

Weekly Update

1. Iran: Council broadens EU restrictive measures in view of Iran military support of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and armed groups in the Middle East and Red Sea region

The European Union has expanded sanctions against Iran due to its continued supply of drones to the Russian Federation and the Houthis. It is known that the EU's restrictive measures will now apply not only to drones, but also to missiles. Individuals supplying missiles to Russia and the Houthis will be banned from entering EU countries and their accounts frozen.

Source: European Council

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/05/14/iran-council-broadens-eu-restrictive-measures-in-view-of-iran-military-support-of-russia-s-war-of-aggression-against-ukraine-and-armed-groups-in-the-middle-east-and-red-sea-region/>

2. Iran FM India ports minister meet stress on long-term maritime cooperation

Iranian Foreign Minister Amirabdollahian met Indian Ports, Shipping and Waterways Minister Sarbananda. A long-term agreement for Indian management of the Iranian port of Chabahar was discussed. Amirabdollahian expressed his desire to further expand cooperation with New Delhi within the framework of BRICS and SCO.

Source: Islamic Republic of Iran Ministry of Foreign Affairs

<https://en.mfa.ir/portal/newsview/745086/Iran-FM-India-ports-minister-meet-stress-on-long-term-maritime-cooperation>

3. Jordan foils arms plot as kingdom caught in Iran-Israel shadow war

Jordan managed to stop the smuggling of weapons that were used to carry out terrorist attacks in the kingdom. Security forces believe the delivery was carried out by Shia militias operating in Syria. According to this version, the weapon was intended for the Jordanian cell of the Muslim Brotherhood.*

Source: Reuters

<https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/jordan-foils-arms-plot-kingdom-caught-iran-israel-shadow-war-2024-05-15/>

4. Afghan Taliban no longer Russia's enemy — Russian diplomat

The radical Afghan Taliban movement (banned and recognized as terrorist in Russia) is no longer an enemy of Russia. This was announced by Zamir Kabulov, Director of the Second Asian Department of the Russian Foreign Ministry, following the results of Russian-Indian consultations on Afghanistan held in New Delhi.

Source: Russian News Agency

<https://tass.com/politics/1788697>

5. Yemen Embassy in Damascus: A test of Iran's influence and rapprochement with Arabs

The change in Syrian attitudes towards the Yemeni governments has coincided with the beginning of signs of a resumption of relations between the Syrian regime and Saudi Arabia. Riyadh supports the internationally recognized Yemeni government, while Tehran, an ally of the Syrian regime, supports the Houthi group in Yemen.

Source: **Enabbaladi.net**

<https://english.enabbaladi.net/archives/2024/05/yemen-embassy-in-damascus-a-test-of-irans-influence-and-rapprochement-with-arabs/>

6. Iranian Minister Defends Violent Arrest by Morality Police

Iranian female morality police agents beat a woman on the streets of Tehran. What she did wrong is unknown, but it is clear that the Iranian regime is tightening the screws and the main targets are women who protest against medieval laws and violence.

Source: **Iran International**

<https://www.iranintl.com/en/202405166234>

7. State Department removes Cuba from short list of countries deemed uncooperative on counterterrorism

The Brazilian Foreign Ministry celebrated the United States government's decision to remove Cuba from the list of countries it considers not cooperating against terrorism. On the other hand, the Brazilian government condemned the continued inclusion of the Caribbean island on the list of countries sponsoring terrorism.

Source: **Dayton Daily News**

<https://www.daytondailynews.com/nation-world/state-department-removes-cuba-from-short-list-of-countries-deemed-uncooperative-on-counterterrorism/TMDAETIB4NE5NOFCC7IPWEDDAU/>

8. White House not thrilled by Macron's D-Day invite to Russia

France's decision to invite Russian officials to the commemoration of the 80th anniversary of the landing in Normandy has worried Great Britain, the United States and two other World War II allies, writes "Politico".

Source: **Politico**

<https://www.politico.com/news/2024/05/17/white-house-macrons-d-day-invite-russia-00158685>

9. The President praises the cooperation between Iraq and Syria in enhancing border security

Iraq welcomes the expansion of cooperation with Syria. Iraqi President Abdul Latif Jamal Rashid meets with Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on the sidelines of the 33rd annual Arab League summit.

***Source:* IRAQI NEWS AGENCY**

<https://ina.iq/eng/32779-the-president-praises-the-cooperation-between-iraq-and-syria-in-enhancing-border-security.html>

10. North Korea fires short-range ballistic missiles toward Sea of Japan

The South Korean military said North Korea fired short-range ballistic missiles toward the Sea of Japan. Several projectiles were launched at around 3:10 pm. from the area around the eastern port city of Wonsan, South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said.

***Source:* Kyodo News- Japan's leading news agency**

<https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2024/05/fbd9ae8d3a5d-urgent-n-korea-fires-ballistic-missile-toward-sea-of-japan-s-korea.html>