



DAILY TRACKER

NUCLEAR ISSUES

1. The European Commission has formally adopted the REPowerEU plan which aims to rapidly reduce EU dependence on Russian fossil fuels. The plan recognises that nuclear will have a role to play in ensuring security of EU energy supplies, and highlights the importance of coordinated action to reduce dependence on Russian nuclear materials and fuel cycle services.

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Nuclear-included-in-EU-s-repowering-plan>

2. The construction of unit 1 of the San'ao nuclear power plant in China's Zhejiang province has "entered a new stage" with the start of installation of equipment within its nuclear island, China General Nuclear (CGN) announced.

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Nuclear-island-installation-work-starts-at-San-ao>

3. CGN Cangnan Nuclear Power Company Deputy General Manager Liu Jianyi noted that the nuclear island installation project is a "highly comprehensive and complex system project, with many process systems, complex construction technology, strict quality control, high safety level, special inspection and experimental methods, and involves nuclear-grade equipment and large-scale hoisting."

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Nuclear-island-installation-work-starts-at-San-ao>

4. USA-based engineering group Jacobs has been selected by Tokyo Electric Power Company (Tepco) to support decommissioning efforts at its damaged Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant in Japan. The announcement came as the head of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said there had been "remarkable progress" in decommissioning the site.

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Jacobs-to-support-Fukushima-Daiichi-decommissionin>

MISSILES/ BIO WEAPONS

1. North Korea appears to be preparing for a possible intercontinental ballistic missile test within the next 48 to 96 hours, just as President Joe Biden is scheduled to travel to Asia, according to a US official familiar with the latest intelligence assessment.

Source: <https://edition.cnn.com/2022/05/17/politics/us-assessment-north-korea-missile-test/index.html>

NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

1. While the U.S. and Iran have so far failed to agree on terms for a new nuclear agreement, Israeli Defense Minister Benny Gantz warned that the Islamic nation is just weeks away from having the necessary materials for a nuclear weapon.

Source: <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/iran-materials-first-nuclear-weapon-israeli-defense-minister>

UN REFORMS

1. 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>

2. The U.N.'s human rights chief on Monday will begin a six-day official visit to China, including to the far-western Xinjiang region where widespread abuses against Uyghurs and other ethnic minorities at the hands of Chinese authorities are said to have occurred. The trip is the culmination of years of effort by exiled Uyghurs to draw international attention to what they and independent researchers have said is a network of detention camps in Xinjiang.

Source: <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/uyghur/bachelet-china-visit-05202022163916.html>

3. When Erkin Tuniyaz, chairman of Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR), visited the largest mosque in Urumqi before the Eid al-Fitr holy day marking the end of Ramadan, he used the opportunity to promote Beijing's policy of assimilation of non-Chinese people in its far western regions.

Source: <https://www.rfa.org/english/news/uyghur/sinicization-religion-05202022133914.html>

4. North Korea has conducted a number of ballistic missile tests this year, and US military and intelligence agencies assess Pyongyang may also be preparing for its first underground nuclear test in nearly five years.

Source: <https://edition.cnn.com/2022/05/17/politics/us-assessment-north-korea-missile-test/index.html>