



Weekly Digest

Advisory Services Newsletter

26th January 2022

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International Relations

Taliban join Western Diplomats for Three Days of Talks in Oslo (Aljazeera 24th January)

The **Taliban** and **representatives** from **Norway, United States, France, Britain, Germany, Italy** and the **EU**, have met in Norway for three days of talks to discuss the **sanctions imposed on Afghanistan** after the Taliban take over. The Taliban are requesting the unfreezing of nearly USD10 Billion in assets. A Taliban Delegate was quoted as saying:

“We are requesting them to unfreeze Afghan assets and not punish ordinary Afghans because of the political discourse.”

The same delegate claimed the meeting was seen as “a step to legitimise the Afghan government”, which was immediately refuted by the Norwegian Government who categorically stated the meetings were “not a legitimation or recognition of the Taliban”.

US Orders its Diplomats to Leave Ukraine (France 24, 24th January)

The **US** has asked its **citizens** and **diplomats** living in the **Ukraine** to **consider leaving the country**, as **tensions mount** along the joint border with Russia. The threat of invasion remains concerning as over 100,000 troops have now amassed along the frontier **between Russia and Ukraine**. Addressing the tensions in Parliament on Tuesday Boris Johnson revealed he has spoken to President Putin in December last year about the issue assuring the UK:

“He had no thought of encircling or otherwise threatening his country” but Ukraine “of course enjoys an equal and symmetrical right to that of Russia”. He also confirmed the imposing of “co-ordinated and severe sanctions” and a “response in unison” with the rest of the NATO forces should diplomatic negotiations fail.

Yemen War Escalates as UAE is Targeted Again (Aljazeera, 24th January)

The **UAE** and **Saudi Arabia** both announced on Monday they had **destroyed ballistic missiles** (deployed **by Houthi rebels**) over **Abu Dhabi** (including Abu Dhabi’s Dhafra airbase) and **Southern regions in Saudi Arabia**, as the seven-year war between the Houthi rebels and the Yemen Government’s UAE coalition continues and is in danger of escalating further.



World news

Ex-Minneapolis Police Officers on Trial for Violating George Floyd's Rights (APNews 25th January)

Three former **police officers** appeared **in court** this week on charging of **violating the human rights of George Floyd** who died at the hands of Derek Chauvin in 2020. Officers Keung, Lane and Tao are charged with 'failing to provide medical care' to Mr Floyd, and Tao and Keung are also charged with 'failure to stop Chauvin'. The public prosecutor addressed the jury saying:

"We will ask you to hold these men accountable for choosing to do nothing and watch a man die."

Eight dead and 35 Injured in Stampede at Africa Cup of Nations match (Aljazeera 25th January)

Eight people have **died** and **38 injured** (seven of which are in serious condition) after a stampede at the **Africa Cup of Nations football match in Cameroon** on Monday. Approximately 50,000 people attempted to gain access to the match after a massive promotional campaign by the Cameroon government that offered free tickets and transportation. 60 minutes before kick-off however only one gate was open to enter the stadium which caused the stampede resulting in the crushing of patrons. Patrice Motsepe, President of the Confederation of African football (Caf), said no more matches would take place at the stadium until there was an "absolute guarantee" fans would be safe, and that "clearly there were failures - there were things that should have been foreseen,"1.

Please feel free to request Advisory Services **NEW Monthly Threat in Focus product**. January's theme is "**Crowd Management**". AdvisoryServices@WilsonJames.co.uk

Biology Student Dead after opening fire on Students in Lecture Hall (Euronews 24th January)

A **biology student** opened fire on unsuspecting class-mates in a popular **German university** campus on the 23rd Jan leaving **one dead and seven injured**. The suspect, believed to have killed himself before being located by police was found with two firearms adjacent to his body. He was described as 'firing wildly' and indiscriminately at fellow students and was believed to have suffered from mental health issues. The motive for the attack is still unclear and the suspect was not known to police. 2.



