



DAILY TRACKER

NUCLEAR ISSUES

1. There could be more investments in nuclear energy worldwide in response to the current global energy crisis, similar to what occurred after oil prices spiked in the 1970s, said International Energy Agency (IEA) chief energy economist Tim Gould on Wednesday (May 18).

Source: <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/current-crisis-could-spur-some-countries-to-invest-in-nuclear-energy-iaea-chief-economist>

2. Former nuclear regulatory top dogs from the United States, France, Germany, and Great Britain issued a joint statement in January strenuously opposing any expansion of nuclear power as a strategy to combat climate change.

Source: <https://fullertonobserver.com/2022/05/16/the-insanity-of-expanding-nuclear-energy/>

3. States that do not have nuclear weapons, which include most developing countries, have an opportunity to demand greater access to nuclear sciences and technologies for peaceful purposes, including for energy, industry and medicine, at the tenth review conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), scheduled for August, Ambassador of Norway to Southern Africa Stian Nordengen Christensen has pointed out.

Source: <https://www.engineeringnews.co.za/article/developing-countries-have-opportunity-to-call-for-greater-access-to-nuclear-energy-technology-2022-05-17>

4. Uranium is one of the few commodities that has seen two years of solid gains in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, which most analysts believe indicates that the metal's price is not dropping any time soon. However, on the supply side, current supply of the metal cannot meet demand. It is expected that constrained supply will push the price of uranium even higher this year.

Source: <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/value-of-uranium-rising-as-demand-grows-for-nuclear-energy-generation-around-the-globe-301548646.html>

MISSILES/ BIO WEAPONS

1. China is currently developing a new line of heat-seeking missiles which will be able to track and hit a car moving at five times the speed of sound, according to media reports.
Source: <https://www.wionews.com/world/china-working-on-hypersonic-missile-capable-of-hitting-car-moving-at-five-times-the-speed-of-light-479722>
2. The US Air Force said a B-52H Stratofortress bomber launched an AGM-183A Air-launched Rapid Response Weapon (ARRW) off the coast of Southern California on Saturday, according to the Air Force.
Source: <https://www.wionews.com/world/united-states-successfully-tests-a-hypersonic-weapon-479714>
3. The Indian Navy on Wednesday successfully test-fired an anti-ship missile developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). The missile was fired from a Seaking helicopter.
Source: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/watch-india-successfully-test-fires-indigenously-developed-anti-ship-missile-101652864200280.html>
4. The Air Force announced Monday it has successfully tested a hypersonic missile off the California coast, marking the latest development in the U.S.' race to catch up to Russia and China in fielding its own weapon on the battlefield. A B-52 Stratofortress bomber out of Edwards Air Force Base released an Air-launched Rapid Response Weapon -- otherwise known as an ARRW -- on Saturday, and the missile reached sound-shattering speed.
Source: <https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/05/17/air-force-tests-hypersonic-missile-amid-fears-about-russia-and-chinas-advances.html>
5. Rafael Advanced Defense Systems has unveiled a new air-to-surface missile that the company is pitching as a lightweight munition for fixed-wing aircraft performing close-air support missions. The Aerospike missile, which was unveiled at the Special Operations Forces Industry Conference in Tampa, Florida, this week, builds on Rafael's Spike family of missiles, said Gal Papier, vice president of business development at the company's U.S. division.
Source: <https://www.defensenews.com/smr/sofic/2022/05/17/rafael-unveils-aerospike-missile-for-close-air-support/>
6. India on Wednesday successfully flight tested indigenously-developed Naval anti-ship missile launched from a Naval helicopter from Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the coast of Odisha: DRDO.
Source: <https://www.theweek.in/wire-updates/national/2022/05/18/cal9-newsalert-od-navy-missile.html>
7. The British arm of pan-European missile maker MBDA has struck an agreement

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with the Polish military to provide its Brimstone missile for a new fleet of tank busters being developed by a local industrial consortium led by PGZ.

Source: <https://www.defensenews.com/global/europe/2022/05/16/polish-pick-mbdas-brimstone-missile-for-their-new-fleet-of-tank-busting-vehicles/>

8. By June 2022, India intends to deploy the S-400 missile defence system that it has received from Russia to defend itself against threat from Pakistan and China, a Pentagon spy master has told US lawmakers. India started receiving the delivery of S-400 missile defence system from Russia in December last year, Lt Gen Scott Berrier, Director, Defense Intelligence Agency told members of the Senate Armed Services Committee during a recent Congressional hearing. As of October 2021, India's military was seeking to procure advanced surveillance systems to strengthen its land and sea borders and boost its offensive and defensive cyber capabilities.

Source: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/india-intends-to-deploy-s-400-missile-system-to-defend-against-threats-from-pak-china-pentagon>

9. Missile defense systems are a type of systems that intercepts and launches missiles to counter the incoming enemy missiles, such as cruise missiles, ballistic missile, or other missiles, and acts as a critical defense for a country's population and assets. The report segments the global missile defense system market based on range, threat type, domain, and region. The range segment includes less than 100Km, 101-200Km, and 201-400Km. In addition, the study provides the information about various threat types such as subsonic missiles, supersonic missiles, and hypersonic missiles.

Source: <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20220518005790/en/Missile-Defense-System-Market-Analysis-by-Range-Threat-Type-and-Domain---Global-Opportunity-and-Industry-Forecasts->

NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

1. Iran is currently trying to complete the production and installation of 1,000 advanced IR6 centrifuges, including at a new underground facility being built near Natanz, Defense Minister Benny Gantz announced on Tuesday. "Iran continues to accumulate irreversible knowledge and experience in the development, research, production and operation of advanced centrifuges," Gantz said. According to the defense minister, Tehran is a few weeks away from accumulating enough fissile material sufficient for one nuclear bomb.

