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Russia To Build Drone Factory in Belarus

On 6 March, Russia [announced](#) plans to establish a drone production facility in Belarus, aimed at enhancing security. Kremlin Deputy Chief of Staff Maxim Oreshkin proposed the project during a visit to Minsk. The plant is expected to produce up to 100,000 drones per year upon full operational capacity.

Russia's Naval Exercises with China and Iran in The Gulf of Oman

Russia began joint naval [exercises](#) with China and Iran in the Gulf of Oman on 9 March. The drills, known as Marine Security Belt 2025, aim to enhance counter-piracy and terrorism operations at sea as well as to ensure the security of maritime communications. Russia's Navy is represented by two corvettes, the Rezky and the Russian Hero Aldar Tsydenzhapov, along with the Pechenega tanker from the Pacific Fleet.

Russian President Talked to United States President

Russian President Vladimir Putin [had](#) a telephone conversation with U.S. President Donald Trump on 18 March. The leaders continued their detailed and frank exchange of views on the situation surrounding Ukraine. During the discussion, Donald Trump proposed that the parties mutually refrain from strikes on energy infrastructure for 30 days. Vladimir Putin responded favourably to the proposal and immediately gave the relevant order to the Russian troops. Vladimir Putin and Donald Trump also addressed some other international issues, including the situation in the Middle East and the Red Sea region.

Russia and United States Officials Met in Saudi Arabia

Russian and U.S. officials [began](#) talks in Saudi Arabia on 24 March over a partial ceasefire in the Ukraine war, a day after American and Ukrainian delegates held separate discussions. U.S. President Donald Trump is pushing for a swift end to the war and hopes the talks in Riyadh could help lay the groundwork for a peace breakthrough. Issues included those related to the Black Sea Initiative, trade, market access, banning strikes on energy facilities, mediation, and achieving long-lasting peace.

Uzbekistan President Visited France

Uzbekistan's President Shavkat Mirziyoyev [visited](#) France on an official trip from March 11 to 13. During the visit, he met with French President Emmanuel Macron. The two leaders signed the Joint Declaration on the establishment of strategic partnership, along with a comprehensive package of agreements covering various areas of cooperation. Shavkat Mirziyoyev also participated in a roundtable with the heads of leading companies, banks, and organisations from France. The Program of Innovative and Industrial Partnership was adopted, providing for the implementation of specific cooperation projects worth € 6.5 billion.

Presidents of Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan Finalise Border Treaty

On 13 March, Kyrgyz President Sadyr Japarov and Tajik President Emomali Rahmon [signed](#) an agreement finalising the long-disputed border between the two nations. The signing ceremony took place during President Rahmon's state visit to Kyrgyzstan. Both leaders emphasised the shared history of their countries and their

aligned positions on regional and international matters.

Tajikistan President Visited Russia

Tajikistan's President Emomali Rahmon [visited](#) Russia on an official trip from March 15-17. During the visit, he met with Russian President Vladimir Putin, and they discussed prospects for further expanding bilateral relations, focusing on strategic partnership and alliance as well as trade, investment, cultural, and humanitarian cooperation. They exchanged opinions on key regional issues. Additionally, the Strategic Partnership Programme between the Defence Ministries of the two countries for 2026–2030 was signed.

Uzbekistan President Visited Kazakhstan

On 29 March, Uzbekistan's President Shavkat Mirziyoyev visited Kazakhstan on a working visit. During the visit he met with Kazakhstan's President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, and the two leaders discussed prospects for cooperation in the political, trade, economic, transport, transit, investment, energy, and water sectors. They also discussed expanding industrial cooperation and boosting tourism. Particular emphasis was placed on developing cultural and humanitarian contacts.

German Parliament Passed Historic Debt-Backed Defence and Infrastructure Package

The outgoing lower chamber of the German parliament, the Bundestag, [voted](#) on 18 March to amend the country's constitution and clear the way for a historic debt-funded investment package, which could run to €1 trillion or more including higher military spending and investments in the country's ageing infrastructure. The vote was the

result of a deal cut by the likely next chancellor, the Christian Democrats' Friedrich Merz with the Social Democrats and the Greens.

Portugal's President Dissolves Parliament

Portugal's President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, on 21 March, [signed](#) the decree dissolving parliament and scheduling early legislative elections for 18 May. This is the tenth dissolution of parliament since 25 April 1974 - the third decreed by Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa - and follows the fall of the PSD/CDS-PP minority government, which saw a motion of confidence rejected on 11 March.

Germany Cleared 3 billion Euros of Military Aid for Ukraine

Germany's budget committee approved €3 billion in military aid for Ukraine on 21 March, following Chancellor-in-waiting Friedrich Merz's push for reforms to increase defence investment. The fresh assistance includes €2.5 billion this year, topped up by other contributions, including a reimbursement from the European Peace Facility.

Bulgaria Proposed to Host a Center For Shipping Control in the Black Sea

Bulgaria proposed [forming](#) a multinational maritime coordination center to ensure the safety of shipping in the western part of the Black Sea and to host the center. Bulgarian Prime Minister Rosen Zhelyazkov presented the idea after today's Peace and Security for Ukraine meeting in Paris. The Bulgarian proposal envisions the center providing continuous maritime surveillance and early warnings for potential threats and hostile activities, as well as enhancing the resilience of critical underwater infrastructure in the Black Sea.