Industry News

ENERGY

Tonga Eruption causes oil spill and pollution in Peru (Euro News 23rd January)

A **REPSOL** oil tanker unloading at a port in Northern Peru caused a 6,000 barrel oil spill after being hit by a wave created by the 'massive swell' from the **Tonga** volcanic eruption. The impact resulted in a spill of almost one million litres of crude oil. The Peruvian government has declared it an ecological disaster and is demanding compensation from Repsol who have denied responsibility blaming the 'freak' waves from the eruption. 21 beaches along the coast are affected.

French Oil Giant TOTAL withdraws from Myanmar (France 24, 21st January)

TotalEnergies is the latest company to follow the EU's lead in imposing restrictions on Myanmar following its failure to stop the human rights abuses happening in-country since the military coup in February last year. In a press release the company stated:

"The situation, in terms of human rights and more generally the rule of law, which have kept worsening in Myanmar... has led us to reassess the situation and no longer allows TotalEnergies to make a sufficiently positive contribution in the country."

30% of the gas produced by Total is sold to the military controlled Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE). The EU has now also imposed sanctions on the military.

Judge Rules in Favour of North Sea Oil & Gas production (Independent 19th January)

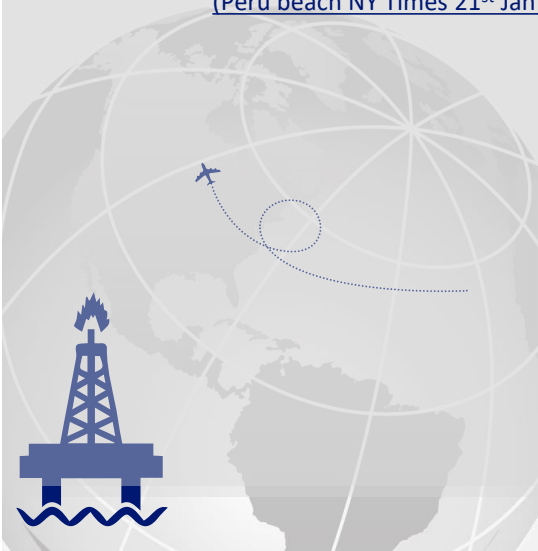
A challenge on the future of **North Sea Oil and Gas** brought by climate activist group 'Paid to Pollute' was defeated in the high court last week after the judge ruled in favour of the Oil and Gas Authority and Business secretary Kwasi Kwarteng. Mrs Justice Cockerill stated:

"Maximising economic recovery of oil and gas does not need to be in conflict with the transition to net zero."

Kwasi Kwarteng also responded to the ruling adding: "Turning off North Sea oil and gas overnight would put energy security, jobs and industries at risk – and make us even more dependent on foreign imports...This has to be a transition, not extinction."



(Peru beach NY Times 21st Jan)



Activism Updates

PROTESTS

Thursday 27th January – No more lockdown

Location: Queen Victoria Street, Reading @17:00

Cause: Silent, lighted walk for no more lockdowns

Details: <https://t.me/BerkshireFreedom>

Friday 28th January – Wake up Wokingham

Location: Town Hall, Wokingham @14:00

Cause: No more lockdowns

Details: <https://t.me/BerkshireFreedom>

Saturday 29th January – Ban Vivisection National Day of Action (postponed from 22nd)

Location: Imperial College London @13:00

Cause: Animal Rights

Details: <https://vivisectionexposedcouk.wpcomstaging.com/events/>

Saturday 29th January – Freedom Rally

Location: Wellington Square, Ayr, Scotland @13:00

Cause: No more lockdown

Details: <https://t.me/SCOTLANDTGR>

Saturday 29th January – Freedom Rally

Location: City Hall, Belfast @14:00

Cause: No more lockdown

Details: #TOGETHER



Protest Guidance

GENERAL ADVICE

- It is recommended you maintain a good awareness of your surroundings if in the vicinity of a demonstration or public gathering as some protests may escalate into violence.
- Anticipate localised travel disruption in the area of the demonstration.
- Allow additional time for journeys or arrange alternate routes to minimise potential delays.
- If in the area of a spontaneous protest, it is recommended to leave the area by the quickest means possible and seek a secure location.
- Continue to monitor media sources for updates and additions to the scheduled events.
- Consider the possibility of regular protests occurring throughout the summer as they are often not isolated events, with activists returning to the same locations time and again.