Source: <https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-706906>

UN REFORMS

1. A leaked list has shown that more than 10,000 Uyghur Muslims have been detained or arrested by China. Researchers believe that more than one million Uyghurs and other Muslim minorities have been held in secret network of detention centres and prisons. These are the people who have disappeared in China's sweeping crackdown on Xinjiang.
Source: <https://www.wionews.com/world/leaked-database-shows-thousands-of-uyghurs-held-in-detention-by-china-479843>
2. Financial Action Task Force (FATF), the anti-terror financing watchdog has lauded France's prompt announcement of sanctions against Pakistan-based terrorist Masood Azhar after the Pulwama terror attack in 2019. Over 40 personnel of India's Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) were killed in the Pulwama terror attack on February 14, 2019. The attack was perpetrated by UN-listed Pakistan based terror organization Jaish-e-Mohammed.
Source: <https://www.wionews.com/world/fatf-lauds-france-for-its-sanctions-against-masood-azhar-after-pulwama-terror-attack-479873>
3. The Taliban have made a number of changes to the administrative system in Afghanistan since taking over the country and in a new wave of reforms, they have decided to completely dissolve five departments which were set up by the former government. One of the major departments which faced the axe was the human rights commission – a key feature of the US-backed government.
Source: <https://www.wionews.com/world/taliban-dissolves-five-major-departments-including-afghanistans-human-rights-commission-479696>
4. Sairagul Southbay, a witness to the camp, won the Nürnberg International Human Rights Award in Germany.
Source: https://twitter.com/RFA_UyghurNews/status/1526916797429055491
5. While UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Michel Bachelet's visit to the country was in the spotlight, members of the Irish Parliament sent an open letter to Michel Bachelet focusing on the Uyghur issue.
Source: https://www.rfa.org/uyghur/qisqa_xewer/erlandiyede-uyghurmesilisi-05172022165607.html
6. More than eight months have passed since the re-establishment of the Islamic Emirate in the country, and Bilal Karimi, deputy spokesman of the Islamic Emirate, announced the dissolution of five institutions.
Source: <https://tolonews.com/afghanistan-178054>
7. The Ministry of Energy and Water (MoEW) said that Afghanistan owes more than \$100 million for electricity imported from Uzbekistan and Tajikistan.

Source: <https://tolonews.com/business-178063>

8. Dilmurat Awut, a Uyghur lecturer from a university in northwestern China's Xinjiang region has been sentenced to prison for "disregarding the national language," by failing to teach in Chinese, a Uyghur source in the town of Ghulja and local officials told RFA.

Source: <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/uyghur/dilmurat-awut-05172022172515.html>

9. Cambodia's Prime Minister Hun Sen blasted a man who threw a shoe at him last week in Washington, saying that if the U.S. fails to condemn him, then similar attacks against his political opponents in Cambodia would be justified. "If the U.S considers shoe-throwing as freedom of expression, it is encouraging [the practice] in other countries," said Hun Sen, a strongman who has ruled Cambodia since 1985 and who allows little opposition or criticism.

Source: <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/cambodia/hunsen-shoe-05172022164155.html>

10. Residents of a Tibetan village in northwestern China's Qinghai province are being forced from their homes to make way for a government-ordered hydropower station, with monks living in a nearby monastery also told to leave, Tibetan sources say.

Source: <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/tibet/plant-05172022154816.html>

11. More than 5,600 civilians have been killed in Myanmar since the military seized power last year, according to a new estimate by an independent research institute, which called the death toll "unprecedented" in the country's history.

Source: <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/myanmar/toll-05172022210115.html>

12. Le Anh Hung, a Vietnamese blogger held for three years in a mental hospital while awaiting trial for criticizing Vietnam's one-party communist state has been sent back to his former detention center on the orders of the Hanoi Police Investigation Agency, RFA has learned.

Source: <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/vietnam/sent-05172022150635.html>

13. The Human Rights Commission, the National Security Council, the Commission for the Supervision of the Implementation of the Constitution, the Secretariat of the Senate, and the House of Representatives of the High Council for Reconciliation are among the institutions that have been dissolved. Meanwhile, Human Rights Watch responded by saying that the disbanding of such institutions is a setback in the human rights sector in Afghanistan.

Source: <https://tolonews.com/afghanistan-178054>

14. Residents of Shanghai have been reporting their city government to a national fraud hotline after claims of fully stocked, open supermarkets and eateries were posted by a ruling Chinese Communist Party (CCP) newspaper.

Source: <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/china/shanghai-lockdown->

15. This video is of female students of the University of Education (Burhanuddin Rabbani University) in Kabul. The person who recorded the video says that the Taliban prevented female students from entering the classrooms because they wore colorful chadors.

Source: <https://twitter.com/Etilatroz/status/1526967041479041030>

16. Amnesty International says the international community must use its leverage to pressure the Taliban to respect the group's rights to women and girls.

Source: <https://www.etalatroz.com/142594/amnesty-international-international-community-to-use-leverage-against-taliban-for-womens-and-girls-rights/>

17. Uruzgan is one of the provinces where private educational institutions have grown significantly in recent years, but with the Taliban coming to power, some educational institutions were closed due to economic problems and some are now closed under threat.

Source: <https://www.etalatroz.com/ps/2022/05/17/dozens-of-private-educational-institutions-have-been-closed-in-uruzgan-due-to-economic-problems/>