

## **DAILY TRACKER**

### **NUCLEAR ISSUES**

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1. As electricity shortages in Asia and Europe increase worldwide demand for fossil fuels, the green energy revolution is encountering some roadblocks. This highlights the dangers of relying too heavily on unpredictable wind and solar energy, and emphasises the importance of nuclear energy.  
Source: <https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/in-perspective/nuclear-power-is-getting-a-fresh-look-1071250.html>
2. Tokyo is launching a series of ambitious next-generation nuclear projects that could feed Japanese industry for decades and help the country's reputation recover from the Fukushima disaster.  
Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/us-ambitious-nuclear-power-project-could-fuel-japanese-industry/>

### **MISSILES/ BIO WEAPONS**

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1. Lockheed Martin's ambitious plans to buy Aerojet Rocketdyne, a US defence and aerospace company, appear to have met snags. Aerojet Rocketdyne is a rocket and missile propulsion company based in the United States. It's also working on hypersonic weapons, as well as a range of additional munitions, targets, and undersea systems.  
Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/lockheed-martin-hypersonic-aerojet-rocketdyne/>
2. While infrared countermeasure devices aren't typically linked with commercial aviation, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and delivery behemoth FedEx have expressed interest in the technology's application in this sector. The proposal to equip the cargo jets with missile defense systems was filed by the FAA with the US Department of Transportation on January 14.  
Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/decoded-why-is-fedex-demanding-to-equip-its-airbus-a321-aircraft-with-anti-missile-laser-defense-system/>
3. Turkey appears to be warming up to establish a name for itself in the jet trainer sector with its advanced jet trainer and light attack aircraft, Hürjet, after seeing the meteoric ascent of Turkish drones in the worldwide armed drone market.  
Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/challenger-to-indian-lca-tejas-fighter-jet-turkey-plans-hurjet/>
4. The US Navy is working on laser weapons in the Middle East to counteract a significant upsurge in Iran's deployment and use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) in the region, top Central Command (CENTCOM) naval officer and US Fifth Fleet commander Vice Adm. Bradley Cooper said.  
Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/us-navy-actively-deploying-laser-weapons-in-the-middle-east/>
5. The Royal Thai Air Force (RTAF) has received approval from the Thai government to purchase new fighter aircraft to replace its outdated fleet of Lockheed Martin F-16A/B Fighting Falcons.

Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/more-f-35-stealth-fighters-for-asia-after-south-korea-japan-is-thailand-aiming-to-acquire-worlds-best-warplanes/>

6. After performing a preliminary joint investigation with the US, the South Korean Air Force reported that the recent incident of South Korea's F-35A fighter jet, which was forced to make a belly landing earlier this month, was caused by a bird hit on its left engine.

Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/f-35-why-us-mighty-stealth-fighter-jet-belly-land-in-south-korea/>

7. According to a US Navy Commander, the aircraft carrier Liaoning, a symbol of Chinese dignity and naval might, looks to have certain operating limitations.

Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/chinas-much-hyped-liaoning-aircraft-carrier-flawed-us-commander-says-its-operational-restrictions-exposed/>

8. Even as the country's largest and most modern destroyer, the Lhasa, conducts a series of drills in the Yellow Sea, China is reportedly creating two more Type-055 destroyers.

Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/china-destroyer-gets-combat-ready-navy-to-get-more-of-type-055/>

## NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

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1. French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian warned on Friday that nuclear talks with Iran are progressing too slowly to reach a deal, while a source in Vienna said there were outstanding issues in every aspect of the talks. "This negotiation advances way too slowly to be able to reach a conclusion and there will be nothing more to negotiate if it continues like this," Le Drian stated, while saying the success of the talks is "vital."

Source: <https://www.jpost.com/international/article-692624>

2. Noticeable difference in tone seen since the current round of talks began in November. Efforts by "all parties" to resurrect the 2015 nuclear agreement, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), resulted in "good progress" during the Vienna discussions, according to an Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman.

Source: <https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/469107/Iran-nuclear-talks-enjoy-better-atmosphere-EU>

3. Saudi Arabia plans to develop its "huge" uranium resources, both to further its nascent nuclear power programme and to sell on the global market, according to energy minister Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman.

Source: <https://www.spglobal.com/platts/en/market-insights/latest-news/electric-power/011222-saudi-arabia-to-develop-huge-uranium-resources-in-energy-diversity-push-minister>

4. For years, US officials have avoided discussing how much military assistance Ukraine should receive for fear of offending Russia. Now, in a stunning U.S. reversal, senior Biden administration officials are warning that if Russian President Vladimir Putin invades Ukraine, the US could back a Ukrainian rebellion.

