

MARCH 2021

REPORT

CBRNE

EVENTS IN

THE WORLD

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OSDIFE

Observatory on
Security and CBRNe Defence



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Monitoring CBRNE risks worldwide

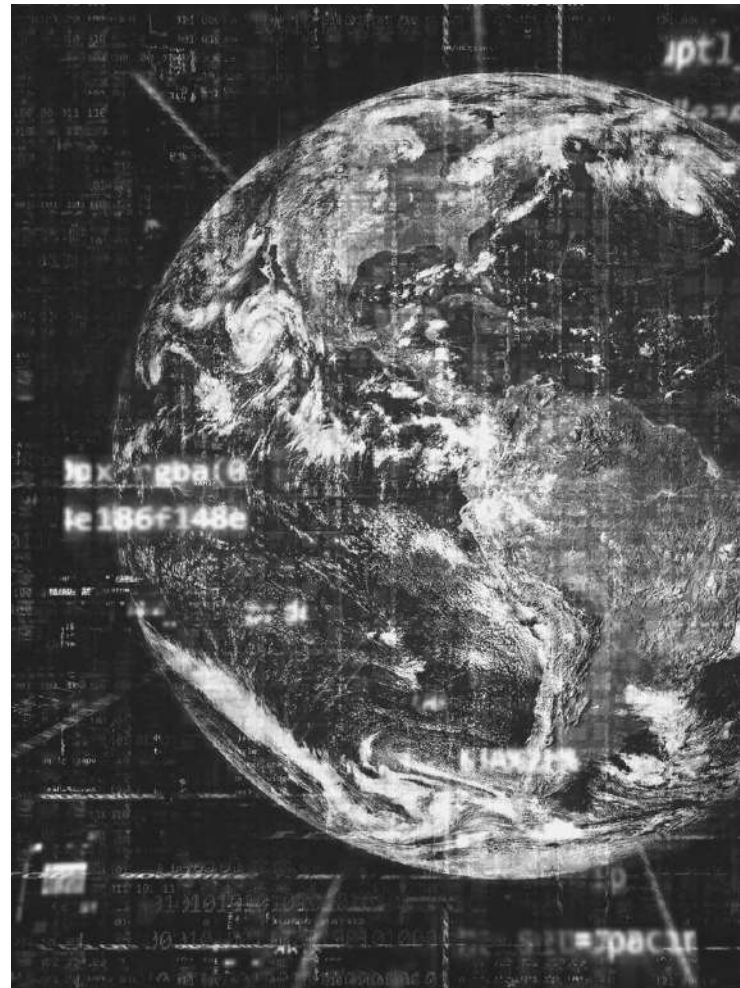
The Observatory on Security and CBRNE Defence - **OSDIFE**, the **University of Rome "Tor Vergata"**, Department of Electronic Engineering - DIE and the State University of Republic of **San Marino, Center for Security Studies** - CUFS are pleased to present the "OSDIFE Report on CBRNe Events in the World".

The Report aims to disseminate information related to a wide range of unconventional events worldwide, selected and systematised by our international editorial team on a weekly basis over the whole month, with relation to Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, North America, Oceania.

The Report covers issues related to **CBRNE threats**, and also has special coverage for **COVID-19 pandemic**, **terrorism and counter-terrorism**, security and defence **technological innovations**.

This Report endeavours to build a **network of mutual information exchange**.

To this aim, **we invite you to contribute** to the Report by sending news, events and initiatives of relevance to CBRNE and WMD, by email to **news.report@osdife.org**



The OSDIFE Staff is thankful for your interest and wishes you a pleasant reading.

PROF. ROBERTO MUGAVERO

Scientific committee coordinator

TABLE OF CONTENTS

COVID-19 FOCUS

1 OVERVIEW OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC

4 GLOBAL DATA

WORLD NEWS

6 AFRICA

17 ASIA

49 EUROPE

56 LATIN AMERICA

60 NORTH AMERICA

67 OCEANIA

TRENDING TOPICS

69 TERRORISM AND COUNTER-TERRORISM

86 SECURITY AND DEFENSE TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATIONS



Last month news

OVERVIEW OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC

As the most significant international biological threat in the past 100 years, this brief introductory section presents the June milestones of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The analysis is based on the consultation of various reliable international open sources (found and available on the International Maritime Organization – IMO, International Labour Organization – ILO, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization – UNESCO, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund – UNICEF, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime – UNODC, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS – UNAIDS, and United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights – UNHCHR websites) and the meticulous statistical data processed by the World Health Organization – WHO.

Key international actions and procedures to fight the virus and better deal with the increasing concerns are also presented below.



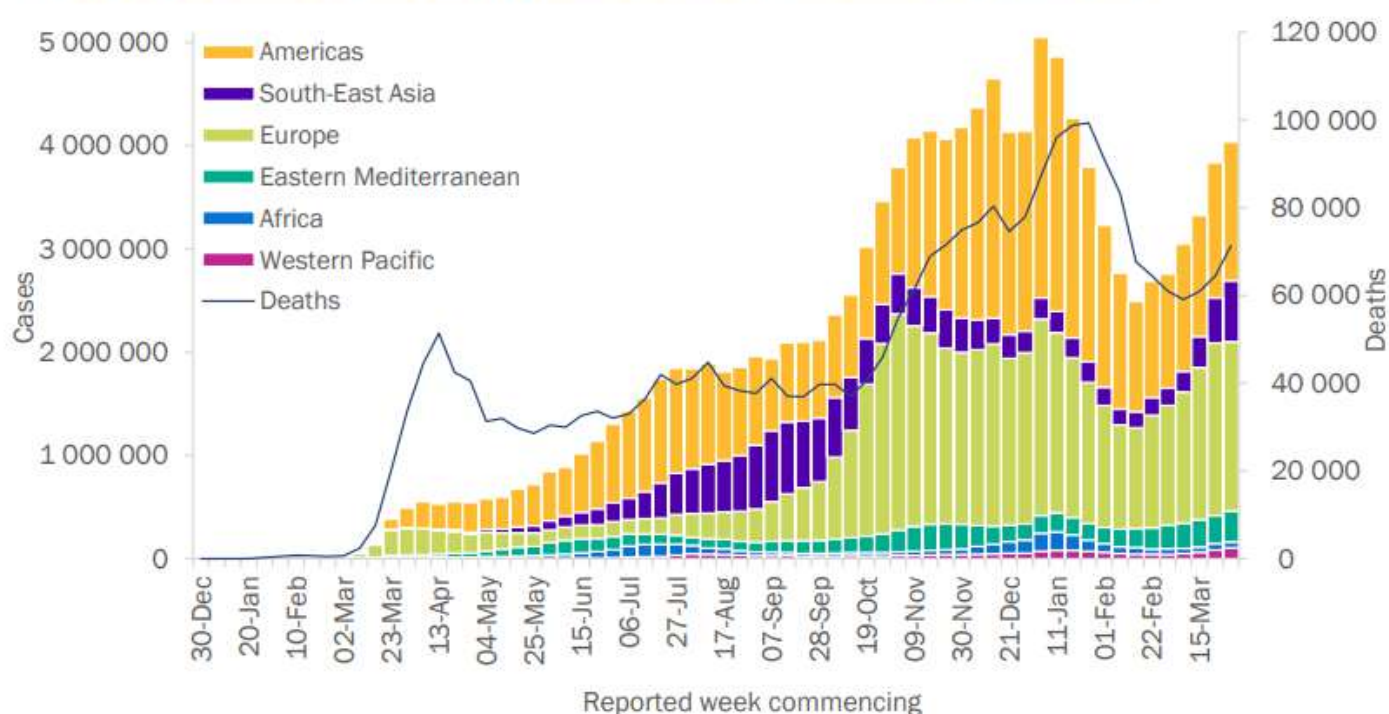
Last month news

OVERVIEW OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC



- Globally, new COVID-19 cases rose for a sixth consecutive week, with over 4 million new cases reported in the last week.
- The number of new deaths also increased by 11% compared to last week, with over 71 000 new deaths reported.
- The largest increases in case incidence were observed in the South-East Asia (most notably in India) and the Western Pacific regions (Table 1).
- All regions, except for the African Region, reported increases in the number of deaths, with the largest increase of 46% from the South-East Asia Region.
- The highest numbers of new cases were reported from India (513 885 new cases; 38% increase), Brazil (505 668 new cases; 5% decrease), the United States of America (444 756 new cases; 5% increase), Turkey (265 937 new cases; 43% increase), and France (244 607 new cases; 4% decrease).

Figure 1. COVID-19 cases reported weekly by WHO Region, and global deaths, as of 4 April 2021**



Source: COVID-19 Weekly Epidemiological Update Data, as of 4 April 2021.

See: <https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/weekly-epidemiological-update-on-covid-19---6-april-2021>



Last month news

OVERVIEW OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC



Update on SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern:

- Variant VOC 202012/01 - 120 countries reported cases of this variant



- Variant 501Y.V2 - 64 countries reported the variant.



- Variant P.1 - This variant is reported in 37 countries.



Source: COVID-19 Weekly Epidemiological Update Data.

See: <https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/weekly-epidemiological-update-on-covid-19---31-march-2021>



Last month news

OVERVIEW OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC



Data summary and trends (February 2021 variations in cases and deaths)

Table 1. Newly reported and cumulative COVID-19 cases and deaths, by WHO Region, as of 4 April 2021**

WHO Region	New cases in last 7 days (%)	Change in new cases in last 7 days *	Cumulative cases (%)	New deaths in last 7 days (%)	Change in new deaths in last 7 days *	Cumulative deaths (%)
Americas	1 344 618 (33%)	3%	56 589 190 (43%)	37 185 (52%)	15%	1 368 633 (48%)
Europe	1 638 947 (40%)	-2%	45 877 941 (35%)	24 534 (34%)	2%	980 586 (34%)
South-East Asia	592 349 (14%)	36%	15 212 235 (11%)	4 317 (6%)	46%	222 054 (7%)
Eastern Mediterranean	297 763 (7%)	10%	7 693 094 (5%)	3 699 (5%)	7%	160 612 (5%)
Africa	58 858 (1%)	-6%	3 120 296 (2%)	1 077 (1%)	-20%	78 523 (2%)
Western Pacific	105 757 (2%)	25%	1 965 683 (1%)	543 (0%)	5%	31 904 (1%)
Global	4 038 292 (100%)	5%	130 459 184 (100%)	71 355 (100%)	11%	2 842 325 (100%)

*Percent change in the number of newly confirmed cases/deaths in past seven days, compared to seven days prior.

Table 3: Overview of emerging information on variants of concern, as of 30 March 2021*

Nextstrain clade	20I/501Y.V1	20H/501Y.V2 [†]	20J/501Y.V3
PANGO lineage	B.1.1.7	B.1.351	B.1.1.28.1, alias P.1 [†]
GISAID clade	GR	GH	GR
Alternate names	VOC 202012/01 [†]	VOC 202012/02	-
First detected by	United Kingdom	South Africa	Brazil / Japan
Earliest sample date	20 September 2020	Early August 2020	December 2020
Key spike mutations	H69/V70 deletion; Y144 deletion; N501Y; A570D; and P681H	L242/A243/L244 deletion; K417N E484K, N501Y	K417T, E484K; N501Y
Key mutation in common	S106/G107/F108 deletion in Non-Structural Protein 6 (NSP6)		
Countries reporting cases (newly reported in last week)**	130 (5)	80 (5)	45(4)

*While work is ongoing to establish standardized nomenclature for key variants, these are the names by which WHO will refer to them in this publication.

**Includes official and unofficial reports of VOCs detections in countries among either travellers (imported cases only) or community samples (local transmission).

Note: data proposed in the tables below are collected through the Epidemic Intelligence from Open Sources (EIOS), a collaborative effort across public health organisations worldwide to facilitate the early detection of and response using publicly available information. Additional information about EIOS: <https://www.who.int/eios>

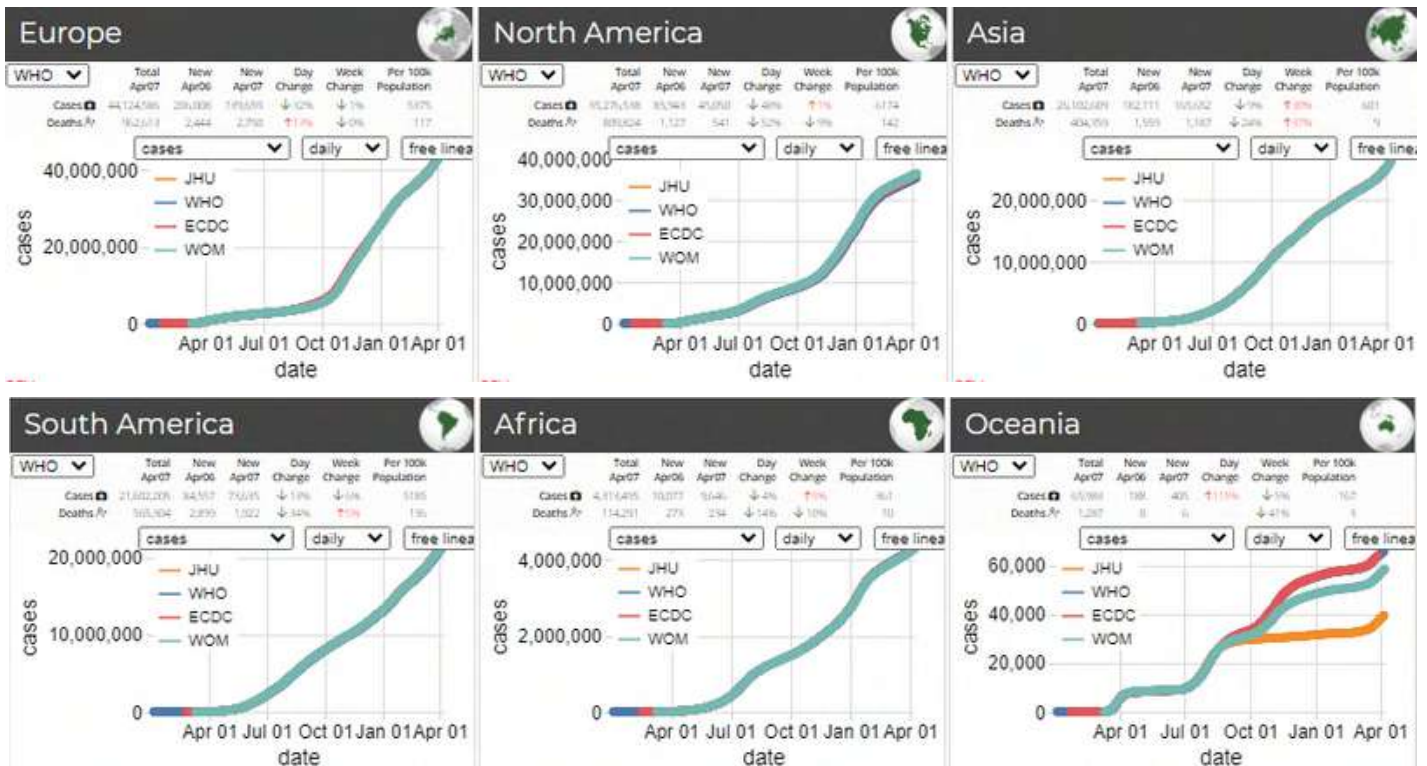


Last month news

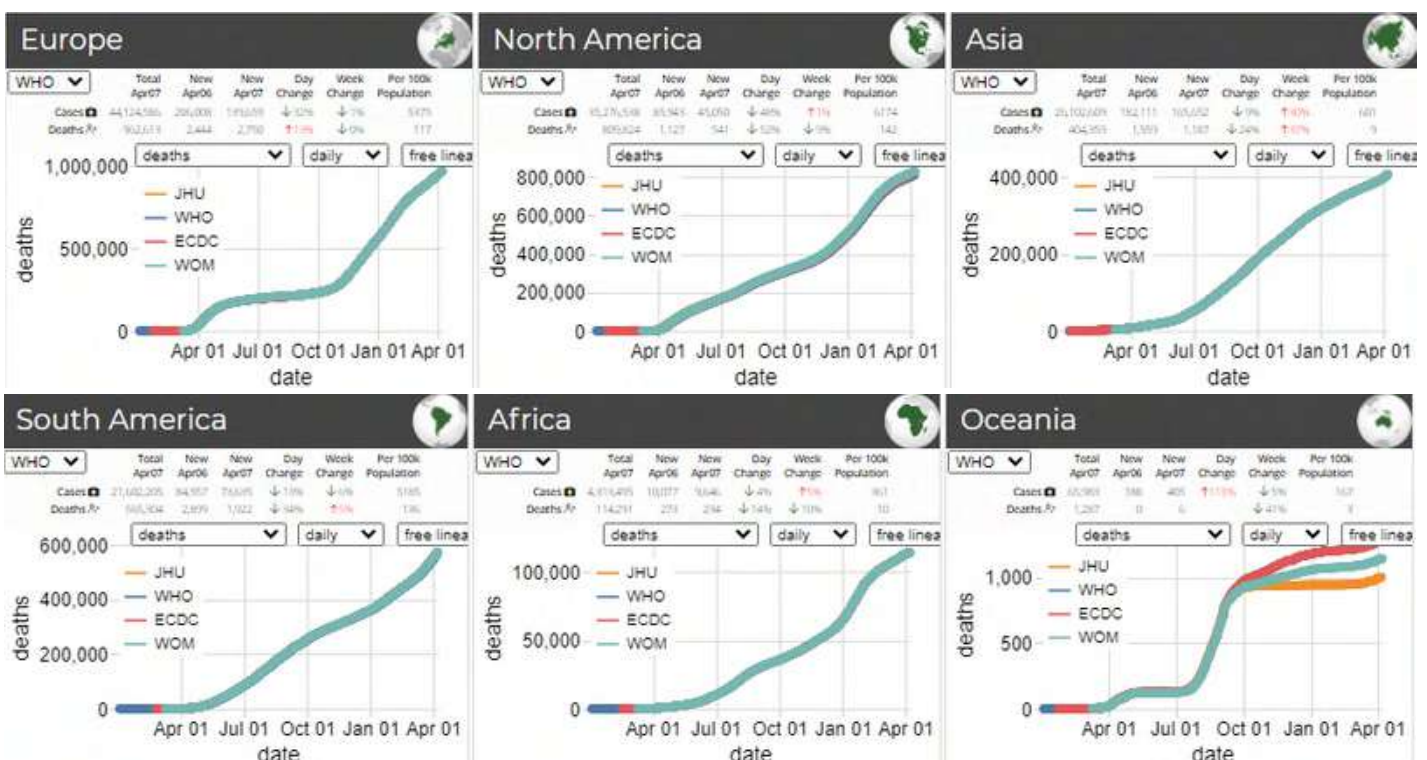
OVERVIEW OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC



Worldwide cases compared trends



Worldwide deaths compared trends





AFRICA NEWS ON CBRNE EVENTS

This section gathers news collected from sources related to the African continent, including sub-saharian and southern regions. The section is organized in four areas:

- chemical
- biological
- radiological and nuclear
- explosives

News are proposed in chronological order.





CHEMICAL



Morocco/Nigeria

Chemical Plant

Event – NSIA, OCP of Morocco, others sign \$1.4bn landmark agreement for ammonia, diammonium phosphate plant.

Summary – The Nigeria Sovereign Investment Authority (NSIA), the Office Chérifien des Phosphates (OCP) of Morocco, Akwa Ibom State and key operators in the oil and gas value chain this week executed crucial agreements at the Mohamed VI Polytechnic University (UM6P) in Benguerir, Morocco.

Source: <https://www.independent.ng/nsia-ocp-of-morocco-others-sign-1-4bn-landmark-agreement-for-ammonia-diammonium-phosphate-plant/>

Reported: 05/03/2021

Morocco/Nigeria

Fertilizer Plant

Event – Nigeria, Morocco to build \$1.3bn fertilizer plant.

Summary – President Muhammadu Buhari in Abuja said a new basic chemicals platform worth \$1.3b that will produce ammonia and fertilizers.

