capabilities. Military technology transfers between the three countries are a crucial part of the arrangement, with the Australian Royal Navy receiving eight nuclear-powered submarines.
Source: <https://www.nationaldefensemagazine.org/articles/2021/11/16/australian-official-says-aukus-will-establish-rules-based-order-with-china-other-countries>
11. The debate over nuclear weapons in Germany tugs a sensitive Nato nerve. Allies of Berlin are worried that the new government will abandon the alliance's deterrence strategy.
Source: <https://www.ft.com/content/837aa9a9-b546-4b5f-983a-0c70c50bb768>
12. Egypt's President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi discussed via phone with his Russian counterpart Vladimir



Putin on the latest advancements in the construction of the El-Dabaa nuclear power plant and a Russian industrial zone east of Port Said.

Source: <https://www.arabnews.com/node/1969351/middle-east>

13. Iran will keep its commitments in proportion to the lifting of sanctions and the return of other parties to the nuclear deal (JCPOA). On July 14, 2015, Iran and the P5+1 countries signed the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), which was later endorsed by UN Security Council Resolution 2231.

Source: <https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/467126/Lifting-sanctions-entail-practical-steps-by-the-West-expert>

14. North Korea's goal in dealing with the United States is for Washington to accept Pyongyang's nuclear weapons.

Source: <https://news.usni.org/2021/11/16/north-korea-pushing-u-s-to-tolerate-missile-tests-and-nuclear-program-says-panel>

UN REFORMS

1. The United Nations nuclear watchdog released papers on Wednesday documenting its disagreements with Iran, ranging from abusive treatment of inspectors to the re-installation of cameras it considers "vital" for the resurrection of Tehran's nuclear pact.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/iran-still-denying-inspectors-essential-access-workshop-iaea-report-2021-11-17/>

2. According to an Iranian official, UN Nuclear Watchdog Chief Grossi will visit Iran on Monday, as Tehran and international powers prepare to resume talks on resurrecting a 2015 nuclear deal.

Source: <https://www.news18.com/news/world/un-nuclear-watchdog-chief-grossi-to-visit-iran-on-monday-says-official-4454360.html>

3. At the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), India blasted Pakistan for raking up the Kashmir issue and demanded that it "immediately vacate all areas" of Jammu and Kashmir "under its illegal occupation."

Source: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/terrorists-enjoy-a-free-pass-india-slams-pakistan-at-uns-council-over-kashmir-issue-101637115962966.html>

4. New Delhi's representation said on Tuesday that India will continue to take firm and decisive action against cross-border terrorism emanating from Pakistan, adding that it is up to Islamabad to create a conducive environment for any meaningful dialogue, which can only take place in an atmosphere free of terror, hostility, and violence.

Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/steps-against-cross-border-terrorism-india-pakistan-uns-7626713/>

5. The UN Security Council is unable to act effectively in addressing increasingly complex issues of



international peace and security as it lacks inclusive representation, India has said, asserting that while the global geo-political landscape has transformed, the objections of the naysayers of reform "remain frozen in time".

Source: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/objections-of-naysayers-of-reform-remain-frozen-in-time-india-at-un/articleshow/87750151.cms>

6. Over the last week, at least 1,000 people have been jailed in Ethiopia. The majority of those imprisoned are said to be Tigrayans.

Source: <https://frontline.thehindu.com/dispatches/mass-arrests-of-tigrayans-in-ethiopia-disturbing-warns-un/article37538824.ece>