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**FOCUS, NUCLEAR, MISSILES & OTHER
SECURITY ISSUES IN WEST ASIA**

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मनोहर पर्रिकर रक्षा अध्ययन एवं विश्लेषण संस्थान

Iran

Iran Carries Out Initial Tests of Bavar 373 Missile System at Range of 300km

Fars News, October 16, 2022

Commander of the Iranian Army Air Defense Force Brigadier General Alireza Sabahifard highlighted his country's great advancements in the air defense fields, and confirmed that Tehran has begun conducting initial tests of the domestically-built Bavar 373 missile system at a range of 300 kilometers. Addressing a military academy in the capital Tehran on Sunday, Sabahifard said Iran's Air Defense Force is equipped with indigenous radar systems that can monitor the movements of enemies even in their homes within a span of thousands of kilometers. Iran has upgraded Bavar 373 missile defense system, initially unveiled in August 2019 with a range of 200 kilometers, proportional to threats, the senior commander stated.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010724000571/Iran-Carries-O-Initial-Tests-of-Bavar-373-Missile-System-at-Range-of-300km>

Drones Embody an Iran-Russia Alliance Built on Hostility to the U.S.

The New York Times, October 17, 2022

The Iranian-made drones that Russia sent on Monday to divebomb Ukraine's capital delivered the most emphatic proof yet that Tehran has become a rare, increasingly close ally to the Kremlin, offering both weapons and international support that Russia sorely lacks. There is no deep love between Russia, newly a pariah for attacking another country, and Iran, for decades one of the most strategically isolated nations in the world. But the two

authoritarian governments, both chafing under Western sanctions, share a view of the United States as their great enemy and a threat to their grip on power.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/17/world/europe/russia-iran-alliance-drones.html?searchResultPosition=52>

IRGC Commander Warns S. Arabia Against Meddling in Iran's Affairs

Fars News, October 17, 2022

Commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Major General Hossein Salami criticized Saudi Arabia for interfering in Iran's domestic affairs, and urged Riyadh to rein in its anti-Tehran media. The IRGC chief has issued a stern warning against Saudi Arabia over its media campaign that has been stoking tensions in the recent unrest in Iran. "We defend our vital interests under any circumstances. We emphasize that our neighbors should behave non-aggressively according to political logic as well as international and legal law," Maj. Gen. Salami noted on Monday. The senior commander warned Riyadh to stop interfering in Iran's internal affairs through a smear campaign launched by its media, stressing, "I warn the Al Saud regime to control your media or it will backfire on you."

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010725000567/IRGC-Commander-Warns-S-Arabia-Against-Meddling-in-Iran's-Affairs>

22 countries seek to buy Iranian drones: general

The Tehran Times, October 18, 2022

Major General Yahya Rahim Safavi made the remarks at a gathering in Imam Hussein

University. “22 countries are requesting to buy Iranian drones,” said Rahim Safavi, the former IRGC chief. Stating that prior to the Islamic Revolution, 80% of the defense equipment were imported, the top general highlighted that over 80% of the defense equipment are now indigenously made. According to the major general, the victory of the Islamic Revolution and the 8-year imposed war on Iran were two key events that changed the contemporary world.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/477749/22-countries-seek-to-buy-Iranian-drones-general>

Iran's Military Employs Homegrown Missile Fath 360 During Wargames

Fars News, October 18, 2022

The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Ground Force launched a military exercise in Iran's Northwestern regions in which it used the domestically-developed strategic surface-to-surface missile, Fath (Conquest) 360, with the range of 120 kilometers. The projectile uses tactical solid fuel and is a precision weapon. The missile has a range of 120 kilometers and is capable of destroying a range of targets including logistic systems of the enemy. This enables ground forces to enter the battlefield. Fath 360 is highly resistant to electronic warfare and is capable of destroying its targets without any disruption. Its battery fires its multiple missiles within a minute to avoid getting targeted by the enemy.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010726000222/Iran's-Military-Employs-Hmegrwn-Missile-Fah-360-Dring-Wargames>

Iran backs proposal on nuclear weapons convention

Iran Republic News Agency, October 18, 2022

In a United Nations General Assembly meeting on Monday, Heydar-Ali Balouji, a diplomat in Iran's permanent mission in the UN, said that the repeated failures of revision in the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) showed that there was no vision for complete elimination of nuclear arms. Nuclear disarmament has been on the international agenda since 1946 when the General Assembly adopted its first resolution calling for the elimination of nuclear weapons and since the NPT entered into force in 1970, Balouji said. However, he said, the nuclear-weapon states undertook a legal obligation to negotiate to cease the nuclear arms race and disarm. “But the nuclear arsenals have exceeded 13,000 weapons, with the number and quality of these devastating weapons set to increase in the coming years.”

<https://en.irna.ir/news/84915154/Iran-backs-proposal-on-nuclear-weapons-convention>

Iran: Protests, EU Sanctions, a Nuclear Deal in Tatters

Albawaba, October 18, 2022

Iran condemned fresh sanctions imposed by the European Union on Iranian officials and institutions, vowing retaliation. Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani termed the EU sanctions as a “violation of international law” and a “clear example of interference” in Iran's internal affairs. “It is

deeply regrettable that certain political motivations as well as relying on baseless, distorted information and fabricated claims by the enemies of the Iranian nation and the well-known media affiliated with them are the basis of such a wrong and unconstructive decision,” he said.

<https://www.albawaba.com/news/iran-protests-eu-sanctions-nuclear-deal-tatters-1495415>

Iranian combat drones in the war against Ukraine

Kyiv Post, October 19, 2022

The Russian military is increasingly deploying “kamikaze” drones in its attacks on Kyiv and other Ukrainian cities. These unmanned aircraft equipped with missiles are purportedly being supplied by Iran, although Tehran denies this. Europe’s press discusses how their use could affect the course of the war.

<https://www.kyivpost.com/world/eurotopics-iranian-combat-drones-in-the-war-against-ukraine.html>

IRGC Conducts Aerial Practice During Wargames

Fars News, October 19, 2022

The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) continued its large-scale drills in Northwestern Iran to exercise tactical operations, including heliborne and parachuting. The IRGC Ground Force’s troops carried out heliborne and parachute jump operations during the military exercise in in Northwestern Iran on Wednesday. On the third day of the ‘Mighty Iran’ wargames, underway in ‘Aras’ region along the Northwestern

boundaries in the provinces of Ardabil and East Azarbaijan, the IRGC special forces conducted airborne operations with Mil Mi-17 helicopters in predetermined areas. The participants in the drills also seized the routes and heights controlled by the hypothetical enemy.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010727000432/IRGC-Cndcs-Aerial-Pracice-Dring-Wargames>

Leader hails Iran’s astonishing achievements in military, nuclear, scientific fields

Fars News, October 19, 2022

Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei lauded his country for its achievements in military, nuclear and scientific arenas, and stressed that the elites are one of the most important assets of Iran for standing up against arrogant powers. The Supreme Leader made the remarks in a meeting with academic elites and top university students on Wednesday. "Talented individuals are among the most important assets of the country," Ayatollah Khamenei said. "When we recognize that the talented are a great wealth, we will endeavor to nurture talented individuals, we will understand that losing them is a loss, and we will prevent this loss as much as possible," he added.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010727000696/Leader-Hails-Iran's-Asnishing-Achievemens-in-Miliary-Nclear->

Son of late Iran shah voices solidarity with Ukraine over drones

Arab News, October 20, 2022

The son of Iran’s late shah on Thursday voiced solidarity with Ukrainians who have

suffered from Russian-fired drones allegedly sold by Tehran and urged new, tough action against the clerical regime. “Our hearts go out to the Ukrainian people who are defending their sovereignty,” Reza Pahlavi told reporters after delivering an address from his home in exile in Washington on protests that have swept Iran. “We accuse the Islamic regime of not only having completely destroyed our freedom,” he said, but “now it is also cooperating with those who are putting at risk another nation’s sovereignty.”