Source: <https://www.pmnewsnigeria.com/2021/03/25/nigeria-morocco-to-build-1-3bn-fertilizer-plant-buhari/>

Reported: 24/03/2021



BIOLOGICAL



Egypt/Taiwan

Herbicides

Event – Taiwan destroys more than 280 kg of TWG chamomile tea from Egypt.

Summary – Customs intercepted 287 kilograms of TWG brand name chamomile tea originating in Egypt and destroyed them due to excessive levels of herbicides, reports said.

Source: <https://www.taiwannews.com.tw/en/news/4140072>

Reported: 02/03/2021

Kenya

Rift Valley fever

Event – Outbreak update.

Summary – Rift Valley fever (RVF) in humans has been reported in Isiolo and Mandera counties and in animals in Isiolo, Mandera, Murang'a and Garissa counties. Other deaths with symptoms such as fevers, joint pains, headache and general malaise were also reported in Gafarsa and Erisaboru locations within Garbatulla subcounty as well as Korbasa in Merti subcounty. A confirmed case of RVF in Madera county reported end of December has since died; he was involved in the slaughter of four sick camels. All the affected cases were males age ranging from 13 to 70 years. There are a 32 total cases reported, of which 14 are confirmed and 11 deaths.

Source: <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/340188/OEW11-0814032021.pdf>

Reported: 02/03/2021

Africa

Ebola Virus Disease

Event – Countering outbreak agreement.

Summary – Ministers of Health from Guinea – which is combating a new Ebola outbreak – and neighbouring countries have agreed on a unified front to combat the virus. The meeting was opened by His Excellency, the Prime Minister of Guinea, Dr. Ibrahima Kassory Fofana in Guinea's capital, Conakry. Ministers and government representatives from Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Senegal and Sierra Leone attended the inter-ministerial meeting.

Source: <https://www.afro.who.int/news/west-african-health-ministers-joint-fight-against-ebola>

Reported: 03/03/2021



BIOLOGICAL



Ghana

COVID-19

Event – Delivery of Coronavirus vaccines by Drone.

Summary – Ghana has become the first country to launch a nationwide programme to deliver Coronavirus vaccines with drones.

Source: <https://www.businessinsider.co.za/covid-vaccine-ghana-drones-covax-who-coronavirus-zipline-rural-communities-2021-3>

Reported: 05/03/2021

Democratic Republic of Congo

Ebola Virus

Event – Outbreak update.

Summary – WHO reported a cumulative total of 12 cases (11 confirmed and one probable) and 5 deaths (case fatality ratio 45.5%). Two health workers have been infected, 16.6% of all cases. Two confirmed EVD cases are still undergoing treatment at the Katwa Treatment Centre, while 34 suspect cases are being closely monitored in isolation health facilities. Four cases have recovered from EVD and been discharged from the Ebola Treatment Centre since the start of the epidemic.

Source: <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/340188/OEW11-0814032021.pdf>
Reported: 14/03/2021

Nigeria

Lassa Fever Disease

Event – Outbreak update.

Summary – The Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) reported 30 confirmed Lassa fever cases, bringing the country total to 191 for the year to date. These were reported from seven States (Edo, Ondo, Kaduna, Taraba, Ebonyi, Plateau and Bauchi). Officials also reported six deaths.

Source: <https://ncdc.gov.ng/reports/weekly>
Reported: 21/03/2021



BIOLOGICAL



Ivory Coast

Human African Trypanosomiasis

Event – Ivory Coast eradicates sleeping sickness.

Summary – The World Health Organization declare the West African country has successfully eliminated human African trypanosomiasis, also known as sleeping sickness, as a public health problem, becoming the second African country after Togo to be validated by the health agency.

Source: <https://reliefweb.int/report/c-te-divoire/who-validates-cote-d-ivoire-eliminating-sleeping-sickness-public-health-problem>

Reported: 25/03/2021

Guinea

Ebola Virus Disease

Event – Outbreak update.

Summary – A total of 18 cases have been reported, including 14 confirmed cases, of which 9 have recovered, and five are dead. Nine deaths have been reported in total (case fatality ratio 50.0%). Currently, only one health area, Gouecke, remains active (reporting at least one confirmed case in the past 21 days) out of the three health districts affected (Gouecke, Nzerekore Centre and Samoe). Five health workers are among the confirmed cases.

Source: <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/340520/OEW13-2228032021.pdf>

Reported: 28/03/2021

Democratic Republic of Congo

Ebola Virus Disease

Event – Outbreak update.

Summary – There has been no new confirmed case of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in North Kivu for 26 consecutive days. Since the start of the outbreak there have been 11 confirmed cases, with one probable case and six deaths (case fatality ratio 50.0%). Two health workers have been infected, accounting for 16.6% of cases. The search for 12 lost contacts and 33 contacts who have never been seen, who are within their 42 days of follow up, continues. A total of 480 alerts have been reported to date. Of these, 57 were validated as suspected cases of EVD. There are currently no confirmed cases in Ebola treatment centres and 33 suspected patients are being followed in isolation in health facilities.

Source: <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/340520/OEW13-2228032021.pdf>

Reported: 28/03/2021



BIOLOGICAL



Kenya

Leishmaniasis

Event – Outbreak update.

Summary – A total of 542 visceral leishmaniasis confirmed cases with eight deaths (CFR 1.5%), have been reported in seven counties namely: Marsabit, Garissa, Kitui, Baringo, West Pokot, Mandera and Wajir. The outbreak is active in three counties, West Pokot, Mandera and Wajir.

Source: <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/340520/OEW13-2228032021.pdf>
Reported: 28/03/2021

Nigeria

Lassa Fever Disease

Event – Outbreak update.

Summary – Thirty-two new cases were reported from eight states. Most (14) of the new cases were reported from Ondo State. Of the 14 states affected to date, Edo (97), Ondo (59), and Taraba (18) states accounts for 85% of all confirmed cases reported to date.

Source: <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/340520/OEW13-2228032021.pdf>
Reported: 28/03/2021

Nigeria

Avian Influenza

Event – Outbreak update.

Summary – A total of seven confirmed cases with no deaths have been reported in two States (Plateau and Kano). Forty-five samples were collected from bird handlers who had contact with confirmed positive and suspected birds in Kano and Plateau States, of which seven tested positive at the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control National Reference Laboratory for influenza A - Kano (4) and Plateau (3).

Source: <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/340520/OEW13-2228032021.pdf>
Reported: 29/03/2021

Egypt/Russia

Nuclear Cooperation

Event – Joint Egyptian - Russian delegation had reviewed construction progress last month.

Summary – Egypt's first nuclear power plant project will witness a significant breakthrough this year, Russia's Rosatom State Atomic Corporation said.

Source:

https://www.zawya.com/mena/en/projects/story/PROJECTS_Significant_breakthrough_expected_in_Egypt's_first_nuclear_power_project_in_2021-ZAWYA20210304085615/

Reported: 04/03/2021



RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR



Egypt/South Korea

Nuclear Cooperation

Event – Egypt's Petrojet inks teaming deal with Korean nuclear companies.

Summary – Petrojet - an Egyptian petroleum sector company - is boosting cooperation with South Korean companies including Korea Hydro & Nuclear Power (KHNP), Kepco E&C, Hyundai E&C and Doosan Heavy Industries & Construction to participate in Egypt's first nuclear power plant project.

Source: <https://www.utilities-me.com/news/16979-egypts-petrojet-inks-teaming-deal-with-korean-nuclear-companies>

Reported: 22/03/2021

Morocco

Nuclear

Event – Morocco inaugurates first national center for nuclear science.

Summary – The Moroccan Minister of Energy, Mines, and the Environment, Aziz Rabbah, inaugurated Morocco's first national Training Center in Nuclear Science and Technology.

Source: <https://www.moroccoworldnews.com/2021/03/338401/morocco-inaugurates-first-national-center-for-nuclear-science/>

Reported: 28/03/2021

Morocco

Nuclear Development

Event – Morocco launches new nuclear training centre.

Summary – Morocco's Minister of Energy, Mines and the Environment, Aziz Rabbah, on 23 March inaugurated Morocco's first national Training Centre in Nuclear Science and Technology as an extension of the National Centre for Nuclear Energy, Sciences and Techniques (CNESTEN) in Maamora, near Rabat. The new centre aims to equip Morocco's nuclear scientists with the necessary skills to be qualified to safely and sustainably use nuclear techniques. It also seeks to strengthen regional capacities in Africa in the field of nuclear sciences and related technologies, within the framework of international and regional cooperation programmes.

Source: <https://www.neimagazine.com/news/newsmorocco-launches-new-nuclear-training-centre-8635289>

Reported: 30/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



Nigeria

IIDs

Event – Police Station hit by incendiary devices.

Summary – Armed men have attacked the Iboko Divisional Police Station in Izzi local government of Ebonyi State; Improvised Incendiary Devices were thrown at the station affecting a small part of the building.

Source: <https://thenationonlineng.net/gunmen-attack-another-police-station-in-ebonyi/>
Reported: 01/03/2021

Burkina Faso

Roadside IED

Event – Ambulance targeting kills 6 people.

Summary – 6 people, including a pregnant, were killed by the blast of a roadside Improvised Explosive Device to the passage of an ambulance in the vicinity of the city of Gaskindé, in the Sahel region, north of the Country.

Source: <https://www.notimerica.com/politica/noticia-burkina-faso-mueren-seis-personas-explosion-bomba-paso-ambulancia-norte-burkina-faso-20210303082915.html>
Reported: 03/03/2021

Somalia

VBIED

Event – 20 killed and 30 wounded.

Summary – Twenty people were killed and thirty were wounded by the blast of a suicide car bomb just outside the Luul Yemeni restaurant, near the port in Somalia's capital Mogadishu.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-somalia-violence/at-least-20-killed-by-suicide-car-bomb-near-restaurant-in-somalia-capital-idUSKCN2AX28U>
Reported: 05/03/2021

Sudan

IED

Event – 2 prisoners injured by blast.

Summary – Improvised explosive device went off in Al-Janina prison in western Darfur state, killing two guests, meanwhile three suspects tried to cause the escape of Karndianak camp.

Source: <http://www.sudanile.com/index.php/135535->
Reported: 09/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



South Africa

IID

Event – Homes destroyed by incendiary device.

Summary – 42 people have been displaced after a fire, sparked by an Improvised Incendiary Device thrown at the structures, destroyed their homes in Paarl.

Source: <https://ewn.co.za/2021/03/13/42-people-in-paarl-displaced-after-fire-destroys-homes>

Reported: 13/03/2021

Kenya

Roadside IED

Event – Several killed and wounded by bus targeting.

Summary – Four passengers were killed and dozens were wounded as a roadside Improvised Explosive Device hit a bus on a main road in the northern county of Mandera.

Source: <https://www.taiwannews.com.tw/en/news/4159548>

Reported: 24/03/2021

Nigeria

IED

Event – Sabotage attack hits 2 transmission towers.

Summary – Total blackout looms in Maiduguri metropolitan area, Jere Local Government Area and its environs in Borno state following another fresh bombing of two transmission towers along Maiduguri- Damaturu road.

Source: <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2021/03/again-total-blackout-looms-in-maiduguri-as-boko-haram-bomb-two-transmission-towers/>

Reported: 27/03/2021

Nigeria

IED

Event – Voters and electoral staff targeted.

Summary – Staff of the Independent National Electoral Commission and voters scammed for safety when an explosion rocked the Umuola Hall, Aba North Council in Abia State, ready for Federal Constituency seat.

Source: <https://punchng.com/explosion-disrupts-voting-in-abia-bye-election/>

Reported: 27/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES

South Africa

IID

Event – Municipal offices hit by incendiary devices.

Summary – Two Improvised Incendiary Devices were thrown at the municipal offices of the ZF Mgcawu District Municipality in Upington.

Source: <https://www.iol.co.za/news/south-africa/northern-cape/petrol-bombs-thrown-at-municipal-office-in-upington-b27571d4-a955-415f-937a-416065d64286>

Reported: 28/03/2021

Somalia

Roadside IED

Event – 5 killed while undermining explosive device.

Summary – Five people were killed in the Daynile area of Mogadishu while undermining a roadside Improvised Explosive Device planted to target a senior military official.

Source: <https://tass.ru/proisshestviya/11016851>

Reported: 29/03/2021

Lybia

Landmine Clearance

Event – Africa Intelligence: UN to appoint companies in clearance of land mines in Libya.

Summary – The 'Africa Intelligence' website said that the United Nations will appoint private companies for the purpose of removal of land mines, planted by Wagner mercenaries from Tripoli and the surrounding areas, which they set as they fled the areas.

Source: <https://www.libyaobserver.ly/inbrief/africa-intelligence-un-appoint-companies-clearance-land-mines-libya>

Reported: 30/03/2021



ASIA NEWS ON CBRNE EVENTS

This section gathers news collected from sources related to the Asian continent, including the Middle East region, proposed in chronological order. The section is organized in four sections, according to news availability:

- chemical
- biological
- radiological and nuclear
- explosives





CHEMICALS



Saudi Arabia

Chemical Exports

Event – Saudi Arabia leads Arab countries in chemical exports.

Summary – A recent report revealed that Saudi chemical industry exports are the highest in the Arab world. Experts also affirmed that the kingdom is considered a global leader in the field of manufacturing industries.

Source: <https://english.aawsat.com/home/article/2834521/saudi-arabia-leads-arab-countries-chemical-exports>

Reported: 01/03/2021

Syria

Chemical Weapons Investigation

Event – NGOs urge France to investigate chemical weapons use in Syria.

Summary – Human rights organizations have filed a complaint in a court in Paris against the Syrian government of President Bashar Al-Assad. They accuse him of being responsible for war crimes and crimes against humanity through the use of chemical weapons.

Source: <https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20210302-ngos-urge-france-to-investigate-chemical-weapons-use-in-syria/>

Reported: 02/03/2021

Syria/United Kingdom

Chemical Weapons

Event – Pursuing the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme.

Summary – Statement by Sonia Farrey, UK Political Coordinator at the UN, at the Security Council briefing on Syria Chemical Weapons

Source: <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pursuing-the-elimination-of-the-syrian-chemical-weapons-programme>

Reported: 04/03/2021

China

Infectious Diseases Vaccines

Event – China to develop vaccines against major infectious diseases - 2021-2025 plan.

Summary – China pledges to develop vaccines to cope with major infectious disease, part of its flurry of efforts to boost the competitiveness of its manufacturing sector, the government said on Friday in its development plan for 2021-2025.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-parliament-health-fiveyear/china-to-develop-vaccines-against-major-infectious-diseases-2021-2025-plan-idUSKCN2AX07P>

Reported: 05/03/2021



CHEMICALS



China/Canada

Toxic Face Mask

Event – Potentially toxic masks distributed in schools and daycares in Quebec.

Summary – Health Canada warned of the potential for "early pulmonary toxicity" from the SNN200642 masks which are made in China and sold and distributed by Métallifer, a Quebec-based manufacturer.

Source: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/masks-early-pulmonary-toxicity-quebec-schools-daycares-1.5966387>

Reported: 26/03/2021

China/Ghana

Toxic tea

Event – National Security warns Chinese Tea 'ACHOURA' contains toxic chemicals.

Summary – A document from Ghana's National Security Minister, Honourable Albert Kan-Dapaah is cautioning the general public against the use of Chinese ACHOURA Green Tea labeling it as "unwholesome".

Source: <https://focalreport.org/burkinabe-authorities-warn-against-toxic-chinese-achoura-green-tea/>

Reported: 26/03/2021



BIOLOGICAL



China

Swine Fever

Event – China confirms swine fever in piglets in Yunnan province.

Summary – An outbreak of African swine fever has been confirmed in piglets being illegally transported through Funing county in China's southwestern province of Yunnan, the farm ministry said.

Source: <https://www.nasdaq.com/articles/china-confirms-swine-fever-in-piglets-in-yunnan-province-2021-03-02>

Reported: 02/03/2021

China

WHO Inspections

Event – WHO says report on China mission on COVID-19 origins due in mid-March.

Summary – The findings of a WHO-led mission to Wuhan, China to investigate the origins of the virus that causes COVID-19 are expected in mid-March, the World Health Organization said.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-who-china-wuhan/who-says-report-on-china-mission-on-covid-19-origins-due-in-mid-march-idUSKBN2AX20J>

Reported: 05/03/2021



RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR



Iran

Nuclear Deal

Event – Iran says 'time not ripe' for talks on nuclear deal.

Summary – Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman, Saeed Khatibzadeh, says "the time is not ripe" for an unofficial meeting proposed by Josep Borrell, EU foreign affairs chief and coordinator of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). His statement follows Iran's commencement last week of restrictions on some site inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Iran-says-time-not-ripe-for-talks-on-nuclear-deal>

Reported: 01/03/2021

China

Nuclear Development

Event – China on course to lead in nuclear by 2030, says IEA.

Summary – China will have the world's largest nuclear power fleet within a decade, while most of the units in longstanding nuclear regions - Japan, the European Union and the USA - are facing the end of their original 40-year design lifetime, Brent Wanner, lead of World Energy Outlook Power Sector Modelling & Analysis at the International Energy Agency, said.

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/China-on-course-to-lead-in-nuclear-by-2030-says-IEA>

Reported: 03/03/2021

China

Nuclear Development

Event – TVEL unit launches CFR-600 fuel production site.

Summary – China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC) announced that construction work had started on the second CFR-600 sodium-cooled pool-type fast-neutron nuclear reactor. Located in Xiapu County, in China's Fujian province, the Xiapu fast reactor demonstration project is part of China's plan to achieve a closed nuclear fuel cycle.

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/TVEL-unit-launches-CFR-600-fuel-manufacturing-site>

Reported: 03/03/2021



RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR



Iran

Nuclear Deal

Event – Iran will soon offer ‘constructive’ plan on nuclear negotiations.

Summary – Iran will soon present a “constructive” plan of action, Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif said, after European sources said Tehran gave positive signs about opening informal talks about its nuclear program.

Source: <https://www.algemeiner.com/2021/03/05/zarif-iran-will-soon-offer-constructive-plan-on-nuclear-negotiations/>

Reported: 05/03/2021

China

Nuclear Development

Event – China's installed capacity of nuclear power to reach 70m KW.

Summary – China's installed capacity of nuclear power will reach 70 million kilowatts, according to the draft outline of the 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-2025) for national economic and social development and the long-range objectives through the year 2035 on March 5.

Source:

<https://www.publicnow.com/view/C834AE91E8EA0A8B00BC6D8723C651F137998D0C>

Reported: 05/03/2021

United Arab Emirates

Nuclear Development

Event – Fuel loading under way at Barakah 2.

Summary – The process of loading 241 fuel assemblies into the core of unit 2 at the Barakah nuclear power plant in the UAE has begun, operator Nawah Energy Company has announced. The move follows the issuance by the Federal Authority for Nuclear Regulation of the operating licence for the second of four Korean-designed APR1400 units at the site.

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Fuel-loading-under-way-at-Barakah-2>

Reported: 15/03/2021



RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR



Egypt/Russia

Nuclear Fuel Components

Event – Russian TVEL contracts supplies of nuclear fuel components for research reactor in Egypt.

Summary – Novosibirsk Chemical Concentrates Plant (NCCP, an enterprise of TVEL Fuel Company) and the Egyptian Atomic Energy Agency (EAEA) signed the contractual documents for supplies of another batch of the low-enriched fuel components to Egypt in 2021.

Source: <https://neftegazru.com/news/nuclear-power/671235-russian-tvel-contracts-supplies-of-nuclear-fuel-components-for-research-reactor-in-egypt/>

Reported: 16/03/2021

Morocco

Radiotherapy Course

Event – IAEA conducts cervical cancer radiotherapy educational sessions for Morocco.

Summary – The International Atomic Energy Agency concluded a virtual educational session to help increase access to life-saving radiotherapy to support the treatment of cervical cancer in Morocco.

Source: <https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/iaea-conducts-cervical-cancer-radiotherapy-educational-sessions-for-morocco>

Reported: 16/03/2021

Israel/USA

Nuclear Monitor

Event – Israel-USA to set up joint team to share intel on Iran's nuclear program.

Summary – Israeli and US officials agreed to set up a joint team for sharing intelligence about Iran's nuclear program during recent strategic talks, according to a report.

