

**NUCLEAR ISSUES**

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1. NuScale Power and KGHM Polska Mied SA, a Polish copper and silver company, have signed a binding agreement to begin building on a first NuScale VOYGR small modular reactor (SMR) power station in Poland as soon as 2029.  
Source: <https://world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/NuScale,-KGHM-agree-to-deploy-SMRs-in-Poland>
2. The Leader, Russia's largest icebreaker to date, is getting its reactor vessels built. The vessel will be powered by two RITM-400 reactors, giving it a propeller power of 120 MW, more than double that of the most recent icebreakers at sea.  
Source: <https://world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Manufacturing-starts-on-largest-ever-marine-reacto>
3. The operator Teollisuuden Voima Oyj (TVO) has stated that the connection of unit 3 at the Olkiluoto nuclear power plant in western Finland to the national grid has been postponed until next month.  
Source: <https://world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Automation-adjustments-delay-OL3-grid-connection>
4. The nuclear issue is now again raging in global forums, more than a decade after the Fukushima nuclear disaster. While many policymakers are concerned about nuclear fallout and future disasters like those at Fukushima, Chernobyl, and Three Mile Island, the urgent need for rapid decarbonization of the global economy has brought nuclear, a zero-emissions proven technology, back to the forefront of energy policy debates.  
Source: <https://oilprice.com/Alternative-Energy/Nuclear-Power/The-Global-Energy-Policy-Problem-No-One-Wants-To-Acknowledge.html>
5. According to the corporation, a western Japan enterprise aims to develop the country's first experimental plant to create power through nuclear fusion, as the technique is gaining traction as a new way of creating energy without emitting carbon dioxide.  
Source: <https://japantoday.com/category/tech/japan-venture-to-build-country-s-first-nuclear-fusion-power-plant>

**MISSILES/ BIO WEAPONS**

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1. At a time when China's Xian H-20 stealth bomber is still causing conjecture, tales of a new mysterious bomber the JH-XX have military analysts baffled.  
Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/china-developing-a-next-gen-fighter-bomber-us-air-force/>
2. Taiwan's defence ministry said on Tuesday that a small Chinese civilian aircraft flew unusually close to a remote Taiwanese-controlled island off China's coast earlier this month, suggesting China was testing a new strategy.  
Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/taiwan-says-chinese-plane-flew-close-remote-island-2022-02-15/>

3. In the latest display of increased military action near Ukraine, Russia's navy launched anti-submarine drills in the Black Sea on Monday, while fighter jets patrolled its border with partner Belarus.  
Source: <https://www.jpost.com/international/article-696397>
4. According to a government lawyer, a former US Navy engineer charged with attempting to sell nuclear submarine secrets to a foreign power has pleaded guilty as part of a bargain with federal prosecutors.  
Source: <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-696491>
5. According to a Reuters eyewitness, a German military plane carrying soldier reinforcements landed at Lithuania's Kaunas airport on Monday, the first of several planned deployments amid regional fears of a Russian invasion of Ukraine.  
Source: <https://www.jpost.com/international/article-696414>

## NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

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1. On Monday, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said that Canada would send a loan of up to C\$500 million (\$393 million) to Ukraine to help it prepare for a future Russian invasion, as well as C\$7.8 million in lethal equipment and ammunition.  
Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/canada-offering-up-c500-mln-loan-ukraine-lethal-weapons-pm-2022-02-14/>
2. Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian addressed the latest situation of the discussions in Vienna with European Union foreign policy leader Josep Borrell, Iran's foreign ministry said in a tweet on Monday.  
Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/irans-fm-says-call-with-eus-borrell-iran-wont-back-down-its-red-lines-ministry-2022-02-14/>
3. In tandem with the nuclear talks in Vienna, Iran's foreign ministry spokesman stated on Monday that a prisoner swap with the US was on the table.  
Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/iran-foreign-ministry-spokesman-says-prisoner-swap-with-us-agenda-2022-02-14/>
4. On Monday, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov met with his Iranian colleague Hossein Amirabdollahian, and the two agreed on a "tangible move forward" in restoring the Iran nuclear deal, according to the Russian foreign ministry.  
Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/russia-iran-note-progress-reviving-iranian-nuclear-deal-2022-02-14/>
5. Iran's foreign minister said on Monday that Tehran is "in a hurry" to reach a new nuclear agreement as long as its national interests are protected, as Tehran and the US started indirect discussions on salvaging Tehran's 2015 pact with world powers.  
Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/nuclear-talks-not-dead-end-iran-foreign-ministry-spokesman-says-2022-02-14/>