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2184981/world>

Cyber group hacks Iran’s nuclear company email system, demands release of detainees

Arab News, October 22, 2022

An Iranian cyber group has reportedly hacked the internal email system of Iran’s Nuclear Power Production and Development Company on Friday, demanding the release of detained activists. Hackers from the group called “Black Reward” have threatened to leak the company’s internal data, according to the group’s Twitter account, cited by Al Arabiya news website. The group gave the Iranian regime 24 hours to release detained political prisoners and protesters, the report cited the statement issued by the hackers.

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2185846/middle-east>

Iranian hacker group releases details about nuclear program

i24, October 23, 2022

An Iranian hacker group known as "Black Reward" published confidential details about the Iranian nuclear program on

Saturday after it announced that it had successfully hacked the email of the country's Nuclear Power Production and Development Company. A video file was included among the leaked documents, showing a nuclear power plant in an unknown location. Additional information made public includes "Iran's public and private conversations with the International Atomic Energy Agency."

<https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/middle-east/iran-eastern-states/1666464389-iranian-hacker-group-releases-details-about-nuclear-program>

Iranian army ground force holds large-scale military exercise

Fars News, October 23, 2022

The Iranian Army's Ground Force kicked off large-scale three-day drills in West Azarbaijan province to boost its combat capability in the face of new threats. The wargame is staged at Pasveh and Piranshahr counties in Northwestern Iranian province of West Azarbaijan, the public relations office of Iran's Army’ Northwestern headquarters announced on Sunday. Colonel Hamid Firuzjaei, the commander of the 164th Mobile Assault Brigade of the Army’s Ground Forces, said the three-day exercise, codenamed ‘Brigade’s Role Model’, launched in Pasveh District in Piranshahr County on Saturday in order to evaluate the combat power of the forces and to display their military capabilities. “The forces partaking in the exercise use organizational, light, semi-heavy and heavy weapons in line with the goals of the exercise and demonstrate their combat and defense capabilities,” Firuzjaei added.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010801000373/Iranian-Army-Grnd-Frce-Hlds-Large-Scale-Miliary-Exercise>

Iran says Washington lacks political will to revive nuclear deal

Arab News, October 24, 2022

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesperson said on Monday that the United States lacked the political will for the revival of the 2015 nuclear deal. "We do not do talks for the sake of talks. Iran is ready for the revival of the 2015 nuclear deal, but it seems Washington does not have the political will," ministry spokesperson Nasser Kanaani said in televised news conference.

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2186971/world>

Who is hacking Iran's 'nuclear' server?

Albawaba, October 24, 2022

Iran's nuclear energy agency said Sunday an email server of one of its subsidiaries was hacked from a foreign country amid ongoing protests over the death of a young woman in police custody. In a statement, the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) confirmed the intrusion into an email server of the Bushehr Nuclear Power Plant from "a certain foreign country", with information about activities there being leaked online. The agency, however, played down the hacking incident, saying the move was designed to "attract public attention" and "create media space".

<https://www.albawaba.com/news/who-hacking-irans-nuclear-server-1496047>

N. Chief: Iran on track toward indigenizing reactors

Fars News, October 25, 2022

Head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) Mohammad Eslami said that Tehran has begun the process of indigenizing, designing and constructing

nuclear reactors. Visiting the Nuclear Technology Department of Iran's prestigious Shiraz University on Monday, Eslami stated Iran is determined to "wipe off the nuclear hype" created by the West, adding the adversaries intend to hinder Iran's progress in the nuclear field by raising accusations. "By expanding our activities on the surface and depth, we intend to become the hub of constructing nuclear power plants in the world," the AEOI chief continued. Eslami also pointed out that Iran is still in contact with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and talks are underway to set out an outline to resume negotiations over the nuclear standoff between Tehran and major powers in the world.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010803000375/N-Chief-Iran-n-Track-Tward-Indigenizing-Reacrs>

Iran thwarted 120 heavy cyberattacks in 20 days: official

The Tehran Times, October 25, 2022

The official, Brigadier General Gholam Reza Jalali, who is the head of the Civil Defense Organization of Iran, pointed to the increase in the number of cyberattacks against Iran's infrastructures over the last few weeks in a press conference held on Tuesday. "120 heavy DDoS cyberattacks on the infrastructures have been foiled during the past 20 days," he said, according to Tasnim. DDoS, or distributed denial of service, is a type of cyberattack that tries to make a website or network resource unavailable by flooding it with malicious traffic so that it is unable to operate.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/478004/Iran-thwarted-120-heavy-cyberattacks-in-20-days-official>

Iranian president calls on us not to waste time in N. Talks

Fars News, October 25, 2022

Iranian President Seyed Ebrahim Rayeesi said on Tuesday the ball is in the US court regarding the negotiations aimed at reviving the 2015 nuclear deal, and urged Washington not to waste time and make a political decision. In a meeting held in Tehran with senior directors of media and news agencies which are members of the Organization of Asia-Pacific News Agencies (OANA), President Rayeesi stated that the United States should decide on the negotiations to remove sanctions on Iran, but it delays and wastes time. "There is no deviation in Iran's nuclear activities as the issue has already been confirmed 15 times by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)," he noted.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010803000538/Iranian-President-Calls-n-US-N-Wase-Time-in-N-Talks>

Iranian N. Chief reveals us message on talks

Fars News, October 26, 2022

Head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) Mohammad Eslami declared that the United States has sent a message in recent days for negotiations over the restoration of the 2015 nuclear deal. Eslami said on Tuesday that the US had recently delivered a message announcing its readiness to continue talks over the revival of the landmark agreement. The official added that the US conveyed its message three or four days ago, contrary to its position last month that talks with Iran were no longer on its agenda. The AEOI head

also spoke about Iran's nuclear activities, stating that the country's nuclear program has been under extensive inspections by the UN atomic watchdog over the past decades.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010804000354/Iranian-N-Chief-Reveals-US-Message-n-Talks>

At least 13 martyred, over 20 wounded in terror attack in Iran's Shiraz

Fars News, October 26, 2022

At least 13 people were martyred and more than 20 others injured in a terrorist attack on a holy shrine in the Southern Iranian city of Shiraz on Wednesday. The assault took place at the Shah Cheragh Shrine on Wednesday evening and was carried out by a heavily-armed assailant. Initial reports said a man armed with Kalashnikov rifle entered the popular Shia shrine at 5:45 pm local time and opened fire at the pilgrims inside the site. One witness told reporters that loud screams were heard in the women's section of the shrine at the time of adhan (the call for prayer) and suddenly an armed man was spotted with a Kalashnikov firing indiscriminately in the compound of the shrine.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010804000853/A-Leas-3-Maryred-Over-20-Wnded-in-Terrr-Aack-in-Iran-s-Shiraz>

Iran blacklists EU officials, entities for 'inciting terrorism'

Al-Jazeera, October 26, 2022

The Iranian government has blacklisted a number of European Union officials and organisations, mainly for their stance on the country's ongoing protests that Iran says amounts to "inciting terrorism". While the

bulk of the sanctions are related to recent developments concerning the weeks-long protests that erupted last month after the death of a young woman in custody, others deal with Tehran's repeated grievances with the bloc's officials and member states over issues that have led to longstanding political disputes.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/10/26/iran-blacklists-eu-officials-entities-for-inciting-terrorism>

Iran calls Israel's conventional weapons arsenal threat to entire middle east

Sputnik International, October 26, 2022

The Islamic Republic and the Jewish State broke off diplomatic ties after the Iranian Revolution of 1979, becoming regional arch adversaries engaging one another in a series of proxy conflicts and a behind-the-scenes intelligence war of sabotage, assassinations and hack attacks. A senior Iranian United Nations diplomat has called out Israel over its suspected weapons of mass destruction and outsized conventional military spending.

