

Voltaire

International Newsletter

N°24 - 20 January 2023

Iranian-Saudi normalization could bring peace to the Middle East

Israel is deploying all of its lobbyists in Washington to get the US to deliver weapons that will allow it to attack Iran. However, the US pretends not to hear. Iran nuclear negotiations have collapsed according to director of the International Atomic Energy Agency Rafael Grossi.

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hosein Amir Abdullahyan announced at a press conference in Beirut that Iranian-Saudi relations were about to resume with openings from their respective embassies. After the four secret Baghdad meetings, the process of normalizing Iranian-Saudi relations came to a halt in April 2022. An agreement has just been reached regarding Iranian pilgrims to Mecca. The US and Israel are doing their utmost to curb normalization that would hamper their hegemony over the region, while Russia and China are pushing for peace.

AMERICAS

Washington deprives the EU of Russian hydrocarbons but keeps importing them

While Washington has banned its entire population and allies from purchasing Russian oil, it is massively importing it without violating its so-called anti-Russian “sanctions,” [*The Telegraph of India*](#) reports.

India is buying 1.7 million barrels per day of Russian oil. This oil is refined by Nayara Energy and by Reliance Industries, then resold legally to the US which thus reconstitutes its strategic reserves. In practice, the US economic war therefore no longer affects Russia but exclusively its allies of the EU who are the only ones to be deprived of Russian hydrocarbons. This observation must be put into perspective with the sabotage of the *Nord Stream 1* and *Nord Stream 2* pipelines depriving the EU of its main source of energy.

Controversy surrounding actor Steven Seagal

CNN broadcast a report assuring that American actor of Russian origin Steven Seagal who supported Russia in Crimea and obtained his Russian citizenship is now condemning "Putin's crimes in Ukraine". He was reportedly fined 30,000 rubles (\$439) for spreading false news and has fled Russia. He could have taken refuge in the EU.

For Kanye West blacks are the true descendants of the Hebrews

Rapper Kanye West (160 million records sold and recipient of 22 Grammy Awards, 31 million followers on social networks) announced that he was running for the presidential election of 2024. Then he increasingly made controversial and often anti-Semitic interventions losing the support of its sponsors Adidas, Gap, and Balenciaga.

He promotes a 3.5-hour documentary produced in 2018 called *Hebrews to Negroes : Wake Up Black America* which claims that black Americans are the true descendants of the Hebrews of the *Bible* while so-called present-day Jews are nothing than imposters.

President Biden scatters classified documents

A first batch of classified documents was discovered in a residence of President Joe Biden's on November 2, 2022, but the case was not revealed until January 9, 2023. A second batch was later found in his garage in Wilmington followed by the discovery of a third batch in his personal library, then a fourth batch at home.

The presence of classified documents in US leaders' residences was first raised with former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton then a second time with former President Donald Trump and this time with current President Joe Biden.

Big Pharma relied on Twitter to protect its super profits

In the latest installment of the Twitter Files, Intercept reporter Lee Fang shows that Big Pharma has stepped in to have any talk about their profit margins censored.

Republican law proposals

Republicans have reinstated a rule allowing Congress to lower the salary of any federal employee. They intend to use it as a priority against Special Counsel Jack Smith, the man responsible for investigating former President Donald Trump, in particular his possession of classified documents.

Republicans abound in bills. The most popular is one introduced by Rep. Kat Cammack (Florida) to try to limit the powers of the Presidency by giving Congress veto power over any major regulations an administration tries to issue.

Antony Blinken supports freedom of conscience

Celebrating the 237th anniversary of the signing of Virginia's Statute of Religious Freedom (1786), Secretary of State [Antony Blinken](#) issued a press release praising freedom of conscience. This is a significant shift in the position of the federal government which hitherto only defended religious freedom. The difference lies in accepting or not the choice not to believe, not to worship any God with all the consequences that implies. For example, the US Justice considers as inadmissible testimonies of followers (or former followers) of a religion against their own Church.

Douglas Wise does not recognize his mistake

Former Deputy Director of the Military Intelligence Agency Douglas Wise assured *The Australian* that yes, much of what is said to

belong to Hunter Biden's computer is real, but that's how Russian disinformation works, by mixing true and fake information. However, he was unable to give an example of what was fake regarding the contents of this computer. In 2020 Douglas Wise signed an open letter with 50 intelligence personalities assuring that the existence of the computer, and not its contents, was Russian disinformation.

