

Geopolitical, International, and Security collected stories, week of 13 January 2014

[Iraq, Internal Politics, Energy, Turkey] [Iraq's Maliki threatens to cut funds if Kurds pipe oil to Turkey](#) – Reuters.

[DRC, M23, U.N.] [UN says Congo's defeated M23 rebels active again](#) – Washington Post.

[U.S., Military Advisors, Somalia, al Shabaab] [U.S. has deployed military advisers to Somalia, officials say](#) – Washington Post.

[China, Environment] [Pollution at some mainland industrial plants 10 times safe limit, study finds](#) – South China Morning Post.

[China, Crime, Gambling] [The Hills of Guizhou Are Alive With Gambling](#) – Wall Street Journal, China Realtime blog.

[Mexico, Sinaloa Cartel, U.S., Unconfirmed/Contested] [The DEA Struck A Deal With Mexico's Most Notorious Drug Cartel](#) – Business Insider (sourcing El Universal.) (However, the story has been [rebutted](#) by the Washington Post's WorldViews blog and others and remains unconfirmed.)

[Iran, U.S., E.U., U.N., Negotiations, Nuclear Programs] [UN nuclear agency to meet Jan. 24 to seek OK on supervising pact between Iran, 6 world powers](#) – Associated Press.

[Hungary, Financial Services, Terrorism] [Early morning bomb damages Budapest bank branch, no one hurt](#) – Reuters.

[Taiwan, Anti-Ship Missiles, Submarines, U.S.] [Taiwan gets US submarine-launched missiles: report](#) – DefenceTalk.

[U.S. Air Force, Nuclear Forces, Personnel, Crime] [Officers at US nuclear missile base suspended in illegal drugs case](#) – NBC News. (The USAF also [relieved 34 nuclear officers](#) for allegedly cheating or allowing cheating on regular proficiency exams, ABC News reported.)

[India, U.S., Diplomats] [Indian diplomat leaves U.S. following indictment](#) – Washington Post.

[Greece, Financial Services, Crime] [Ex-bank chief arrested in Greece fraud probe](#) – Al Jazeera.

[China, Ballistic Missiles, Unconfirmed] [China Tests Hypersonic Missile Vehicle](#) – The Diplomat, Flashpoints blog. (Chinese authorities [downplayed](#) the significance of the test and the launch vehicle, according to China Daily.)

[Syrian Civil War, Media] [The Controversial Death of a Teenage Stringer](#) – Foreign Policy.

[South Korea, North Korea, Cybersecurity, Defense Industry] [North Korean Hackers Reportedly Targeting South Entities Tied to National Security](#) – Softpedia.

[France, Protests, Internal Politics, Lulz] [French Protestor Dumps Horse Manure on National Assembly](#) – Reuters.

[Somalia, Kenya, al Shabaab, Airstrikes] [Kenya planes 'kill Somali militants' from al-Shabab](#) – BBC News.

[Pakistan, Law Enforcement, Terrorism] [Bomb kills top Pakistani police who hunted Taliban](#) – Associated Press.

[China, Media, Japan, Public Opinion, Disputed Territories] [China steps up appeal to West in Japan propaganda battle](#) – Reuters.

[U.S., Iran, Espionage, Defense Industry, Fighter Aircraft] [Ex-Pratt Worker Allegedly Tried To Ship F-35 Files To Iran](#) – Hartford Courant.

[Egypt, Internal Politics, Protests] [Egypt vote lays bare sharp, post-coup divisions](#) – Associated Press.

[U.S., Tourism, Media, Public Opinion] [Rebranding America: Can the U.S. Sell Itself to International Tourists?](#) – The Atlantic.

[China, Japan, Disputed Territories] [China overturned draft air defense zone, expanded it toward Japan](#) – Asahi Shimbun.

[Syrian Civil War, Refugees] [Starvation reported at Palestinian camp in Syria](#) – Washington Post.

[Lebanon, Assassinations, Hezbollah, U.N.] [Lebanon's Hariri trial opens without the accused](#) – CNN.

[Israel, Palestine, Terrorism, Airstrikes] [Israel shoots down Gaza rockets, responds with air strikes](#) – Reuters.

[Brazil, Crime, Law Enforcement] [Brazil police investigated following killing spree](#) – Associated Press.

[Indonesia, Mining, Trade] [Indonesia's hotly-contested mineral ban takes effect](#) – BBC News.

[Nigeria, Internal Politics, Military Figures, Boko Haram] [Nigerian president replaces military chiefs, loses ally in party crisis](#) – Reuters.

[Venezuela, Crime] [24,000 murders last year confirm Venezuela as one of the world's most dangerous countries](#) – The Guardian.

[Syrian Civil War, E.U., Foreign Fighters, Unconfirmed] [European intelligence seeking info on jihadis in Syria](#) – from Assad regime – Haaretz and Reuters (partially sourcing Wall Street Journal.)

[Thailand, Internal Politics, Protests, Elections] [Thailand crisis: Polls to proceed despite protests](#) – BBC News.

[South Sudan, Internal Conflict] [South Sudanese rebels attempt to retake town in oil-rich state](#) – Washington Post.

[Russia, Counterterrorism, Olympics] [Shootout with militants in Russia kills seven before Olympics](#) – Reuters.

[China, Internal Politics, Academia] [China detains prominent Uighur scholar for “breaking the law”](#) – Reuters.

[Mexico, Militia Groups, Drug Trafficking Organizations] [Mexican police start to disarm vigilantes in Michoacan](#) – BBC News.

[Russia, U.S., Media] [US Correspondent Barred From Entering Russia](#) – Associated Press.

[Russia, Hungary, Nuclear Power] [Russia to increase Hungary’s nuclear power](#) – Reuters.

[U.S., South Korea, Basing] [US to send more troops to South Korea](#) – The Hill.

[Pakistan, Crime, Government Figures] [Pakistan lawmaker arrested for private dungeon, attack on police](#) – Reuters.

[Central African Republic, Internal Politics] [CAR interim President Michel Djotodia resigns](#) – BBC News.

[Israel, Palestine, Settlements, Disputed Territories] [Israel announces new settlement construction in occupied West Bank, East Jerusalem](#) – Washington Post.