<https://sputniknews.com/20221025/iran-calls-israels-conventional-weapons-arsenal-threat-to-entire-middle-east-1102649881.html>

Iranian destroyers to be armed with Abu Mahdi cruise missiles

The Tehran Times, October 26, 2022

The missile bears the name of the deputy commander of Iraq's Popular Mobilization Units (PMU), who was assassinated in a U.S. drone attack near Baghdad International Airport in January 2020 together with senior Iranian counterterrorism commander Lieutenant

General Qassem Soleimani. The missile is being installed aboard Iranian military vessels, according to Irani. He said the opponents are aware of the features and have seen the capabilities of the Abu Mahdi naval cruise missile in action. He revealed that once used in electronic warfare systems, the missile can effectively carry out its missions. The admiral said the missile has gone through multiple testing.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/478039/Iranian-destroyers-to-be-armed-with-Abu-Mahdi-cruise-missiles>

Top military official: Rioters complicit in Shiraz terror attack

Iran Republic News Agency, October 27, 2022

The chief of the General Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces said that rioters involved in the latest unrest in the country are complicit in the Wednesday terrorist attack in Shiraz. Major General Mohammad Baqeri made the comment a day after the Shah Cheragh holy shrine was hit by a shooting attack which left 15 people dead and 27 others wounded. Two children were among the dead in the attack that was claimed by the Daesh terrorist group. The military official said that the rioters should know that protecting calm, as well as the lives and property of the Iranian people is a red line for the country's armed forces.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/84925245/Top-military-official-Rioters-complicit-in-Shiraz-terror-attack>

Military chief vows retribution against committers of Shiraz terrorist act

The Tehran Times, October 28, 2022

The Daesh has claimed responsibility for the terrorist attack on Shah Cheragh's shrine

late on Wednesday. The attack took place shortly before evening prayers, when an assailant opened indiscriminate fire on pilgrims within the shrine before being injured and apprehended by security forces. Major General Mohammad Bagheri, the Iranian armed forces chief of staff, said in a statement that security and intelligence forces will swiftly punish the "internal and foreign designers and perpetrators" of the heinous crime for their despicable deeds. He continued by saying that the individuals responsible for the most recent wave of disturbance in the country as well as others who had been duped in the matter were "undoubtedly accomplices in this great crime."

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/478059/Military-chief-vows-retribution-against-committers-of-Shiraz>

Ukraine has shot down 300 Iranian drones, air force says

The National News, October 28, 2022

Ukraine has shot down more than 300 Iranian-made drones so far, an official from its air force said on Friday. Kyiv has taken down hundreds of Shahed-136 kamikaze drones made in Iran, Yuriy Ihnat said on Friday. Ukraine has repeatedly called for international aid in establishing air defence systems as Russia steps up its attacks on the country. In an address on Friday, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Kyiv had taken down 23 of more than 30 Shahed drones fired by Russia in the past two days.

<https://www.thenationalnews.com/world/europe/2022/10/28/ukraine-has-shot-down-300-iranian-drones-says-air-force/>

Iranian army says determined to revenge Shiraz terrorist attack

Fars News, October 29, 2022

The Iranian Army underlined its resolve to avenge the blood of the martyrs of a terrorist attack at a Shia shrine in the city of Shiraz, reiterating that it stands ready to hit the enemies with "an iron fist" in any location. Pointing to the recent protests and deadly riots in Iran, the Iranian Army said that the enemies plotted the recent wave of riots with the goal of creating insecurity and unrest in Iran, and that the terror attack on Shah Cheragh Shrine was part of the same conspiracy. "Undoubtedly, the futile attempts of the enemies will not only fail to deal any blow to the Iranian nation's will, but will instead consolidate their unity and solidarity and strengthen their determination to pursue the ideals of late Imam Khomeini and the Islamic Revolution," it added.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010807000840/Iranian-Army-Says-Deermined-Revenge-Shiraz-Terris-Aack>

Iranian intelligence minister: second terrorist behind Shiraz attack arrested

Fars News, October 31, 2022

Iranian security forces have detained a second perpetrator involved in the fatal shooting in Shah Cheragh holy shrine in Shiraz, the country's Intelligence Minister Esmayeel Khatib confirmed on Monday. Iranian security forces on Sunday night managed to identify and detain the second suspect of the Shah Cheragh deadly attack, Khatib said. "Technical and defensive measures by the intelligence

ministry” led to the arrest of the second person linked to the last week’s terrorist attack on the highly revered Shah Cheragh shrine, the minister stated. "The intelligence ministry was also tipped off by people," he noted, adding that "the terrorist was arrested in Shiraz".

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010809000360/Iranian-Intelligence-Minister-Secnd-Terris-Behind-Shiraz-Aack-Arresed>

Iran warns Germany against classifying IRGC as terrorists

i24, October 31, 2022

German foreign minister also says will join EU in imposing new sanctions on regime in Tehran amid protests. Iran on Monday warned Germany against designating the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) as a terrorist organization a day after Berlin announced that the move is being considered. On Sunday, German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock said that the German government along with the European Union are mulling the classification and will be imposing a new round of sanctions targeting the regime in Tehran.

<https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/international/europe/1667228073-iran-warns-germany-against-classifying-irgc-as-terrorists>

Tajik MFA denies report about assembly of Iranian drones

Iran Republic News Agency, October 31, 2022

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan denied the report by Ukrainian

blogger Dmitry Gordon that Iranian drones killing Ukrainians are assembled in Tajikistan as absolutely unfounded. According to the Asiaplus website, a statement released by Tajik MFA on October 30, in particular, says “the Republic of Tajikistan does not export military equipment to third countries.” Accordingly, Tajikistan’s Foreign Ministry recommends that “Dmitry Gordon henceforth carefully address such comments and verify the accuracy of the information disseminated.”

<https://en.irna.ir/news/84928463/Tajik-MFA-denies-report-about-assembly-of-Iranian-drones>

Iraq

Iran Calls on Iraq's Kurdistan to Counter Terror Groups

Fars News, October 16, 2022

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian urged the Iraq's central government and the Kurdistan Regional Government to adopt measures to counter terrorist groups based in Iraq’s semi-autonomous Kurdistan region. The Secretary of the Supreme Security Council of Iraq Qasim Al-Araji, who is visiting Tehran at the head of a high-ranking security delegation, met with Amir Abdollahian on Saturday evening. During the meeting, the Iranian foreign minister pointed to the expanding relations between Tehran and Baghdad in all fields, and emphasized on the cooperation of the two countries in the field of security, including the need to deal with armed terrorists from the Iraqi Kurdistan region. Amir Abdollahian stressed that the relations between the two countries are strategic and

privileged, adding, “We consider the security of Iraq as the security of Iran.”

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010724000264/Iran-Calls-n-Ira's-Krdisan-Cner-Terr-Grps>

Türkiye slams allegations of chemical weapons use in northern Iraq

Arab News, October 20, 2022

Turkey’s defense ministry and top government officials on Thursday firmly rejected allegations that the Turkish Armed Forces had used chemical weapons in their operations against Kurdish militants. Media close to the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) militant group published videos this week which it said showed chemical weapons being used by the army against the PKK in northern Iraq. Separately, an international medical groups’ federation published a report this month seeking independent investigation of possible violations of the 1997 Chemical Weapons Convention.

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2184776/middle-east>

In details, NATO tasks and the cooperation with the Iraqi government

Iraqi News Agency, October 16, 2022

“It is important to highlight the NATO Mission in Iraq, which was dispatched at the request and invitation of the Government of Iraq in 2018. The mission in Iraq is a non-combat advisory mission, which helps Iraq build more sustainable, transparent, inclusive as well as effective institutions and security forces. It enables Iraqis to achieve stability in their country,

fighting terrorism and preventing the return of the terrorist Daesh,” he highlighted.

