

DAILY TRACKER**NUCLEAR ISSUES**

1. On Sunday, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz and Economy Minister Robert Habeck planned out potentially significant reforms to the country's energy sector, even suggesting that nuclear power reactors could be kept operational for longer.
Source: <https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/could-germany-keep-its-nuclear-plants-running-2022-02-28/>
2. Annalena Baerbock has been an anti-nuclear campaigner since childhood, when her family joined street protests against the deployment of atomic weapons and power plants in Germany.
Source: <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/2022/02/28/germany-prepared-keep-nuclear-plants-open-reduce-reliance-russian/>
3. As conflict neared the largest of Ukraine's operational nuclear plants, the International Atomic Energy Agency stated that an emergency meeting would be held on Wednesday. According to Ukraine's State Nuclear Regulatory Inspectorate, six of the country's 15 reactors have been unplugged from the energy grid to minimise cooling needs. In normal times, the 15 Soviet-era reactors supplied half of the country's electricity.
Source: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/climate-environment/2022/02/28/ukraine-nuclear-plant-chernobyl-russia/>
4. According to the report, titled "Nuclear Power Plant and Equipment Market the global nuclear power plant and equipment industry generated \$41.1 billion in 2020, and is estimated to reach \$58.4 billion by 2030, witnessing a CAGR of 3.5% from 2021 to 2030.
Source: <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/nuclear-power-plant-and-equipment-market-to-reach-58-4-bn-globally-by-2030-at-3-5-cagr-allied-market-research-301491425.html>
5. According to a government spokeswoman, Germany is evaluating all alternatives to minimise its energy dependence on Russia, but it is not yet at a place where it can decide whether or not to extend the life of nuclear power plants.
Source: <https://www.fxempire.com/news/article/germanys-return-to-nuclear-power-not-on-the-plate-yet-915847>
6. In his TV address prior to the invasion of Ukraine, Russian President Vladimir Putin warned the West that anyone who interfered "will face consequences greater than any you have faced in history." Since the Cold War, international leaders and individuals have been concerned about the prospect of nuclear war.
Source: <https://www.nationalworld.com/news/world/which-countries-have-nuclear-weapons-does-uk-russia-ukraine-or-us-have-nukes-3590013>
7. A key study from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, due out Monday, is anticipated to warn that humans are wreaking such havoc on the world that we may run out of options for surviving the catastrophe. A "rapidly closing window of opportunity to secure a liveable and sustainable future



for all" is mentioned in the study.

Source: <https://edition.cnn.com/2022/02/28/opinions/nuclear-radioactive-waste-climate-ipcc-hockenos/index.html>

MISSILES/ BIO WEAPONS

1. Hundreds of strong and precise ballistic missiles were fired by Russia in the initial days of its war on Ukraine, but analysts and US officials say many Ukrainian defences are still intact, with ramifications that governments around the world are keenly monitoring.

Source: https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/russias-missiles-see-mixed-results-in-ukraine-war-as-world-watches/articleshow/89889853.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst

2. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced on Monday that Canada will give Ukraine with anti-tank weapons and enhanced ammunition to aid in its fight against a Russian invasion, as well as a ban on Russian crude oil imports.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/canada-foreign-minister-says-more-sanctions-coming-against-russia-2022-02-28/>

3. North Korea said Monday it tested cameras to be installed on a spy satellite, a suggestion that it'll likely soon conduct a banned long-range rocket launch to modernize its weapons arsenal and apply more pressure on the Biden administration. The United Nations and others view a satellite launch by North Korea as a cover for tests of missile technology, as ballistic missiles and rockets in satellite lift-offs share similar bodies, engines and other technology.

Source: <https://apnews.com/article/space-launches-technology-business-south-korea-north-korea-b94f39427af0da1df5a1a882bd266909>

4. According to Josep Borrell, the EU's foreign policy leader, EU countries will send "fighter jets" to Ukraine in response to Kyiv's request for assistance in countering Russia's air and ground attack.

Source: https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/eu-countries-to-send-fighter-jets-to-ukraine-josep-borrell/articleshow/89886579.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst

NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

1. France's foreign ministry said on Monday that it was urgent to conclude the Iran nuclear talks this week. Iran had said earlier on Monday that reviving a 2015 nuclear deal is possible if Western powers take a political decision to resolve three remaining issues, as indirect negotiations between Tehran and

Washington enter a crucial stage.