Source: <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israeli-officials-said-pleased-with-talks-with-us-on-iran-nuclear-program/>

Reported: 17/03/2021



RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR



China/Pakistan

Nuclear Cooperation

Event – Pakistan's China-built nuclear reactor starts operation.

Summary – Pakistan has connected its new Chinese-built nuclear power plant, with an installed capacity of 1,100 megawatts, to the national grid.

Source: <https://www.voanews.com/south-central-asia/pakistans-china-built-nuclear-reactor-starts-operation>

Reported: 19/03/2021

Iran

Nuclear Technology

Event – IAEA: Iran enriching uranium with new advanced machine type at underground plant.

Summary – Iran has started enriching uranium at its underground Natanz plant with a second type of advanced centrifuge, the IR-4. Iran has recently accelerated its breaches of the deal's restrictions on its nuclear activities. Last year Iran started moving three cascades, or clusters, of different advanced models of centrifuge from an above-ground plant at Natanz to its below-ground Fuel Enrichment Plant (FEP)

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/article/iran-nuclear-iaea-int-idUSKBN2B82YP>

Reported: 20/03/2021

China/USA

Nuclear Shipment

Event – US nuclear completes \$256,626 shipment to China, signs new agreement with China National Nuclear Corporation subsidiary.

Summary – US Nuclear Corp. recently completed a shipment to China of USN'S popular tritium and carbon-14 air samplers as well as portable tritium monitors worth a total of \$256,626.

Source: <https://www.globenewswire.com/news-release/2021/03/22/2196899/0/en/US-Nuclear-Completes-256-626-Shipment-to-China-Signs-New-Agreement-With-CNNC-Subsidiary.html>

Reported: 22/03/2021



RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR



UAE

Nuclear Development

Event – UAE begins testing Barakah nuclear power plant: Operator.

Summary – The United Arab Emirates's Barakah nuclear power plant testing will begin after the fuel load was completed at the second unit, as part of the process to start up the reactor, the operator said on Twitter.

Source: <https://english.alarabiya.net/business/energy/2021/03/23/Nuclear-UAE-begins-testing-Barakah-nuclear-power-plant-Operator>

Reported: 23/03/2021

Iran/Saudi Arabia

Nuclear Deal

Event – Ex-Iran President supports inclusion of Saudi in fresh nuclear talks.

Summary – Former Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said there is no problem in involving the Gulf nations, including Saudi Arabia, in nuclear deal discussions.

Source: <https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20210323-ex-iran-president-supports-inclusion-of-saudi-in-fresh-nuclear-talks/>

Reported: 23/03/2021

China

Nuclear Development

Event – China nuclear reprocessing to create stockpiles of weapons-level materials.

Summary – China's push to develop fuel for a new generation of nuclear power reactors will produce large amounts of materials that could be diverted to making nuclear weapons, non-proliferation experts said.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/article/usa-china-nuclear-plutonium-idAFL1N2LN1IH>

Reported: 25/03/2021



RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR



China

Nuclear Safety

Event – China sets up nuclear safety committee to boost 2060 carbon neutral efforts.

Summary – China has set up a national nuclear safety standardization technical committee, as it aims to increase use of nuclear power under its efforts to be carbon neutral by 2060.

Source: <https://www.scmp.com/news/china/politics/article/3126984/china-sets-nuclear-safety-committee-boost-2060-carbon-neutral>

Reported: 25/03/2021

Lebanon

Radioactive Material

Event – Lebanon Prime Minister warns of 'dangerous nuclear chemicals' in oil facility.

Summary – A German company has found dangerous nuclear material stored in an oil facility in southern Lebanon, officials said.

Source: https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/radioactive-material-found-inside-oil-facility-in-lebanon/2021/03/26/24eb55f4-8e5c-11eb-a33e-da28941cb9ac_story.html

Reported: 26/03/2021

China

Nuclear Development

Event – Construction permit issued for second phase of Changjiang plant.

Summary – China's National Nuclear Safety Administration issued a construction licence to China Huaneng Group for units 3 and 4 at the Changjiang nuclear power plant in Hainan province. The Hualong One units will be the first large pressurised water reactor project in which Huaneng will hold a controlling stake.

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Construction-permit-for-second-phase-of-Changjiang>

Reported: 31/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



Syria

IED

Event – 8 citizens including children and women injured.

Summary – Eight citizens, including children and women, were injured during a child's play by the blast of an Improvised Explosive Device near the industrial city of Sheikh Najar northeast of Aleppo.

Source: www.sana.sy/?p=1326941

Reported: 01/03/2021

India

IED

Event – 2 killed and 2 others critically injured.

Summary – Two killed and two others were critically injured by the blast of an Improvised Explosive Device in a playground in Bihar's Khagaria district near the Gogri police station area.

Source: [https://www.ibtimes.co.in/two-dead-two-others-injured-after-explosion-bihars-khagaria-reports-833728?](https://www.ibtimes.co.in/two-dead-two-others-injured-after-explosion-bihars-khagaria-reports-833728?utm_source=Internal&utm_medium=Homepage&utm_campaign=block1-2)

[utm_source=Internal&utm_medium=Homepage&utm_campaign=block1-2](https://www.ibtimes.co.in/two-dead-two-others-injured-after-explosion-bihars-khagaria-reports-833728?utm_source=Internal&utm_medium=Homepage&utm_campaign=block1-2)

Reported: 01/03/2021

Lebanon

UXO

Event – Citizen injured in Abu Samra's olive field.

Summary – Citizen was injured in his hand by the blast of an unexploded ordnance while cleaning and bursting weeds inside a land near Al-Hariri's graves in Zinoun Abu Samra region in Tripoli.

Source: <https://www.annahar.com/arabic/section/77-01032021014818210/>

Reported: 01/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



Iraq

Roadside IED

Event – American military convoy hit.

Summary – American military logistical support convoy was hit by the blast of a roadside Improvised Explosive Device in southern Baghdad.

Source: <https://www.mizanonline.com/fa/news/706489/>

Reported: 02/03/2021

Syria

IED

Event – Public tourist car targeted.

Summary – Improvised Explosive Device hidden in a public tourist car opposite Al-Jumhuriya club in central Dar'a city went off after the car moved, causing material damages without causing human injuries.

Source: <http://www.sana.sy/?p=1326679>

Reported: 02/03/2021

Iraq

Roadside IED

Event – Convoy of US coalition targeted.

Summary – Roadside Improvised Explosive Device went off targeting an international coalition logistic support convoy on Abu Ghraib road in Baghdad without causing any human injuries.

Source: <http://www.sana.sy/?p=1328959>

Reported: 03/03/2021

Iraq

IED

Event – 3 SWAT members injured.

Summary – Three SWAT members were injured by the blast of an Improvised Explosive Device targeting their patrol near Hamrin mountains, northeast of Tikrit.

Source: <https://hathalyoum.net/articles/2637255-انفجار-يستهدف-القوات-العراقية-في-صلاح-الدين>

Reported: 03/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



Afghanistan

IED

Event – Police officer killed and another wounded.

Summary – Police officer was killed and another was wounded by the blast of an Improvised Explosive Device that targeted the police officer's private vehicle in Helmand, PD3 of Lashkargah city.

Source: <https://tolonews.com/index.php/afghanistan-170416>

Reported: 03/03/2021

Syria

IED

Event – Person killed and 3 others injured.

Summary – One person was killed and three others were injured in the Halab countryside, Ginderes region of the Syrian province of Aleppo, by the blast of an Improvised Explosive Device hidden in a car.

Source: <https://hathalyoum.net/articles/2637291-قتيل-وجرحى-بانفجار-سيارة-في-ريف->

Reported: 03/03/2021

Nepal

IED

Event – Under-construction factory building damaged.

Summary – A pressure cooker Improvised Explosive Device went off at Hulas Steel and Industries Pvt Ltd, targeting an under-construction factory building in Bahuarwabhata of Bindbasini Rural Municipality.

Source: <https://thehimalayantimes.com/nepal/explosive-device-goes-off-at-hulas-steel>

Reported: 03/03/2021

Iraq

Low Energy IED

Event – Liquor store targeted by explosion.

Summary – Low Energy Improvised Explosive Device went off targeting a liquor store in the Cairo district of the capital Baghdad.

Source: <http://www.sotaliraq.com/2021/03/03/سماع-دوي-انفجار-في-العاصمة-بغداد/>

Reported: 03/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



Iraq

Roadside IED

Event – Army Commander survived targeting.

Summary – Commander of the army's Fifth Division survived to the blast of an Improvised Explosive Device northeast of Diyala, while passing with a vehicle near the Zor Sheikh Baba area at the outskirts of Jalulaa.

Source: <https://mangish.net/نجاة-قائد-عسكري-من-محاولة-اغتيال-في-ديا/>

Reported: 04/03/2021

Afghanistan

Sticky IED

Event – Female doctor killed.

Summary – Female doctor, working for the maternity ward of the provincial hospital, was killed in Jalalabad as a sticky Improvised Explosive Device went off targeting a rickshaw she was traveling in.

Source: <https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2021/mar/4/afghan-offical-says-gunmen-kill-7-workers-bomb-kil/>

Reported: 04/03/2021

India

PPIED

Event – 3 Special Forces killed and 3 others injured.

Summary – Head constables and their colleagues from the 11th battalion of Jharkhand Jaguar, in the forests of west Singhbhum district, stepped on a pressure plate explosive device killing all three and injuring three others.

Source: <https://www.news18.com/news/india/pressure-bomb-kills-three-injures-at-least-three-of-jharkhand-special-forces-at-the-naxal-affected-area-3498914.html>

Reported: 04/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



Yemen

Roadside IED

Event – 3 Yemen southern forces killed.

Summary – Roadside Improvised Explosive Device killed three people and left several others injured in Yemen's Aden city; the roadside device struck a convoy of vehicles belonging to Yemen's main separatist forces.

Source: <https://www.news24.com/news24/World/News/roadside-bomb-attack-on-yemen-separatist-forces-kills-three-20210304>

Reported: 04/03/2021

Syria

Motorcycle IED

Event – 2 QSD militants killed and another injured.

Summary – Motorcycle Improvised Explosive Device targeted a car carrying QSD militants, including a leader, near a fuel station in Twirish village of Hasaka countryside; two militants were killed and another was injured.

Source: <https://sana.sy/en/?p=224904>

Reported: 04/03/2021

Pakistan

Roadside IED

Event – 5 construction workers killed.

Summary – Vehicle carrying Pakistani construction workers hit a roadside IED in a remote area in southwestern Baluchistan province, killing five workers and wounding two soldiers who were escorting them.

Source: <https://www.taiwannews.com.tw/en/news/4143456>

Reported: 05/03/2021

India

Grenade

Event – Bazar targeted by grenade.

Summary – Militants hurled a grenade on police post at Urdu Bazar in Fateh Kadal area of Srinagar, missing the intended target; no damage was reported in the incident.

Source: http://www.risingkashmir.com/home/news_description/373256/Grenade-hurled-in-Sgr-no-damage

Reported: 05/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



Syria

Car IED

Event – Afrin's city center hit.

Summary – Car Improvised Explosive Device went off near the city center of Afrin, located approximately 40 km northwest of Aleppo city, Aleppo Governorate.

Source: <https://www.garda.com/crisis24/news-alerts/451791/syria-suspected-car-bomb-explosion-in-afrin-march-6>

Reported: 06/03/2021

Yemen

UAS IED

Event – Soldier killed and 12 others wounded.

Summary – Soldier was killed and twelve others were wounded by the blast of an explosive-laden drone targeting a military training camp in Al-Shamayteen district, countryside of Taiz governorate, central Yemen.

Source: <https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/yemen-13-soldiers-killed-and-wounded-in-a-drone-attack-in-taiz-1.1573198>

Reported: 06/03/2021

Syria

IED

Event – 3 children wounded while playing.

Summary – Improvised Explosive Device placed in an empty plastic box went off with children playing near the Khirbat roundabout, at the entrance to the eastern city of Dar'a, wounding three of them.

Source: <http://www.sana.sy/?p=1330512>

Reported: 06/03/2021

Afghanistan

IED

Event – Local elder killed in Jalalabad.

Summary – Malik Hashim, local elder and representative of people in Municipality District 7, was killed by the blast of an IED targeting his vehicle in Zangal Bagh locality of Jalalabad city, capital of Nangarhar province.

Source: <http://english.sina.com/world/as/2021-03-06/detail-ikknscsh8678637.shtml>

Reported: 06/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



Afghanistan

VBIED

Event – NIA's attorney killed.

Summary – Suicide car bomb killed Mahmood Sadat, an attorney of provincial Directorate of National Intelligence Agency, and one of his bodyguards in Helmand's provincial capital Lashkar Gah.

Source: <http://english.sina.com/world/as/2021-03-06/detail-ikknscsh8678637.shtml>

Reported: 06/03/2021

India

IED

Event – Six BJP activists injured.

Summary – Six BJP activists were injured, two of them critically, by an Improvised Explosive Device attack driven by the rival TMC workers in Gosaba area, West Bengal's South 24 Parganas district.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/six-bjp-activists-injured-in-bomb-attack-in-bengal/article34004949.ece>

Reported: 06/03/2021

Syria

Motorcycle IED

Event – 2 militants killed and several injured.

Summary – Motorcycle Improvised Explosive Device went off near one of the check-points in Salhiya village, Ras al-Ayn southern countryside, killing two militants and injuring several others.

Source: <http://www.sana.sy/en/?p=225237>

Reported: 07/03/2021

Syria

IED

Event – Person killed and 6 others injured.

Summary – One person was killed and six others were injured by the blast of an Improvised Explosive Device thrown into an electronics store in the Zahra district of Aleppo city.

Source: <https://www.enabbaladi.net/archives/464109>

Reported: 07/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES

Syria

UXO

Event – 18 killed and 2 others injured.

Summary – Eighteen people were killed and two were injured by the blast of a powerful unexploded ordnance hitting a car carrying about twentytwo agricultural workers in the central Syrian town of Hama.

Source: <https://mangish.net/مصرع-18-شخصا-بينهم-9-من-أسرة-واحدة-بانفجار>

Reported: 07/03/2021

Afghanistan

IED

Event – Person killed and 4 others injured.

Summary – One person was killed and four others were injured by the blast of an Improvised Explosive Device in Kabul's Police District PD9.

Source: <https://www.garda.com/crisis24/news-alerts/451976/afghanistan-an-explosion-in-police-district-9-kabul-march-7>

Reported: 07/03/2021

Iraq

Roadside IED

Event – Several local buildings damaged.

Summary – Roadside Improvised Explosive Device went off in front of a house in Sadr City, east of Baghdad; the blast did not cause any casualties and only damaged several local buildings.

Source: <https://en.mehrnews.com/news/170794/2-bombs-blast-in-Baghdad>

Reported: 07/03/2021

Iraq

L.E. IED

Event – Popular café targeted.

Summary – Improvised low-explosive device targeting a popular café in sector 44 of Sadr City, east of Baghdad, exploded with no injuries.

Source: <https://hathalyoum.net/articles/2640296-انفجاران-احدهما-استهدف-مقهى-شعبي-في>

Reported: 07/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES

Iraq

Roadside IED

Event – 7 policemen injured.

Summary – Roadside Improvised Explosive Device went off as a patrol of the Iraqi Federal Police of the Interior was passing in the Abu Khangr valley, west of Kirkuk province, injuring seven policemen.

Source: <https://hathalyoum.net/articles/2641789-إصابة-7-عناصر-من-الشرطة-بانفجار-عبوة-ناسفة-في>

Reported: 08/03/2021

Yemen

UXO

Event – Citizen injured by cluster bomb.

Summary – Yemeni citizen was injured by the explosion of an unexploded cluster bomb in Giza district, Yemeni governorate of Sa'da.

Source: <https://www.almanar.com.lb/7940638>

Reported: 08/03/2021

Iraq

IED

Event – 3 people injured on the bridge.

Summary – Three people were injured on the al-Imams bridge, that links Al-Azamiya and Al-Kazimiyah in Baghdad, by the blast of an Improvised Explosive Device wrapped in a bag and placed beside the pavement.

Source: <https://mustaqila.com/انفجار-يهز-جسر-الأئمة-في-بغداد>

Reported: 08/03/2021

Iraq

IED

Event – Municipal palace's courtyard targeted.

Summary – Improvised Explosive Device went off near the house of the 36-year-old citizen in Al-Senyaa market, Dhi Qar governorate, south of Al-Nasiriya.

Source: <https://hathalyoum.net/articles/2642218-انفجار-يستهدف-منزل-مواطن-في-ذي-السنيا>

Reported: 09/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



Lebanon

L.E. IED

Event – Municipal palace's courtyard targeted.

Summary – Improvised low-explosive device was thrown at the courtyard of the municipal palace in Tripoli port causing light damages.

Source: <https://www.almarkazia.com/ar/news/show/298497>

Reported: 09/03/2021

Syria

VBIED

Event – Several militants injured at checkpoint.

Summary – Car bomb exploded at Mabroka barrier in the countryside of the town of Ra's al-Ayn, the so called Yanbu al-Salam area northwest of Al-Hasakah, resulting in several militants and citizens injured.

Source: <https://www.dostor.org/3385936>

Reported: 09/03/2021

Syria

UXO

Event – 4 children injured by explosive device.

Summary – Unexploded ordnance went off while a number of children were playing at the vegetable market in Al-Masir district, eastern part of Aleppo city, injuring four of them.

Source: <http://www.sana.sy/?p=1333400>

Reported: 09/03/2021

Palestine

IID

Event – Child injured by incendiary device.

Summary – 15-year-old child from Toubas city was injured by the explosion of an Improvised Incendiary Device that caused moderate burns to the hand and slight burns to the face.

Source: <https://www.maannnews.net/news/2034633.html>

Reported: 09/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



Cambodia

UXO

Event – Former soldier fisherman killed.

Summary – 36-year-old former Khmer Rouge soldier was killed as he was trying to build an explosive device to fish with unexploded ordnance from the civil war in Cambodia.

Source: <https://www.shorouknews.com/news/view.aspx?cdate=09032021&id=cbeb0ebf-b8d5-4d79-aab8-6e3716cb2fa4>

Reported: 09/03/2021

Afghanistan

VBIED

Event – Civilian killed and 7 Army members wounded.

Summary – One civilian was killed and seven members of the Afghan National Army were wounded by the blast of a car recognized before reaching its target on Kabul-Kandahar Highway in Nanai area, Ghazni province.

Source: <https://tolonews.com/afghanistan-169251>

Reported: 09/03/2021

Iraq

Grenade

Event – 10 shia pilgrims injured.

Summary – Unidentified person threw a grenade at a group of shia pilgrims who were on foot to the Al-Kadhimiya area in Baghdad, to commemorate the death of Imam Musa Al-Kadhim, injuring ten of them.

Source: <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/bomb-attack-injures-10-shia-pilgrims-in-baghdad/2169370>

Reported: 09/03/2021

Syria

IED

Event – Al-Hamza HQ area targeted.

Summary – Car Improvised Explosive Device went off near Al-Hamza Brigade's headquarters, one of the Euphrates shield factions, east of Halab.

Source: <https://www.almayadeen.net/news/politics/1463635/>

Reported: 10/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



Lebanon

Grenade

Event – 3 persons wounded in al-Badawi camp.

Summary – Three people were wounded in al-Badawi camp and taken to the Palestinian Red Crescent Society's Safed Hospital for treatment as a grenade was thrown at them by unknown.

Source: <https://www.almanar.com.lb/7949163>

Reported: 10/03/2021

Iraq

Roadside IED

Event – Killed while dismantling explosive device.

Summary – Member of the Security Forces was killed by the blast of a roadside Improvised Explosive Device on the highway in Al-Diwaniya while trying to dismantle it.

Source: <https://hathalyoum.net/articles/2643852--استشهاد-منتسب-امني-اثناء-محاولة-تفكيك-عبوة-ناسفة-في>

Reported: 11/03/2021

Palestine

L.E. IED

Event – Woman slightly injured by explosion.

Summary – Woman was slightly injured by the blast of an improvised low-explosive device in front of her house in Al Isawiya town.