<https://ina.iq/eng/22617-in-details-nato-tasks-and-the-cooperation-with-the-iraqi-government.html>

Iraq’s parliament approves new government headed by Mohammed Shia Al Sudani

The National News, October 26, 2022

Iraq’s parliament approved a new government headed by Mohammed Shia Al Sudani as prime minister on Thursday, ending more than a year of political deadlock during which the country teetered on the verge of collapse. The stalemate turned bloody when clashes broke out earlier this year between Shiite militias in Baghdad's Green Zone, the heart of government that contains the parliament buildings and foreign embassies. Dozens of people were killed or wounded. Mr Al Sudani chose deputy commander of Joint Operations Lt Gen Abdul Amir Al Shammari, a Shiite, as the interior minister and former military officer and MP Thabit Al Baldawi as defence minister.

<https://www.thenationalnews.com/mena/iraq/2022/10/27/iraqs-parliament-approves-new-government-headed-by-mohammed-shia-al-sudani/>

Iran-backed militias dominate local economy in Iraq

GDN News, October 28, 2022

Iraqi militias, backed by Iran, have started to dominate local economies and have been trafficking drugs to countries in the GCC including Bahrain and Saudi Arabia,

according to the author of a recently published book on geopolitics in Iraq. During the launch of her book *Militia State - The Rise of Al-Hashd Al-Shaabi and the Eclipse of the Iraqi Nation State*, seasoned journalist Baria Alamuddin discussed how militias have started to take over as the footprint of Daesh has shrunk.

<https://www.gdnonline.com/Details/1146174>

Israel

Israel giving arms to Ukraine will 'destroy' ties with Russia - official

i24, October 17, 2022

'A very reckless move. It will destroy all interstate relations between our countries' Russia's former president and current deputy chairman of the country's Security Council, Dmitry Medvedev, said Monday that Israeli arms supplies to Ukraine would destroy ties with Moscow. "Israel seems to be going to supply weapons to the Kyiv regime. A very reckless move. It will destroy all interstate relations between our countries," Medvedev wrote in a Telegram post, accusing Ukraine of praising "Nazi" heroes.

<https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/israel/diplomacy/1665999050-israeli-arms-supplies-to-ukraine-would-destroy-ties-with-moscow-medvedev>

Israeli siege of Nablus 'declaration of war' against Palestinians: PA Presidential spokesman

Qods Interantinal News Agency, October 20, 2022

In a statement on Wednesday, Nabil Abu Rudeineh, a spokesman for President

Mahmoud Abbas, said the Israel military's incursions into Palestinian cities, villages, and camps, the continued storming of al-Aqsa Mosque and the Ibrahimi Mosque, and the attempt to change the status quo of these holy sites, is a declaration of an all-out war against the Palestinian people and their leadership. "The continuation of this reckless and irresponsible policy has created an atmosphere of increased tension that would explode the situation, which we have long warned about it," he said.

<http://qodsna.com/en/371613/Israeli-siege-of-Nablus-%EF%BF%BDdeclaration-of-war-%EF%BF%BD-against-Palestinians:-PA-Presidential-spokesman>

Government approves Herzi Halevi as next military chief of staff

i24, October 23, 2022

Israel's Defense Minister Benny Gantz proposed his appointment in early September. Israel's government on Sunday approved Major General Herzi Halevi as the military's 23rd chief of staff. Following the announcement, the Israeli military's (IDF) current Chief of Staff Major General Aviv Kochavi congratulated Halevi.

<https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/israel/defense/1666516304-israeli-govt-approves-herzi-halevi-as-army-s-chief-of-staff>

In Israel, Albanian PM to meet cyber chief after Iran hack

Arab News, October 23, 2022

Albanian Prime Minister Edi Rama arrived in Israel on Sunday for an official visit that will include a meeting with Israeli cyber defense officials, the Israeli Foreign Ministry said. Rama's three-day visit came a month after Albania severed diplomatic

ties with Iran over a July cyberattack that targeted Albanian governmental websites and services. After Albania cut ties, a second cyberattack from the same Iranian source hit an information system that records Albanian border entries and exits, causing delays for travelers.

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2186511/middle-east>

Israel to show U.S. evidence of Iranian drones in Ukraine

i24, October 25, 2022

President Herzog will show evidence from Israel's defense establishment during his Washington visit. Israel's President Isaac Herzog will present to U.S. officials Israeli evidence of the use of Iranian drones during Russia's military assault on Ukraine, during his visit to Washington, his office said Tuesday. The president departed for the United States on Monday night.

<https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/ukraine-conflict/1666711100-israel-to-show-u-s-evidence-of-iranian-drones-in-ukraine>

Israeli president says he discussed Iran arms supply to Russia with Biden

US News, October 26, 2022

Israeli President Isaac Herzog said he and U.S. President Joe Biden discussed Iran supplying weapons to Russia that are killing Ukrainians, during a White House meeting on Wednesday. Herzog also told reporters the two discussed the Iranian nuclear program and Tehran's repression of its citizens.

<https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2022-10-26/israeli-president-says-he->

[discussed-iran-arms-supply-to-russia-with-biden](#)

Israel's Benny Gantz relaunches defence ties with Turkey

Al- Jazeera, October 27, 2022

Israeli Defence Minister Benny Gantz has heralded a new era in security ties with Turkey as the two countries seek to mend a relationship that had been broken for a decade. Gantz spoke on Thursday during a one-day trip to the powerful NATO member and two months after Israel and Turkey renewed their diplomatic ties.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/10/27/israels-gantz-relaunches-defence-ties-with-turkey>

Israel's military approves women as tank fighters on border

i24, October 27, 2022

'I trust the... tank fighters to carry out the border defense mission professionally and with great success' Following a comprehensive examination lasting roughly two years, Israel's military Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Aviv Kochavi permanently assigned female tank crews as part of the Border Defense Corps. "The decision was made in light of professional and operational considerations and in accordance with the needs of the army, and after the female fighters met the pre-defined criteria," said a statement from the Israeli military.

<https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/israel/defense/1666863172-israel-s-military-approves-women-as-tank-fighters-on-border>

Israeli military blasts assault of troops by leftist activists

i24, October 28, 2022

Israel's military chief of staff condemned an alleged assault on Israeli troops in the West Bank by left-wing activists, including an off-duty soldier. The incident took place earlier on Friday near the Hebron Mount in the West Bank and saw left-wing Israelis, Palestinians, and one off-duty Israeli soldier clash with and hurl stones at Israeli troops posted at the site.

<https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/israel/defense/1666954592-israeli-military-chiefs-condemn-assault-of-idf-troops-by-leftist-activists>

Israel must get rid of its nuclear weapons, UNGA majority decides

The Jerusalem Post, October 31, 2022

Israel must dispose of all its nuclear weapons and place its nuclear sites under the International Atomic Energy Agency's purview, the United Nations General Assembly's First Committee stated in an initial 152-5 vote. The five nations that opposed Friday's resolution on the "risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East" were: Canada, Israel, Micronesia, Palau and the United States. Another 24 countries abstained, including European Union members. The annual resolution submitted by Egypt to the UNGA in New York was sponsored by the Palestinian Authority and 19 countries including Bahrain, Jordan, Morocco and the United Arab Emirates.

<https://www.jpost.com/international/article-720993>

Israel bolsters security ahead of election

i24, October 31, 2022

Israel to close border crossings to Palestinian territories on election day. Israel will beef up security in and around the West Bank and Jerusalem due to an unprecedented volume of intelligence tip-offs and alerts concerning planned terrorist attacks against Israeli targets in the run-up to Tuesday's general election.

<https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/israel/politics/1667198193-israel-bolsters-security-ahead-of-election>

Jordan

Hochstein to visit Beirut, says working on reviving Egypt-Jordan energy deal

Naharnet, October 19, 2022

U.S. energy mediator Amos Hochstein will visit Beirut next week to submit a U.S.-signed demarcation proposal, Deputy Speaker Elias Bou Saab said. Last week, Lebanon and Israel said they agreed on the terms of the U.S.-mediated deal over a maritime border dispute involving offshore gas fields. Bou Saab said, in a statement late Tuesday, that Hochstein will submit the proposal signed by the U.S. government. As soon as the U.S. sends a notice confirming it has received from Lebanon and Israel their separate approvals, the demarcation deal will go into force. Lebanon and Israel will then deposit maritime border coordinates with the United Nations -- in a move that will override 2011 submissions by both countries.

