



## **DAILY TRACKER**

### **NUCLEAR ISSUES**

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1. A small modular reactor (SMR) could be used to power Purdue University's campus in Indiana in the USA, depending on the result of joint studies with energy giant Duke about the feasibility of the idea.

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Purdue-University-and-Duke-Energy-explore-campus-S>

2. A damaged external power line has been repaired allowing Zaporozhe to return to previous output levels, Energoatom said. It comes as the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) continues efforts to get access to the plant for its inspectors - and outlines the initial results of its radiation monitoring during its mission to Chernobyl.

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Zaporozhe-switches-to-supplying-electricity-for-ow>

3. Policymakers and businesses alike need to take a calm, rational and pragmatic approach to ensure security of energy supply, according to panellists at World Nuclear Fuel Cycle 2022.

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Calm-approach-the-right-strategy-for-energy-securi>

### **MISSILES/ BIO WEAPONS**

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1. The United States (US) Navy's Future Vertical Lift-Maritime Strike (VFL-MS) program has led Bell to resurrect the unmanned tilt-rotor V-247 Vigilant, which will entail the company undertaking massive structural changes to drop weight and rotor size for fitting inside Arleigh Burke-class destroyer hangars.

Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/edited-bell-to-downsize-unmanned-v-247-vigilant-tilt-rotor/>

2. The \$1.7 trillion F-35 Joint Strike Fighter program remains mired in resolved problems with all US armed services many years behind schedule in deploying their



planned operating capabilities and even testing and evaluation at least five years late, House Armed Services Committee (HASC) Chair Donald Norcross said.

Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/us-air-force-faces-capability-gap-of-400-aircraft-navy-hasc/>

3. The Australian government has responded to appeals by the Ukrainian Ambassador to Australia for providing heavy artillery weapons to the Ukrainian Armed Forces as the war intensifies in Donbas.

Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/australia-agrees-to-supply-heavy-weapons-to-kiev/>

4. An image of a Bell-Boeing CV-22 Osprey loitering overhead a nuclear submarine has taken social media by storm as it is one of the most impressive shots one could possibly come across. The exact submarine showcased in the photo cannot be confirmed but reports suggest, it is most probably the USS Georgia, an Ohio class nuclear-powered guided cruise missile submarine (SSGN).

Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/absolute-stunning-awe-inspiring-image-of-v-22-osprey/>

5. Australia's ambitious \$45 billion 'future frigate program' for anti-submarine warfare has long been dogged by controversies. While the government aggressively defends the project, a spate of criticism in recent times from the military and bureaucrats has complicated matters.

Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/dump-british-frigates-for-superior-us-warships-australian-navy/>

6. Indian Su-30 MKI fighter jets are in news after Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) announced that it had inked a contract with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) for the co-development and co-production of a long-range dual-band Infrared Search and Track System (IRST) for the Russian-origin Sukhoi warplanes.

Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/boosting-power-of-su-30-mki-fighters-indias-russian-origin-sukhoi-jets/>

7. In an outlandish case, a US-based spy is being investigated after he was suspected of uploading top-secret UK military information to a public domain website so he could work from home, reported UK-based newspaper — The Sun.

Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/top-secret-info-on-british-eurofighter-typhoons-exposed-as-us-based-agent-shares-details-on-public-domain/>

8. Germany will become the latest European power to send 'heavy weapons and complex systems' to Ukraine after the country's lawmakers voted in favour of aiding Ukraine with ammunition.

Source: <https://www.wionews.com/world/germany-votes-overwhelmingly-in-favour-of-supplying-heavy-weapons-to-ukraine-amid-ongoing-conflict-474643>

9. In an official notice, the largest service component of the American military says its iconic FIM-92 Stinger surface-to-air missile, made by General Dynamics and Raytheon, will become obsolete in the coming year.

Source: [https://www.flightglobal.com/fixed-wing/us-army-seeks-replacement-for-stinger-anti-aircraft-missile/148384.article](https://www.flightglobal.com/flightglobal.com/fixed-wing/us-army-seeks-replacement-for-stinger-anti-aircraft-missile/148384.article)

## NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

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1. The United States does not believe that there is a threat of Russia using nuclear weapons despite a recent escalation in Moscow's rhetoric, a senior US defense official said on Friday.

Source: <https://www.jpost.com/international/article-705496>

2. North Korean leader Kim Jong Un on Monday vowed to boost his nuclear weapons program and said the weapons could be used “in any situations of warfare” as he observed a massive military parade that showed off Pyongyang’s intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs), state media reported.