Pentagon coordination with Ukrainian armies

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Mark A. Milley has met his Ukrainian counterpart General Valery Zaluzhnyi for the first time. The two men exchanged their points of view while the Ukrainian side will not be represented at the summit of NATO chiefs of staff.

A former secretary of President Felipe Calderon's tried in the US

Mexican President Felipe Calderon's former Public Security secretary Genaro Garcia Luna is on trial in the US for receiving millions of dollars from the Sinaloa cartel while in office. During his trial in 2018 the godfather "El Chapo" revealed that he had paid him \$3 million in bribes. The same "El Chapo" had also revealed that he had corrupted President Felipe Calderon, who is not on trial.

Planned Attack against Francia Marquez

Seven kilos of explosives were discovered on the route that Colombian Vice-President Francia Marquez was to take.

This personality is the first Afro-Colombian to access the government.

Anderson Torres allegedly planned a coup in Brazil

A draft executive order establishing a state of emergency was found during a search of the home of Anderson Torres'.

Former Minister of Justice of President Jair Bolsonaro, Anderson Torres became responsible for the security of Brasilia after the election of President Lula da Silva. He let pro-Bolsonaro protesters attack official buildings in the capital. He is accused of fomenting a coup and has been indicted.

Venezuela pursues rebellious pro-Western politicians

Venezuela's Attorney General Tarek William Saab has issued three international arrest warrants for opposition leaders Dinorah Figuera who has taken refuge in Spain and Marianela Fernandez and Auristela Vasquez who have both taken refuge in the US. The three women form the Office of a National Assembly recognized by several Western states which claims to be the only democratic representation of the country.

However, if this assembly was elected in 2015, its mandate ended in 2020. The fact of not recognizing the elections that followed does not give it legitimacy.

Westerners continue to support these rebel politicians while restoring trade with Venezuela.

EUROPE

France lectures Russia

Responding to the indictment of Russia's permanent representative to the UN Security Council Vassily Nebenzia, his French counterpart Nicolas de Rivière criticized Moscow for creating a diversion by exploiting freedom of religion or belief in Ukraine. According to him, Moscow claims to defend "religious freedom" while it gave no respite to the civilian population during Orthodox Christian religious holidays, particularly in Dnipro.

Mr. de Rivière spoke before the revelations of

President Zelensky's strategic communications adviser (read below).

The French Left against the rich

Secretary general of *Europe Écologie Les Verts* (Greens) Marine Tondelier declared to the applause of excited activists at the meeting of the *Nupes* (Left) : "We claim that we no longer want billionaires in France. We want a France without billionaires".

Belgium limits the investigation into the corruption of European bodies

The Belgian public prosecutor's office has reached a very favorable agreement with former MEP Pier Antonio Panzeri. His ill-gotten assets will be confiscated from him but he will not go to prison and will only be on house arrest with an electronic bracelet.

Belgium intends to conclude the corruption case in the European Parliament as quickly as possible by focusing on the Qatari and Moroccan network and above all by avoiding other extensions.

German industry hopes to meet NATO ammunition needs

Defense Minister Christine Lambrecht resigned after a series of blunders. Her successor lawyer Boris Pistorius will have to rapidly develop armament production capacities, particularly ammunition. Germany hopes to quickly have enough equipment to arm the Ukrainian forces and to replenish the stocks of the Atlantic Alliance.

Poland fears Russian victory in Ukraine

Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki warned that Kyiv's defeat in Soledar paves the way for a Russian victory not only in Donbass but over Ukraine. According to him, "The defeat of Ukraine could become a prelude to World War III".

Western Europeans see these statements as

unnecessarily alarmist aimed only at putting pressure on them. But in Poland some politicians advocate a military intervention outside "article 5" of the NATO Treaty. The Polish army would come to the aid of the Ukrainian nationalists as the regime of Marshal Józef Piłsudski did in 1920. However, if we refer to this historical precedent Poland and the Ukrainian nationalists were quickly defeated by the Soviets.

Foreign editions

Voltaire, international news is now published in six languages :

- [Dutch](#),
- [English](#),
- [French](#),
- [Italian](#),
- [German](#),
- [Spanish](#).