6. Iran is eager to reach a quick agreement with world powers in Vienna over nuclear talks, as long as its national interests are maintained, according to Iran's foreign minister.  
Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/iran-in-hurry-reach-agreement-nuclear-talks-foreign-minister-2022-02-14/>
7. Progress in discussions to rescue Iran's 2015 nuclear deal is getting "more difficult," according to a top Iranian security official, since Western nations just "pretended" to come up with suggestions.  
Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/nuclear-talks-more-difficult-west-pretends-take-initiative-iran-official-2022-02-13/>
8. Ukraine's ambassador to Britain told the BBC that the country's desire to join NATO may be shelved in order to avert war with Russia, in what would amount to a huge concession to Moscow in reaction to the build-up of Russian forces on its borders.  
Source: <https://www.jpost.com/international/article-696393>
9. According to three senior Western security sources, Russian mercenaries with ties to Moscow's intelligence have increased their presence in Ukraine in recent weeks, raising fears among some NATO allies that Russia may try to fabricate a pretext for an attack.  
Source: <https://www.jpost.com/international/article-696463>
10. After a succession of attacks by Iran-backed fighters on neighbouring Gulf states and increased momentum on a renewed Iran nuclear deal, Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett will travel to Bahrain on Monday for the first formal visit by an Israeli prime minister.  
Source: <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2022-02-14/israel-pm-heads-to-bahrain-amid-concerns-about-iran-nuclear-deal>

## UN REFORMS

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1. The China Passenger Car Association (CPCA) reported on Monday that Tesla Inc (TSLA.O) sold 59,845 China-made vehicles in January.  
Source: <https://www.reuters.com/business/autos-transportation/tesla-sold-59845-china-made-vehicles-january-cpca-2022-02-14/>
2. Nearly a dozen children have died of malnutrition in Afghanistan's northern Kunduz region since the start of 2022, according to local media citing the Public Health Department on Monday.  
Source: <https://www.bignewsnetwork.com/news/272296393/since-2022-start-nearly-dozen-children-died-of-malnutrition-in-afghanistan-kunduz-report>
3. According to Save the Children, up to one-fifth of Afghan families have been compelled to send their youngsters to work as wages have plunged in the last six months, with an estimated one million children now involved in child labour.  
Source: <https://www.bignewsnetwork.com/news/272296379/one-in-five-family-sends-children-to-work-as-incomes-drop-report>
4. On Monday, a Pakistani appeals court acquitted the brother of social media sensation Qandeel Baloch of her murder, a 2016 crime that provoked national outcry and reforms in rules governing "honour killings."  
Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/pakistan-appeals-court-frees-brother-convicted-honour-killing-social-media-star-2022-02-14/>
5. Eastern European countries are preparing for tens of thousands of refugees to evacuate Ukraine if the conflict with Russia worsens, with some Polish towns already listing places available and Romania considering refugee camps.  
Source: <https://www.jpost.com/international/article-696443>
6. On Sunday, the special assistant to the United Nations Secretary-General on Libya urged both Libya's interim prime minister Abdulhamid al-Dbeibah and his parliament-designated successor Fathi Bashagha to maintain peace and stability.  
Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/un-adviser-calls-libyan-elections-shortest-possible-time-2022-02-13/>
7. Russia has stated that it will continue to hold diplomatic discussions with the West in order to resolve a security crisis in which it has amassed a massive force within striking distance of Ukraine. On Monday, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov had a televised conversation in which the latter stated that "there is always a chance" to achieve a deal with the West over Ukraine.  
Source: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/2/14/russia-ready-to-continue-diplomacy-over-ukraine-minister>
8. According to a Save the Children report, an estimated one million children are currently involved in

child labour in Afghanistan as family finances have collapsed in the last six months. According to a poll of 1,400 households in seven Afghan regions, 82 percent of Afghans have lost income since the former Western-backed government collapsed and the Taliban took power in August.

Source: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/2/14/one-million-children-in-afghanistan-engaged-in-labour-ngo>

9. Eastern European countries are preparing for tens of thousands of refugees to evacuate Ukraine if the conflict with Russia worsens, with some Polish towns now advertising available housing and Romania discussing refugee camps.

Source: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/2/14/eastern-europe-braces-for-refugees-as-ukraine-crisis-simmers>

10. During the 30-minute meeting, Kishida stated that Japan has always supported Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity and that any unilateral alteration to the status quo would be unacceptable.

Source: <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2022/02/15/national/japan-ukraine-kishida-zelenskyy/>