Source: <https://english.alarabiya.net/News/middle-east/2022/02/28/It-is-urgent-to-conclude-Iran-nuclear-talks-this-week-France>

2. Overnight, Russian President Vladimir Putin instructed the defence minister and the military chief to place nuclear deterrent forces in a "special regime of combat duty," implying that tactical nuclear forces would be ready.
Source: https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/as-russian-president-vladimir-putin-puts-nuclear-forces-on-high-alert-here-are-5-genuine-nuclear-dangers-for-us-all/articleshow/89885855.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cpst
3. A restored nuclear deal with Iran was "closer than ever," according to negotiators, when war broke out in Ukraine.
Source: <https://www.aljazeera.com/podcasts/2022/2/28/the-deal-with-iran>
4. Iran indicated on Monday that efforts to resurrect a 2015 nuclear agreement could succeed if the US made a political decision to accept Tehran's remaining demands, as months of negotiations reach a "now or never" stage, according to one Iranian ambassador.
Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/iran-says-three-key-issues-remain-unresolved-vienna-nuclear-talks-2022-02-28/>
5. It is critical to wrap up talks on restoring a 2015 nuclear deal between Western powers and Iran this week, according to France's foreign ministry.
Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/france-says-it-is-urgent-conclude-iran-nuclear-talks-this-week-2022-02-28/>
6. In the face of a bombardment of Western retaliation for his war on Ukraine, President Vladimir Putin put Russia's nuclear deterrent on full alert on Sunday. Ukraine claimed it had repelled Russian ground forces attacking its major cities.
Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/india/war-with-ukraine-putin-puts-nuclear-deterrence-forces-alert-2022-02-27/>
7. Former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe suggested that Japan consider hosting US nuclear weapons. With Russia's invasion of Ukraine intensifying, Abe, who is 67 years old, appears to have seized the occasion to promote his opinion that the country should renounce its pacifism and arm itself with aggressive weaponry.
Source: <https://www.wionews.com/world/with-adversaries-on-the-mind-former-pm-shinzo-abe-says-japan-should-host-us-nukes-457721>

UN REFORMS

1. President Joe Biden dispatched a delegation of former senior US defence and security officials to Taipei on Tuesday, a visit criticised by China and taking place in the midst of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.
Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/china/china-says-us-attempts-support-taiwan-will-be-futile-2022-03-01/>
2. The United States and the United Kingdom expressed alarm this week about the Taliban administration's announcement that it would limit Afghans from leaving the country under certain circumstances, fearing that it would stymie ongoing evacuation attempts.
Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/taliban-restrict-afghans-going-abroad-draws-criticism-uk-envoy-2022-02-28/>
3. As Russia's attack on the pro-Western country entered its fifth day, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky urged the European Union to grant his country "immediate" membership.
Source: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/international/world-news/zelensky-demands-immediate-eu-membership-for-ukraine/articleshow/89894461.cms>
4. In the wake of rising complaints of racial discrimination against Africans fleeing the Russian invasion, Nigeria called on border officials in Ukraine and neighbouring nations to treat its residents equally.
Source: <https://www.wionews.com/world/nigeria-condemns-reports-of-racism-at-ukraine-border-457416>
5. As Russia continued to attack Ukrainian cities, the United Kingdom claimed ejecting Russia from the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) was one of "all options" on the table.
Source: <https://www.wionews.com/world/will-consider-all-options-uk-ready-to-discuss-evicting-russia-from-unsc-457853>
6. According to the United Nations, the number of people fleeing Russia's invasion of Ukraine has risen to more than half a million, with at least 102 civilians killed since Moscow's troops entered the nation. "More than 500,000 refugees have now fled from Ukraine into neighbouring countries," UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi said on Monday.
Source: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/2/28/500000-people-have-fled-ukraine-conflict-un>
7. The White House announced on Monday that US President Joe Biden will take a secure conversation with allies and partners to discuss "developments" in Russia's war on Ukraine and "coordinate our united response."
Source: https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/international/world-news/biden-allies-to-talk-monday-to-coordinate-ukraine-response-white-house/articleshow/89884221.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst
8. Russia and Ukraine clashed at the United Nations General Assembly on Monday, where a rare

emergency special session on the escalating crisis was convened, with Kyiv urging the UN body to demand that Moscow end its offensive against it, and Moscow claiming that it did not start the fighting but is trying to put an end to it.

Source: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/international/world-news/russia-ukraine-clash-in-rare-emergency-special-session-of-unga-on-escalating-crisis/articleshows/89906492.cms>

9. A Kremlin negotiator said Monday that Russia wants to reach an agreement with Ukraine to halt their conflict, as Moscow's attack on the pro-Western country reached its fifth day.

Source: https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/international/world-news/russia-says-wants-to-reach-agreement-with-ukraine-negotiator/articleshows/89892127.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst

10. The UN Security Council (UNSC) has imposed an arms embargo on all Houthi rebels, as the Yemeni organisation confronts heightened international pressure following a series of recent attacks on Gulf countries.

Source: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/2/28/un-security-council-extends-yemen-arms-embargo-to-all-houthis>

11. The United States has announced plans to expel 12 Russian diplomats from Moscow's mission to the United Nations in New York, accusing the officials of engaging in "espionage activities".

Source: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/2/28/us-expelling-russian-diplomats-from-un-mission-in-new-york>

12. Kenya's largest landfill, a mountain of waste carpeted in single-use plastic, is a short drive from the United Nations compound in Nairobi, where talks on a worldwide plastics convention are taking place this week.

Source: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/international/world-news/at-kenyas-biggest-dump-urgent-calls-for-a-global-plastics-treaty/global-plastics-treaty/slideshow/89891657.cms>