

## Geopolitical, International, and Security collected stories, week of 14 April 2014

[NATO, Ukraine, Russia, Diplomacy] [\*Initial agreement reached to de-escalate Ukraine crisis\*](#) – Associated Press. (The agreement follows several reports relating to the crisis. BBC News reported that the Russian economy [\*may see zero growth\*](#) due to the fallout from the Ukrainian crises. Earlier in the week, Ukrainian forces [\*began moving against\*](#) Russian-backed pro-Russian positions in the east of the country, The New York Times reported. Reuters also reported that Ukraine announced it has secured support from Europe over [\*gas deliveries\*](#) should Russia cut off supplies.)

[Philippines, U.S., Basing] [\*Philippines, United States reach agreement on new security deal\*](#) – Reuters.

[Russia, Ukraine, Propaganda, Media] [\*Russian TV Propagandists Caught Red-Handed: Same Guy, Three Different People \(Spy, Bystander, Heroic Surgeon\)\*](#) – Forbes.

[China, PLA, Leadership, History] [\*Chinese Strategists Reflect on the First Sino-Japanese War\*](#) – The Diplomat, Flashpoints blog.

[Russia, Ukraine] [\*Putin Asserts Right to Use Force in Eastern Ukraine\*](#) – New York Times.

[Italy, Internal Politics, Corruption] [\*Berlusconi ordered to do community service for tax conviction\*](#) – Reuters.

[Ivory Coast, Ghana, Agriculture, Mining, Environment] [\*Gold rush threatens West Africa's cocoa future\*](#) – Reuters.

[Egypt, Internal Politics, Labor] [\*From Cairo to Suez, Egypt workers defy government with labor strikes\*](#) – Washington Post.

[Mexico, Knights Templar Cartel, Corruption] [\*Mexico 'cartel city' mayor arrested over extortion claims\*](#) – BBC News.

[Syrian Civil War, Foreign Fighters, Social Media] [\*Which spiritual leaders have the biggest following among foreign fighters in Syria?\*](#) – The Guardian, Datablog blog.

[South Korea, Intelligence Services] [\*South Korean intelligence agency faces 'overhaul' following forgery scandal\*](#) – Agence France-Presse, Reuters.

[U.S. Navy, Surface to Surface Missiles, LCS] [\*Navy Axes Griffin Missile In Favor of Longbow Hellfire for LCS\*](#) – USNI News.

[Guinea-Bissau, Elections, Internal Politics] [\*Guinea-Bissau votes for new president and parliament\*](#) – BBC News.

[Germany, Media, Russia] [Remove Soviet tank memorial in Berlin, say German newspapers](#) – Reuters.

[Israel, Internal Politics, Palestine, Diplomacy] [Israeli coalition partner threatens to quit over peace talks](#) – Reuters.

[Turkey, Internal Politics, Social Media] [Erdogan suffers blow in court decision on judiciary](#) – Reuters.

[Germany, Cyberespionage, Aerospace Industry, Energy] [Malware Found on Computers of Germany's Space Center, Evidence Points to China](#) – Softpedia.

[Malaysia, Turkey, Trade] [Malaysia, Turkey Sign Free Trade Agreement](#) – The Diplomat, ASEAN Beat blog.

[Nigeria, Terrorism, Boko Haram] [Nigeria bus station bombing kills 71 on edge of capital](#) – Reuters.

[Brazil, Police, Labor, Internal Politics] [Brazil sends troops to Bahia state after police strike](#) – BBC News.

[Russian Army, Ukraine, Biometrics] [The Science of Unmasking Russian Forces in Ukraine](#) – Defense One.

[Saudi Arabia, Intelligence Services, Leadership] [Saudi spy chief, architect of Syria policy, replaced](#) – Reuters.

[China, Taiwan, Diplomacy, Protests] [Beijing to launch Taiwan charm offensive in wake of protests](#) – South China Morning Post.

[Chile, Natural Disasters] [Fires still besiege Chile port; 15 dead, 500 hurt](#) – Associated Press.

[Pakistan, Tehrik-e-Taliban] [Pakistan Taliban say cease-fire with government is over](#) – CNN.

[Ukraine, Russia, Religious Minorities, Unconfirmed] [Jews ordered to register in east Ukraine](#) – USA Today.

[U.S. Navy, Russia] [Russian Fighter Buzzes U.S. Destroyer in Black Sea](#) – USNI News.

[U.N., CAR, Peacekeeping Operations] [U.N. Security Council Oks peacekeepers for Central African Republic](#) – Reuters.

[Mexico, U.S., Sinaloa Cartel] [Son of Mexico drug lord turns informant](#) – Washington Post.

[Iran, IAEA, Nuclear Programs, Negotiations] [Iran has cut higher-enriched uranium stock 'by half'](#) – BBC News.

[China, Environment] [China Finds Nearly 2,000 Firms in Breach of Anti-pollution Rules](#) – Reuters.

[Russia, Fighter Aircraft] [Russia orders more MiG-29SMT fighters](#) – IHS Jane’s 360.

[U.K., U.S., Afghanistan, Camp Bastion] [UK lawmakers slam lax security in Taliban attack](#) – Associated Press.

[North Korea, Smuggling] [North Korea branches out into ivory, fake cigarette and pharmaceutical trade](#) – The Telegraph.

[Germany, Energy] [Coal Returns to German Utilities Replacing Lost Nuclear](#) – Bloomberg News.

[Poland, NATO, Russia] [Poland: NATO should send troops to east Europe, ignore Russia’s objections](#) – Reuters.

[South Korea, Maritime] [Hundreds feared drowned in ferry disaster](#) – USA Today.

[Nigeria, Boko Haram, Terrorism] [Nigeria unrest: Gunmen abduct ‘about 100 schoolgirls’](#) – BBC News.

[Iran, Iranian Navy] [Iran calls off plan to send warships to Atlantic](#) – Associated Press.

[USMC, Amphibious Operations] [Marines Seek New Tech To Get Ashore Vs. Missiles; Reinventing Amphib Assault](#) – Breaking Defense.

[Ukraine, Switzerland, Lulz] [Swiss president greeted with Danish flag in Ukraine](#) – Washington Post, WorldViews blog.

[Canada, NATO, Ukraine] [Canada sending CF-18s to eastern Europe](#) – CTVNews.

[Saudi Arabia, Narcotics, Bahrain] [Saudi Arabia says seizes drugs worth \\$267 million, arrests six](#) – Reuters.

[China, Labor, Manufacturing] [Strike At China Sneaker Factory Snowballs](#) – Associated Press.

[Jordan, Syria, Borders] [Jordanian jets strike vehicles on Syrian border](#) – Associated Press.

[India, Elections, Internal Politics] [India elections: Voting starts on biggest polling day](#) – BBC News.

[Ukraine, Russia] [Ukraine local boss puts price on head of Russian ‘saboteurs’](#) – Reuters.

[China, SALW, Law Enforcement] [China in ‘record seizure’ of illegal guns and knives](#) – BBC News.