Source: https://www.alwakeelnews.com/Section_23/494296_

Reported: 11/03/2021

Nepal

Radioactive Material Smuggling

Event – Four people arrested for possessing 2.5 kg of radioactive material.

Summary – Metropolitan Police Office of Ranipokhari seized what it called a highly radioactive material, around 2.5 kg, from Boudha; four people have been arrested in a house while trying to sell uranium-238.

Source: <https://kathmandupost.com/national/2021/03/12/four-people-arrested-for-possessing-2-5-kg-of-what-police-say-is-radioactive-material>

Reported: 12/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES

Afghanistan

IED

Event – Civilian killed and several wounded near Police checkpoint.

Summary – One civilian was killed and twentyfour others were wounded by the blast of a car improvised explosive device near a police checkpoint in Herat city's Police District PD24.

Source: <https://tolonews.com/afghanistan-170638>

Reported: 12/03/2021

Yemen

IED

Event – 8 citizens injured in a popular market.

Summary – Improvised Explosive Device went off in the market of Najd Qassim, in the department of Sabr Al-Masrakh west of Taiz governorate, injuring eight citizens including a child.

Source: <http://aleshteraky.com/pgbaj-h-cbajij/item/22637-crk-onabq-8-ehapfif-bifge-padq-ai-afaeaj-rbhq-falaq-ai-lhb-mrbi-badeljag>

Reported: 12/03/2021

Pakistan

ATEX

Event – 2 killed and 4 injured due to gas explosion.

Summary – Two people lost their lives while four others were injured by an explosion within the New Karachi Industrial Area, apparently occurred due to accumulation of inflammable gases in the nearby nullah.

Source: <https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/802891-two-die-four-injured-in-new-karachi-explosion>

Reported: 12/03/2021

Afghanistan

VBIED

Event – 2 blasts before to reach the base entrance gate.

Summary – Two suicide bombers were killed and one soldier was wounded by two car bomb blasts in Maidan Shar, capital of Wardak about 35 km west of Kabul, as militants tried to assault a special forces' operating base.

Source: <http://www.ecns.cn/news/2021-03-12/detail-ihainwmv2679588.shtml>

Reported: 12/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



Iraq

Roadside IEDs

Event – International coalition forces' convoys targeted.

Summary – Four roadside IEDs went off separately near convoys of trucks carrying logistical equipment belonging to the international coalition forces in western province of Anbar, southern province of Muthanna bordering Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, the central province of Babil, as well as the southern province of Basra.

Source: <https://www.presstv.com/Detail/2021/03/11/647098/Roadside-bomb-attacks-target-US-led-coalition-convoys-across-Iraq>

Reported: 11/03/2021

Lebanon

Grenade

Event – Grenade explosion in refugees' camp.

Summary – Grenade went off in Ain Al-Helwa camp for Palestinian refugees, southern Lebanon, in Arab Zabid region at the Fowqani street inside the camp.

Source: <http://www.alwasat.com.kw/ArticleDetail.aspx?id=126654>

Reported: 13/03/2021

Iraq

Roadside IED

Event – Convoy heading for Basra targeted.

Summary – Roadside Improvised Explosive Device targeted a convoy carrying logistic equipment, heading for Basra, belonging to the international alliance on the international highway in Diwaniya governorate.

Source: <https://hathalyoum.net/articles/2646008--انفجار-عبوة-ناسفة-على-رتل-لوجستي-تابع-للتحالف-على>

Reported: 13/03/2021

Syria

IED

Event – 8 injured due to car bomb explosion.

Summary – 8 people were injured by the blast of a car Improvised Explosive Device in the countryside of Ain Al-Arab city in Halab governorate, northeast of Aleppo.

Source: <https://syria.news/8b636480-13032112.html>

Reported: 13/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



Syria

IED

Event – Landmines' explosions in Hama area.

Summary – Landmine exploded in the Wadi al-Azaib area of Salmiya, east of Hama, injuring 5 persons including a child; man was also killed by a landmine in an agricultural land in the northern village of Mukir.

Source: <https://www.elbalad.news/4735942>

Reported: 14/03/2021

Nepal

IED

Event – Several people injured at office.

Summary – Improvised Explosive Device went off in the Land Revenue Office based in Lahan of Siraha District, where over half a dozen people were injured as a pressure cooker bomb exploded in the office.

Source: <https://thehimalayantimes.com/nepal/explosion-rocks-lahan-goit-led-outfits-involvement-suspected>

Reported: 14/03/2021

India

IED

Event – Killed while planting an explosive device.

Summary – A person was killed when an Improvised Explosive Device that he was planting on a road to target security forces went off in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur district, on the road of Bechapal-Hurepal villages.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/naxal-killed-in-blast-while-planting-ied-in-chhattisgarh/article34066392.ece>

Reported: 14/03/2021

Afghanistan

IED

Event – Passenger bus targeted.

Summary – Improvised Explosive Device went off targeting a passenger bus in the Sar-e-Karez area of Kabul's Police District PD6, in which 2 civilians were killed and 7 more were wounded.

Source: <https://tolonews.com/index.php/afghanistan-170693>

Reported: 14/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES

Afghanistan

IED

Event – Civilian killed and 5 others wounded.

Summary – Improvised Explosive Device went off in the Pul-e-Sokhta area of Kabul's Police District PD3, hitting a passenger bus, in which one civilian was killed and 5 more were wounded.

Source: <https://tolonews.com/index.php/afghanistan-170693>

Reported: 14/03/2021

Afghanistan

IED

Event – Minibus targeting wounds 15 civilians.

Summary – Improvised Explosive Device went off in the Dahan-e-Bagh area of Kabul targeting a minibus and wounding 15 civilians.

Source: <https://www.indiatoday.in/world/story/15-wounded-in-minibus-bombing-in-kabul-1779706-2021-03-16>

Reported: 15/03/2021

Iraq

IED

Event – Joint Ops HQs' zone targeted.

Summary – Improvised low-explosive device went off near the headquarters of joint operations in Kirkuk; the device exploded near demonstrators refusing to hand over the HQs to the Kurdistan Democratic Party.

Source: <https://mangish.net/دوي-انفجار-قرب-مقر-الحزب-الديمقراطي-ال->

Reported: 15/03/2021

Pakistan

IED

Event – One killed and 5 others injured.

Summary – Remote-controlled Improvised Explosive Device went off targeting a pakistani security forces' vehicle in Orangi Town area of Karachi, capital of southern Sindh province, killing and wounding 5 people.

Source: <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?newsid=2201481>

Reported: 15/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



Syria

IED

Event – Person killed and another injured in a car.

Summary – Improvised Explosive Device went off in a car in the village of Bakassarya, western countryside of Idlib, killing one person and injuring another.

Source: <https://www.syriahr.com/en/209156/>

Reported: 15/03/2021

Syria

IED

Event – 7 miners killed by methane gas explosion.

Summary – Car Improvised Explosive Device went off in the northern city of Afrin, Prefecture of Aleppo, in front of transportation gateway on Gentires road in the center of the city.

Source: https://arabic.rt.com/middle_east/1212269-انفجار-سيارة-في-عفرين-شمال-سوريا-1212269

Reported: 16/03/2021

Pakistan

ATEX

Event – 7 miners killed by methane gas explosion.

Summary – 7 miners were killed by the explosion of methane gas gathering in the coal mine of Turgar gas field, Harnay region in Balochistan, southwest of Pakistan.

Source: <https://mangish.net/>

Reported: 16/03/2021

Afghanistan

IED

Event – 4 women, one of them pregnant, and a child killed.

Summary – 4 women, one of them pregnant, and a child, were killed by the blast of an Improvised Explosive Device that targeted a bus carrying low-ranking employees of two government ministries in Kabul.

Source: <https://tolonews.com/afghanistan-170742>

Reported: 16/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



Syria

Roadside IED

Event – US military vehicle targeted.

Summary – Roadside Improvised Explosive Device went off targeting a US military vehicle in the vicinity of the village of Maghoga, in the Jabal Abdul Aziz area of the southwestern countryside of Al-Hasakah.

Source: <https://www.jpnews-sy.com/ar/news.php?id=202173>

Reported: 16/03/2021

Iraq

IED

Event – Officer wounded by explosion.

Summary – Officer was wounded by the blast of an Improvised Explosive Device in the south of Kirkuk.

Source: <https://hathalyoum.net/articles/2649124-اصابة-ضابط-بانفجار-عبوة-ناسفة-جنوب>

Reported: 17/03/2021

Afghanistan

Roadside IED

Event – 1 killed and 3 others wounded.

Summary – One civilian was killed and 3 others were wounded as a roadside Improvised Explosive Device struck a car in Dojoi village of Pashtun Zarghon district, western Herat province.

Source: <https://www.nampa.org/index.php?model=categories&function=display&id=21060427>

Reported: 17/03/2021

Yemen

Roadside IED

Event – Minister of Civil Service hit survives.

Summary – Minister of Civil Service in the Yemeni government, Dr. Abdul Nasser Al-Wali, survived a blast of a roadside Improvised Explosive Device that targeted his convoy in the capital of Aden.

Source: <https://alwatannews.net/article/931256/Arab>

Reported: 18/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



Syria

IED

Event – Member of State Security killed in military vehicle.

Summary – Member of the State Security branch was killed by the blast of an Improvised Explosive Device in a military vehicle on the road to the National hospital in Jasim, north of Dara'a.

Source: <https://www.enabbaladi.net/archives/466987>

Reported: 18/03/2021

Afghanistan

Roadside IED

Event – Explosion hits bus killing 4 and wounding 9.

Summary – 4 people were killed and 9 were wounded as a roadside Improvised Explosive Device went off hitting a bus carrying government employees in the capital Kabul.

Source: <https://www.alkhaleej.ae/2021-03-18>

Reported: 18/03/2021

Iraq

Roadside IED

Event – Farmer wounded in the countryside.

Summary – Improvised Explosive Device placed on the side of the orchards road, on the outskirts of the al-ferry area 14 km northeast of Baquba, went off wounding a farmer.

Source: <https://mangish.net/اصابة-مزارع-بانفجار-عبوة-ناسفة-في-ديال>

Reported: 19/03/2021

Syria

IED

Event – Several civilians killed and wounded.

Summary – Several civilians were killed and others were injured by the blast of a car Improvised Explosive Device near Al Tawhid mosque, in Al-door city northeast of Halab.

Source: <http://www.moi.gov.sy/index.php?content=2&article=MzUzNjg=>

Reported: 20/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



Syria

Chemical related issue

Event – Plans for chemical weapons attacks.

Summary – Russian Center for Reconciliation in Syria declared that militants of "Al-Sham Liberation Organization" plan for provocations using poisonous substances northeast of the Syrian governorate of Idlib.

Source: <https://www.dostor.org/3398168>

Reported: 20/03/2021

Iraq

IED

Event – Federal Police regiment targeted.

Summary – Improvised Explosive Device went off in Al-Btar area on the outskirts of Yatharb targeting a patrol of Federal Police Colonel Muhi al-Heshmawi and killing and wounding three civilians.

Source: <http://aliraqnews.com/مقتل-وإصابة-3-مواطنين-بانفجار-عبوة-ناسف>

Reported: 20/03/2021

Iraq

Roadside IED

Event – Coalition's convoy targeted.

Summary – Roadside Improvised Explosive Device targeted a convoy of trucks of the International coalition forces in Babylon province.

Source: <https://hathalyoum.net/articles/2653526-عبوة-ناسفة-تستهدف-رتلاً-للتحالف-الاميركي-في>

Reported: 21/03/2021

Afghanistan

Roadside IED

Event – 2 Police force members killed and wounded.

Summary – Police force member was killed and another was wounded by the blast of a roadside device Improvised Explosive Device in Kabul's Bagrami district.

Source: <https://tolonews.com/index.php/afghanistan-170875>

Reported: 21/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



Afghanistan

Roadside IED

Event – 5 members of one family killed.

Summary – Vehicle on its way to the Lalandar area for a Nawroz celebration hit a roadside device Improvised Explosive Device, in Chahar Asiab district of Kabul, killing five members of one family.

Source: <https://tolonews.com/index.php/afghanistan-170875>

Reported: 21/03/2021

Afghanistan

Roadside IED

Event – 6 border guards killed.

Summary – Six members of the Afghan border guards were killed by the blast of a roadside Improvised Explosive Device on Herat Trugandi highway in the area of Rubat Sanki's stalls, western Herat state.

Source: <https://alwafd.news>

Reported: 21/03/2021

Hong Kong

WW2 Explosives

Event – World War 2 explosives unearthed near Twin Peaks trail above Stanley.

Summary – Dozens of hikers trekking the Twins Peak near Stanley were evacuated after wartime grenades were unearthed nearby. Police received reports that suspected explosives dating back to World War 2 had been found along the Wilson Trail running through Tai Tam Country Park. Officers from the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Bureau arrived at the scene and examined the relics, which included four grenades measuring 15cm and a mortar, a weapon used to fire projectiles, with a diameter of 6cm.

Source: <https://coconuts.co/hongkong/news/hikers-evacuated-after-world-war-2-explosives-unearthed-near-twin-peaks-trail-above-stanley/>

Reported: 22/03/2021

India

HME

Event – Child killed and another injured.

Summary – Seven-year-old boy was killed and another child was injured by the blast of home-made explosive devices in Subhaspalli area of Rasikpur, Burdwan city of West Bengal, while playing near their house.

Source: <https://www.naveenbharat.in/breaking-news/7-year-old-innocent-killed-in-crude-bomb-blast-in-burdwan-bengal-police/>

Reported: 22/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



China

PBIED

Event – Several killed and wounded due to explosion.

Summary – Five people were killed and several others were injured as a suicide bomber went off in offices belonging to a local administration in Ming Ying village in Banyu, south China's Guangdong Province.

Source: <https://www.shorouknews.com/news/view.aspx?cdate=22032021&id=899b2d75-2a97-4742-88dd-89394ed44faf>

Reported: 22/03/2021

Iraq

Grenade

Event – Home of a lieutenant colonel hit.

Summary – Grenade targeted the home of a lieutenant colonel of the Defense Ministry, within the Jawadin neighborhood of the Shula city north of Baghdad, causing material damage to the house without injuries.

Source: <https://mangish.net/استهداف-منزل-مقدم-بالدفاع-بقنبلة-يدوي>

Reported: 22/03/2021

Syria

IED

Event – 4 civilians, 2 of them children, killed.

Summary – Four civilians, two of them children, lost their lives due to the blast of an Improvised Explosive Device in Syria's northern town Ras al-Ain.

Source: <https://www.dailysabah.com/politics/4-killed-9-wounded-in-bomb-blast-in-syrias-ras-al-ain/news>

Reported: 22/03/2021

India

Roadside IED

Event – 4 policemen killed and 14 others wounded.

Summary – Four Indian policemen were killed and fourteen others were wounded as a roadside Improvised Explosive Device targeted their bus traveling in Narayanpur district of Chhattisgarh State.

Source: <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/maoist-rebels-kill-4-indian-police-in-roadside-bomb-attack-indian-maoist-new-delhi-press-trust-of-india-mao-zedong-b1821230.html>

Reported: 23/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



Syria

Roadside IED

Event – Turkish military vehicle targeted.

Summary – Roadside Improvised Explosive Device went off on Al-Mastah road, in the southern province of Idlib, as a Turkish military vehicle passed through, causing material damages but no casualties.

Source: <https://www.elbalad.news/4747748>

Reported: 23/03/2021

Syria

IED

Event – Barrier on highway hit.

Summary – Car Improvised Explosive Device went off near one of the barriers on a highway in Ras al-Ain city, northwestern province of al-Hasakah, killing and wounding several security officers.

Source: <http://furat.alwehda.gov.sy/local/70665--مرتزة-الاحتلال-التركي-بأنفجار-سيارة-مفخخة-في-رأس-العين>

Reported: 23/03/2021

Iraq

Sticky IED

Event – Motorcycle driver killed.

Summary – Man was killed by the blast of a sticky Improvised Explosive Device targeting his motorcycle in Al-Qanah, southeastern side of New Baghdad.

Source: <https://www.alsharqiya.com/ar/news/one-person-was-killed-and-two-wounded-southeast-of-baghdad>

Reported: 23/03/2021

Afghanistan

Roadside IED

Event – 4 security force members killed.

Summary – Roadside Improvised Explosive Device targeted a military vehicle killing four afghan security force members and wounding another one in Kamari district of northwestern Badghis province.

Source: <http://www.afghanistantimes.af/four-security-force-members-killed-in-badghis/>

Reported: 24/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



Pakistan

R.C. IED

Event – 4 killed including a child and several wounded.

Summary – Remote-controlled Improvised Explosive Device went off on the Taj Road area of southwestern Chaman, city of Balochistan, killing four people, including a child, and wounding fourteen others.

Source: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2021/03/25/news/world/blast-kills-4-hurts-14-in-pakistan/855059/>

Reported: 24/03/2021

Afghanistan

IED

Event – Truck bomb damages bridge.

Summary – Taliban detonated a car full of explosives on a bridge in the Sarkar-e-Baghl area, Arghandab district of southern Kandahar province, damaging parts of the bridge but nobody was injured.

Source: <https://tolonews.com/afghanistan-170942>

Reported: 24/03/2021

Syria

IED

Event – Al-Qhad military vehicle hit.

Summary – Improvised Explosive Device went off in a military car belonging to al-Qhad in the town of Zaban, southeastern province of Deir El-Zor, the biggest of the Syrian eastern governorate.

Source: <https://www.alalamtv.net/news/5504483>

Reported: 25/03/2021

India

HME

Event – 3 children injured by explosive devices.

Summary – Three children were seriously injured by the blast of Home-Made Explosive devices at Salempur Baluabari village, in Chandpur panchayat under the Jagdishpur police station area of Bhagalpur district.

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/patna/three-children-injured-in-bomb-blast-in-bhagalpur/articleshow/81675472.cms>

Reported: 25/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



Iraq

Roadside IED

Event – Civil convoy targeted on highway.

Summary – Roadside Improvised Explosive Device targeted a civil convoy that links the logistic support of the international alliance on the highway in Al-Diwaniya governorate south of Iraq.

Source: <http://www.sns.sy/ar/node/152747>

Reported: 25/03/2021

Afghanistan

VBIED

Event – Identified suicide bomber kills policeman.

Summary – Policeman was killed by the blast of a car suicide bombing attack in Greshk district of southern Helmand province; the incident took place in the Muhajir Bazaar area of the district.

Source: <https://pajhwok.com/2021/03/26/helmand-cop-dead-in-car-bomb-attack/>

Reported: 26/03/2021

Thailand

Roadside IED

Event – Tourist policeman and Police volunteer injured.

Summary – Roadside improvised explosive device in Yala province went off injuring a tourist policeman and a Police volunteer, while they were driving through Bannang Sata district on the Yala-Betong route.

Source: <https://thethaiger.com/news/south/insurgency/roadside-bomb-explodes-in-yala-injuring-policeman-and-volunteer>

Reported: 26/03/2021

Iraq

IED

Event – Municipality manager's house hit.

Summary – Improvised Explosive Device placed near the house of Al-Nasiriya municipality manager, Dhi Qar governorate, went off causing damages without any injuries.

Source: <https://www.alsharqiya.com/ar/news/a-sound-bomb-exploded-at-the-house-of-the-director-of-the-municipality-of-nasiriyah>

Reported: 26/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



Syria

UXO

Event – Child killed while collecting coal.

Summary – 16-year-old child, displaced from the town of Tatas, was killed by a cluster explosive device in Treif village, east of Halab, while he was collecting coal east of Aleppo to sell it.

Source: <https://www.enabbaladi.net/archives/469457>

Reported: 27/03/2021

Saudi Arabia

IED

Event – Sabotage attack at oil station.

Summary – Fire broke out at an oil distribution station in the southern city of Jazan after being hit by a sabotage attack by Improvised Explosive Device.

Source: <https://alghad.com/السعودية-حريق-بمحطة-نفطية-إثر-اعتداء>

Reported: 27/03/2021

Thailand

IID

Event – Local gov.t chief's house targeted.

Summary – Improvised incendiary device was thrown into the house of a former President of the San Chao Kai To Tambon Administration Organisation (TAO) in Lat Yao district; his pickup truck was burned and damaged.