KEEPING STAFF INFORMED AND PREPARED

- Inform staff that routes to work may be impacted by protest groups.
- Keep staff updated and provide guidance on how to approach the site (e.g. consider dressing down, no identification on display on approach to site, organised travel from transport hubs).
- Morning Briefs to include lockdown measures and scenario discussion to aid confidence in SOPs.
- Escalation and Incident procedures to be brief. Allocated Team Leads to be communicated.
- Named First Aiders on site to be communicated to the rest of the team daily.

ACCESS CONTROL

- Secondary access points to be used, in order to keep main access areas clear.
- Perimeter Surveillance to be proactively undertaken.
- Reinforce security on approach to site.

PATROLS

- To identify suspicious activity in the area.
- Vary patrols by changing routes and frequency.
- Check all exterior perimeter fencing.

STAFF

- Consider increasing the number of staff on duty.
- Consider patrolling in pairs if appropriate.
- Staff access to the building may be prevented. Consideration should be given to working from another location.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND CYBER SECURITY

- Monitor social media platforms for chatter regarding protests in your vicinity.
- Further guidance to staff could be given regarding their personal cyber security to ensure no cyber-attacks via home working Wi-Fi.

Counter-Terrorism Guidance

THE FOLLOWING ADVICE IS FROM THE [NATIONAL COUNTER TERRORIST SECURITY OFFICE](#)

GENERAL ADVICE ACT (Action Counters Terrorism)

On identifying suspicious activity, individual, vehicle or suspect object, move away and call 999.

Or use the confidential hotline - **0800 789 321**

- **Provide updated and regular threat briefings**
- Maintain an effective **risk assessment**.
- Maintain training and engagement with **ACT app**.
- [Easing Lockdown Vigilance Campaign Toolkit](#)

SUSPICIOUS ITEMS

CONFIRM

- Has it been deliberately hidden
- Is it obviously suspicious
- Is it typical for this location

CLEAR

- Do not touch the item, stay away from the hazard
- Be out of sight of the item or behind hard cover
- Cordon off the area in advance of police arrival.

COMMUNICATE

- Inform your control room/supervisor
- **DO NOT USE MOBILE PHONES/RADIOS** within 15m

CONTROL

- Public should be stopped from entering the area
- Try to keep eyewitnesses on scene.

MARAUDING TERRORIST ATTACK

RUN

- Escape if you can
- Is there a safe route? Run, if not Hide
- Insist others leave with you,
- Leave belongings behind.
- Do not attempt to film the incident. Run.

HIDE

- If you can see the attacker, they may be able to see you. Bullets go through glass, brick, wood and metal. You must still hide, even if you are behind a locked door.
- Be aware of your exits
- Be quiet, silence your phone
- Lock/barricade yourself in
- Move away from the door

TELL

- Call the police
- Nature of the Incident - What is happening?
- Location - Suspects –Direction –Descriptions

BOMB THREAT

- Remain calm and talk to the caller
- Note the caller's number and record the call
- Write down the exact wording and time of call
 1. Where exactly is the bomb right now?
 2. When is it going to explode?
 3. What does it look like?
 4. What does the bomb contain?
 5. How will it be detonated?
 6. Who put the device in place?
 7. What is your name?
 8. What is your address?
 9. Do you represent a group or acting alone?
 10. Why have you placed the bomb?

Note the following

The caller's

Sex / Nationality / Age

What threat language was used

Well spoken / Irrational / Incoherent

Caller's voice

Calm / Excited / Accent – note if possible

Background sounds

Street noises/House noises



Contact
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