The EU and NATO plan to massively increase military spending

Several NATO member states including the UK, Poland and the Baltic states are calling for the military spending target of 2% of GDP to be increased to 3%.

Republika Srpska does not think like the EU

On the occasion of its national day the Republic of Srpska (part of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina) awarded its highest honor to Russian President Vladimir Putin.

The EU immediately condemned this pro-Russian demonstration and declared that if Republika Srpska persisted, it would close Bosnia and Herzegovina's path to membership.

Censorship on the bombing of a civilian building in Dnipro

The Russian missile which hit a residential building in Dnepropetrovsk/Dnipro on January 14, killing 44 people, seriously injuring 75 others

and destroying 236 apartments was shot down by Ukrainian anti-aircraft defense.

President Volodymyr Zelensky's special adviser for strategic communications [Oleksii Arestovich](#) revealed this. Then he changed his mind and finally confirmed. He was immediately terminated.

Ukrainian interior minister dies

Interior Minister Denys Monastyrskyi, a member of President Zelensky's party, and several members of his cabinet died in a helicopter crash.

It is possible that the accident was caused by bad weather conditions and the fact of flying at low altitude, however the theory of an internal account settlement is the most probable.

Ukrainian army distributes fake document falsely attributed to Orthodox Church

The Ukrainian Special Forces Psychological Information and Operations Center (TsIPSO) distributed a "Note to a Russian Warrior" attributed to a purported Orthodox Metropolitan of Bryansk. This false document dates from March 2022. It calls for "destroying the Ukrainian nation". It was returned to circulation after the banning of the Orthodox Church loyal to the Patriarch of Moscow.

The CIA retrospectively claims to have saved President Zelensky

In his book *The Fight of His Life – Inside Joe Biden's White House* (Scribner editions) journalist Chris Whipple who is known to be close to US intelligence agencies assures that director of the CIA William Burns met President Volodymyr Zelensky in Kiev just before the Russian military intervention. He allegedly informed him of a Russian plan to take over Antonov airport and of another to physically eliminate him.

Analysis of the Voltaire Network

- "[The world order has already changed in 2022](#)", by Thierry Meyssan

This is a constant in history : changes are rare, but sudden. Those who pay the price are usually the last to see them coming. They perceive them only too late. Contrary to the static image that prevails in the West, international relations have been turned upside down in 2022, mainly to the detriment of the United States, the United Kingdom and France, often to the benefit of China and Russia. With their eyes riveted on Ukraine, Westerners do not perceive the redistribution of the cards.

- "[Imperialist Justice is crumbling](#)", by Thierry Meyssan

In times of peace as much as in times of war, Western domination over the rest of the world, as much as that of the United States over their allies goes through the instrumentation of Law. Thus, the International Tribunals do not seek to dispense justice but to confirm the world order and to punish those who challenge it. US law and European law also serve to compel the rest of the world to comply with the policies of Washington and Brussels. This system is starting to fade.

- "[The crimes that Julian Assange revealed](#)", by Manlio Dinucci

Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese seems to be able to negotiate with American President Joe Biden the release of Julian Assange.

Russian Chief of Staff takes command of the operation in Ukraine

Chief of Staff of the Russian Armed Forces General Valeri Gerasimov has been appointed commander of the special military operation in Ukraine. Former commander General Sergei Surovikin has become his deputy. General Sergei Surovikin implemented a

strategy aimed at depriving Kyiv of energy and therefore of the ability to continue the war. After having bombed the command structures, he attacked the power stations thus adopting the same approach (theory of the five circles) as US General John A. Warden III during the first Gulf War. The next stage will consist in destroying the physical means of communication, roads, railways and airports.

Wagner takes on Soledar

On January 11, head of private military company Wagner Group Yevgeny Prigozhin announced that his men had taken the town of Soledar known for its huge salt mines. This victory was confirmed two days later by the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Soledar is a lock to control the city of Artemovsk (Bakhmut) and from there to control all of Donbass whose population voted by referendum to join the Russian Federation.

Controversy in the case of Russian soldiers killed at Makiivka

During the funeral in Samara of the 89 Russian soldiers who died during the bombardment of their barracks in Makiivka, the mothers of the heroes (who have a special cultural status) accused the military hierarchy of incompetence. According to them, the officers were negligent in placing all of their men in the same building. In addition, the opposition accuses the Ministry of Defense of minimizing the losses. According to it, there were not 89 dead, but 400. This last figure is very unlikely : the vast majority of the soldiers stationed at Makiivka were from Samara. And there were indeed 89 deaths among the conscripts of this city.