Source: <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2090991/molotov-cocktail-attack-on-local-govt-chiefs-house>

Reported: 28/03/2021

Indonesia

PBIEDs

Event – Cathedral hit on Palm Sunday.

Summary – As Christians inside were celebrating the start of Holy Week, two suicide bombers hit the church in Makassar city on Sulawesi island, leaving at least fourteen church officials and congregants injured by debris.

Source: <https://www.channelstv.com/2021/03/28/over-14-injured-as-suicide-bombers-hit-indonesian-cathedral-on-palm-sunday/>

Reported: 28/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



Syria

IED

Event – Several damages and injured civilians.

Summary – Car Improvised Explosive Device went off near a coffee shop in the north-west of Ras al-Ain, injuring several civilians and destroying buildings close.

Source: <https://www.notiulti.com/vehiculo-bomba-en-el-noreste-de-siria-civil-etc-heridos/>
Reported: 29/03/2021

Afghanistan

Roadside IED

Event – 3 ANP officers killed.

Summary – Three officers of Afghan National Police were killed as a roadside Improvised Explosive Device targeted an armoured vehicle in Omarzai, on the outskirts of Mehtarlam city in eastern Laghman province.

Source: <https://www.dtnext.in/News/World/2021/03/29104109/1283862/3-policemen-killed-in-Afghanistan-blasts.vpf>
Reported: 29/03/2021

Afghanistan

IED

Event – 2 army personnel killed and 4 wounded.

Summary – Two Afghan National Army personnel were killed and four others were wounded by the blast of a car improvised explosive device at the Abdul Ghani checkpoint in the Mohajer Bazaar area of Helmand district.

Source: <https://www.urdupoint.com/en/world/car-bomb-blast-in-afghanistans-helmand-leave-1207276.html>
Reported: 29/03/2021

Iraq

Roadside IEDs

Event – 3 logistical support convoys targeted.

Summary – Three logistical support convoys belonging to the US-led coalition have been targeted by explosive devices in the country's central provinces of Babil and al-Qadisiyah, as well as the southern province of Dhi Qar.

Source: <https://www.albawaba.com/news/bomb-attacks-target-us-supply-convoys-iraq-1419402>
Reported: 30/03/2021



EUROPE NEWS ON CBRNE EVENTS

This section gathers news collected from sources related to the European continent, in chronological order. The section is organized in four sections, according to news availability,:

- chemical
- biological
- radiological and nuclear
- explosives





CHEMICAL



United Kingdom

CBRN Threat

Event – Chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear attack is ‘possibility by 2030’.

Summary – There is a “realistic possibility” a terrorist group will launch a successful chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear (CBRN) attack by 2030, a Government review has warned. Terrorism will remain a “major threat” over the coming decade, with a “more diverse range of material and political causes, new sources of radicalisation and evolving tactics”, according to the Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy.

Source: <https://www.eastlothiancourier.com/news/national-news/19163734.chemical-biological-radiological-nuclear-attack-possibility-2030/>
Reported: 16/03/2021

Baltic Sea

Chemical Weapons

Event – Chemical weapons in Baltic Sea an ‘urgent threat’.

Summary – “We express our deep concern about the threat that is still posed by chemical and conventional weapons sunk into the Baltic Sea after World War II,” 39 Members of the European Parliament said in a letter addressed to European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen.

Source: https://www.euractiv.com/section/politics/short_news/chemical-weapons-in-baltic-sea-an-urgent-threat/
Reported: 18/03/2021



RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR



Turkey.

Nuclear Dust

Event – Dust with French nuclear test residue threatens Turkey.

Summary – Bekir Taşdemir, a nuclear medicine expert from Dicle University, says though it is unclear how much cesium residue there is in the dust sandstorms brought, people need to be cautious. “Possible high rate (of cesium) will necessitate people to stay indoors. They should not breathe the air outside and not open their windows,” Taşdemir warned.

Source: <https://www.dailysabah.com/turkey/dust-with-french-nuclear-test-residue-threatens-turkey/news>

Reported: 03/03/2021

Germany.

Nuclear

Event – Germany agrees compensation for nuclear phaseout.

Summary – The German government has concluded an agreement with the energy groups, Eon, Rwe, Vattenfall and EnBW, which operated the German nuclear power plants and which were consequently damaged by Germany's early exit from nuclear power. The German government's goal is to phase out the use of nuclear energy by the end of the year 2022. This goal cost a lasting years legal battle between the government and energy groups, which led to a compensation global of 2.4 billion euros to the four energy-producing users, affected by the closure of 17 nuclear reactors in the country.

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Agreement-reached-over-German-nuclear-phase-out-co>

Reported: 05/03/2021



RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR



United Kingdom

Ionising Radiation

Event – Sondrel designs its first Radiation-Hard chip.

Summary – Sondrel, an international engineering consultancy providing silicon design solutions to technology and semiconductor companies, is designing its first Radiation-Hard (Rad-Hard) chip for a customer which is due to tape out shortly. The satellite modem will be used in communication satellites and therefore has to be able to withstand the challenges of the high levels of ionising radiation found in orbit that can cause glitches.

Source: <https://www.design-reuse.com/news/49670/sondrel-radiation-hard-chip.html>

Reported: 18/03/2021

Slovakia

Radioactive Waste Management

Event – IAEA announces new Collaborating Centre for radioactive waste management

Summary – The International Atomic Energy Agency has designated the Slovak Nuclear and Decommissioning Company (JAVYS) as a Collaborating Centre to support IAEA Member States on nuclear facility decommissioning and radioactive waste management. The agreement will facilitate the sharing of good practices and promote the deployment of proven and advanced technologies to implement nuclear decommissioning. It will also contribute to the long-term development of a skilled workforce and transfer of technical knowledge, in particular for VVER reactor decommissioning.

Source: <https://waste-management-world.com/a/iaea-announces-new-collaborating-centre-for-radioactive-waste-management>

Reported: 26/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



United Kingdom

Pipe Bomb

Event – Man arrested after pipe bomb was discovered under hedge in ‘sleepy village’ in Nottinghamshire.

Summary – Residents in a village have spoken of their shock after an explosive device was found under a hedge. A man has been arrested after a small, pipe-bomb like device was found in Church Laneham. Police were called to an address in Church Laneham at 12:45 on Sunday after the spent device was found under a hedge on a footpath. A 100 meter cordon was put in place and 40 mobile homes were evacuated as a precaution while bomb disposal experts assessed the object.

Source: <https://www.nottinghampost.com/news/local-news/residents-shock-man-arrested-after-5061195>

Reported: 02/03/2021

The Netherlands

Explosion

Event – Explosion at Coronavirus testing centre near Amsterdam appears intentional.

Summary – A Coronavirus testing centre close to the Dutch capital of Amsterdam appears to have been intentionally targeted after an explosion before the site opened, Police have said. The blast in the town of Bovenkarspel, north of the capital, happened at 6.55am and caused no injuries. The explosive “must have been placed” there, a Police spokesman said. Windows were shattered in the blast and the metal remains of the explosive were found at the front of the building.

Source: <https://news.sky.com/story/covid-19-explosion-at-coronavirus-testing-centre-near-amsterdam-appears-intentional-police-say-12234369>

Reported: 03/03/2021

Ireland

Explosive Chemical

Event – Explosive chemical discovered at Hospital.

Summary – Army Bomb Disposal Team has carried out a controlled explosion on the grounds of St James’ Hospital in Dublin after suspected hazardous chemical material was discovered.

Source: <https://www.thejournal.ie/bomb-squad-fatima-dublin-8-5371630-Mar2021/>

Reported: 04/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



Croatia

Landmine

Event – Migrant dies by stepping on a landmine hidden in the forest.

Summary – A Pakistani migrant lost his life in Croatia after stepping on an antipersonnel mine, a remnant of war in the former Yugoslavia. It happened in the Saborsko forest, a short distance from the Bosnian border, in an area where no Croat has gone for some time precisely to avoid the risk of triggering one of the 20,000 unexploded anti-personnel mines scattered throughout the area. The explosion of the bomb caused the wounding of ten other people and one of them is in serious condition.

Source: <https://www.fanpage.it/esteri/croazia-migrante-muore-calpestando-una-mina-antiuomo-nascosta-nella-foresta/>

Reported: 08/03/2021

Scotland

Controlled Explosion

Event – Scottish beach reopens after bomb squad carries out controlled explosion.

Summary – Seamill beach was closed by authorities after an unsuspecting member of the public stumbled across a cylindrical object in the sand. An Army bomb disposal unit was dispatched to the beauty spot from Edinburgh to assess the suspected ordnance. The Coastguard confirmed that the team carried out a controlled explosion on the object later in the day.

Source: <https://www.scotsman.com/news/crime/seamill-beach-incident-scottish-beach-reopens-after-bomb-squad-carries-out-controlled-explosion-3160325>

Reported: 10/03/2021

United Kingdom

Bomb Making Activities

Event – Man arrested over New IRA bomb-making activities.

Summary – Police investigating the New IRA's bomb-making activities have arrested a 52-year-old man in Londonderry. It follows a search in the Creggan area as part of an operation targeting the dissident republican group's storage of explosive devices and equipment. Police said they "seized a considerable amount of material for further examination" in Thursday's operation.

Source: <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-foyle-west-56441269>

Reported: 18/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



Ireland

Seized Firearms

Event – Gardaí seize firearms and explosive components in Kerry.

Summary – The National Police Service of the Republic of Ireland have arrested two men for questioning following the discovery of arms, ammunition and components for explosive devices during a search of two houses in Co Kerry. Members of the Special Detective Unit backed up by uniformed members and officers from the Armed Support Unit from Limerick searched two properties in the Sneem area of south Kerry. They found three firearms and a quantity of ammunition as well as electronic components for use in Improvised Explosive Devices in the searches which were part of an intelligence led operation.

Source: <https://www.irishtimes.com/news/crime-and-law/garda%C3%AD-seize-firearms-and-explosive-components-in-kerry-1.4522092>

Reported: 27/03/2021



LATIN-AMERICA NEWS ON CBRNE EVENTS

This section gathers news collected from sources related to the Latin-American continent, proposed in chronological order. The section is organized in four areas, according to news availability:

- chemical
- biological
- radiological and nuclear
- explosives





BIOLOGICAL



Cuba

COVID-19 Vaccine

Event – Cuba approves second homegrown Covid vaccine for late phase trials.

Summary – Cuba's drug regulatory authority on Thursday approved a second COVID-19 vaccine candidate for late-stage clinical trials as the country races to secure a homegrown shot to quell its worst outbreak since the start of the pandemic and sell abroad. The Caribbean island nation, which has long experience with developing and exporting vaccines, is one of a handful in the region that have not started vaccinating against COVID-19, as it is counting on its own candidates. Critics argue any vaccine development is a gamble and it should be acquiring shots already approved to start immunizing the most vulnerable sectors of the population while it awaits results from its own trials.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-cuba-vaccine/cuba-approves-second-homegrown-covid-vaccine-for-late-phase-trials-idUSKBN2BB07U>

Reported: 19/03/2021



EXPLOSIVE



Colombia

IED

Event – 6 children injured while playing.

Summary – Six children were injured by the blast of an Improvised Explosive Device in one of the streets of John XXIII, Buenaventura; the homemade device was hidden in a black bag on the road alongside the rubbish.

Source: <https://www.elfrente.com.co/web/index.php?ecsmodule=frmstasection&ida=64&idb=143&idc=61632>

Reported: 01/03/2021

Colombia

IED

Event – National Police premises targeted.

Summary – Policeman was injured by the blast of an Improvised Explosive Device attack at the premises of the National Police and the Prosecutor's office in El Triunfo, province of Guayas.

Source: <https://www.teleamazonas.com/sedes-de-la-policia-y-fiscalia-en-el-triunfo-fueron-atacadas-con-explosivos/>

Reported: 10/03/2021

Colombia

IED

Event – 3 soldiers and a Police officer injured.

Summary – In rural area of Monteloro municipality of Tuluá, Valle del Cauca, 3 soldiers from the 10 th Battalion of high mountain and a Police officer were injured after having activated an explosive device.

Source: https://caracol.com.co/emisora/2021/03/13/cali/1615671580_010069.html

Reported: 14/03/2021

Peru

IID

Event – House hit by incendiary device.

Summary – Housing was about to catch fire when an Improvised Incendiary Device was thrown in a home in block 6 of jirón Leoncio Prado of district Partido Alto de Tarapoto.

Source: <https://www.diariovoces.com.pe/177509/lanzan-bomba-molotov-a-local-de-podologia-en-barrio-partido-alto-de-tarapoto>

Reported: 16/03/2021



EXPLOSIVE



Colombia

IED

Event – Car bomb injures 43 people.

Summary – Fortythree people were injured by the blast of a car Improvised Explosive Device near the City Hall and the Police Station in Corinto, a town in southwestern department of Cauca.

Source: <https://www.alkhaleej.ae/2021-03-27>

Reported: 27/03/2021



NORTH-AMERICA NEWS ON CBRNE EVENTS

This section gathers news collected from sources related to the North-American continent, proposed in chronological order. The section is organized in four areas:

- chemical
- biological
- radiological and nuclear
- explosives





CHEMICALS



USA

Chemical

Event – Global chemical congress.

Summary – The final session of the 2nd edition of the Global chemical congress's webinar explored best practices to reduce vulnerabilities and enhance resilience in transporting hazardous chemicals that facilitate successful mitigation strategies.

Source: https://twitter.com/INTERPOL_CBRNE/status/1370120752792539138

Reported: 11/03/2021



BIOLOGICAL



USA

Bio

Event – DoD testing shows bio-agents degrade rapidly in open air.

Summary – The experiments revealed that in open air, simulants decayed 10 to 1,000 times faster than in laboratory settings. These data indicate that laboratory tests underestimate the rate of agent decay that occurs outdoors, and on their own, laboratory tests are not sufficient in understanding the decay process outdoors. The research was performed at the Sandia National Laboratory, National Strategic Research Institute, and the Army Research Laboratory. Researchers evaluated the combination of open-air factors that most affect the rate of agent decay. They also compared data collected in laboratory studies to data collected in outdoor experiments.

Source: <https://globalbiodefense.com/2021/03/10/dod-testing-shows-bio-agents-degrade-rapidly-in-open-air/>

Reported: 10/03/2021

USA

Biosurveillance

Event – Department of Defense testing shows bio-agents degrade rapidly in open air.

Summary – The experiments revealed that in open air, simulants decayed 10 to 1,000 times faster than in laboratory settings. These data indicate that laboratory tests underestimate the rate of agent decay that occurs outdoors, and on their own, laboratory tests are not sufficient in understanding the decay process outdoors.

Source: <https://globalbiodefense.com/2021/03/10/dod-testing-shows-bio-agents-degrade-rapidly-in-open-air/>

Reported: 10/03/2021

USA/Canada

COVID-19 Vaccine

Event – Moderna begins study of COVID-19 vaccine in kids.

Summary – Moderna Inc has begun dosing patients in a mid-to-late-stage study of its COVID-19 vaccine, mRNA-1273, in children aged six months to less than 12 years, the company said on Tuesday. The latest study is being conducted in collaboration with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) and the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA).

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-moderna/moderna-begins-study-of-covid-19-vaccine-in-kids-idUSKBN2B81EJ>

Reported: 16/03/2021



BIOLOGICAL



USA

Biological Threat

Event – Man is charged after buying 800 castor bean seeds to extract the deadly toxin ricin.

Summary – The director of research at a Massachusetts biotech firm has been accused searching online for deadly poisons and purchasing 800 castor bean seeds so he could extract the toxin ricin from them, federal prosecutors say. Dr. Ishtiaq Ali Saaem, 37, was charged with obstruction of justice after he allegedly lied to FBI agents when they were investigating why he was trying to acquire the deadly toxin. Authorities say Saaem had ordered 100 packets of castor beans, which each contained eight seeds, online. Ricin is a deadly poison that can be extracted from the seeds, or beans, of a castor oil plant. Purchasing the seeds to grow a castor oil plant is not illegal but extracting ricin from the beans is.

Source: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9369171/Man-charged-buying-800-castor-bean-seeds-extract-ricin.html>

Reported: 16/03/2021



RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR



USA/Poland

Nuclear Agreement

Event – Polish-US civil nuclear agreement enters into force.

Summary – The diplomatic notes Poland and the USA exchanged last year on cooperation in the development of Poland's civil nuclear power programme have officially entered into force, Poland's Secretary of State for Strategic Energy Infrastructure Piotr Naimski told the TOK FM radio station yesterday. This means the USA now has 18 months to prepare both a technology and a financing offer to build nuclear power plants in Poland. The European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom) had been notified of the intergovernmental agreement. "This is a parallel Community structure for the EU in Europe, to which we belong, just like all the countries of the European Union. All the steps that we are taking are and will be in line with European regulations".

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Polish-US-civil-nuclear-agreement-enters-into-forc>

Reported: 03/03/2021

USA/Iran

Atomic Energy

Event – IAEA plans technical talks with Iran in April.

Summary – Rafael Mariano Grossi, Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), announced a new agreement with Tehran for a face-to-face meeting between technical experts to take place early next month. At a press conference convened at short notice and live-streamed from the IAEA's headquarters in Vienna, Grossi said the aim of the agreement is for the agency and Iran to stop "talking past each other". This agreement was achieved this week, Grossi said, after he raised these issues again with Tehran and with officials from Iran's Permanent Mission to the United Nations and other International Organisations in Vienna.

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/IAEA-plans-technical-talks-with-Iran-in-April>

Reported: 04/03/2021



RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR



USA-California

Nuclear

Event – SCE plans relocation of San Onofre used fuel.

Summary – Southern California Edison (SCE) has released a three-part strategic plan for the relocation of used nuclear fuel from the shut-down San Onofre plant. The company has also launched a stakeholder coalition with two local counties to advocate for and encourage federal government action to deal with used fuel currently stored at San Onofre and other US nuclear sites.

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/SCE-plans-for-relocation-of-used-fuel>
Reported: 17/03/2021

USA-Ohio

Nuclear

Event – US HALEU facility set for 2022 start-up.

Summary – The USA's first production facility for high-assay low-enriched uranium (HALEU) is expected to begin production early next year, Centrus Energy has announced. The facility is under construction at Piketon, Ohio. Centrus is licensing and constructing the cascade of 16 AC100M centrifuges to demonstrate production of HALEU under a three year, USD115 million cost-shared contract signed in 2019 with the US Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Nuclear Energy.

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/US-HALEU-facility-set-for-2022-start-up>
Reported: 23/03/2021

USA

Nuclear Reactor

Event – Portable nuclear reactor project moves forward at Pentagon

Summary – The Pentagon has selected two companies to move forward with developing small, portable nuclear reactors for military use in the field. BWXT Advanced Technologies and X-energy were chosen by the Department's Strategic Capabilities Office to continue on with Project Pele, which seeks to develop a reactor of 1- to 5-megawatt output that can last at least three years at full power. In addition, the reactors must be designed to operate within three days of delivery and be safely removed in as few as seven days if needed.

Source: <https://www.defensenews.com/smr/energy-and-environment/2021/03/23/portable-nuclear-reactor-project-moves-forward-at-pentagon/#:~:text=WASHINGTON%20%E2%80%94%20The%20Pentagon%20has%20selected,military%20use%20in%20the%20field.&text=The%20Pentagon%20has%20long%20eyed,dependence%20on%20local%20energy%20grids>
Reported: 23/03/2021



RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR



USA

Portable Nuclear Reactor

Event – BWXT and X-Energy selected to develop Project Pele mobile microreactor.

Summary – The Strategic Capabilities Office of the US Department of Defense (DOD) has selected BWXT Advanced Technologies and X-energy LLC to develop a final design for a prototype mobile microreactor under the Project Pele initiative. The two teams have been selected through a preliminary design competition which began in April 2019. Three companies - BWX Technologies, Westinghouse Government Services and X-energy - were selected last year to begin preliminary design work for a prototype reactor. One of the remaining two companies may be selected to build and demonstrate a prototype after a final design review early next year.

Source: <https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/BWXT-and-X-Energy-selected-to-develop-Project-Pele>

Reported: 24/03/2021

Canada

Nuclear Waste

Event – NWMO on schedule to choose repository site in 2033.