Source: <https://www.wionews.com/world/us-considers-backing-an-insurgency-if-russia-invades-ukraine-444983>

5. Russia is preparing a false-flag military operation in Ukraine to establish a pretext for an invasion, CNN said on Friday quoting an anonymous US official.  
Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/russia-preparing-for-false-flag-operations-in-ukraine-invasion/>
6. In an attempt to aggravate the border issue, the US announced today that Russia had "prepositioned a group of operatives to conduct a false-flag operation in eastern Ukraine."  
Source: <https://www.wionews.com/world/russia-conducting-false-flag-operation-in-eastern-ukraine-us-444890>
7. According to the FSB domestic intelligence service, Russia dismantled ransomware crime group REvil at the request of the US in an operation that saw the group's members detained and charged.  
Source: <https://www.wionews.com/world/russia-dis-mantles-revil-hacker-group-at-us-request-445005>

## UN REFORMS

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1. Benedict Rogers, co-founder and Chief Executive of Hong Kong Watch, spoke at a rally for press freedom in Piccadilly Circus today, calling for international action in response to the closing of independent media and the detention of journalists.  
Source: [https://twitter.com/hk\\_watch/status/1482403430991904775](https://twitter.com/hk_watch/status/1482403430991904775)
2. Olympic competitors will wear clothing made in Xinjiang's 'slave labour' region. Hundreds of thousands of Uyghurs and other minorities have been compelled to hand-pick crops in the region, which is a major supply of cotton for the world.  
Source: <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/world-news/2022/01/12/chinas-olympic-athletes-wear-kit-manufactured-slave-labour-region/>
3. According to a report on CTV, Canadian athletes heading to the Beijing Winter Olympics in February are being told to leave their cell phones and other devices at home. The Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) is preparing for probable Chinese cyber spying, which might involve infecting devices with spyware.  
Source: <https://cyclingmagazine.ca/sections/news/canadian-winter-olympians-are-being-told-to-leave-their-personal-phones-at-home/>
4. The razing of schools, Buddha statues, and prayer wheels, as well as following arrests and detentions of Tibetans by Chinese officials, are all part of China's aggressive stance toward Tibetan culture, tradition, and identity.  
Source: [https://twitter.com/TashiDorjey\\_/status/1482784514740928512](https://twitter.com/TashiDorjey_/status/1482784514740928512)
5. With CCP enforcing Mandarin's hegemony over rest, Chinese dialects certain to decline. Linguistics concerned as regional languages dwindle amid communist agenda.  
Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/jan/16/chinese-dialects-in-decline-as-government-enforces-mandarin>

6. In an interview with French television on Friday, Minister of Foreign Affairs Joseph Wu warned that China poses a "very severe" threat. "If you look at the level of their military exercises around Taiwan, either in the air or on the surface, or their missile capabilities, [the Chinese military] is being improved tremendously in the [past] few years," Wu said during an interview with France24. "They also openly talked about invading Taiwan." More than 900 flights by Chinese military aircraft were carried out last year alone, he added, posing a threat to Taiwanese.  
Source: <https://www.taipeitimes.com/News/taiwan/archives/2022/01/16/2003771469>
7. To stop the Afghani women from demonstrating, the Taliban used electric shock and pepper spray. They are only protesting to protect their fundamental rights. For the sake of a nation's liberty.  
Source: [https://twitter.com/myredline\\_afg/status/1482673556764991490](https://twitter.com/myredline_afg/status/1482673556764991490)
8. In Paktia province, Taliban set fire to a local artist's instruments and severely beaten him. The Taliban regime is oppressing innocents across all provinces of Afghanistan.  
Source: <https://twitter.com/AfgFactChecks/status/1482274013279920128>
9. Mohammad Javad, an Iranian boxing champion, was sentenced to death for opposing economic corruption in Iran, continuing Iran's recent wave of athlete executions.  
Source: <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/iran-news/article-692632>
10. In Afghanistan, Taliban terrorists have detained Francois Xavier, a man from Canada. Foreigners are no longer safe in Afghanistan. Taliban is not a government; it is a terrorist organisation that, unfortunately, rules a country.  
Source: <https://twitter.com/rahmanrahmanee/status/1482427332082208773>
11. The Taliban has retaliated harshly against women who protest the mandatory hijab. Those who oppose the hijab, according to the ministry's authority, are opposed to the Qur'an and the Prophet of Islam. The protesting women were warned not to "mistakenly incite foreigners," according to the ministry.  
Source: <https://www.etilaatroz.com/134965/taliban-to-women-do-not-make-mistake-by-inciting-foreigners/>
12. According to a group of women demonstrators in Kabul, the Taliban have violently demonstrated and deployed tear gas against them.  
Source: <https://twitter.com/Etilaatroz/status/1482724805086523402>
13. AFP reported, citing sources, that detained Myanmar State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi has been accused on five new corruption counts connected to the suspected hire and purchase of a helicopter. Suu Kyi was sentenced to an additional four years in prison by a Myanmar court on Monday on accusations of importing illegal walkie-talkies, bringing her total sentence to six years following two convictions last month.  
Source: <https://news.cgtn.com/news/2022-01-15/Aung-San-Suu-Kyi-faces-five-new-corruption-charges-AFP-16QjaItcIA4/index.html>