Uncertainty around the Russian law penalizing homosexual propaganda

While the law prohibiting homosexual propaganda for minors was only passed to prohibit extreme cases, its application is much

more restrictive than expected. Lists of books to be removed from bookstores were sent by who knows who to booksellers who complied. Some booksellers resist these pressures by placing books in plastic film or by asking their customers to present proof of their majority.

Russian airlines victims of Western “sanctions”

Airbus and Boeing are no longer supplying spare parts under the Western economic warfare known as “anti-Russian sanctions”. As a result, Russian companies are forced to "cannibalize" grounded planes while air incidents multiply.

Investigation of the Mariupol Massacres

The Russian organization [*The International Social Tribunal for Ukraine*](#) investigated the massacres that took place during the capture of Mariupol. According to the testimonies and documents it collected, only the Azov battalion voluntarily caused civilian casualties.

Russia commissions nuclear underwater drones

Russia has armed the Oscar II-class nuclear submarine Belgorod with Poseidon nuclear torpedo drones. According to the US Naval Institute the Poseidon is “a nuclear-powered weapon, therefore possessing a virtually unlimited range. It has the potential to be both a strategic and tactical nuclear weapon while falling outside the definitions of the New START [disarmament] treaty”.

Transformation of the Russian army

Defense Minister General Sergei Shoigu has confirmed an in-depth transformation of the Russian armies over the next three years. The number of men will be increased to 1.5 million. This increase in personnel will have to be synchronized with the delivery of arms, equipment and military and special materials, the construction of infrastructure for the

deployment of troops and the provision of appropriate means.

Chairman of the Duma's Defense Committee Andrei Kartapolov has proposed raising the age of recruitment into the armies from 27 to 30. The Russian army inherited from the Soviet period had serious alcoholism problems. Vladimir Putin massively fired more than 500,000 officers, then rebuilt his troops and trained them to fight in Syria.

Russia wants to try Merkel and Hollande before a new Nuremberg Tribunal

State Duma Speaker Viacheslav Volodin has called for an international military tribunal comparable to the Nuremberg tribunal to try former German Chancellor Angela Merkel and former French President François Hollande. "The confessions made by the representative of the Kyiv regime and the former leaders of Germany and France should be used as evidence before an international military tribunal. These leaders plotted to start a World War with foreseeable consequences. And they deserve to be punished for their crimes", he declared. Angela Merkel assured during an interview with *Die Zeit* that she had negotiated and signed the Minsk Agreements not to make peace in Ukraine, but to give the Ukrainian army time to prepare for the current war. François Hollande proved her right in an interview with *The Kyiv Independent*. International law considers "crimes against peace" to be more serious than crimes against humanity. However, the United Nations has never clearly defined them nor how they should be dealt with. The non-implementation of the Minsk Agreements prolonged the civil war in Ukraine for 8 years, killing at least 20,000 people. Russia did not invade Ukraine, but launched a special military operation to enforce UN Security Council Resolution 2202 that validates the Minsk Agreements.

Who is spy Paul Whelan ?

The US is seeking to exchange US/Irish/British/Canadian citizen Paul Whelan sentenced to 16 years in prison in Russia for espionage. He would belong to the invisible network of the Pentagon (and not of the CIA). Moscow does not seem to want to release him.

AFRICA

CIA concerned about Wagner's presence in Libya

CIA Director [William Burns](#) visited Libya where he successively met Prime Minister of the Government of Tripolitania Abdul Hamid Dbeibah and commander of the Libyan National Army in Cyrenaica Marshal Khalifa Haftar.

More than Libya's future the CIA wanted to discuss Russia's place in the country and in particular the role of the private military company Wagner.

Tunisian opposition does not strengthen after the elections

After the unprecedented abstention in the legislative elections, the opposition was authorized to demonstrate for the 12th anniversary of the fall of President Ben Ali. But it made no new proposal, repeating its same slogans indefinitely.

ASIA

Bezalel Smotrich displays his homophobia

In a recording made public Israel Minister of Finance Bezalel Smotrich does not worry about the repercussions on his sponsors of his homophobic positions. He says, "A Sephardi [businessman] or a traditional Jew, do you think

he cares about gay people ? He does not care. He says 'Do you think I care that you [Smotrich] are against them ?'

