

Regional Insights: June 4th, 2021

Africa, South & Central Asia	Americas & Australasia	East & Southeast Asia
<p>Indian Navy Approaches Defence Ministry for Predator Drone Acquisition– Indian Defence Research Wing</p> <p>The Indian Navy is set to approach the defence ministry for the acquisition of 30 Predator armed drones from the US for the three services to counter the challenge posed by the Chinese Wing Loong II drone with precision strike capabilities. The Chinese weaponised drone has been acquired by Pakistan and has plans to jointly produce the same with parent manufacturer Chengdu Aircraft Corporation.</p> <p>India, UK have a roadmap for defence, security ties, but pursuing it will be a challenge– IISS</p> <p>Southern African Leaders Hold Summit on Jihadist Threat– The Defense Post</p> <p>UK, South Africa collaborating on military asset disposal- Janes</p> <p>What Abubakar Shekau’s reported death means for Nigeria security– Al Jazeera</p> <p>Macron attempts to reform Africa-France relationships- ISS Africa</p>	<p>Biden budget to seek boost to the military's cyber force – Politico</p> <p>President Joe Biden’s upcoming budget request will propose growing U.S. Cyber Command’s main digital warfighting force over the next two years, according to two people familiar with the request, as the new administration reels from a series of cyberattacks.</p> <p>Biden wants to increase the size of the Cyber Mission Force — a cadre of roughly 6,200 personnel culled from the military branches and divided into 133 teams — by about 600 people, or 10 percent. The exact composition of the proposed teams, however remains unclear.</p> <p>US Air Force awards \$465M contract for new E-11A planes – Defense News</p> <p>Australian Defence looking at alternatives to French submarines in case \$90 billion program falters – ABC News</p> <p>Amid escalating violence, Colombia sends in troops – CNN</p> <p>Brazil’s political crisis will test BRICS capability: China – Defence Aviation Post</p>	<p>South Korea unveils KF-X prototype – Airforce Technology</p> <p>South Korea has officially unveiled a prototype of its new, indigenously-built, KF-X fighter that will eventually replace the country’s F-4D/E Phantom II and F-5E/F Tiger II aircraft. At a ceremony attended by South Korean President Moon Jae-in at Korea Aerospace Industries (KAI) Sacheon headquarters it was announced the jet would enter service as the KF-21 Boramae. Moon Jae-In called the unveiling of the aircraft the “opening of a new era” according to Yonhap. Flight tests of the fighter are slated to begin in 2022. Under current plans, 40 fighters are set to be in service by 2028 with a further 80 to be delivered by 2032.</p> <p>Taiwan reports 11 Chinese aircraft in defence zone - Reuters</p> <p>China and Russia's military arsenals are terrifying in scale - but how would they perform in combat? – The Telegraph</p> <p>Indonesia-United Kingdom Partnership Forum 2021: joint statement – UK Gov</p>
Eastern Europe	Middle East	Western Europe & The Nordics
<p>Other regimes will hijack plans too - The Atlantic</p> <p>On May 23rd authorities collaborated in the hijacking of a Ryanair plane that was crossing through Belarusian airspace en route from Athens, Greece, to Vilnius, Lithuania. In this new world, dictators are ever more prepared to arrest political dissidents anywhere, no matter what citizenship they might have, or which foreign laws or bureaucratic procedures might theoretically protect them. That Lukashenko is now willing to falsely detain and possibly endanger a European owned, European-registered aeroplane carrying mostly European Union citizens shows he is prepared to break away from the EU.</p> <p>The EU can’t stick to its Belarus sanctions – The Washington Post</p> <p>Exactly how helpless is Europe? – Foreign Policy</p> <p>In post-pandemic Europe, entry to migrants to be prohibited with physical and digital barriers – First Post</p> <p>The case for US defence of the EU – Centre for American Progress</p> <p>Ukraine’s security is Europe’s security – EER News</p>	<p>European Union, Middle East nations look to train at Cyprus security center – Economic Times</p> <p>Three European Union member nations and three Middle Eastern countries are looking to train personnel in border, customs, maritime and cybersecurity techniques at a cutting-edge U.S.-funded facility in Cyprus. The Cyprus Center for Land, Open-Seas, and Port Security (CYCLOPS) is scheduled to start operating on 16th January 2022. Christodoulides said one reason that Cyprus was selected for the center is because it enjoys good relations with the nations in the Mideast</p> <p>U.S. sees sixth round of Iran nuclear talks and likely more- Reuters</p> <p>Turkey Completes First Unmanned Surface Vehicle Live-Fire Trial Qatar – The Defense Post</p> <p>Israel Signs \$200M Drone Contract With Undisclosed Asian Country– The Defense Post</p> <p>Netanyahu foes push for quick vote to end his 12-year rule – Al Jazeera</p>	<p>Boost for European Fighter Jet as Paris, Berlin, Madrid Seal Deal – The Defence Post</p> <p>France, Germany, and Spain said that they had reached agreement on the next phase of their plans to build a joint European fighter jet, capping months of negotiations over how to share the work and the intellectual property.</p> <p>Defence ministers of the three countries said they had reached a “balanced” deal on carrying out the research necessary to select the technology that will underpin the Future Combat Air System (FCAS).</p> <p>The British Army’s new Ajax vehicles ride too rough, too loud – Defense News</p> <p>Italian Air Force eyes microwaves and lasers to defeat drones – Defense News</p> <p>Can Italy Become a Big Player on Iran? - RUSI</p> <p>UK confirms plans to order more F-35 jets - UK Defence Journal</p>

Global Think Tanks Report: June 4th, 2021

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