<https://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/293087-hochstein-to-visit-beirut-says-working-on-reviving-egypt-jordan-energy-deal>

Jordan condemns ongoing Israeli military raids into Palestinian towns

English Wafa, October 25, 2022

Jordan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates today condemned the ongoing Israeli military incursions and aggression against Palestinian towns, the latest of which were dawn attacks against the cities of Nablus and Ramallah, said the official Jordanian Petra news agency. It warned that the military escalation would lead to a new spiral of violence for which "everyone will pay a price." The violence will breed more violence, it said, warning that the Israeli raids into Palestinian cities and measures to perpetuate the occupation amid the persistent stalemate in the peace process, would push for a dangerous escalation, for which Israel will be responsible, threaten regional peace and stability and kill the last hope of achieving just peace, said the news agency.

<https://english.wafa.ps/Pages/Details/131524>

Kuwait

JAF takes part in Arab military sports federation meetings in Kuwait

Ammon News, October 22, 2022

A delegation from Jordan Armed Forces (JAF)'s Directorate of the Military Sports Federation (MSF) took part in the meetings of the executive office of Arab Military Sports Federation (AMSF), headed by MSF's Director, Col. Ra'ad Amayreh. According to a press release on Saturday, the directorate said the office's closing activities, which were held in Kuwait, saw election of Col. Yousef Dasmal Kuwari, as AMSF's new president.

<https://en.ammonnews.net/article/61063>

Kuwait reiterates support for nuclear non-proliferation

Kuwait Times, October 26, 2022

The State of Kuwait reiterated its firm support for non-proliferation of all types of nuclear weapons welcoming any progress made at this level, as it pursues eliminating the danger of war. This came in a statement delivered by diplomatic attache Abdulrahman Al-Hashim before the First Committee of the UN General Assembly. Al-Hashim explained that the military spending last year exceeded two trillion US dollar barrier, pointing to the need to provide human, economic and intellectual resources for peaceful purposes.

<https://www.kuwaittimes.com/?s=nuclear>

Deputy PM for defence affairs receives ambassador of Kuwait

Times of Oman, October 31, 2022

HH Sayyid Shihab bin Tarik Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for Defence Affairs received in his office at Al Murtafa'a Garrison today Dr. Mohammed Nasser Al Hajri, Ambassador of the State of Kuwait to the Sultanate of Oman. The two sides reviewed the bilateral relations between Oman and Kuwait. They also exchanged views on various matters of common interest.

<https://timesofoman.com/article/122936-deputy-pm-for-defence-affairs-receives-ambassador-of-kuwait>

Lebanon

Biden to Herzog: Lebanon deal is 'historic breakthrough', US committed to Israel

The Jerusalem Post, October 26, 2022

President Joe Biden expressed unequivocal support for Israel on Wednesday during a

meeting in the White House with Israeli President Isaac Herzog. Biden spoke at the top of the meeting about the maritime border deal between Israel and Lebanon. "I think it is a historic breakthrough, it took a lot of courage for you to step up and step into it," Biden told Herzog. He said, "it took principle and persistent diplomacy to get it done."

<https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-720680>

Israel, Lebanon have concluded 'historic' maritime deal, Biden says

Naharnet, October 27, 2022

Lebanon and Israel formally concluded a "historic" maritime border deal on Thursday in the presence of U.S. officials, U.S. President Joe Biden said. "Both parties took the final steps to bring the agreement into force and submitted the final paperwork to the United Nations in the presence of the United States," Biden said in a statement. The accord between Israel and energy-starved Lebanon, which have no diplomatic relations, was brokered through mediation of a U.S. envoy, Amos Hochstein, who was attending the exchange of letters in the southern Lebanese town of Naqoura.

<https://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/293309-israel-lebanon-have-concluded-historic-maritime-deal-biden-says>

Nasrallah says Lebanon's deal with Israel 'not normalization'

Naharnet, October 27, 2022

Hezbollah will end an "exceptional" mobilization against Israel after threatening to attack for months, its leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah said Thursday after

Lebanon and Israel struck a maritime border deal. "All the exceptional and special measures and mobilization carried out by the resistance for several months are now declared over," Nasrallah said in a televised speech, calling the agreement a "very big victory for Lebanon and its state, people and resistance." "Our mission is complete," Nasrallah said, adding that the deal "is not an international treaty and it is not a recognition of Israel." "Israel received no security guarantees," the Hezbollah leader stressed.

<https://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/293310-nasrallah-says-lebanon-s-deal-with-israel-not-normalization>

Report: LF tells al-Rahi its real candidate is army chief

Naharnet, October 29, 2022

A Lebanese Forces delegation has met with Maronite Patriarch Beshara al-Rahi and informed him that its "real" presidential candidate is Army chief General Joseph Aoun, al-Akhbar newspaper reported Saturday. "He is the only one capable to confront Hezbollah and he has encouraging experiences in this regard," the LF delegation told al-Rahi, according to the daily.

<https://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/293353-report-lf-tells-al-rahi-its-real-candidate-is-army-chief>

Oman

Crown Prince visits Southern Military Region Command

Ammon News, October 20, 2022

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Al Hussein bin Abdullah II on Wednesday

visited the Southern Military Region Command, where he was received by Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Maj. Gen. Yousef Hneiti. Crown Prince Al Hussein was briefed on a number of operational, logistical, and training-related issues concerning the region's personnel and their duties. His Royal Highness conveyed His Majesty King Abdullah's greetings to the region's personnel and to all those serving in the Jordan Armed Forces-Arab Army.

<https://en.ammonnews.net/article/61031>

Army chief launches new military facilities at Eastern Military Zone

Ammon News, October 20, 2022

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Maj. Gen. Yousef Ahmad Hunaiti, on Wednesday inaugurated hall building of martyr Maj. Mohammad Yassin Khdeirat at the Eastern Military Zone. The opening of the new hall reflects the continued approach of General Command of Jordanian Armed Forces (JAF)- Arab Army, in commemorating fallen soldiers, who died in defense of Jordan, according to a JAF statement.

<https://en.ammonnews.net/article/61049>

Army chief, Omani military delegation talk cooperation, ties

Ammon News, October 20, 2022

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Maj. Gen. Yousef Ahmed Huneiti, on Thursday, met with an Omani military delegation, headed by President of Academy for Strategic and Defence Studies, Maj. Gen. Saleh bin Yahya bin Masoud al-Maskari. In the presence of the Omani military attache,

Huneiti discussed with the guest delegation, aspects of cooperation and ways to enhance bilateral relations to serve interests of the two brotherly countries' armed forces.

<https://en.ammonnews.net/article/61050>

New batch of citizens joins Royal Air Force of Oman

Times of Oman, October 30, 2022

The Royal Air Force of Oman (RAFO), in coordination with the Ministry of Labour on Sunday received a new batch of citizens for military training in arms, in continuation of the national efforts of the Sultan's Armed Forces to absorb citizens looking for work. All the recruits will undergo basic military training programme as they join their brothers in arms in the various air bases, after they have passed the stages of acceptance, evaluation, tests and medical and physical examinations.

<https://timesofoman.com/article/122914-new-batch-of-citizens-joins-royal-air-force-of-oman>

Cooperation agreement signed by defence, labour ministries

Times of Oman, October 31, 2022

The Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Labour on Monday signed an agreement for cooperation about initiatives of employment and on-the-job training in the two ministries. The step complements earlier initiatives and agreements inked by the two parties. The agreement provides for citizens' receiving specialised training at the Ministry of Defence as part of the ministry's programme to offer employment opportunities for jobseekers in coordination with the Ministry of Labour. It also comes

in pursuance of operational initiatives initiated under the directives of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, the Supreme Commander. The agreement was signed by Dr. Mohammed Nassir Al Za'abi, Secretary General at the Ministry of Defence, and Dr. Mahad Said Ba'owain, Minister of Labour.