Israel's Supreme Court recommends the resignation of a Shaas minister

The Israeli Supreme Court voted 10 out of 11 on a motion declaring that the appointment of Aryeh Deri as minister was extremely unreasonable.

One of the founders of Shaas, Mr. Deri was convicted last year of tax offenses and placed on probation as part of a plea deal. He made it known that he would not resign. Benjamin Netanyahu's government is planning a justice reform that will deprive the Supreme Court of most of its prerogatives.

Qatar opposes reconciliation between Hamas and Syria

The reception of a delegation from Hamas by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad gave rise to great declarations on Arab reconciliation. However, the Hamas office in Damascus is still not open. In addition, Qatar closed its humanitarian office in Gaza in retaliation. At the start of the war against Syria, Hamas was framed by elements of the Israeli Mossad. It attacked the Palestinian town of Yarmouk on the outskirts of Damascus to assassinate the leaders of the PFLP.

UN General Assembly condemns Israeli retaliation against the Palestinian Authority

At the United Nations, the General Assembly approved a resolution urging Israel to immediately cancel the sanctions it took against the Palestinian Authority after the vote on December 30, 2022, of another resolution asking the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to declare the illegality of the Israeli occupation. Germany which had voted against the first resolution voted the second in favor. Fifteen EU

states which had abstained in the first vote, voted for the second. The survival of the Palestinian Authority is at stake with the blocking of taxes levied for it by Israel in accordance with the Oslo Accords. In private, diplomats qualify these Accords as moribund.

Israeli hostage Abera Mengistu still alive

Hamas released a 43-second video of Israeli hostage Abera Mengistu. In doing so, it broke with its doctrine of not broadcasting proof of a hostage's life without something in return. Abera Mengistu is an Ethiopian Jew suffering from psychiatric illness who crossed the Gaza border in 2014 and was taken prisoner by Hamas. After 8 years of absence, it is not possible to confirm with certainty the authenticity of the video. Hamas still demands the release of 60 prisoners in exchange for his release. Successive Israeli governments have done little to free him, probably because he is black.

Greece condemns Israeli company Intellexa

The Greek Personal Data Protection Authority has imposed a fine of €50,000 on Israeli spyware company Intellexa which notably created the Predator software. Owned by former Israeli intelligence officer Tal Dilian the company is accused of failing to cooperate with an ongoing investigation into the use of spyware in Greece.

Danny Danon prepares the annexation of the West Bank

Former Israeli ambassador to the UN Danny Danon has announced that he is working on a bill to annex the Jordan Valley i.e., a third of the West Bank.

Drug trafficking threatens Lebanon's security

While visiting a military hospital commander-in-chief of the army General Joseph Aoun declared that drug trafficking is a phenomenon "more dangerous than terrorism".

Since the collapse of Lebanese banks, the country has become a hub for drug trafficking.

Hezbollah will soon have 200,000 militiamen

Hezbollah's secretary general said the Party of God had recruited 9,000 new fighters in addition to its 90,000 Mahdi scouts and its 100,000 soldiers.

Qatar predicts a return of Russian gas to the EU

Qatar's energy minister and head of QatarEnergy Saad Sherida al-Kaabi told an energy forum in Abu Dhabi : " In my opinion Russian gas will come back to Europe" even if the EU now has "much greater diversity" of supply sources. "Europeans say today that it is out of the question, but things are repairing themselves over time".

Emirati oil director to chair COP28

The follow-up climate conference COP28 will be chaired by director of oil giant Adnoc (Abu Dhabi National Oil Company) Sultan Ahmad al-Jaber.

Contrary to popular belief the Paris Agreement of 2015 were not drafted by French session chairman Laurent Fabius but by then senior adviser to President Barack Obama American Brian Deese. Subsequently he became one of the main managers of the BlackRock Investment Fund. He is now chairman of the White House National Economic Council.

Iran deploys its Navy off the coast of the US

The Iranian Navy now has a command for the Indian Ocean, a second for the Pacific Ocean and a third for the Atlantic Ocean. According to its commander Rear Admiral [Shahram Irani](#) the Iranian Navy imposed itself despite the opposition of France and Australia which intended to restrict its movements in violation of the rules which they themselves had enacted. Although it considers the presence of foreign armies in the Middle East as the cause of the destabilization of the region, the Iranian Navy is now closing in on the coasts of the United States and will cross the Panama Canal.

