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Russia Hosted BRICS Summit In Kazan

Russia [hosted](#) the 16th BRICS summit in Kazan from 22-24 October. High-ranking representatives of 36 countries participated in the summit – the largest international event held in Russia since the start of the war in Ukraine in February 2022. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres also attended the meeting. During the meeting, the BRICS leaders [adopted](#) the Kazan Declaration. Which touched on several topics, from the war in Ukraine to hostilities in the Middle East to new financial mechanisms spearheaded by the grouping.

Russia's Central Bank Raised Key Rate To Historic 21%

Russia's Central Bank, on 25 October, [raised](#) its key interest rate from 19 to a historic 21 per cent, signalling an increasingly aggressive effort by the Bank to curb inflation. "Further tightening of monetary policy is required to ensure the return of inflation to the target and reduce inflation expectations" the bank stated. Russia's Central Bank sets its inflation target at 4 per cent. Core inflation stood at 9.1 percent in September. Notably, Russia is set to spend almost 9 per cent of its GDP on defence and security this year.

Russia Rejected Accusations Of Election Interference In Georgia

On 28 October, the Kremlin said it "strongly rejects" Georgian President's [accusation](#) that Russia interfered in Tbilisi's parliamentary elections. President Salome Zourabichvili claimed that Moscow was behind election fraud in

Georgia, saying it was part of a "Russian special operation." Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said that "the accusations are completely unsubstantiated" and that the West was trying to meddle in Georgia's domestic politics.

Russia Simulated 'Massive' Nuclear Response To Enemy Attack

Russia's military test-fired ballistic [missiles](#) across the country on 29 October to simulate a "massive" nuclear response to an attack on the country. The exercises came a month after President Vladimir Putin revealed plans to broaden Russia's rules on the use of its nuclear weapons. The Kremlin said the changes served as a warning to Western countries considering whether to allow Ukraine to fire long-range missiles deep inside Russian territory.

Kazakhstan Voted "Yes" for Nuclear Power Plant

On October 6, Kazakhstan [held](#) a referendum on constructing its first nuclear power plant. Kazakhstan's Central Referendum Commission officially announced the results at an October 8 meeting, revealing that 71.12 percent of the voters support the construction of a nuclear power plant. China, France, Russia and South Korea have put in bids to build the new power station, which is to be located on the shores of Lake Balkhash.

Turkmenistan Foreign Minister Met Pakistan Prime Minister

On October 15, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan, Rashid Meredov, [met](#) with the Prime Minister of the Islamic

Republic of Pakistan, Shahbaz Sharif. Both sides emphasised on intensifying joint actions to implement large-scale and long-term international economic projects.

Kazakhstan's Deputy Foreign Minister Met Poland's First Deputy Foreign Minister

On October 22, Kazakhstan's Deputy Foreign Minister Roman Vassilenko [met](#) with Poland's First Deputy Foreign Minister Wladyslaw Bartoszewski. The parties reviewed the current status and future opportunities for enhancing bilateral cooperation in political, trade, economic, cultural and humanitarian areas.

Georgian Dream Party Won Parliamentary Elections

Georgia's Central Election Commission, on 27 October, [declared](#) the Georgian Dream the winner of the parliamentary elections with 53.92 percent of the vote share. The share of the opposition coalition comprising four parties crossed the threshold of 37.78 percent. The election results [have](#), however, been subjected to criticism from local and international observers who have pointed to rigging of the results. The opposition parties have also called for protests amid such accusations.

German Chancellor Visited India

The German Chancellor, Olaf Scholz [visited](#) India from 25-26 October wherein he co-chaired the seventh round of India-Germany Inter-Governmental Consultations with India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The two leaders

appreciated the momentum in bilateral engagement across various sectors, including academia, migration, defence, climate action and renewable energy. On the eve of the Chancellor's visit, the German Federal Foreign Office had [released](#) the "Focus on India" strategy paper to highlight India's importance as Germany's key strategic partner.

Spanish President Visited India

The Spanish President, Pedro Sanchez, [paid](#) an official visit to India from 28-29 October, the first such visit by a Spanish President in 18 years. During his meeting with India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the two sides stressed on the need to upgrade their relationship especially in defence, security, economy and technology sectors. The two leaders inaugurated the Final Assembly Line Plant of C-295 aircraft being co-produced by Airbus Spain and Tata Advanced Systems Ltd. at Vadodara.

President Zelenskyy Attended Ukraine-Nordic Summit

Seeking to push forward his "Victory Plan", Ukrainian President Vladimir Zelenskyy [attended](#) the 4th Ukraine-Nordic Summit in Iceland on 29 October, aiming to acquire "unwavering support" from the Nordic states, including winter support in form of energy, social resilience, and humanitarian support packages. [Discussions](#) also took place on strengthening European ammunition production as well as Ukraine's NATO membership with the latter receiving "full support" from the the Nordic states.