

Geopolitical, International, and Security collected stories, week of 17 March 2014

[Crimea Crisis, Ukraine, Russia] [Ukraine's Crimea base taken, commander detained](#) – Associated Press.

[Ukraine, Crimea Crisis, Russia, Infrastructure] [Crimea's lifeline runs through Ukraine](#) – Deutsche-Welle.

[United Nations, North Korea, Human Rights] [United Nations: North Korea's crimes as bad as the Nazis, Khmer Rouge](#) – News.com.au. (As Western nations and Japan pressed for ICC action over the report, China [rejected](#) it, Reuters reported.)

[South Sudan, U.N., Peacekeeping Operations] [Exclusive: South Sudanese Military Targets United Nations](#) – Foreign Policy.

-----Related stories-----

[U.S., E.U., Crimea Crisis, Russia, Sanctions] [U.S. Joins EU With Sanctions After Crimean Secession Vote](#) – Bloomberg News. (European leaders later in the week agreed to [expand](#) the list of individuals covered by the sanctions, and to consider energy sanctions, Reuters reported.)

[Japan, Crimea Crisis, Russia, Sanctions] [Japan to impose sanctions on Russia for Crimea move](#) – Reuters.

[Russia, France, Crimea Crisis, Sanctions, Surface Ships, Arms Transfers] [Crimea Could Weaken Russia's Pacific Fleet](#) – The Diplomat, Flashpoints blog. (Another French official appeared to [downplay](#) the chances that the Mistral-class ships wouldn't be delivered, DefenseNews reported.)

[Germany, Russia, Defense Transfers, Crimea Crisis, Sanctions] [German government intervenes to stop defense delivery to Russia](#) – Reuters.

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[India, China, Internal Politics, History] [India urged to declassify report on the 1962 war with China](#) – BBC News.

[Malaysia, Commercial Aviation, MH370] [Malaysia backtracks on satellite data evidence; unsure when system went offline](#) – Washington Post. (NOTE: I've been reluctant to add stories on MH370 while contradictory evidence and theories continue to circulate on this topic. However, I feel that the chaotic response and international cooperation on the search makes it worth including here.)

[Venezuela, Protests, Internal Politics] [Venezuela unrest toll rises as soldier is shot in head](#) – Reuters.

[El Salvador, Elections, Internal Politics] [El Salvador ex-rebel's presidential victory confirmed](#) – BBC News.

[Egypt, Counterterrorism, Protests, Internal Politics] [Egypt Forces Raid Militant Bomb Factory Near Cairo](#) – Associated Press.

[Iraq, Oil, Economy] [Iraq returns as world's fastest-growing oil exporter](#) – Reuters.

[Taiwan, Surface Ships] [Taiwan Receives First 'Carrier Killer' Ship](#) – The Diplomat, Flashpoints blog.

[Ukraine, U.S. Army, Military Exercises] [US Army to proceed with planned exercise in Ukraine](#) – Stars and Stripes.

[Italy, Internal Politics] [Venice votes in referendum on splitting from Rome](#) – BBC News.

[Sweden, Defense Procurement, Internal Politics, NATO, Crimea Crisis] [Russian Threat Re-Energizes Sweden's Push To Join NATO, Boost Spending](#) – DefenseNews.

[Lebanon, Terrorism, Syrian Civil War, Hezbollah] [Lebanon struck by bombing after Syrian government forces seize rebel-held town](#) – Washington Post.

[Cybersecurity, Russia, Hactivist Groups] [Hactivists Leak Data from Personal PC of Russian Industrial Investment Fund President](#) – Softpedia.

[Crimea Crisis, Russia, NATO, Commentary/Analysis] [If Not a Cold War, a Return to a Chilly Rivalry](#) – New York Times.

[Japan, Cybersecurity, Olympics] [Japan Holds Cyber Security Drill Ahead of Olympics](#) – Agence France-Presse.

[Israel, Syria, Borders] [Israeli airstrikes escalate tensions with Syria](#) – Associated Press.

[Japan, Maritime] [Eight missing as cargo ships collide outside of Tokyo Bay](#) – CNN.

[Crimean Crisis, Ukraine, Russia, Ethnic Groups] [Crimean Tatars Will Have to Vacate Land – Official](#) – RIA Novosti. (Turkey expressed its concern over a Crimean Tatar who was seized amid a protest and later [found dead](#), Hurriyet Daily News reported.)