Summary – Canada's Nuclear Waste Management Organisation is on schedule to choose a single, preferred site for a deep geologic spent nuclear fuel repository in 2033, despite schedules being affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. The NWMO has been engaged in a process to identify a site that will safely contain and isolate Canada's used nuclear fuel in a deep geological repository. It began the site selection process in 2010 and over the next two years, 22 municipalities and Indigenous communities expressed interest.

Source: <https://www.nucnet.org/news/nwmo-on-schedule-to-choose-repository-site-in-2023-3-1-2021>

Reported: 29/03/2021

USA

Nuclear

Event – Committee chairman calls for pushback against China's and Russia's global nuclear ambitions.

Summary – US Senate energy and natural resources committee chairman Joe Manchin highlighted the importance of maintaining the nation's position as a global leader in nuclear energy and called for pushback against strategic efforts by China and Russia to supplant the US in this role.

Source: <https://www.nucnet.org/news/committee-chairman-calls-for-pushback-against-china-s-and-russia-s-global-nuclear-ambitions-3-2-2021>

Reported: 30/03/2021



EXPLOSIVES



USA-New York

IED

Event – IED found under car in Schaghticoke.

Summary – State Police are investigating after an Improvised Explosive Device was found under a car in Schaghticoke. Police say the IED went off under a vehicle. No one was hurt.

Source: <https://wnyt.com/troy-new-york-news/ied-found-under-car-schaghticoke-renselaer-county/6028239/?cat=10114>

Reported: 01/03/2021

USA

HME

Event – 3 students injured at High School.

Summary – Student at Newaygo High School ignited a Home-Made Explosive compound in class, injuring himself and two other students that suffered minor injuries.

Source: <https://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/2021/03/student-ignited-explosive-compound-at-newaygo-high-school-injuring-3.html>

Reported: 08/03/2021

Mexico

IID

Event – Independent candidate's house targeted.

Summary – Improvised Incendiary Device targeted one of the properties of the current independent candidate to the presidency of the city of Dolores Hidalgo, Julio Gonzalez, prior to the start of election campaigns.

Source: <https://www.elsoldemexico.com.mx/republica/sociedad/atacan-con-bomba-molotov-casa-de-julio-gonzalez-candidato-en-dolores-hidalgo-guanajuato-6521535.html>

Reported: 26/03/2021



OCEANIA NEWS ON CBRNE EVENTS

This section gathers news collected from sources related to the Oceanic continent, proposed in chronological order. The section is organized in four areas, according to news availability:

- chemical
- biological
- radiological and nuclear
- explosives





CHEMICALS



Australia

Chemical accident

Event – Up to seven million litres of potentially toxic chemicals spilt at Alcoa refinery in Western Australia.

Status – Workers at Alcoa's Wagerup Alumina Refinery noticed "a loss of process material" from a tank about 10.30pm on Tuesday. Nobody was injured.

The Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety as well as the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation are now investigating what happened.

An Alcoa spokeswoman said the spill had been contained within the operating footprint.

Source: <https://www.news.com.au/finance/business/mining/up-to-seven-million-litres-of-potentially-toxic-chemicals-spilt-at-alcoa-refinery-in-western-australia/news-story/e1c0c29dc3ba3766312bc30540bac674>

Reported: 14/03/2021

New Zealand

Chemical contamination

Event – Landfill including toxic waste risk assessed.

Status – A report detailed environmental damage and even loss of life is being forecast from sea level rise breaching a giant landfill including toxic waste at Tiwai Point aluminium smelter in Southland. The landfill has taken 20,000 tonnes of waste or more in some years, of all kinds; not all toxic but dominated by huge amounts of used refractory material, including heavy metals, toxic fluorides and asbestos.

Source: <https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/438550/report-details-consequences-of-landfill-of-toxic-waste-at-tiwai-point>

Reported: 17/03/2021



TERRORISM AND COUNTER- TERRORISM NEWS

This section gathers news collected from sources related terrorism and counter-terrorism.

News are proposed in cronological order.





NEWS



Turkey

Terrorism

Event – More than 10,000 Army staff in Turkey investigated for FETÖ links

Summary – Could there be “sleeper cells” of the FETÖ Group in the Turkish Armed Forces. Five years after the group’s infiltrators in the Army staged a coup attempt, those in the army who did not participate in the deadly bid but allegedly remained loyal to the group, are under the spotlight. A total of 10,836 members of Turkish Armed Forces face criminal probes in nationwide investigations. Data regarding FETÖ operations show the terrorist group, which sought to wield influence in law enforcement, the judiciary and the bureaucracy by secretly planting its members for decades, still has backers in the army ranks, though they managed to disguise their loyalty.

Source: <https://www.dailysabah.com/turkey/investigations/more-than-10000-army-staff-in-turkey-investigated-for-feto-links>

Reported: 01/03/2021

Spain

Terrorism

Event – Barcelona, demonstrations for rapper Hasel: 6 Italian anarchists arrested.

Summary – Of the 15 activists who ended up in handcuffs last Saturday in Barcelona for the demonstrations in support of rapper Pablo Hasel, 6 were found to be Italian anarchists. This was announced during a press conference by the Catalan Interior Councilor, Miquel Samper, and the mayor of Barcelona Ada Colau. According to the data in their possession, of the 15 people arrested for “violent behavior”, at least half would be placed in the framework of the anarchist movement, of these 6 Italians (including a woman), a Frenchman and a Catalan.

Source: <https://it.sputniknews.com/mondo/2021030210201241-barcellona-manifestazioni-per-il-rapper-hasel-6-anarchici-italiani-arrestati/>

Reported: 02/03/2021

Norway

Terrorism

Event – The first woman accused of aiding terrorism in Norway was tried in Oslo.

Summary – A now-30-year-old woman born in Pakistan but reared in Norway went on trial in Oslo this week, charged with supporting the Islamic State terror group after marrying and joining a Norwegian member of IS in Syria. She has already broken down in court several times, claiming she ended up being beaten and abused and not allowed to leave.

Source: <https://www.newsenglish.no/2021/03/02/isil-terror-suspect-cries-in-court/>

Reported: 02/03/2021



NEWS



Australia

Terrorism

Event – Australia to add 1st far-right extremist group to terrorist list.

Summary – A Britain-based neo-Nazi outfit will become the first far-right group to be listed as a terrorist organization in Australia, authorities said Tuesday, after growing warnings from security services. The Department of Home Affairs signaled that the Sonnenkrieg Division would join the current list of 27 proscribed organizations, which have so far been exclusively extremists or separatist groups linked to the Middle East and Central Asia.

Source: <https://www.dailysabah.com/world/asia-pacific/australia-to-add-1st-far-right-extremist-group-to-terrorist-list>

Reported: 02/03/2021

Nigeria

Terrorism

Event – ISWAP jihadists attack UN base in Nigeria, trapping 25 aid workers.

Summary – Jihadists linked to the Islamic State have attacked a UN base and overrun a humanitarian hub in northeastern Nigeria, trapping 25 aid workers, security and humanitarian sources said. Scores of Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP) fighters invaded the town of Dikwa in restive Borno state, dislodging troops from the military base and torching the humanitarian hub, a military source told AFP.

Source: <https://www.thedefensepost.com/2021/03/02/iswap-attacks-un-base-nigeria/>

Reported: 02/03/2021

Libya

IS Attack

Event – Gravesites of four Filipino workers executed by IS in Libya located.

Summary – The gravesites of four Filipino oil workers who were kidnapped and later executed by IS extremists in Libya six years ago have finally been located, the Philippine Embassy in Libya.

Source: <https://www.libyaobserver.ly/news/gravesites-four-filipino-workers-executed-isis-libya-located>

Reported: 02/03/2021



NEWS



Somalia

Terrorist Attack

Event – al-Shabaab executes civilians.

Summary – The Somali-based al-Qaeda-affiliated terror group al-Shabaab has executed five civilians in the southern town of Jilib in Somalia's Middle Juba region. According to local official Abdirahman Adan the people executed by al-Shabaab were civilians. The terror group accused the five executed of spying for US and Somali intelligence agencies, according to al-Shabaab-affiliated media. They were executed publicly by a firing squad after a so-called al-Shabaab court in Jilib allegedly convicted them of being spies for US and Somali intelligence agencies.

Source: <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/africa/somalia-al-shabaab-executes-5-people-for-spying/2162149>

Reported: 02/03/2021

Nigeria

Terrorism

Event – 6 dead in jihadist attacks in northeast Nigeria.

Summary – Aid groups in Nigeria said six civilians died in a suspected jihadist attack on a northeastern town that, according to the UN, “directly targeted” aid facilities. At least six civilians lost their lives in crossfire, several others were injured and are still missing, the Nigeria INGO Forum, gathering 54 international charities, said in a statement. A military source told AFP that fighters from the Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP), which split from mainstream Boko Haram in 2016, were behind an assault on the town of Dikwa.

Source: <https://www.thedefensepost.com/2021/03/03/six-dead-jihadist-attacks-northeast-nigeria/>

Reported: 03/03/2021

Iraq

IS

Event – IS operates in Iraq through border gaps and hidden tunnels.

Summary – According to security authorities in Al-Anbar, the hunt for Islamic State terrorists is still going on, and many of them are killed or arrested. However, the border gaps and secret tunnels - set up during their control of the governorate - facilitate the return and movement of its militants again.

Source: <https://shafaq.com/en/Report/ISIS-operates-in-Iraq-through-border-gaps-and-hidden-tunnels>

Reported: 03/03/2021



NEWS



Sweden

Terrorist Attack

Event – Several people seriously injured in attack in southern Sweden.

Summary – Swedish Police received an alert stating that a person was attacking people with a weapon (reported by some media as a knife and by others as an axe) in the central city of Vetlanda. At least seven people were hurt during the attacks, some receiving serious injuries. Several Police patrols were summoned to the crime scenes and managed to seize a suspect, who is a male in his twenties. Local broadcaster SVT said he is an Afghan national now resident in Sweden who is known to Police for petty crimes. Police have not confirmed these reports.

Source: <https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/counterterrorism/several-people-seriously-injured-in-attack-in-southern-sweden/>

Reported: 04/03/2021

Democratic Republic of Congo

Terrorist Attack

Event – Attanasio's Congolese prosecutor murdered.

Summary – According to Congolese Army Force, Ruthsuru Chief Military Prosecutor William Hassani have been killed on RN2 road, where Italian Ambasciator Luca Attanasio has been murdered. Prosecutor Hassani and his security convoy was traveling from Goma to Kaunga while they were involved in a gunfight against local military opposers. Hassani was conducting an investigation about Attanasio's murder.

Source:

https://www.repubblica.it/esteri/2021/03/04/news/caso_attanasio_nuova_imboscata_sulla_rn2_ucciso_il_procuratore_capo_che_indagava_sul_massacro-290363993/?ref=RHTP-BH-I288512892-P1-S6-T1

Reported: 04/03/2021

United Kingdom

IS

Event – Islamic State fans are using Drake, Spongebob, and marvel memes to galvanize new recruits.

Summary – Their largest Facebook page is the 11,000-follower strong "Company for the 'Clanging of the Memes'," which is in and of itself a play on IS's notorious "Clanging of the Swords" video series released in 2012, as equal parts snuff film and recruitment effort.

Source: <https://uk.news.yahoo.com/isis-fans-using-drake-spongebob-100357279.html>

Reported: 05/03/2021



NEWS



Burkina Faso

Terrorism

Event – 5 civilian volunteers, one soldier killed in Burkina Faso ambush.

Summary – Six people including civilians were killed when a military detachment was ambushed in northern Burkina Faso, security sources said. The nation, among the world's poorest, is struggling with a jihadist insurgency that has killed more than 1,000 people and displaced hundreds of thousands.

Source: <https://www.thedefensepost.com/2021/03/08/civilian-volunteers-killed-burkina-faso/>

Reported: 08/03/2021

Italy

Terrorism

Event – Algeria's Athmane Touami arrested in Bari, Italy, accused of supporting terrorism in Paris, France.

Summary – 36-year-old Algerian, arrested in Bari on charges of supporting the radical Muslim group behind the terrorist attacks on Bataclan and the stadium of France and in three Parisian neighborhoods in 2015. Investigations show that the Algerian contributed to the attacks that led to 130 deaths in France, provided counterfeit documents to the perpetrators of those terrorist attacks, and had already worked with IS extremists in other European countries such as Belgium and Spain.

Source: <https://conandaily.com/2021/03/08/algerias-athmane-touami-arrested-in-bari-italy-accused-of-supporting-terrorism-in-paris-france/>

Reported: 08/03/2021

Somalia

Terrorist Attack

Event – Explosions against UN offices and AMISOM.

Summary – A mortar attack targeted the UN offices and African Union peacekeeping mission in Mogadishu. The offices are located inside the heavily protected Adan Adde International Airport and the compound houses several western diplomatic missions in Somalia. Security sources report 3 explosions hit the compound. Eyewitnesses at the airport told they heard over 5 explosions in and around the airport. UN secretary-general's special representative for Somalia James Swan condemn Somali-based terror group al-Shabaab as responsible for the attack.

Source: <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/africa/somalia-un-african-union-offices-hit-in-mogadishu/2169894>

Reported: 09/03/2021



NEWS



Nigeria

Counter Terrorism

Event – Nigerian counter terrorism operation against Boko Haram.

Summary – According to local reports, Nigerian special forces eliminated 33 Boko Haram fighters in clashes in the country's northeastern Borno state. Many other terrorists fled the scene and the army confiscated a significant amount of ammunition. Two soldiers also lost their lives and seven others were wounded during the operation.

Source: <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/africa/nigerian-troops-kill-33-boko-haram-terrorists/2170500>

Reported: 10/03/2021

Tunisia/UK

Counter Terrorism

Event – Tunisia, Britain to develop joint Counter-Terrorism.

Summary – Tunisia and Britain announced efforts to develop a joint strategy to combat terrorism and its impact.

Source: <https://english.aawsat.com/home/article/2855961/tunisia-britain-develop-joint-counter-terror-plan>

Reported: 12/03/2021

Nigeria

Terrorist Attack

Event – Boko Haram Attack

Summary – According to media reports, 19 people were killed by Boko Haram group in the northeastern state of Borno in Nigeria. Terrorists attacked a military convoy in Gudumbali in the Lake Chad region, killing 15 soldiers and four Joint Task Force members.

Source: <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/africa/nigeria-19-killed-in-boko-haram-terror-attack/2175197>

Reported: 14/03/2021

Iraq

IS

Event – IS behind brutal attack in Salah al-Din province, Iraq military says.

Summary – Islamic State militants were behind Thursday's brutal killings north of Baghdad where they shot dead 8 people in three separate attacks, including 6 family members, according to an Iraqi military statement released.

Source: <https://edition.cnn.com/2021/03/13/middleeast/isis-iraq-salah-al-din-province-attack-intl/index.html>

Reported: 14/03/2021



NEWS



Democratic Republic of Congo

Terrorist attack

Event – Ugandan armed group Allied Democratic Forces attack.

Summary – According to the Kivu Security Tracker (KST), 15 civilians were killed in Bulongo, in North Kivu province. The attack was attributed to Ugandan armed group Allied Democratic Forces.

Source: <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/africa/rebels-kill-at-least-15-civilians-in-eastern-dr-congo/2176547>

Reported: 15/03/2021

Congo

Terrorism

Event – 15 massacred in East DR Congo, ADF militia suspected.

Summary – At least 15 civilians were massacred overnight in eastern DR Congo, a monitoring group in the region, saying the notorious ADF militia were suspected. The Allied Democratic Forces is a historically Ugandan Islamist group that has holed up in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo since 1995. It has the reputation of being the bloodiest of the 122 militias which plague the eastern DRC, many of them a legacy of the Congo Wars of the 1990s.

Source: <https://www.thedefensepost.com/2021/03/15/15-massacred-dr-congo-adf-suspected/>

Reported: 15/03/2021

Nigeria

Terrorism

Event – Kidnapping.

Summary – According to local authorities, an armed group abducted teachers and students of a primary school in Kaduna State. In a statement, Samuel Aruwan, commissioner for Internal Security and Home Affairs of Kaduna State, said details about the actual number of students and teachers are being gathered. No one has yet claimed responsibility for the attack.

Source: <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/africa/armed-men-abduct-schoolteachers-students-in-nw-nigeria/2176769>

Reported: 15/03/2021



NEWS



Nigeria

Counter Terrorism

Event – Nigerian counter terrorism operation against Boko Haram.

Summary – Nigerian special forces eliminated 41 Boko Haram fighters in the country's northeastern Borno state. The army also recovered sophisticated weapons and rescued 60 women and children who were being held by the terrorists. 4 soldiers were killed and many others were injured during the operation.

Source: <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/africa/nigerian-troops-kill-41-boko-haram-terrorists/2177207>

Reported: 16/03/2021

Africa

Terrorism

Event – US designates two African armed groups as foreign terrorist organizations.

Summary – The United States Department of State has designated 2 armed groups, based in Mozambique and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as foreign terrorist organizations. In a statement released last week, the US Department of State identified the groups as Mozambique's Ahlu Sunnah Wa-Jama and Congo's Allied Democratic Forces (ADF). In its statement, the US Department of State also said that the two groups have declared allegiance to the Islamic State.

Source: <https://intelnews.org/2021/03/16/01-2969/>

Reported: 16/03/2021

Niger

Terrorist Attack

Event – Suspected terrorist attack in Tillabery region.

Summary – According to government statement, armed men killed 58 people in Tillabery region, when they intercepted a convoy returning from a weekly market and attacked a nearby village.

Source: <https://www.france24.com/en/africa/20210316-dozens-killed-by-armed-men-in-southwestern-niger-government-says>

Reported: 16/03/2021



NEWS



Syria

Attack

Event – Twelve troops killed in militant ambush in South Syria.

Summary – Armed men killed 12 Syrian soldiers in an ambush in the southern province of Daraa. “At least 12 members of the Fourth Armoured Division and the regime’s intelligence units were killed in an ambush by militants,” the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said. The soldiers were en route to the al-Mzairib district in the rural west of the province to arrest a former opposition commander when they came under fire by militants loyal to him who sought to thwart his capture, Observatory head Rami Abdul Rahman said.

Source: <https://www.thedefensepost.com/2021/03/16/twelve-troops-killed-ambush-south-syria/>

Reported: 16/03/2021

Nigeria

Attack

Event – Gunmen Attack.

Summary – According to security sources, 40 Nigerien civilians were killed in an attack in Banibangou near the Malian border by unidentified gunmen. No one has yet claimed responsibility for the attack.

Source: <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/africa/niger-dozens-of-civilians-killed-near-malian-border/2178426>

Reported: 17/03/2021

Mali

Terrorist Attack

Event – Attack on Northern Mali Army Base.

Summary – According to what was reported by army officers, 31 soldiers were killed in an attack in northern Mali in one of the deadliest assaults on the military this year. Dozens of assailants on motorbikes and pickup trucks stormed a military post southwest of the town of Ansongo. The death toll had further risen to 31 and the bodies of 13 assailants were found after the clash.

Source: <https://www.france24.com/en/africa/20210317-dozens-of-soldiers-killed-in-attack-on-northern-mali-army-base>

Reported: 17/03/2021



NEWS



Afghanistan

Gunmen

Event – Gunmen ambush university bus in Afghanistan killing at least two.

Summary – Gunmen ambushed a bus carrying university staff in northeastern Afghanistan killing the driver and a student. 6 university lecturers were also wounded during the attack in Baghlan province. The Taliban group denied involvement.

Source: <https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2021/03/16/gunmen-ambush-university-bus-in-afghanistan-killing-at-least-two/>

Reported: 17/03/2021

Mali

Terrorism

Event – Attack against military post.

Summary – According to military sources, 31 soldiers were killed in an attack against military force in Ansongo, near borders with Burkina Faso and Niger.

Source: <https://www.france24.com/en/africa/20210317-dozens-of-soldiers-killed-in-attack-on-northern-mali-army-base?fbclid=IwAR2idEvFyDfT73cktjXb-cBJMcZacYPdcX67WUzVRtP485RAvQQUsIWA1Zs>

Reported: 17/03/2021

USA/Cuba

Terrorism

Event – US terrorism sponsor list further complicates Cuba banking.