New version of the assassination of Mohsen Fakhrizadeh

Iran has executed former high official in the Ministry of Defense Ali Reza Akbari, close to current secretary of the National Security Council Rear Admiral Ali Shamkhani. Mr. Akbari who had been number 2 in the Ministry of Defense in the 2000s moved to the UK of which he became a citizen. He was invited to Iran allegedly for an assessment before negotiations with Westerners. It was a trap. He was arrested and charged with helping British intelligence assassinate nuclear program chief Mohsen Fakhri Zadeh. Iran previously blamed Israel for the assassination, while *The New York Times* claimed it was carried out thanks to a robotic device controlled by satellite.

Iranian armies acquire Russian fighter jets

Member of the National Security and Foreign Policy Committee Shahriar Heydari said Iranian forces would receive a "number" of Su-35 "Flanker E" fighter jets by the end of March. These Russian planes were originally intended for Egypt. The Russian Su-35 "Flanker E" multirole fighter planes are far superior to their NATO

counterparts. About fifty of their components are produced by American, Canadian, Japanese, Swiss, Taiwanese and Chinese companies, which leaves one wondering when it comes to anti-Russian or anti-Iranian “sanctions”.

Forced resignation of Vietnamese president

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam has forced President Nguyen Xuan Phuc to resign following 539 corruption cases.

Tensions between South Korea and Iran

South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol has visited the United Arab Emirates to sell weapons. On this occasion he described Iran as the greatest danger for the Emirates. Tehran immediately summoned the South Korean ambassador and warned him of a possible review of relations between the two countries. Seoul then summoned the Iranian ambassador in the hope of calming things down. Although there are no Iranians in South Korea, Seoul has a Farsi-language television channel broadcasting a western view. In addition, Seoul is freezing 7 billion Iranian dollars in its banks under Western “sanctions”.

China’s population is declining but its economy keeps growing

According to the National Bureau of Statistics, for the first time in 61 years China’s population (excluding Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan) fell by 850000 people to 1.41 billion people in 2022. The authorities interpret this drop by suggesting that the population postponed births during the Covid epidemic. Gross domestic production increased by only 3% in 2022, far from the double-digit growth of the 2000s.

Washington tries to ban exports from Xinjiang

The US attempted to have many allied states adopt the equivalent of its *Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act*. The goal is to prohibit any importation of goods manufactured in the Chinese region of Xinjiang which Washington accuses of exploiting the forced labor of 2 million of its citizens.

The EU has drafted a bill which is currently under discussion in the European Parliament. But it is very different from US law since the latter considers *a priori* everything produced in Xinjiang as coming from labor camps and leaving the burden of proof to the contrary to the care of importers, while Brussels considers *a priori* normal Xinjiang productions unless proven otherwise by national governments.

European parliamentarians such as French environmental senators Melanie Vogel and Guillaume Gontard are trying to have the US version adopted in their country.

Beijing reframes its ties with Washington

Chinese Vice Premier Liu He met with US Federal Bank President Janet Yellen in Zurich, then pleaded for his country’s gradual return to free enterprise. In doing so, he appears to be seeking economic detente with the US which presents itself as champion of free enterprise, even if it does not respect it.

Politically however Beijing continues to blame the US for causing the Covid-19 pandemic and initiating Russia’s war in Ukraine.

Fumio Kishida prepares the next G7

Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida has embarked on a tour of the G7 member countries. He relies on the US nuclear umbrella and told French President Emmanuel Macron that the security of Europe and the Indo-Pacific are indivisible. He signed a mutual troop access agreement with British Prime Minister Rishi

Sunak and agreed with Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni to improve defense ties.

Japan beats the drum against China

Giving a speech at Johns Hopkins University https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101_kishida/statement/202301/00005.html

during his stay in the US, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida emphasized that " It is absolutely imperative that Japan, the US and Europe remain united in the management of our respective relations with China".

Erratum

- In the first edition of our N° 23 we dated the case of the Muhammad cartoons in 2017. It took place in 2005.

Voltaire, international news

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Gilles Lepasant, *Institut français des relations internationales* (IFRI)

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