[Japan, South Korea, Diplomacy, U.S.] [Japan and South Korean leaders could meet for 1st time in Europe next week](#) – Associated Press.

[U.S., Human Trafficking] [Hundreds imprisoned at Houston stash house](#) – United Press International.

[Italy, Fighter Aircraft, Defense Procurement, Internal Politics] [Renzi's Party Says Cut to Italy F-35 Order Should Be Significant](#) – Bloomberg News.

[Libya, Libyan Army, U.S., Bulgaria] [AP source: Army team to begin Libyan training prep](#) – Associated Press.

[Latvia, History, Internal Politics, Russia] [Latvian minister sacked over ‘Nazi’ march](#) – Al Jazeera.

[U.S. Navy, Singapore, Corruption] [Singapore firm manager pleads guilty in Navy bribery scheme](#) – Associated Press.

[Indonesia, China, Disputed Territories] [China’s Newest Maritime Dispute](#) – The Diplomat, Flashpoints blog.

[Venezuela, Protests, Internal Politics] [Venezuela acts against opposition mayors](#) – Al Jazeera.

[Nigeria, Sectarian Violence] [Nigeria attacks: 100 killed in attacks on villages in Kaduna](#) – BBC News.

[France, Rwanda, Rwandan Genocide] [Rwandan ex-intel chief convicted in genocide trial](#) – Associated Press.

[South Africa, Corruption, Internal Politics] [Zuma accused over €16m home makeover](#) – Reuters.

[Guinea, Infectious Diseases] [Mystery hemorrhagic fever kills 23 in Guinea](#) – Reuters.

[Iran, U.S., E.U., Russia, Diplomacy, Nuclear Programs] [Second Round of Iran Nuclear Talks Ends With Optimism](#) – New York Times.

[E.U., Financial Services] [EU Reaches Deal on Banking Union](#) – Associated Press.

[U.S. Army, Cybersecurity] [Gone phishing: Army uses Thrift Savings Plan in fake e-mail to test cybersecurity awareness](#) – Washington Post.

[Libya, Terrorism] [Car bombs kills at least eight at Libya army academy in Benghazi](#) – Reuters.

[Serbia, Elections, Internal Politics] [Ruling Progressive Party ‘wins majority in Serbia poll’](#) - BBC News.

[U.S., Philippines, Basing] [US-Philippines Reach Deal on US Military Access](#) – The Diplomat, Flashpoints blog.

[Russia, Internet Censorship, Internal Politics] [Russia blocks internet sites of Putin critics](#) – Reuters.

[Libya, U.S., Energy, , Maritime, Militia Groups] [Libyan rebel leader calls U.S. Navy “pirates” after tanker seized](#) – Reuters.

[U.N., U.S., Russia, Diplomacy] [US and Russia exchange threats at UN meeting](#) – Al Jazeera.

[Taiwan, Protests, Internal Politics, Trade, China] [Protestors occupy Taiwan parliament over China trade deal](#) – BBC News.

[Canada, Venezuela, Commercial Aviation] [Air Canada suspends Venezuela flights on 'civil unrest'](#) – USA Today.

[Syrian Civil War, War Crimes, ISIS, U.N.] [Syria conflict: UN reports mass executions by ISIS](#) – BBC News.

[Russia, Terrorism, Caucasus Emirate] [Report: Chechen rebel leader Doku Umarov is dead](#) – CNN.

[Bangladesh, Internal Politics, Corruption] [Bangladesh opposition's Khaleda Zia faces corruption trial](#) – BBC News.

[Somalia, al Shabaab, African Union] [Somali Islamists attack hotel in central region](#) – Reuters.

[France, Environment, Pollution] [Paris car ban imposed after pollution hits high](#) – BBC News.

[Cybersecurity, NATO, Hactivist Groups] [Three NATO Websites Disrupted by Ukrainian Hackers of Cyber Berkut](#) – Softpedia.

[U.S., Ukraine] [Pentagon sending ready-to-eat meals to Ukraine, but no arms, ammunition](#) - Associated Press.

[Kenya, Counterterrorism, al Shabaab] [Kenya arrests two after bombs 'found in car'](#) – BBC News.

[Russia, Estonia, Ethnic Groups] [Moscow signals concern for Russians in Estonia](#) – Reuters.