Source: <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/korea/parade-04262022200445.html>

## UN REFORMS

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1. US troops left behind military equipment worth \$7 billion in Afghanistan after their 20-year mission ended in August 2021, a report said. CNN cited a report of the US Department of Defense, saying that the equipment was brought into Afghanistan over the past 16 years.

Source: <https://tolonews.com/index.php/afghanistan-177782>

2. A Myanmar junta court on Wednesday (April 27) found deposed leader Aung San Suu Kyi guilty of corruption and sentenced her to five years in prison, news agencies reported citing a source familiar with the matter.

Source: <https://www.wionews.com/south-asia/myanmars-aung-san-suu-kyi-gets-five-year-jail-term-for-corruption-474182>

3. The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic is not even close to being over. It wreaked havoc across the world since it was first identified in late 2019 in China. However, researchers have issued a warning about future pandemics. A recent study, published in Nature journal stated that because of climate change, thousands of new and emerging viruses might jump from animals to humans in the coming years.

Source: <https://www.wionews.com/world/whats-after-covid-19-global-heating-may-cause-potentially-devastating-future-pandemics-474693>

4. Attacks targeting minorities are on the rise in Afghanistan, and an attack in Pakistan this week appeared to target Chinese residents, raising alarms about the chaos that could be unleashed if both countries continue to be unstable. Attacks in Afghanistan have targeted minority Shi'ite Muslims during Ramadan.

Source: <https://www.jpost.com/international/article-705254>

5. Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi expressed on Wednesday his government's desire for closer cooperation with China, according to Iranian media. Kayhan newspaper in Tehran said that the visit of China's Minister of National Defense Wei Fenghe this week illustrates strategic ties.

Source: <https://www.jpost.com/international/article-705358>

6. A Hong Kong court on Friday increased a jail sentence to five years, in line with a China-imposed national security law, for a student who called for independence from China in posts on the Telegram messaging service.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/china/hong-kong-student-jailed-five-years-under-national-security-law-2022-04-29/>

7. The US House of Representatives voted on Wednesday to pass the Stop Iranian Drones Act. "It shall be the policy of the United States to prevent Iran and Iranian-aligned terrorist and militia groups from acquiring unmanned aerial vehicles, including commercially available component parts, that can be used in attacks against United States persons and partner nations," the bill says.

Source: <https://www.jpost.com/international/article-705383>

8. Australia's prime minister accused China on Saturday of "form", or a record, on interference in foreign politics, after his home minister said Beijing's unveiling of a



security deal with the nearby Solomon Islands was timed to influence an election.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/australian-leader-facing-election-decries-chinas-interference-2022-04-30/>

9. Human rights groups have hit out at China over ongoing restrictions being imposed on Taiwan businessman Lee Meng-chu, also known as Morrison Lee, following his release from jail.

Source: <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/china/taiwan-protester-04292022155315.html>

10. Chinese officials in rural areas of Tibet are forcing village leaders to speak in Chinese, as authorities move forward with campaigns aimed at restricting the use by Tibetans of their native language, RFA has learned.

Source: <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/tibet/leaders-04252022134729.html>

11. A military court sentenced deposed Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi to five years in jail on Wednesday finding her guilty of corruption in closed-door proceedings, a source familiar with the trial said.

Source: <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/myanmar/trial-assk-04272022083727.html>

12. Tibetan exile leader Penpa Tsering has wrapped up his first official visit to Washington D.C. with a meeting on Thursday with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and other congressional leaders and public talks scheduled for Friday evening.

Source: <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/tibet/wraps-04292022133602.html>

13. Myanmar's Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM), a popular strike movement that at its peak brought the administrative machinery of the military regime to a halt, has lost more than one-third of its active members amid a crackdown by the junta, organizers and the country's shadow government said Tuesday.

Source: <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/myanmar/cdm-0426202211343.html>

14. Local sources in Ghor province say the Taliban have arrested Mohammad Uthman Malekzadeh, the former commander of local forces in Tiwara district, and his nephew Zalmai Malekzadeh.

Source: <https://twitter.com/Etilaatroz/status/1520008230457511937>

15. Following reports that Germany was evacuating Afghan refugees to make room for Ukrainians, Abdullah Abdullah, the head of the former government's High Reconciliation Council, said more was expected from European countries to deal with the refugees.

Source: <https://twitter.com/Etilaatroz/status/1519630948995932160>



16. Chinese authorities have arrested numerous Uyghur intellectuals, businessmen, and cultural and religious figures in Xinjiang as part of a campaign to control members of the mostly Muslim minority group.

Source: [https://twitter.com/RFA\\_UyghurNews/status/1519303517336477696](https://twitter.com/RFA_UyghurNews/status/1519303517336477696)