<https://timesofoman.com/article/122946-cooperation-agreement-signed-by-defence-labour-ministries>

Palestine

Palestinian succumbs to wounds from Israeli military gunfire

English Wafa, October 20, 2022

A Palestinian boy Thursday morning succumbed to his wounds he sustained from Israeli military gunfire in Beitunia town, west of Ramallah, according to the Health Ministry. The Ministry said in a press release that 16-year-old Muhammad Fadi Nori died of his critical wounds he had sustained after being shot by Israeli forces in the abdomen at the northern entrance of al-Bireh city during September. According to the Ministry statistics, a total of 174 Palestinians, including 41 minors, were killed by Israeli forces since the start of 2022; 123 in the West Bank and 51 others in the besieged Gaza Strip.

<https://english.wafa.ps/Pages/Details/131401>

Palestinian with 'M16-type' weapons arrested

i24, October 24, 2022

A Palestinian suspect was arrested on Monday by Israeli police for having "M16-type" weapons in his vehicle, at the Gush

Etzion junction in the West Bank. During an Israeli military operation, police officers stopped a suspicious vehicle for inspection, an Israel Police spokesperson said in a statement.

<https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/israel/defense/1666635117-west-bank-palestinian-suspect-in-possession-of-assault-rifle-arrested>

Hamas, Islamic Jihad vow Palestinian resistance will continue until Israel defeated

Qods Interantinal News Agency, October 29, 2022

Hamas on Friday called on all Palestinian security services and resistance fighters to follow the path of the fallen victims, identified as 47-year-old Imad Abu Rasheed and Ramzi Sami Zabara, 35, in defense of Palestinian people and to aim their rifles at Israeli troops, who keep killing Palestinians in cold blood and do not shy away from desecrating sacred places and shrines. The movement added that the northern West Bank city of Nablus, the Askar refugee camp on the eastern outskirts of Nablus, and elsewhere across the West Bank serve as fields of confrontation with Israeli soldiers.

<http://qodsna.com/en/371814/Hamas-Islamic-Jihad-vow-Palestinian-resistance-will-continue-until-Israel-defeated>

Palestinians in Hebron say settlers shot at their homes day after Israeli killed in shooting attack

Haaretz, October 31, 2022

'Every time there's an attack there's a night of terror here,' a local resident says. After

the fatal attack, an Israeli checkpoint that had been opened for six months is now closed to cars again. Settlers fired shots into Palestinians' homes and threw stones at their cars Sunday night in Hebron, local residents said the day after a Palestinian shot dead an Israeli in the West Bank settlement.

<https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/2022-10-31/ty-article/.premium/palestinians-in-hebron-say-settlers-shot-at-their-homes-after-palestinian-shooting-attack/00000184-2ef5-dee6-afac-aff7a6cb0000>

Qatar

Foreign ministry following up on issue of military retirees in Qatar-spokesperson

Ammon News, October 22, 2022

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates is following up on the issue of Jordanian military retirees, who were hired for a limited period to provide security and protection services related to FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 arrangements in Qatar, according to individual contracts with a private company, in a bid to extend all possible assistance, its official spokesperson, Sinan Majali, said. In a statement on Thursday, Majali indicated that the ministry "highly" values Qatar's "full" cooperation in dealing with the issue that represents a dispute between the citizens and the private sector company, which signed the contracts, and tries to find the truth and solve the matter, in terms of the company's adherence with the contractual terms or not.

<https://en.ammonnews.net/article/61167>

Saudi Arabia

Saudi king urges Iran to comply with nuclear deal

The National News, October 28, 2022

Iran must co-operate with the International Atomic Energy Agency and the global community if it wants to revive the 2015 nuclear deal, Saudi Arabia's King Salman said on Sunday. Efforts to save the accord have faced several stumbling blocks, including Iran's continued nuclear advances and the recent crackdown on protesters across the country. "We call on Iran to urgently fulfil its nuclear obligations [and] co-operate fully with the International Atomic Energy Agency," Saudi Arabia's state news agency reported King Salman as saying.

<https://www.thenationalnews.com/gulf-news/saudi-arabia/2022/10/17/saudi-arabia-king-urges-iran-to-comply-with-nuclear-deal/>

Saudi energy minister, French counterpart discuss bilateral relations

Arab News, October 28, 2022

Energy ministers of Saudi Arabia and France discussed strengthening bilateral relations, the Saudi Press Agency reported on Friday. Saudi Minister of Energy Prince Abdulaziz Bin Salman and Agnès Pannier-Runacher, French minister of energy transition, stressed the need to increase oil market stability. They also agreed to continue close communication, and to strengthen co-operation to address emerging risks and challenges.

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2189411/business-economy>

Syria

Syrian army unit expels US military troops in Qamishli countryside

SANA, October 24, 2022

Hasaka, SANA- A checkpoint of the Syrian Army blocked Monday a US military convoy in a village of Qamishli countryside. “A checkpoint of the Syrian Arab Army intercepted a convoy of 5 armored vehicles of US occupation forces while trying to pass through the village of Dmeikha al-Sagheera in Qamishli and expelled them from the region,” local sources said to SANA reporter.

<http://www.sana.sy/en/?p=288050>

Israel bombs Syria a day after Iran-linked plane lands at Damascus airport

The National News, October 27, 2022

Israeli aircraft bombed targets around Damascus on Wednesday night, the third round of air strikes in the past week which some analysts claim have targeted Iranian drones on the ground. Israel did not comment on the air strikes, announced by the Syrian military, which said it had activated air defences against Israeli “aggression”, at 12.30am. The Syrian army did not say exactly where the aircraft had struck, but Damascus airport and its environs are host to numerous air defence sites and known Iranian facilities.

<https://www.thenationalnews.com/mena/syria/2022/10/27/israel-bombs-syria-a-day-after-iran-linked-plane-lands-at-damascus-airport/>

Türkiye

Conditions on F-16 sales to Türkiye dropped from US NDAA bill

Daily Sabah, October 11, 2022

Two provisions that were set to restrict the sale of F-16 fighter jets to Türkiye in the U.S. Senate version of the 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) bill have been removed, sources said Tuesday. The U.S. Senate removed the conditions during a 2023 defense budget meeting on Tuesday. After the completion of the NDAA bill, it is expected to be merged with the House of Representatives version, which will then be submitted to President Joe Biden for approval.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/conditions-on-f-16-sales-to-turkiye-dropped-from-us-ndaa-bill>

Türkiye test-fires domestic ballistic missile over Black Sea

Daily Sabah, October 19, 2022

Türkiye test-fired a locally made, short-range ballistic missile over the Black Sea, media reports said Tuesday. The projectile, named Tayfun, was developed by leading Turkish missile developer Roketsan and fired from a mobile platform at an airport in the Black Sea coastal city of Rize at 6:50 a.m. (3:30 a.m. GMT), private news agency Demirören reported. The missile flew 561 kilometers (350 miles) before falling off the coast of the port of Sinop. Though not yet confirmed by defense industry sources, the test shows the Tayfun has double the range

of the country's first domestic missile system, the Bora.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkiye-test-fires-domestic-ballistic-missile-over-black-sea>

US not only way out for Türkiye if talks on F-16 sales fail: Erdoğan

Daily Sabah, October 21, 2022

President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan on Friday said the process regarding the purchase of F-16 fighter jets was proceeding as planned, yet he reiterated that Türkiye was not without alternatives in case talks with the United States fail. “At the moment, the opinion of the (U.S.) administration is developing in a positive direction. Of course, the U.S. is not the only way out for us,” Erdoğan told reporters aboard his plane returning from a trip to Azerbaijan. “If necessary, as with the S-400 systems, we are negotiating alternatives outside of the United States ... We have alternatives,” he stressed.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/us-not-only-way-out-for-turkiye-if-talks-on-f-16-sales-fail-erdogan>

