

DAILY TRACKER

NUCLEAR ISSUES

1. If the European Union's aim of carbon neutrality is to be met by 2050, investment in nuclear power totaling roughly EUR500 billion (USD565 billion) will be required, according to European Commissioner for the Internal Market Thierry Breton in an interview with France's Le Journal du Dimanche.
Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/EU-needs-colossal-investment-in-nuclear-to-hit-net>
2. The Nuclear Waste Management Organization of Canada (NWMO) has produced two planning documents that address the wide range of priorities, questions, and concerns raised by Canadians and Indigenous peoples regarding the transportation of spent nuclear fuel.
Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/NWMO-publishes-transportation-planning-documents>

MISSILES/ BIO WEAPONS

1. The Indian Navy is looking to the future with the induction of INS Vikrant. Due to concerns with MiG-29K fighters, the Indian Navy is comparing French Dassault Rafale-M fighters to Boeing's F-18 Super Hornets. India has emerged as one of the few countries in the world capable of constructing a complicated ship such as an aircraft carrier.
Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/rafale-marines-or-super-hornets-indian-navys-decodes-the-ideal-aircraft/>
2. India's military services will receive the first indigenously developed aircraft carrier (IAC-I) in 2022, and the MK-1A variant of the Tejas Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) will fly by June. The IAC-I Vikrant has sailed for the third phase of sea trials, which will entail sophisticated manoeuvres to obtain comprehensive readings on how the ship performs in various conditions, according to the Navy.
Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/indias-enhanced-lca-tejas-fighter-jets-roaring-to-soar-aircraft-carrier-vikrant-set-to-become-action-ready/>
3. CNN reported that in late December, the Biden administration discreetly approved an additional \$200 million in security assistance to Ukraine. According to the report, which cited four people familiar with the situation, a large portion of the \$200 million security package comprised military equipment such as small arms, ammunition, secure radios, and medical equipment.
Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/us-quietly-authorized-200m-security-aid-to-ukraine-russia/>

4. According to the latest Japanese media sources, Japan reversed its plan to discontinue procurement of US-made RQ-4 Global Hawk surveillance drones in 2020, ostensibly to appease then-US President Donald Trump. According to a newly released report, Shinzo Abe's government told Washington in the spring of 2020 that it would not buy the Global Hawk drones due to their high cost, but that decision was reversed in June of that year when Tokyo shelved plans to deploy US-developed land-based Aegis Ashore ballistic missile defence systems.
Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/global-hawk-drone-japan-revokes-to-scrap-northrop-grumman/>
5. The Chinese DF-26 intermediate-range ballistic missile, which has a range of 3,400 miles, might pose a danger to important US military locations in the Pacific Rim.
Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/chinas-guam-killer-df-26-missile-greatest-risk-for-us-in-asia-pacific/>
6. F-16 fighter jets from the Polish Air Force, as well as similar aircraft from Belgium, will take part in NATO training flights over Estonia next week, the country's defence forces announced on Monday.
Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/polish-air-force-f-16-fighter-take-part-nato-training-flights-over-estonia/>
7. On social media, photos of the first mass-produced version of the JF-17 Block III fighter have surfaced, implying that the type may soon join Pakistani service. China is slated to construct the fighter jets, which will then be built in Pakistan. The JF-17 fighter plane is specifically constructed for sale because China does not 'trust' these fighters, even as a cheap replacement for the obsolete J-7 and J-8 fighters.
Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/pakistan-starts-inducting-jf-17-block-iii-fighter-jets-photos-viral/>
8. According to Australian Minister for Defense Peter Dutton, Australia would spend \$3.6 billion (\$2.58 billion) on the purchase of 120 tanks and other armored vehicles from the United States.
Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/australia-to-acquire-abrams-main-battle-tanks-from-the-us/>
9. The TF-X, Turkey's next National Combat Aircraft, is planned to fly in the next three years. According to sources, the country has also opened new engineering facilities for the design, development, and production of the fifth-generation fighter jet.
Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/turkey-tf-x-stealth-fighter-jet-in-3-years-opens-complex/>
10. According to reports, the Chinese PLA Air Force has put its J-20 stealth fighter jets through intensive simulated training in order to assess the fifth-generation aircraft's supremacy over previous fighter fighters like the J-11B and J-16.
Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/china-says-its-j-20-stealth-jets-shot-j-11-j-16-fighters/>
11. Saudi Arabia has asked its neighbours for interceptor missiles as it battles Houthi strikes, according to media reports on Sunday, pending US clearance of Patriot missile sales.
Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/saudi-arabia-interceptor-missiles-as-riyadh-awaits-patriot-usa/>
12. Taiwan's Semiconductor Industry Should Be Destroyed To Deter Chinese Invasion Plan, According To A US Military Journal. The idea that China is planning to invade Taiwan has been thrown on its head by a new deterrent technique presented by American researchers.
Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/us-taiwan-should-destroy-its-semiconductor-industry-to-deter-china/>

13. A Russian submarine collided with a towed sonar array connected to the Royal Navy frigate HMS Northumberland during a patrol in 2020, the UK Ministry of Defence has confirmed. This is supposed to be the first time Russian and British boats have collided since the Cold War.

Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/uk-confirms-russian-submarine-collided-with-british-warship/>

14. According to local officials and commentators, Taiwan has displayed some of its indigenously manufactured warships at an event intended to send a message of deterrence to China. The Taiwanese Ministry of Defense performed a naval exercise off the coast of Keelung in northern Taiwan over the weekend, as part of a three-day multi-disciplinary practise in various places to display the military's combat readiness, according to the ministry's news agency.

Source: <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/china/taiwan-drills-01102022142322.html>

NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

1. Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov told reporters late Sunday in Geneva that early talks with a top US official had been "complex but businesslike," according to Russian news agencies.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/russia-says-initial-talks-with-us-geneva-complex-businesslike-2022-01-09/>

2. In talks in Geneva on Monday, Russia and the US showed no signs of lessening their differences on Ukraine and wider European security, with Moscow repeating demands that Washington says it cannot accept.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/prospects-dim-us-russia-start-tense-talks-over-ukraine-crisis-2022-01-10/>

3. After a first session of discussions with the US on the Ukraine situation on Tuesday, Russia expressed scepticism and stated that it would not allow its demands for security guarantees from the West to become bogged down in arduous negotiations.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/kremlin-says-its-not-optimistic-us-talks-wont-let-them-drag-2022-01-11/>

4. Oleh, a Kyiv resident, was among many who questioned why the country at the centre of the problem was not at the bargaining table when US and Russian officials began discussions on Ukraine's security on Monday.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/residents-question-ukraines-absence-talks-about-its-future-2022-01-10/>

5. Iran has refuted reports that it and foreign powers negotiated a two-year interim accord on Sunday. The sides concluded a two-year deal in Vienna, according to London-based Rai al-Youm, under which the US would withdraw all sanctions imposed on Iran by the Trump administration. All of Iran's sophisticated uranium would be shipped to Russia in exchange.

Source: <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-691962>

UN REFORMS

1. China has appointed a new commander of the People's Liberation Army's garrison in Hong Kong, raising fears that Beijing will intensify its crackdown on the region.
Source: <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/china/peng-jintang-01102022180806.html>
2. The China Passenger Car Association (CPCA) reported on Tuesday that Tesla Inc (TSLA.O) sold 70,847 China-made vehicles in December, the highest monthly pace since it began production in Shanghai in 2019.
Source: <https://www.reuters.com/technology/tesla-sold-70847-china-made-vehicles-december-cpca-2022-01-11/>
3. According to sources familiar with the trial, a military court sentenced deposed Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi to four years in prison on Monday for illegally possessing walkie-talkies and violating Covid-19 guidelines, bringing her total prison time to six years.
Source: <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/myanmar/assk-sentence-01102022082236.html>
4. Women's protests in Kabul today, demanding that their rights be respected under the Talibani regime.
Source: <https://twitter.com/TOLOnews/status/1480833851077312512>
5. The Italian government has provided EUR 10.7 million (US\$12 million) to the Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund (AHF), according to OCHA Afghanistan.
Source: <https://twitter.com/TOLOnews/status/1480478490663309312>
6. Hun Sen's visit to Myanmar will do little to help the country's people, according to analysts, who say the country's prolonged political crisis has resulted in hundreds of civilian deaths and thousands of arrests.
Source: <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/myanmar/visit-01102022184906.html>
7. According to sources familiar with the trial, a military court sentenced deposed Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi to four years in prison on Monday for illegally possessing walkie-talkies and violating Covid-19 guidelines, bringing her total prison time to six years.
Source: <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/myanmar/assk-sentence-01102022082236.html>
8. Despite sanctions that civil society groups argue should make its import illegal, Burmese teak, a tropical hardwood coveted by luxury yacht builders, continues to find its way to U.S. timber yards.
Source: <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/myanmar/usa-timber-01102022182951.html>
9. Protests erupted across Myanmar on Thursday ahead of the planned visit of ASEAN rotating chair and Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen, with activists enraged by what they perceive to be his backing for the military administration and its brutal rule.
Source: <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/myanmar/visit-01062022170201.html>
10. After the worst unrest in three decades of post-Soviet independence, Kazakhstan's president sacked two more top security officers on Sunday, and authorities said the situation was stabilising, with

Russian-led forces guarding key facilities.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/kazakhstan-says-strategic-facilities-under-guard-after-unrest-2022-01-09/>