Summary – Former President Donald Trump's decision to put Cuba back on the US list of state sponsors of terrorism just before he left office threw up fresh obstacles to international banking with the island, according to five Havana-based foreign businessmen and diplomats. Many analysts believe Biden will reverse the terrorism decision in the coming months, but in the meantime, it is further undermining the Cuban economy, which fell 11% last year and has shown no sign of improvement so far in 2021, with key earner tourism down 95% compared with the same period last year due to the pandemic.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-cuba-sanctions/u-s-terrorism-sponsor-listing-further-complicates-cuba-banking-idUSKBN2BA24C>

Reported: 18/03/2021



NEWS



Afghanistan

Counter Terrorism

Event – 63 Taliban rebels killed in fresh raids.

Summary – At least 63 Taliban insurgents have been killed and 21 others were wounded during latest crackdowns carried out by the Afghan security forces in different provinces around the country. In a series of clearance operations, the Afghan security forces supported by the Afghan Air Forces killed at least 34 Taliban rebels in Arghandab, Pajwai and Zherai districts of southern Kandahar province.

Source: <http://www.afghanistantimes.af/63-taliban-rebels-killed-in-fresh-raids/>
Reported: 18/03/2021

Nigeria

Counter Terrorism

Event – Nigerian troops operation against Boko Haram terrorists.

Summary – Nigerian Special Forces eliminated 57 Boko Haram fighters in the country's northeastern state of Borno. The Nigerian army conducted operations against the terror group in the Damboa and Gwoza local government areas of the state. Several other members of the terrorist group were wounded yet managed to escape.

Source: <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/africa/nigerian-troops-kill-57-boko-haram-terrorists/2185971>
Reported: 24/03/2021

Syria

IS

Event – IS kills and injures several regime soldiers and loyalists near Deir Ezzor-Damascus highway.

Summary – Syrian Observatory for Human Rights sources have reported an attack by Islamic State members on positions of regime forces and their proxy factions near Al-Shawla area in the south of Deir Ezzor city in the Syrian desert, near Deir Ezzor-Damascus highway.

Source: <https://www.syriahr.com/en/211077/>
Reported: 24/03/2021



NEWS



Syria

IS

Event – Islamic State kills 15 residents of Syria's sprawling al-Hol displacement camp in March.

Summary – The Syrian Democratic Forces announced that 15 residents of the notorious al-Hol displacement camp the group runs in northeastern Syria were killed in the month of March, including three women.

Source: <https://www.kurdistan24.net/en/story/24152-ISIS-kills-15-residents-of-Syria>
Reported: 24/03/2021

Democratic Republic of Congo

Counter Terrorism

Event – Counter-terrorism operation

Summary – 27 member of Cooperation for the Development of Congo (CODECO) armed group, 5 civilians and a soldier were killed during a military operation in Iga Barriere, Ituri.

Source: <https://www.tostvnetwork.com/33-killed-in-dr-congo-crackdown-on-rebels/>
Reported: 24/03/2021

Turkey/Iraq

Terrorism

Event – Turkish security forces have killed six PKK members that were preparing to launch an attack in northern Iraq.

Summary – The members were detected and eliminated in the Operation Claw-Tiger region by fire support vehicles.

Source: <https://www.dailysabah.com/politics/war-on-terror/turkey-kills-6-pkk-terrorists-planning-to-launch-attack-in-n-iraq>
Reported: 25/03/2021

Somalia

Terrorism

Event – Attack against African Union Mission in Somalia airport base.

Summary – 4 civilians were killed and nine others injured by mortar shells that were targeting peacekeeping force AMISOM's base at Mogadishu airport. There was no immediate claim of responsibility, but should underlined that Somalia's Islamist group al-Shabaab has conducted similar attacks against AMISOM during past months.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/article/uk-somalia-violence/at-least-four-dead-after-mortar-fire-strike-in-somalias-mogadishu-idUSKBN2BH1TU>
Reported: 25/03/2021



NEWS



USA

Counter Terrorism

Event – United States seizes websites used by foreign terrorist organization.

Summary – The United States has seized “r-m-n.net” and “Almaalomah.com,” two websites that were unlawfully utilized by Kata’ib Hizballah, a Specially Designated National and a Foreign Terrorist Organization.

Source: <https://www.justice.gov/usao-edva/pr/united-states-seizes-websites-used-foreign-terrorist-organization>

Reported: 25/03/2021

Morocco

IS

Event – Four arrested in Morocco for links to alleged Islamic State attack plot.

Summary – Special agents in eastern Morocco arrested four suspected IS-linked extremists who were allegedly assigned to attack a military base and other sensitive targets.

Source: <https://english.alarabiya.net/News/north-africa/2021/03/25/Four-arrested-in-Morocco-for-links-to-alleged-ISIS-attack-plot>

Reported: 25/03/2021

USA/Afghanistan

Counter Terrorism

Event – Biden wants to explore keeping US counter-terror troops in Afghanistan.

Summary – The Biden administration is looking to keep United States troops in Afghanistan past a May 1 deadline while exploring a deal in which the Taliban would allow a US counter-terrorism force to remain as they confront their so-called Islamic State foes, a top US lawmaker said on Wednesday.

Source: <https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2021/03/25/biden-wants-to-explore-keeping-us-counter-terror-troops-in-afghanistan-top-lawmaker/>

Reported: 25/03/2021



NEWS



Saudi Arabia

Terrorist Attack

Event – Houthi attack sparks fire at Saudi oil terminal

Summary – A projectile attack sparked a fire at an oil terminal in southern Saudi Arabia. It comes as Yemen's Houthi rebels escalate attacks on the kingdom - including its energy facilities - despite Saudi Arabia's offer this week for a ceasefire.

Source: <https://english.alaraby.co.uk/english/news/2021/3/26/houthi-attack-sparks-fire-at-saudi-oil-terminal>

Reported: 26/03/2021

Somalia

Counter Terrorism Operation

Event – Nigerian Army troops operation against Boko Haram.

Summary – The Nigerian Army troops of 28 Task Force Brigade in Chibok and Askira, have neutralised about 48 Boko Haram terrorists and rescued 11 abducted victims in latest onslaught in Borno.

Source: <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2021/03/troops-eliminate-48-terrorists-rescue-11-victims-in-borno-army/>

Reported: 28/03/2021

Turkey

Counter Terrorism Operation

Event – Turkey nabs senior DHKP-C terrorists in Istanbul.

Summary – Turkish security forces arrested two senior figures linked to the far-left DHKP-C group, according to a security source. Yasemin Karadağ, a so-called senior member of the group responsible for operations in Turkey, and Yeter Gönül Aydın, a member responsible for the group's officers, were nabbed in Istanbul.

Source: <https://www.dailysabah.com/politics/war-on-terror/turkey-nabs-senior-dhkp-c-terrorists-in-istanbul>

Reported: 30/03/2021



NEWS



Canada

Counter Terrorism

Event – Canada extends anti-IS mission in Middle East by one year.

Summary – The Liberal government has approved a slimmed-down extension of the Canadian military's contribution to the ongoing fight against the remnants of Islamic State. Defence Minister Harjit Sajjan issued a statement announcing an extension of the seven-year-old campaign, known as Operation Impact. The international effort to shore up the military capacity of Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon will see the involvement of Canadian troops for one more year. Although the government has authorization to deploy up to 850 soldiers in support of the anti-terrorism mission, Canada's current contribution in the coming year will be significantly smaller, involving 17 troops serving with NATO in an advisory capacity. NATO is helping to rebuild the country's defence ministry and its ability to stand up to IS militants.

Source: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/operation-impact-isis-canadian-forces-1.5969851>
Reported: 30/03/2021

Mozambique

Terrorist Attack

Event – IS linked militant attack.

Summary – According to country's defence department's spokesperson, dozens of people are dead following an attack by Islamic State linked militants in Palma (northern Mozambique town). Hundreds of militants targeted shops, banks and a military barracks. Hundreds of others, both locals and foreigners, were reportedly rescued from Palma after the attack.

Source: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-56557623>
Reported: 30/03/2021



NEWS



Iraq

Terrorism

Event – PMF commander killed in clash with IS.

Summary – A commander of the state-sponsored Popular Mobilization Forces (PMF, Hashd al-Shaabi in Arabic) was killed in a clash with Islamic State militants in Iraq's Salahaddin province. Hassan Muhammad al-Asadi, commander of a regiment in Brigade 314, and a fighter from Brigade 315 were killed during clashes with ISIS militants southwest of Samarra

Source: <https://www.rudaw.net/english/middleeast/iraq/30032021>

Reported: 31/03/2021

Democratic Republic of Congo

Terrorist Attack

Event – Suspected ADF rebels attack.

Summary – According to senior local officer, Suspected Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) militia fighters have killed 23 people in yet another massacre in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). The governor of North Kivu reported that fighters attacked a village in the Beni region late on Tuesday night, blaming the ADF rebels for the killings.

Source: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/3/31/suspected-adf-militia-kill-23-in-new-eastern-dr-congo-massacre>

Reported: 31/03/2021



SECURITY AND DEFENCE TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATIONS

This section gathers news collected from sources related technological innovations. News are proposed in cronological order.



NEWS



Europe/UAE

Missiles

Event – MBDA, Tawazun sign agreement on SmartGlider development.

Summary – Tawazun and MBDA have signed a head of terms agreement with the intent to cooperate in the field of smart guided weapon systems. Matar Ali Romaithi, Chief Officer of the Economic Development Unit at Tawazun and Florent Duleux, Group Export Sales Director at MBDA, signed the document during this year's IDEX exhibition. The aim is to create a long-term partnership between Tawazun and MBDA, enabling the development of the SmartGlider weapon systems from design to production phase. A joint team of engineers from both sides, the majority from Tawazun, will be in charge of development studies. They will be operating from MBDA's first regional Missile Engineering Centre established in the UAE.

Source: <https://euro-sd.com/2021/02/headline/21472/tawazun-mbda/>

Reported: 01/03/2021

Russia

Satellite

Event – Russia launches its first Arctic-monitoring satellite.

Summary – A Russian Soyuz-2.1b carrier rocket with the "Arktika-M" satellite on board blasts off from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. The Arktika-M will provide round-the-clock continuous monitoring of the northern territory of Russia and the seas of the Arctic Ocean.

Source: <http://www.ecns.cn/hd/2021-03-01/detail-ihaiamhw1112500.shtml#>

Reported: 01/03/2021



NEWS



Kazakhstan

Technological Innovations

Event – Kazakhstan tests Turkey-made combat vehicle, weapon system.

Summary – Kazakhstan's military tested the Turkey-made Arma 8x8 wheeled armored combat vehicle and Nefer remote-controlled stabilized weapon system, according to a statement made by the Kazakhstan Defense Ministry. The features of the military vehicle manufactured by Turkish land vehicles maker Otokar and the weapon system produced by leading Turkish defense industry firm Aselsan were tested in the Spassk exercise area located in the Karaganda province of the Central Asian country.

Source: <https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/kazakhstan-tests-turkey-made-combat-vehicle-weapon-system>

Reported: 02/03/2021

USA

Electronic Warfare

Event – Important Air Force electronic warfare contract.

Summary – An important military industry secured a \$58 million contract to begin low-rate initial production of an electronic warfare system for F-15s to protect pilots from advanced threats coming over the electromagnetic spectrum. The system allows pilots to monitor, jam and deceive threats in contested airspace. It combines multispectral sensors and countermeasures, signal processing, microelectronics and algorithms to deliver radar warning, situational awareness, geolocation and self-protection capabilities.

Source: <https://www.c4isrnet.com/electronic-warfare/2021/03/02/bae-wins-air-force-electronic-warfare-contract/>

Reported: 02/03/2021

Turkey

Drones

Event – Turkey's Baykar begins designing AI-powered combat drone.

Summary – A Turkish drone maker has begun the conceptual design phase of what it hopes will become the country's first combat drone. The privately owned company will complete the conceptual design phase by 2023. The planned drone will fly at an operational altitude of 40,000 feet flying for five hours.

Source: <https://www.c4isrnet.com/artificial-intelligence/2021/03/01/turkeys-baykar-begins-designing-ai-powered-combatdrone/#:~:text=The%20privately%20owned%20company%20will,operational%20altitude%20of%2040%2C000%20feet>

Reported: 02/03/2021



NEWS



Thailand

Air Force

Event – Royal Thai Air Force to upgrade Gripen C/D combat aircraft to MS20 standard.

Summary – The Royal Thai Air Force's (RTAF's) Directorate of Aeronautical Engineering (DAE) has awarded a contract for the upgrade of the service's 11 Saab JAS 39 Gripen C/D multirole combat aircraft to the latest MS20 standard. The THB631.725 million (USD20.84 million) contract was signed with the Swedish Defence Materiel Administration.

Source: <https://thaimilitaryandasianregion.blogspot.com/2021/03/royal-thai-air-force-to-upgrade-gripen.html>

Reported: 03/03/2021

Australia

Air Force

Event – Three more F-35A Joint Strike Fighters delivered to RAAF.

Summary – The Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) received three new Lockheed Martin F-35A Lightning II Joint Strike Fighters on 11 February. The aircraft, which arrived at RAAF Base Williamtown, north of Sydney, after completing a three-day journey from the United States as part of 'Exercise Lightning Ferry 21-1', are the first to join the fleet since the F-35A reached initial operational capability in December 2020.

Source: <https://www.janes.com/defence-news/news-detail/three-more-f-35a-joint-strike-fighters-delivered-to-raaf>

Reported: 03/03/2021

USA

Blockchain Tech

Event – JPMorgan goes 'out of this world' to test blockchain tech; may set stage for payments between IoT devices.

Summary – According to GomSpace, space-based payments have opened the door to a potential peer-to-peer DvP (data versus payment) satellite marketplace in the long term, as private companies prepare to launch their own constellations. Investment bank JPMorgan recently tested blockchain's decentralised network to see if two machines could transact autonomously. The experiment involved carrying out blockchain-based payments between satellites in space "which validated the approach towards a decentralized network where communication with the earth is not necessary," according to a statement by GomSpace.

Source: <https://www.financialexpress.com/industry/banking-finance/jpmorgan-goes-out-of-this-world-to-test-blockchain-tech-may-set-stage-for-payments-between-iot-devices/2205685/lite/>

Reported: 03/03/2021



NEWS



Taiwan

Military Jet Testing

Event – Taiwan's T-5 advanced jet trainer to begin operational testing.

Summary – Taiwan's Aerospace Industrial Development Corporation (AIDC) announced on 2 March that its T-5 Yung Yin ('Brave Eagle') advanced jet trainer (AJT)/light fighter aircraft will soon be handed over to the Republic of China Air Force (RoCAF) to undergo operational testing and evaluation.

Source: <https://dimdex.com/News/taiwans-t-5-advanced-jet-trainer-to-begin-operational-testing/>

Reported: 03/03/2021

Italy

Technology

Event – Here come the robots inspired by plant seeds.

Summary – Biodegradable autorobots equipped with sensors capable of monitoring both the soil and the presence of pollutants, as well as the air and levels of CO₂, temperature and humidity. The I-Seed project is coordinated by the Italian Institute of Technology with the involvement of European partners and aims to understand, monitor, restore and preserve the balance of environmental ecosystems. The researchers were inspired by the behavior of plant seeds during their dispersal in the air or on the ground, in order to create miniaturized, self-distributing and biodegradable autorobots, in fact the I-Seed Ero robot was designed as a soft autorobot, in able to penetrate on the ground, while the I-Sood Sam was conceived as an autorobot capable of operating in the air and on the ground.

Source: https://www.adnkronos.com/arrivano-i-robot-ispirati-ai-semi-delle-piante_2ociVUAOV3VFREnr3To2A?refresh_ce

Reported: 03/03/2021

Italy

Technological Innovations

Event – Navy: tests for F-35B use on aircraft carrier Cavour are underway.

Summary – The Navy has begun sea trials for the certification of the Cavour aircraft carrier for the use of F-35Bs. The first V-generation American aircraft, in fact, is set up, thus starting the hot phase of certification in synergy with the US team. Left on February 28 from the base of the US Navy's Second Fleet in Norfolk, the Cavour ship has started the "hot" phase of the "Ready for Operations" campaign. The first landing of a US Marine Corps F-35B aircraft on the deck of the Navy aircraft carrier represents a fundamental step in the long and complex certification process for the use of the new aircraft.

Source: <https://www.ofcs.it/internazionale/difesa-e-sicurezza-nazionale/marina-militare-al-via-le-prove-per-uso-f-35b-sulla-cavour/#gsc.tab=0>

Reported: 03/03/2021



NEWS



Turkey

Technological Innovation

Event – Turkey's Otokar unveils new armored mine-protected vehicle.

Summary – Turkish armored land vehicles producer Otokar has added a new mine-resistant ambush-protected (MRAP) vehicle to its Cobra II product family. The Cobra II 4x4 armored vehicles family was developed with local resources. They are the newest addition to the Cobra product family that is in active service in Turkey and 15 other countries.

Source: https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkeys-otokar-unveils-new-armored-mine-protected-vehicle?gallery_image=undefined#big

Reported: 04/03/2021

USA

Nuclear Submarine

Event – Delivery of Nuclear Submarine Montana (SSN 794) to U.S. Navy in Late 2021.

Summary – Huntington Ingalls Industries (HII) announced that the Virginia-class nuclear submarine Montana (SSN 794) was launched into the James River at the company's Newport News Shipbuilding division.

Source:

https://www.defenseworld.net/news/29096/Delivery_of_Nuclear_Submarine_Montana__SSN_794_to_U_S_Navy_in_Late_2021

Reported: 04/03/2021

USA

UAS

Event – US Army's unmanned aircraft rodeo firms up requirements for Shadow replacement.

Summary – The US Army is putting the finishing touches on its requirements for a replacement for its Shadow unmanned aircraft system as it conducts a week-long rodeo with four tactical UAS that offer far greater capability than the decades old, runway-dependent, noisy and logistically burdensome system used today. The Future Tactical Unmanned Aircraft Systems (FTUAS) rodeo is part of a long-running evaluation of future capabilities.

Source: <https://www.defensenews.com/land/2021/03/03/us-armys-unmanned-aircraft-rodeo-firms-up-requirements-for-shadow-replacement/>

Reported: 04/03/2021



NEWS



Egypt/China

Technology Cooperation

Event – China, Egypt ink cooperation deal on technology incubators.

Summary – Egypt and China signed a deal to conduct cooperation on technology incubators, the Chinese embassy in Cairo said.

Source: http://www.china.org.cn/world/2021-03/05/content_77273856.htm

Reported: 05/03/2021

Australia

Technological Innovation

Event – Australia launches enterprise initiative for OPV programme

Summary – Australia has launched initiatives to support enhanced industrial collaboration in the programme to build Arafura-class Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPVs) for the Royal Australian Navy. The Department of Defence in Canberra said on 5 March that it had established an OPV Enterprise initiative and a related systems programme office at the Henderson maritime precinct in Western Australia, where the majority of the vessels were being constructed.

Source: https://www.janes.com/defence-news/news-detail/australia-launches-enterprise-initiative-for-opv-programme_16052

Reported: 08/03/2021

Turkey

Technological Innovation

Event – Turkey's local air defense system hits target in longest range test.

Summary – Turkey's Hisar-O+ medium-range air defense system has successfully completed a test firing, which was the longest range and the highest altitude test conducted in the country to date. The delivery of the Hisar-A+ short-range air defense system, which is the upgraded version of Hisar-A, now that the Hisar-O+, the upgraded version of Hisar-O, has successfully passed the test by destroying an air target by hitting it directly.

Source: <https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkeys-local-air-defense-system-hits-target-in-longest-range-test>

Reported: 09/03/2021



NEWS



Turkey/South Korea

Technological Innovation

Event – Turkey in talks with S Korean firms for MBT Altay's engine

Summary – Turkey considers South Korea an option for the purchase of an engine for its domestic Main Battle Tank (MBT) Altay, according to a report. The Turkish land vehicles manufacturer BMC, the company that undertook the Altay project, agreed with two South Korean companies, Doosan Infracore Co. and S&T Dynamics Co., for the engine and transmission.