Türkiye's defense spending expected to constitute 2% of GDP by 2025

Daily Sabah, October 21, 2022

Türkiye's defense spending is projected to post a real increase in the 2023-2025 period, according to budget documents, and constitute some 2% of the gross domestic product (GDP). While the documents foresee spending of some 1.74% of the GDP by the end of 2022, this figure is expected to decrease to 1.63% and then reach 2% in the two-year period. Türkiye

will spend TL 268.6 billion (\$14.4 billion), including foreign aid in 2023, TL 327.5 billion in 2024, and TL 378.1 billion in 2025 for defense. The amount allocated to research and development (R&D) among expenditure items is TL 4.289 billion for 2023.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkiyes-defense-spending-expected-to-constitute-2-of-gdp-by-2025>

Erdogan says Turkey's military never used chemical weapons

The National News, October 21, 2022

Turkey's armed forces have never used chemical weapons and they abide by international law, according to President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. The Turkish leader said that legal action would be taken against those who have made allegations on the issue, broadcaster NTV reported on Friday. Media close to the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) militant group published videos this week that it said showed chemical weapons being used by the Turkish army against the PKK in northern Iraq.

<https://www.thenationalnews.com/mena/2022/10/21/erdogan-turkeys-military-never-used-chemical-weapons/>

Erdogan may speak with Biden as F-16 talks 'go on positively'

Daily Sabah, October 22, 2022

Negotiations with the United States on sales of F-16 fighter jets are “going on positively,” President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan said on Thursday, adding that he may later discuss this issue over the phone with U.S. President Joe Biden. The remarks

come just two days after Erdoğan said that he had received “positive” feedback from two U.S. senators he met with in New York on their potential support for the sale of F-16s to Türkiye. Türkiye has been seeking to modernize its air fleet and sought to buy 40 F-16 jets and nearly 80 modernization kits from the U.S. Biden has said he supports the sale and that he would work to convince lawmakers to deliver the F-16 jets for Türkiye’s air force.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/erdogan-may-speak-with-biden-as-f-16-talks-go-on-positively>

'Türkiye-made choppers to hunt terrorists wherever they are'

Daily Sabah, October 24, 2022

Türkiye’s domestic attack helicopters are being used in every condition and in difficult missions for the country’s counterterrorism operations and will continue to hunt terrorists, the defense ministry said Monday. The National Defense Ministry most recently shared video footage, showing military drills made with T129 Tactical Reconnaissance and Attack Helicopter (Atak) helicopters that target terrorist elements in several regions. In addition to the night and day footage, the video also included operation footage taken during the summer and winter months. The moments when the Ataks hit the locked targets with pinpoint accuracy were visible in the footage shared by the ministry.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkiye-made-choppers-to-hunt-terrorists-wherever-they-are>

Turkish weapons maker CANiK debuts 30x113 mm cannon at defense fair

Daily Sabah, October 25, 2022

The medium caliber 30x113 mm cannon of CANiK, one of the world's leading light weapons manufacturers operating under Turkish defense company Samsun Yurt Savunma (SYS), is on display for the first time at the SAHA Expo, which opened its doors at Istanbul Expo Center on Oct. 25-28. The company is showcasing its newest products and accessories at the SAHA Expo, one of the most important fairs in the fields of defense, aviation and space. CANiK's latest pistol models, pistol accessories, the weapon accessories under its universal accessory brand MECANIK are on display at the fair, where the company also introduces Canik Academy, conducts training activities, and CANiK SMART and CANiK APP, innovative training products.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkish-weapons-maker-canik-debuts-30x113-mm-cannon-at-defense-fair>

Major fair kickstarts with latest Turkish defense products on display

Daily Sabah, October 25, 2022

SAHA Expo Defense, Aviation and Space Industry Fair, organized by SAHA Istanbul, Europe's largest industrial cluster, opened its doors on Tuesday to defense experts and professionals. The fair brought together 750 domestic and 250 foreign companies from 57 countries. SAHA Expo Secretary General İlhami Keleş, in a written statement, said that the fair is an

international arena for technologies that are a game changer, innovative and where Türkiye's brand value comes to the fore.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/major-fair-kickstarts-with-latest-turkish-defense-products-on-display>

Meet Türkiye's new kamikaze drone: Deli

Daily Sabah, October 25, 2022

The Turkish defense industry has added a new product to the kamikaze unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) developed domestically. The new drone, named Deli, was developed by Titra Teknoloji and was exhibited for the first time at the SAHA Expo defense and aviation fair starting Tuesday in Istanbul. Titra Teknoloji general manager Davut Yılmaz told Anadolu Agency (AA) that the Deli Project was started about two years ago. He said they set out to develop a fixed-wing kamikaze UAV that can be launched manually or from a catapult, which is as cost-effective as possible, adding the testing process near end and that they expect the product to reach a level where it can be added to the inventory by the end of this year.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/meet-turkiyes-new-kamikaze-drone-deli>

Türkiye, Libya ink 2 more deals for closer defense cooperation

Daily Sabah, October 26, 2022

Libyan Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah signed two deals with Türkiye's

defense minister on Tuesday, building on an agreement that was agreed in 2019. Dbeibah's administration posted a statement saying the deals included "implementation protocols for the security agreement" signed that year by authorities in Tripoli, who at the time were fending off a blistering assault by the eastern-based putschist Gen. Khalifa Haftar. Tuesday's statement did not give further details.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkiye-libya-ink-2-more-deals-for-closer-defense-cooperation>

Beyond drones: Check out Turkish defense firms' hot new gear

Daily Sabah, October 27, 2022

Turkish defense industry products have been making global headlines recently, and there are basic reasons behind this. One is that the country's defense sector, which has entered a period of domestic production, has thrilled the sector with this move and is open to growing more, and the other is that it has developed battle-proven products and put them on the market – the Bayraktars. Yet, what is even more appealing when it comes to the country's defense sector, the world-famous unmanned combat aerial vehicles (UCAVs) that now hunt down Russian military gear from Ukrainian airspace – are just a part of a wide range of the product spectrum that Turkish companies can offer.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/beyond-drones-check-out-turkish-defense-firms-hot-new-gear>

Turkish delegation flies to US for talks on sale of F-16 fighters

Daily Sabah, October 27, 2022

A delegation of members of Türkiye's ruling party departed for Washington on Tuesday to hold talks on the potential sale of the F-16 fighter jets, as the prolonged process continues to top the agenda in bilateral contacts. Officials have been expressing optimism that the deal could be finalized despite a bill approved by American lawmakers that created a new hurdle for any purchase by Türkiye. Yet, Ankara has vowed it may consider alternatives, including Russia, if the United States fails to follow through on its promise to deliver F-16s to Turkish air forces.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkish-delegation-flies-to-us-for-talks-on-sale-of-f-16-fighters>

Turkish armed unmanned vessel shows naval capacities in NATO drill

Daily Sabah, October 27, 2022

A Turkish armed unmanned surface vehicle (AUSV) demonstrated its abilities at a recent NATO exercise in southwestern Portugal, becoming Türkiye's first such platform to join the alliance's military drill. Developed by Turkish defense pioneer Aselsan and the Sefine Shipyard in northwestern Yalova province under the coordination of the Presidency of Defense Industries (SSB), MARLIN took part in the drill with around 100 other unmanned aviation and marine vehicles. Around 20 ships were also part of the six-day exercise that began on Sunday and was named Dynamic Messenger 2022.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkish-armed-unmanned-vessel-shows-naval-capacities-in-nato-drill>

