

EURASIA DIGEST

Monthly Compilation of News from Russia, Central Asia & Europe

Vol 4 | Issue 10 | October 2024



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Russia To Skip Ukraine Peace Summit

Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova [said](#), on 21 September, that Russia would not attend a possible second Ukraine peace summit in November. Moscow said it was ready to discuss "serious proposals" that take into account the "situation on the ground made up of geopolitical realities" as described by President Vladimir Putin in June 2024. Putin had said that Russia would agree to peace talks if Ukraine gave up four of its regions that Moscow claims as its own.

Kremlin Said New Nuclear Doctrine Is 'Warning' To West

The Kremlin [said](#), on 26 September, that an updated nuclear doctrine allowing Moscow to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear states should be seen as a warning to the West. Russian President Vladimir Putin announced plans to broaden Russia's rules on the use of its nuclear stockpiles, allowing it to unleash a nuclear response in the event of a "massive" air attack. The proposals would also permit Moscow to respond with nuclear weapons against non-nuclear states, if they were being supported by nuclear powers - a clear reference to Ukraine and its Western backers.

Russia 'Decisively Condemned' Hezbollah Chief's Killing

Russia condemned Israel, on 29 September, for [killing](#) Hezbollah chief Hassan Nasrallah, while urging an immediate ceasefire in Lebanon. Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov stated, "my perception is that there are those who are looking to provoke Iran, to subsequently provoke the United States, and then to unleash a full-blown war in the entire region".

Russia Plans 30% Defence Spending Hike In 2025

The Russian government plans to [increase](#) defence spending by about 30 per cent in 2025 as it diverts more resources to fund its war in Ukraine. Moscow has ramped up its military spending to levels not seen since the Soviet era. The latest planned increase will take Russia's defence budget to US\$ 145 billion in 2025. Combined spending on defence and security will account for around 40 per cent of Russia's total government spending.

German Chancellor Scholz Visited Kazakhstan

On 18 September, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz [concluded](#) his three-day visit to Central Asia. The visit strengthened bilateral relations between Kazakhstan and Germany, signalling Berlin's growing interest in engaging Central Asia. Several agreements on energy cooperation, trade partnership, and developmental aid were signed.

Pakistan Joined Transport Corridor Linking Indian Ocean And Eastern Europe

On 19 September, Uzbekistan's Ministry of Transport [announced](#) that Pakistan has officially joined the memorandum of understanding on establishing the international transport corridor "Belarus–Russia–Kazakhstan–Uzbekistan–Afghanistan–Pakistan–Indian Ocean" (also known as ITC). The corridor is expected to play a vital role in strengthening Eurasia's transport network, offering accessible and efficient pathways for goods transit and promoting economic collaboration among the countries involved.

Tajik-Iranian Presidents Met In New York

Tajikistan's President, Emomali Rahmon, [met](#) his Iranian counterpart Masoud Pezeshkian in New York on the side-line of the 79th United Nations General Assembly session. The two leaders discussed a wide array of issues related to bilateral cooperation. It includes economic, scientific, education, cultural and humanitarian cooperation.

Armenia and Palestine Established Diplomatic Relations

On 27 September, Armenia's Foreign Minister Ararat Mirzoyan [met](#) Palestinian Prime Minister Mohammad Mustafa on the side-line of the United Nations General Assembly in New York. During the meeting, the two officials signed the Joint Communique on the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between the Republic of Armenia and the State of Palestine. They also discussed the current regional situation.

European Navies Pursued Torpedo Defence Technology

European navies continued their pursuit of [developing](#) torpedo-intercepting torpedoes, a technology heralded as a pivotal force-protection measure. Germany and the Netherlands, spearheading research for over a decade, have progressed with the Sea Spider system, though it remains in developmental limbo. The Dutch Ministry of Defence has postponed formal procurement, with a potential launch around 2025. With increasing interest from other European nations, the Sea Spider's future remains tied to further testing and

refinement under EU defence cooperation initiatives.

German Social Democrats Won Regional Election In Brandenburg

The German Social Democrats (SD) party [won](#) a crucial election in the eastern German state of Brandenburg on 22 September. SD won 32 per cent of the votes cast while the Alternative for Germany (AfD) got about 29 per cent. 2.1 million people had voted leading to a record turnout of 74 per cent.

Kosovo Asserted Full Sovereignty Amidst Rising Tensions With Serbia

Kosovo's Prime Minister Albin Kurti reaffirmed his position on exercising full sovereignty over the nation's affairs on 24 September, resisting Western calls for [compromise](#) with Serbia. In a move aimed at curbing Belgrade's influence, Kurti has implemented measures to strengthen Pristina's authority, such as phasing out Serbian-issued IDs and currency. Western powers fear this approach may escalate tensions between the two Balkan nations.

Portugal Approved New System For Return And Expulsion Of Migrants

The Portuguese government, on 27 September, [announced](#) a new system for the return and expulsion of migrants staying in the country without authorisation. Portugal will create the National Foreigners and Borders Unit within its police structure. The new police unit will be responsible for air border control, immigration enforcement and removal and reparations of illegal migrants.