Source: <https://announce.today/home/announce/Uh9qOqB0dgwaEbckOyxP>

Reported: 10/03/2021

UAE/Israel

Drones

Event – UAE weapons maker teams up with Israel Aerospace for anti-drone tech.

Summary – Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) will jointly develop an advanced drone defense system with United Arab Emirates' state-owned weapons maker EDGE. Israel and the UAE formalized relations last year, brought closer by commercial interests and concern over Iran. State-owned IAI, a major Israeli defense firm, said in a statement that the companies will develop a Counter-Unmanned Aircraft System “tailored to the UAE market, with wider ranging benefits for the MENA region and beyond”.

Source: <https://english.alarabiya.net/News/gulf/2021/03/11/Israel-relations-UAE-weapons-maker-teams-up-with-Israel-Aerospace-for-anti-drone-tech>

Reported: 11/03/2021

Italy

Navy

Event – Vulcano logistic support ship delivers to Italian Navy.

Summary – The Italian Navy's new logistic support ship (LSS), Vulcano (A 5335), handed over during a ceremony held at its Muggiano shipyard in La Spezia. The LSS was built by Fincantieri under a contract awarded by European defence procurement organisation OCCAR in May 2015 on behalf of the Italian Ministry of Defence. Vulcano is the first of a class of three ships planned to replace the Italian Navy's Stromboli-class fleet replenishment oilers under the service's multiyear fleet renewal programme.

Source: https://www.fincantieri.com/globalassets/press-releases/non-price-sensitive/2021/consegna-lss-vulcano_eng.pdf

Reported: 12/03/2021



NEWS



Turkey

Technological Innovation

Event – Turkey's landmark combat drone Akinci completes another test.

Summary – The second prototype of Turkey's state-of-the-art Unmanned Combat Aerial Vehicle (UCAV) Akinci has successfully passed another test. The identification test of the ANKICI PT-2 developed system has been successfully completed.

Source: <https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkeys-landmark-combat-drone-akinci-completes-another-test>

Reported: 14/03/2021

Turkey

Technological Innovation

Event – Turkey wants to turn the amphibious assault ship LHD Anadolu into a drone platform.

Summary – The Turkish Navy would have its first aircraft carrier this year. However, the exclusion from the F-35 program (a 100 aircraft order), due to the purchase of the Russian S-400 surface-to-air missile system, in 2019, prevented Ankara from acquiring the STOVL version (F-35B). The only 5th generation embarked fighter capable of taking off from short runways and landing vertically. This made it impossible to transform the new LHD Anadolu into an aircraft carrier. Hence the project to transform the amphibious ship into an unprecedented platform, or rather into a "drone carrier".

Source: <https://www.difesaonline.it/mondo-militare/la-turchia-vuole-trasformare-la-lhd-anadolu-una-piattaforma-droni>

Reported: 15/03/2021

Turkey

Technological Innovation

Event – Turkey to use Ukrainian engine in its heavy class attack helicopters.

Summary – Turkey's heavy class attack helicopter, ATAK 2 will use an engine purchased from Ukraine. Temel Kotil, chairperson of the Turkish Aerospace Industries (TAI), which undertook the helicopter project said that they will acquire the engines to power the T929 helicopter, namely ATAK 2, from Ukraine.

Source: <https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkey-to-use-ukrainian-engine-in-its-heavy-class-attack-helicopters>

Reported: 15/03/2021



NEWS



Turkey

Technological Innovation

Event – Turkish Anka UCAV's useful load capacity increased

Summary – The useful load capacity of Turkey's domestic Medium-Altitude, Long-Endurance (MALE) Unmanned Combat Aerial Vehicle (UCAV) Anka was upgraded by 50 kilograms, according to information obtained by a defense site. The payload capacity of Anka UCAV, produced by Turkish Aerospace Industries (TAI), has officially increased to 250 kilograms from 200 kilograms.

Source: <https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkish-anka-ucavs-useful-load-capacity-increased>

Reported: 15/03/2021

Israel

Technology

Event – Israel unveils laser-guided 'Precision' mortar system.

Summary – Israel unveiled Sunday a laser-guided mortar system that it said could reduce civilian collateral damage, as the Jewish state faces an International Criminal Court investigation into possible war crimes. The "Iron Sting" system, developed by the Israeli military with local firm Elbit Systems, will use laser and GPS technology to provide maximal accuracy to 120mm mortar rounds, the defense ministry said in a statement. The system will "contend with enemies hidden within civilian, urban environments, while meeting the legal and moral standards set by the State of Israel," Defence Minister Benny Gantz said in the statement.

Source: <https://www.thedefensepost.com/2021/03/15/israel-laser-guided-mortar-system/>

Reported: 15/03/2021

Portugal

Battle Tank

Event – Portugal considers adding active protection systems to tanks.

Summary – The Portuguese Army is considering adding an active protection system (APS) to its Krauss-Maffei Wegmann (KMW) Leopard 2A6 main battle tanks (MBTs), providing the tank with 360° detection, tracking, and interception of incoming anti-tank munitions. This possibility is being studied and discussed and could eventually become part of the planned mid-life upgrade (MLU) of the fleet, Major Ricardo Jorge Parcelas Araújo e Silva, an area coordinator at the Forces Planning Division.

Source: <https://www.janes.com/defence-news/news-detail/portugal-considers-adding-active-protection-systems-to-tanks>

Reported: 15/03/2021



NEWS



Israel/South Korea

UCAV

Event – Israel, South Korea to co-operate on unmanned airborne ISTAR.

Summary – Israel and South Korea are to co-operate in the field of unmanned airborne intelligence, surveillance, targeting and reconnaissance (ISTAR), with a memorandum of understanding (MOU). The MOU between Elbit Systems and Korea Aerospace Industries (KAI) is geared at developing future unmanned airborne ISTAR capabilities for the Republic of Korea (RoK) Armed Forces and potential international customers.

Source: <http://observe.asia/israel-south-korea-to-co-operate-on-unmanned-airborne-istar/>
Reported: 15/03/2021

USA/Germany

Aircraft

Event – Germany cleared to buy Poseidon MMA.

Summary – The US State Department has approved the sale to Germany of Boeing P-8A Poseidon maritime multimission aircraft (MMA), valued at USD1.77 billion. The approval, which was announced by the Defense Security and Cooperation Agency (DSCA), covers five aircraft equipped with the standard sensors and systems, as well as training and sustainment support.

Source: <https://www.newsbreak.com/news/2182411882479/germany-cleared-to-buy-poseidon-mma>
Reported: 15/03/2021

Japan

Vessels

Event – Japan commissions third Awaji-class minesweeper.

Summary – The Japan Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF) today commissioned JS Etajima at the Japan Marine United shipyard in Yokohama. It is the third Awaji-class minesweeper. Etajima was launched by JMU in December 2019. Its name comes from an island located in Hiroshima Prefecture, Japan. Etajima island has a JMSDF Officer Candidate School (since the Japanese Imperial Navy era), so it is a very meaningful name for them. Delivery of Etajima to the JMSDF is scheduled for March 2021. JMU launched the first-in-class ship JS Awaji in October 2015 and the second ship JS Hirado in February 2017. Japan's MoD requested the budget for a fourth vessel of the Awaji-class in 2020 and the Ministry of Finance approved the request. It was included in the 2020 "Defense Of Japan" annual white paper issued in July 2020.

Source: <https://www.navalnews.com/naval-news/2021/03/jmsdf-commissions-third-awaji-class-minesweeper-js-etajima/>
Reported: 16/03/2021



NEWS



Israel

Weapons

Event – Israel completes testing of ‘groundbreaking’ laser-guided mortar.

Summary – A new laser-guided mortar completed trials and will bring greater firepower to smaller units while reducing collateral damage to noncombatants due to its high levels of accuracy, the Defense Ministry said in a statement Sunday. The Iron Sting 120mm mortar was developed by the ministry along with the Israel Defense Forces and Elbit Systems and, following the successful completion of the tests in the south of the country, is set to be delivered to the army.

Source: <https://www.timesofisrael.com/defense-ministry-completes-testing-of-groundbreaking-laser-guided-mortar/>

Reported: 16/03/2021

Syria

Attack

Event – Twelve troops killed in militant ambush in South Syria.

Summary – Armed men killed 12 Syrian soldiers in an ambush in the southern province of Daraa. “At least 12 members of the Fourth Armoured Division and the regime’s intelligence units were killed in an ambush by militants,” the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said. The soldiers were en route to the al-Mzairib district in the rural west of the province when they came under fire by militants loyal to him who sought to thwart his capture, Observatory head Rami Abdul Rahman said.

Source: <https://www.thedefensepost.com/2021/03/16/twelve-troops-killed-ambush-south-syria/>

Reported: 16/03/2021

USA

Technology

Event – With scant ISR resources, SOUTHCOM turns to ISR, machine learning.

Summary – US Southern Command is turning to artificial intelligence and machine learning to compensate for underfunded Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) capabilities to monitor international criminals and great power competitors in Latin America. SOUTHCOM accounts for less than 1% of Defense Department ISR resources to counter external state actors, like Russia and China, and transnational criminal organizations in the region, the combatant command’s chief, Navy Adm. Craig S. Faller, told a Senate Armed Services Committee.

Source: <https://seapowermagazine.org/with-scant-isr-resources-southcom-turns-to-isr-machine-learning/>

Reported: 16/03/2021



NEWS



Italy

Technological Innovation

Event – MBDA will supply the new Teseo MK2 / E anti-ship system to the Italian Navy.

Summary – MBDA, a world leader and a global player in the missile systems sector, will supply the Italian Navy with the new Teseo Evolved Weapon System, called Teseo Mk2 / E. This new generation system is based on the well-known Teseo family, known worldwide as OTOMAT, and will produce a substantial improvement in anti-ship capabilities. Teseo Mk2 / E will be able to effectively counter both marine and land targets at very long range and will autonomously exercise full control of the mission during missile flight.

Source: <https://www.difesaonline.it/industria/mbda-fornir%C3%A0-il-nuovo-sistema-antinave-teseo-mk2e-alla-marina-militare-italiana>

Reported: 17/03/2021

Turkey

Technological Innovation

Event – Turkey-made drones were used in the comprehensive military exercise most recently kicked off by the Azerbaijani Army.

Summary – The operational and tactical drills planned for 2021 began on March 15 and will now continue with the participation of the UAV produced in Turkey, namely the Bayraktar TB2s of drone magnate Baykar.

Source: <https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkey-made-bayraktar-tb2-ucav-used-in-azerbaijani-military-drill>

Reported: 17/03/2021

Turkey

Technological Innovation

Event – Turkish Security Forces' new armored vehicles ready for mass production

Summary – Leading Turkish defense manufacturer FNSS is preparing to mass produce Pars Scout 6x6 and 8x8 armored vehicles, developed as part of the Pars Tactical Wheeled Armored Vehicle (TWAV) family. The vehicles will be used by the Turkish Land Forces Command (KKK) and Gendarmerie General Command under a contract for the Special Purpose Tactical Wheeled Armored Vehicles (SPTWAV) project, signed between the FNSS and the Presidency of the Defense Industries (SSB).

Source: <https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkish-security-forces-new-armored-vehicles-ready-for-mass-production>

Reported: 17/03/2021



NEWS



Russia

Technology

Event – Russian scientists build system to capture high-speed military drones.

Summary – Russian scientists have built an anti-drone system capable of capturing an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle in the air by trapping it with a net. The device, involving the deployment of a net inclusive guided missile, has been developed by the scientists of the All-Russian Research Institute of Technical Physics in Snezhinsk, Chelyabinsk, Russian news agency RIA Novosti reported.

Source: <https://www.thedefensepost.com/2021/03/17/russia-system-capture-drones/>
Reported: 17/03/2021

USA

Technology

Event – Navy's Orca XLUUV to Have Mine-Laying Mission, Adm.

Summary – The Orca five, will be an open-architecture, reconfigurable Unmanned Underwater Vehicle that will be modular in construction and have a modular payload bay. The XLUUV core vehicle will provide guidance and control, navigation, autonomy, situational awareness, core communications, power distribution, energy and power, propulsion and maneuvering, and mission sensors. The length will be greater than 80 feet. The Orca, too large to be carried by a submarine, will be pier-launched.

Source: <https://seapowermagazine.org/navys-orca-xluuv-to-have-mine-laying-mission/>
Reported: 18/03/2021

USA

Technology

Event – Navy's Future Carrier Air Wing Could Reach 40% Unmanned Aircraft, Use Manned/Unmanned Teaming.

Summary – The Navy's forthcoming fielding of its first carrier-based unmanned aircraft could presage a much larger Unmanned Aircraft Systems presence in the future carrier air wing, a senior admiral said, and may include manned/unmanned teaming. The MQ-25A Stingray UAS now being tested by Boeing and the Navy is designed to be a tanker for aerial refueling of other carrier-based aircraft such as the F-35C Lightning II and F/A-18E/F Super Hornet strike fighters; EA-18G Growler electronic attack aircraft; E-2D Advanced Hawkeye battle management aircraft; and CMV-22B Osprey carrier on-board delivery aircraft.

Source: <https://seapowermagazine.org/navys-future-carrier-air-wing-could-reach-40-unmanned-aircraft-use-manned-unmanned-teaming/>
Reported: 18/03/2021



NEWS



USA

Technology

Event – US Navy to acquire 120 Submarine-Launched 'Flying Periscopes'.

Summary – The US Navy is set to acquire 120 submarine-launched Unmanned Aerial Vehicles for its fleet of underwater vessels from AeroVironment. The request for proposal to buy the Blackwing 10C drones expects the acquisition process to be complete by May 2023 and the first UAV to arrive by August of this year. The small drone (wingspan of 27 inch or 68.6 centimetres), at only four pounds (1.81 kilograms), provides high-speed data and communication relays across domains from undersea and surface vessels through a built-in secure digital data link, the California-based developer said on its website.

Source: <https://www.thedefensepost.com/2021/03/18/us-navy-120-submarine-launched-drones/>

Reported: 18/03/2021

China

Aircraft

Event – Taiwan completes first tranche of F-16V upgrades.

Summary – Taiwan has completed the first tranche of its F-16V Block 70/72 modernisation effort, upgrading the first 42 of its 142 Lockheed Martin F-16A/B/C/D Fighting Falcon combat aircraft to the latest standard under the Phoenix Rising programme. Taiwan has completed the first tranche of its F-16V Block 70/72 modernisation effort, upgrading the first 42 of its 142 Lockheed Martin F-16A/B/C/D Fighting Falcon combat aircraft to the latest standard under the Phoenix Rising programme.

Source: <https://www.newsbreak.com/contents/2184787068551/taiwan-completes-first-tranche-of-f-16v-upgrades>

Reported: 18/03/2021

Egypt

AI Development

Event – MCIT partners with Thales to accelerate development of AI in Egypt.

Summary – The MCIT aims to fortify the AI industry in Egypt and develop local skills, technology, infrastructure and governance mechanisms to ensure its sustainability and competitiveness through its National AI Strategy.

Source: <https://africabusinesscommunities.com/tech/tech-news/mcit-partners-with-thales-to-accelerate-development-of-ai-in-egypt/>

Reported: 19/03/2021



NEWS



Italy

Technological Innovation

Event – The 2nd Wing of the Italian Air Force received the second example of the SIRIUS BMC4 (Battle Management Command, Control, Communication & Computer) system.

Summary – The system was built by MBDA with Leonardo radar, which will constitute one of the cardinal elements of the new air defense missile system defined by the MAADS (Medium Advanced Air Defense System), currently under development and which will be based on the new known missile like CAMM-ER. The second SIRIUS will also allow MBDA Italia technicians to carry out the software integration tests with the final configuration of the MAADS on the Rivolto airport, in cooperation with the personnel of the Missile Group of the 2nd Wing. acquisition of the CAMM-ER.

Source: <https://www.analisidifesa.it/2021/03/a-rivolto-il-secondo-esemplare-del-modulo-sirius-del-sistema-di-difesa-aerea-maadscamm-er/>

Reported: 23/03/2021

Italy/France

Technological Innovation

Event – France and Italy together to improve ASTER-30

Summary – The Aster-15/30 surface-to-air missile system is the result of the France-Italy collaboration, thanks to the Eurosam consortium (which includes Thales and MBDA). Currently, the consortium's best performing system is the Aster-30 Block 1 which, together with the Arabel multifunction radar, allows you to engage targets up to a distance of 120 km.

Source: <https://www.difesaonline.it/industria/francia-e-italia-insieme-migliorare-laster-30>

Reported: 24/03/2021

Turkey

Technological Innovation

Event – Turkey's TCG Anadolu to allow drones to land, takeoff in global 1st.

Summary – Turkey's flagship-to-be amphibious assault ship TCG Anadolu is a vessel that will change the paradigm on the seas. The ship would carry unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) and unmanned combat aerial vehicles (UCAVs), along with helicopters and armored land vehicles.

Source: <https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkeys-tcg-anadolu-to-allow-drones-to-land-takeoff-in-global-1st>

Reported: 24/03/2021



NEWS



Turkey

Technological Innovation

Event – Turkey's Akıncı combat drone's 3rd prototype completes maiden flight.

Summary – The third prototype for Turkey's state-of-the-art unmanned combat aerial vehicle (UCAV) Akıncı has completed its maiden flight. Selçuk Bayraktar, the chief technology officer (CTO) of Baykar he said the Akıncı PT-3, the third prototype, successfully completed its first flight.

Source: <https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkeys-akinci-combat-drones-3rd-prototype-completes-maiden-flight>

Reported: 28/03/2021

Singapore

Air Force

Event – Singapore Air Force receives its first H225M helicopter.

Summary – The Republic of Singapore Air Force (RSAF) has taken delivery of its first Airbus Helicopters H225M medium-lift rotorcraft. The RSAF will now begin conducting flight tests and training on the new H225M ahead of operationalisation of the type.

Source: <https://www.australiandefence.com.au/news/singapore-receives-its-first-h225m-helicopter#:~:text=The%20Republic%20of%20Singapore%20Air,Medium%20Lift%20Helicopters%20in%202016.>

Reported: 31/03/2021

Japan

AUV/ASV

Event – MHI to take over Mitsui E&S's shipbuilding business.

Summary – Japan's Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI) has concluded an agreement with Mitsui E&S Holdings to take over the latter's 'naval and governmental ships business', which includes the development and construction of Autonomous Underwater and Autonomous Surface Vehicles (AUVs and ASVs). The acquisition will reduce the number of local shipbuilders making vessels for the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) and the Japan Coast Guard (JCG) from four to three, with the other companies being Kawasaki Heavy Industries (KHI) and Japan Marine United Corporation (JMU).

Source: <https://www.marineinsight.com/shipping-news/mhi-to-take-over-mitsui-es-shipbuildings-naval-and-governmental-ships-business/>

Reported: 29/03/2021



NEWS



Japan/France

AUV

Event – MHI, Thales to collaborate on sonar technologies for use on MCM AUVs.

Summary – Thales and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI) are collaborating to develop a dual-frequency sonar demonstrator for mine countermeasures (MCM) aboard an autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV). This followed the finalisation of a bilateral defence co-operation agreement between the French procurement agency DGA and its Japanese counterpart, the Acquisition, Technology & Logistics Agency. The result for the French Navy and Japanese Maritime Self-Defence Force will be an improved autonomous MCM system capable of detecting, classifying and localising all types of mines, Thales announced in a 30 March statement.

Source: <https://www.shephardmedia.com/news/uv-online/thales-and-mhi-team-autonomous-mine-detection/>

Reported: 30/03/2021

Turkey

Technological Innovation

Event – Turkey's TAI rolls up its sleeves for new unmanned aerial aircraft.

Summary – Turkish Aerospace Industries (TAI) is working on new unmanned aircraft technology alongside the TF-X National Combat Aircraft (MMU), in which artificial intelligence (AI) serves as a second pilot. Remarks came during the Management Development Program (SAHA MBA), which was prepared by SAHA Istanbul for companies operating in the defense, aviation and space sectors.

Source: https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkeys-tai-rolls-up-its-sleeves-for-new-unmanned-aerial-aircraft?gallery_image=undefined#big

Reported: 30/03/2021

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