Turkish drone powerhouse Baykar to complete Ukraine plant in 2 years

Daily Sabah, October 28, 2022

The Turkish defense company behind the drones, which earned fame for their critical role in several conflicts, is planning to complete the construction of its manufacturing plant in Ukraine in two years, according to its chief executive. Baykar became highly renowned for the success of its Bayraktar TB2 armed drones in conflicts in Syria, Libya, Karabakh and lastly in Ukraine, where the platforms proved to be instrumental in the country's defense against armor and anti-aircraft systems in the first few weeks of the Russian invasion. The Bayraktar TB2 unmanned combat aerial vehicle (UCAV) gained so much prominence with the public that Ukrainians composed a song about it and some allies launched unprecedented crowdfunding campaigns to buy more.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkish-drone-powerhouse-baykar-to-complete-ukraine-plant-in-2-years>

Turkish drones to be put into service in Albania soon: PM Rama

Daily Sabah, October 29, 2022

Albanian Prime Minister Edi Rama said Turkish-made Bayraktar drones agreed to be purchased by his country will be put into service very soon. "These satellites will be followed very soon by (Bayraktar) drones. In line with new developments, we decided to complete them and buy armed drones," Edi Rama said at the signing of a satellite service contract between the Albanian National Civil Defense Agency and the firm Satellogic USA to monitor the country with advanced defense and security technology. "Of course, armed drones are

for extreme situations against terrorism or a potential enemy. However, these drones have a number of complementary functions in harmony with satellites," he added. According to Rama, the agreement is worth \$6 million.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkish-drones-to-be-put-into-service-in-albania-soon-pm-rama>

In-house built engines to power Türkiye's cruise missiles

Daily Sabah, October 30, 2022

The variety and number of Türkiye's domestic engines being delivered to carry nationally built cruise missiles to their targets have increased in recent years with work on domestic production gaining momentum as companies operating in the defense sector report receiving demand from abroad for the engines. Among those products, Türkiye's domestic turbojet engines, the KTJ-3200 and KTJ-1750 developed by Kale Group, were exhibited for the first time at the SAHA Expo Defense, Aviation and Space Industry Fair. Speaking at the fair, Kale Group Vice Chairperson and Technical Group President Osman Okyay told Anadolu Agency (AA) that they have been working on developing and producing turbojet engines for 10 years.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/in-house-built-engines-to-power-turkiyes-cruise-missiles>

Turkish drone maker Baykar 'to counter kamikaze threat in Ukraine'

Daily Sabah, October 30, 2022

Turkish combat drone maker Baykar hopes "soon" to be able to counter "kamikaze" drones in Ukraine, such as the Russian-operated Iranian drones recently threatening critical infrastructure, the

company's CEO told Deutsche Presse-Agentur (dpa). "Soon our Bayraktar TB2 and Akıncı will have air-to-air missiles; not only to engage drones but other enemy aircraft... we are conducting our tests," Haluk Bayraktar said during a defense fair in Istanbul. During the fair, SAHA Expo, a contract was signed between Turkish rocket and missile-making giant Roketsan and Baykar for the integration of the Sungur air defense missile to combat drones.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkish-drone-maker-baykar-to-counter-kamikaze-threat-in-ukraine>

UAE

UAE relied on expertise of retired U.S. troops to beef up its military

The Washington Post, October 18, 2022

The hottest overseas job market for retired U.S. service members is a tiny Persian Gulf nation that outsources much of its military to foreign advisers and mercenaries. Over the past seven years, 280 military retirees have sought federal authorization to work for the United Arab Emirates — far more than for any other country, according to documents obtained by The Washington Post under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/investigations/interactive/2022/uae-military-us-veterans/>

Bayanat IPO: G42-owned company set to raise \$171m in Abu Dhabi bourse listing

The National News, October 21, 2022

Bayanat, a geospatial data products and services provider owned by Abu Dhabi-based artificial intelligence and cloud computing company G42, aims to raise

more than Dh628.5 million (\$171m) from its initial public offering. The company is selling 571.4 million shares, at an offer share price of Dh1.10, it said on Friday. The sale is equivalent to 28.5 per cent of the company's share capital before the offering and 22.22 per cent based on the share capital of the company at listing.

<https://www.thenationalnews.com/business/markets/2022/10/21/bayanat-ipo-abu-dhabi-g42-owned-company-set-to-raise-171m-in-offering/>

UAE's nuclear energy chief lands global safety role

The National News, October 28, 2022

The UAE's nuclear energy chief spoke of his pride after securing a prominent role to champion safety in the sector around the world. Mohamed Al Hammadi has been a driving force behind the development of the country's Barakah Nuclear Energy Plant as chief executive and managing director of Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation. He has now made history as the first person from the Arab world to be appointed president of the World Association of Nuclear Operators. He was voted in at the organisation's biennial general meeting in Prague.

<https://www.thenationalnews.com/uae/environment/2022/10/13/uaes-nuclear-energy-chief-lands-global-safety-role/>

Bayanat shares surge on ADX trading debut

The National News, October 31, 2022

The shares of Bayanat AI, a geospatial data products and services provider owned by Abu Dhabi-based artificial intelligence and cloud computing company G42, quadrupled above its listing price on

Monday as the company made its debut on the Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange. The shares, which began trading under the ticker symbol "BAYANAT", rose 309 per cent to an intraday high of Dh4.50 (\$1.22). They settled 272 per cent above the listing price at Dh4.10 at the close of trading. The price of the offering was set at Dh1.10 per ordinary share. Bayanat's initial public offering will support the company's strategy of investing in research and development and exploring inorganic growth opportunities, it said in a statement on Monday.

<https://www.thenationalnews.com/business/markets/2022/10/31/bayanat-shares-surge-on-adx-trading-debut/>

Yemen

Yemen slams Zionist regime's "state terrorism" against Palestinians

Iran Republic News Agency, October 24, 2022

Yemen's Foreign Minister Hisham Sharaf Abdullah on Monday condemned the Zionist regime's "state terrorism" against the defenseless people of Palestine, especially in occupied Al-Quds. The regime has intensified its crackdown against Palestinians in the occupied territories, conducting raids on different parts of the West Bank and Al-Quds almost on a daily basis and making mass arrests. The top Yemeni diplomat warned against consequences of the escalating tensions by the Zionist regime which he called a direct threat to international peace and security, Yemen's Almasirah TV reported.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/84922441/Yemen-slams-Zionist-regime-s-state-terrorism-against-Palestinians>

Guantánamo judge weighing hearsay statements in U.S.S. Cole bombing case

The New York Times, October 27, 2022

At a hearing in the U.S.S. Cole bombing case this week, a retired F.B.I. agent described what three Yemeni eyewitnesses had told investigators 20 years ago after the suicide attack on the Navy warship. According to the agent, the Yemenis pointed to a photo of Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri, a Guantánamo prisoner now awaiting a death-penalty trial, as the person who had rented a safehouse used by plotters of the attack.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/29/us/politics/uss-cole-bombing-case.html?searchResultPosition=3>

Satellite images show Israeli missile system deployed in UAE amid fears of Yemen's retaliatory attacks

Qods Interantinal News Agency, October 30, 2022

The images, released by Tactical Report, show that the missile batteries and an Elta EL/M-2084 radar have been stationed near al-Dhafra air base, south of the capital Abu Dhabi. Earlier this year, Israel agreed to sell its advanced missile system to the UAE, in the first such known deal between them since they normalized their ties. Israel and the UAE have signed a raft of deals in various areas, including aviation, financial services and tourism, since they reached a controversial US-brokered normalization agreement in August 2020. Back in June 2021, Israeli foreign minister Yair Lapid inaugurated the Israeli embassy in Abu Dhabi and the Israeli consulate in Dubai during a two-day visit.

<http://qodsna.com/en/371847/Satellite-images-show-Israeli-missile-system-deployed-in-UAE-amid-fears-of-Yemen's-retaliatory-attacks>

NUCLEAR AND ARMS CONTROL CENTRE

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