

Weekly Update

1. Afghanistan's female inventor awarded 'Dynamic' prize in Britain

Medical physicist Shakardukht Jafari received the award in this category from the British NGO Dynamic Awards. She works at TrueInVivo in Portsmouth and is known for inventing a low-cost method for measuring medical radiation - a patent was registered for this technology in 2019.

Source: **The Khaama Press**

<https://www.khaama.com/afghanistans-female-inventor-awarded-dynamic-prize-in-britain/>

2. Binance founder Changpeng Zhao sentenced to 4 months for allowing money laundering

The investigation found that Binance authorized more than 1.5 million virtual currency transactions worth about \$900 million, which was in violation of US sanctions. These included deals linked to Iran and terrorist groups such as Hamas, al-Qaeda and Islamic State.

Source: **The Economic Times**

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/technology/binance-founder-changpeng-zhao-sentenced-to-4-months-for-allowing-money-laundering/articleshow/109743167.cms?from=mdr>

3. Payment for Italian goods in rubles was suspended

The head of the Italian-Russian Chamber of Commerce (IRCC), Ferdinando Pelazzo, announced the suspension of the system under which Russian companies were allowed to purchase goods from Italy for rubles. He explained that the decision was made due to fears of a possible violation of sanctions.

Source: **Oreanda**

<https://www.oreanda-news.com/en/finansy/payment-for-italian-goods-in-rubles-was-suspended/article1513046/>

4. Sanctions notwithstanding, India's Russian oil imports surge as Moscow pushes more oil overseas

India imported more oil from Russia and less from Iraq and Saudi Arabia. Indian refineries have been customers of Russian oil since the war in Ukraine began in February 2022, leading Western countries to target Moscow with sweeping sanctions. India, the world's third-largest importer and consumer of oil, increased oil purchases by 13 to 17 percent in April compared to previous months.

Source: **The Indian Express**

<https://indianexpress.com/article/business/sanctions-notwithstanding-indias-russian-oil-imports-surge-as-moscow-pushes-more-oil-overseas-9304385/>

5. U.S. Continues to Degrade Russia's Military-Industrial Base and Target Third-Country Support with Nearly 300 New Sanctions

The United States has added three UAE companies to the Russia-related sanctions list. According to a written notice from the US Treasury Department, sanctions have been imposed against Al Bait Al Khaleej General Trading LLC, GMM FZE, GMM Management DMCC. In addition, Reuters reports that the US, UK and the EU are putting pressure on the UAE over trade relations with Russia.

Source: U.S. Department of the Treasury

<https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy2318>

6. Foreign companies help Russia maintain stability despite sanctions

The Financial Times writes that Russian companies have begun to create long chains of intermediaries to carry out transactions under sanctions. This leads to an increase in commissions and currency conversion costs up to 5-7%. In addition, the ruble began to be used more often in calculations instead of "friendly" currencies.

Source: Financial Times

<https://www.ft.com/content/f3274236-36e1-4f0d-b6a0-fdc859cf2b87>

7. India and China added 60% of global central bank gold purchase

In March, world central banks, according to preliminary estimates of the World Gold Council (WGC), increased the amount of gold in their gold and foreign exchange reserves by 15.7 tons: purchases of 40.4 tons offset sales of 24.7 tons.

The largest buyers were Turkey (14.1 tons), India (5.1 tons), China (5 tons), Kazakhstan, Singapore (4.5 tons each) and Russia (3.1 tons).

Source: The Times of India

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/india-and-china-added-60-of-global-central-bank-gold-purchase-in-march/articleshow/109837315.cms>

8. Spanish Beauty Group Puig Makes Market Debut

The largest IPO took place in Europe this year - Spanish cosmetics and perfume company Puig Brands, which owns brands such as Paco Rabanne, Nina Ricci and Carolina Herrera, was listed on the Madrid stock exchange. The first trading took place in a "pump and dump" style.

Source: BARRON'S

<https://www.barrons.com/amp/news/spain-s-fashion-and-beauty-group-puig-poised-for-ipo-89e1d95e>

9. Türkiye is ready to export excess gas reserves from Russia and Azerbaijan

Turkey expects to increase the volume of liquefied natural gas (LNG) exports to Europe and is ready to supply surplus gas from Russia and Azerbaijan to the European market, said Yashar Arslan, Chairman of the Turkish Natural Gas Distributors Association (GAZBIR).

Source: **news.az**

<https://news.az/news/turkiye-is-ready-to-export-excess-gas-reserves-from-russia-and-azerbaijan->

10. Mirziyoyev: Railroad to pave way for regional integration

Uzbekistan hopes that the Trans-Afghan Railway project will be completed by the end of 2027. This was stated by Jasurbek Choriev, Deputy Head of the Ministry of Transport, speaking at the Tashkent International Investment Forum. According to him, thanks to the Trans-Afghan Railway, the countries of Central Asia will get access to the ports of the Indian Ocean, the delivery time of goods will decrease from 35 days to 5 days and the cost will be reduced by 40%.

Source: **Pajhwok**

<https://pajhwok.com/2024/05/04/mirziyoyev-railroad-to-pave-way-for-regional-integration/>