


[Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Trade] Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan set up new alliance – Associated Press.

[Brazil, World Cup, Protests] Brazil anti-World Cup protesters clash with police – BBC News.


[China, PLA, Cybersecurity, Cyberespionage] Indicted Chinese hacker UglyGorilla Wang Dong leaves telltale signs of himself throughout the internet – South China Morning Post.


[Syrian Civil War, Chemical Weapons, NGOs] Chemical weapons inspectors attacked in Syria – Associated Press.


[**China, Organized Crime, Corruption, Internal Politics**] *Businessman linked to China’s ex-security tsar sentenced to death* – Reuters.

[**Ukraine OSCE, Internal Conflict**] *Rebel leader says his men holding OSCE monitors* – Associated Press.

[**Zimbabwe, IDPs, Labor, Unconfirmed**] *Did Robert Mugabe fake a flood in Zimbabwe this February?* – Christian Science Monitor.

[**China, Vietnam, Maritime, Disputed Territories**] *Vietnam, China trade barbs after Vietnamese fishing boat sinks* – Reuters.

[**Colombia, Elections, Internal Politics**] *Colombia election: Santos to face Zuluaga in run-off* – BBC News.

[**Iraq, Terrorism, Sectarian Violence**] *Iraq: Suicide attack kills at least 17 in Baghdad* - Associated Press.

[**U.S., Civil Liberties, Intelligence Agencies, Internal Politics**] *House Passes NSA Reform After Major Concessions by Privacy Advocates* – Foreign Policy.

[**China, U.S., Cybersecurity, Business**] *China to vet Western tech as cyber cold war heats up* – V3.co.uk.


[**European Union, Culture, Food**] *Bulgarian Salad Voted Europe’s Favourite Food* – Strange Maps.


[**Iran, Crime, Internal Politics**] *Iran hangs businessman convicted of $2.6 billion bank scam* – Agence France-Presse.


[**Belgium, Elections, IT**] *Software bug disrupts e-vote count in Belgian election* – IDG News Service.


[**U.S., Smuggling, Endangered Species, China**] *US jails Chinese mastermind of rhino horn smuggling ring for six years* – Associated Press.

[Netherlands, Dutch Navy, Russia] The Dutch Were Powerless When Russian Warships Entered Their Waters – War Is Boring.


[U.N., South Sudan, Peacekeeping Operations] UN to focus on protecting civilians in South Sudan – Associated Press.


[Afghanistan, India, Diplomats, Terrorism] Indian Consulate attacked in Afghanistan’s Herat province – Press Trust of India.

[Belarus, Labor, Internal Politics] Belarus plans to bring back serfdom – Financial Times, Beyond BRICS blog.


[Japan, Australia, Arms Transfers, Submarines] Japan & Australia consider submarine deal that could rattle China – Reuters.

[Lithuania, Elections, Internal Politics] Lithuania’s president wins second term on anti-Russia platform – Reuters.


[Israel, IDF, Internal Politics, Budgets] IAF Makes ‘Extreme’ Decision To Cancel Training Flights – Arutz Sheva. (Reuters also reported that the IDF phased out its AH-1 Cobra attack helicopters in favor of drones as part of the budget cuts.)

[Indonesia, Africa, Trade, Business] Indonesia’s African Outreach – The Diplomat.