

This Week's Developments

December 12 - 18, 2021

- Iranian mouthpiece threaten Israel with map of targets
- Israeli prime minister makes historic UAE visit
- Russia has 'no trust' in Nato over Ukraine
- Boris Johnson warns Putin against Ukraine invasion
- Moscow lists demands for defusing Ukraine tensions
- Putin and Xi form a new axis against Nato
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Iranian mouthpiece threatens Israel with map of targets

The Times of Israel, December 15, 2021



EVENT

Iran's state-affiliated Tehran Times issued a threat to Israel on Wednesday, publishing a map of the country riddled with markers as a reminder that Iranian forces can ostensibly strike anywhere they want. Alongside a front-page opinion piece headlined "Just one wrong move!" the map showed scores of markers along the length and breadth of the country. Though the paper didn't specify what the markers represented, the article opened by declaring, "An intensification of the Israeli military threats against Iran seems to suggest that the Zionist regime has forgotten that Iran is more than capable of hitting them from anywhere." It went on to cite Hebrew media reports about a visit last week by Defence Minister Benny Gantz and Mossad chief David Barnea to Washington, where they reportedly stressed concerns over Iran's ballistic missile threat.

COMMENT

The article this week in the Tehran Times comes as talks are being held in Vienna to save a 2015 nuclear deal between Iran and world powers that has been unravelling after the US pulled out of the pact. But as the talks falter there is increasing talk of Israel taking military action against Iran. The Israel Defence Forces earlier this month said it will conduct a major air force exercise in the spring simulating a strike on Iranian nuclear facilities. While focusing on the Iranian nuclear program and talks in Vienna, Israel is also keeping a watchful eye on developments in Syria. Iran has been sending plane loads of military equipment to its proxy forces based there. The Bible is very clear that Iran will not only be involved with Russia when they invade Israel together – but before that invasion Iran will also be behind an initial inner ring war around Israel. It uses its pawns based around Israel to launch attacks - all detailed in Psalm 83+Isa 17.

BIBLE QUOTE

For they have conspired together with one consent: they are confederate against thee: The tabernacles of Edom, and the Ishmaelites; of Moab, and the Hagarenes; Gebal, and Ammon, and Amalek; the Philistines with the inhabitants of Tyre; Assur [Iran] also is joined with them: they have holpen the children of Lot. Selah.
(Psalm 83:5-8)

Israeli prime minister makes historic UAE visit, stressing 'new reality' for region

CNBC, December 13, 2021



Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett touched down in the United Arab Emirates Monday in a historic visit, marking the first time an Israeli leader has publicly met the UAE's de-facto ruler, Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan. Bennett took the opportunity to emphasize what he saw and, indeed, what regional analysts describe as a new reality for the Middle East: "In my opinion, this is what the peace and the new reality this region is witnessing, and we are working together to ensure a better future for our children," he told UAE state news agency WAM. The UAE and Israel signed the historic Abraham Accords in August of 2020, brokered by the Trump administration and marking the first-ever normalization of ties between Israel and an Arab Gulf country. Bahrain, Sudan and Morocco later followed with their own normalization agreements with Israel.

COMMENT

Since the Abraham Accords were signed in 2020, Israel and the UAE have forged ahead with billions of dollars worth of trade, tourism, technology and transport partnerships. Within months of the accords' signing, Israeli tourists were pouring into the UAE's restaurants, beaches and malls. The UAE last March announced a massive \$10 billion fund dedicated to investing in what it deems to be strategic sectors in Israel. And it is not just about trade. Both countries have Iran as a common enemy and they are looking to align their thinking and strategies in this area. In Ezekiel 38 we read that there are a group of nations that appear allied to Israel as they oppose the Russian invasion of God's land. In that group are nations called Sheba and Dedan. Sheba is modern Saudi Arabia and Dedan is in the area of the UAE. The nations line up as prophesied...

BIBLE QUOTE

Sheba, and Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish, with all the young lions thereof, shall say unto thee, Art thou come to take a spoil? hast thou gathered thy company to take a prey? to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil?

(Ezekiel 38:13)

Russia has 'no trust' in Nato over Ukraine

The Times, December 13, 2021



EVENT

Russia will have no choice but to respond with military force should Nato continue their expansion towards the east, Moscow said today. The comments from Sergei Ryabkov, the deputy foreign minister, are the first explicit warning of potential military action since the Kremlin moved at least 90,000 troops to the border with Ukraine. Russia has repeatedly highlighted Nato expansion as one of its "red lines", while the West has recently sounded the alarm over the possibility for a Russian invasion of Ukraine as early as January." A lack of progress towards a political, diplomatic solution to this problem would mean that our response will be military and military-technical," Ryabkov said in an interview with RIA Novosti, the Russian state news agency. "There will be confrontation," Ryabkov added, warning that Russia would deploy weapons that were previously banned under the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty.

COMMENT

Last week president Biden vowed to hit Moscow with "massive" sanctions in the event of a Russian offensive in Ukraine. He has also threatened to send far more military equipment and assistance to Ukraine. On Thursday, Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov's warned that Moscow will respond "militarily" and even deploy tactical nuclear weapons. His remarks raise the stakes even higher in the confrontation between Russia and Western powers. The Russian bear feels backed into a corner with NATO and the EU encroaching ever eastwards. It appears that Putin has decided that the West will come no further. Daniel 2 depicts the division of Europe into East and West with the 2 legs of Nebuchadnezzar's image. Division always leads to conflict....

BIBLE QUOTE

This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass, His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay. Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces.

(Daniel 2:32-24)

Boris Johnson warns Putin against Ukraine invasion

The Times, December 14, 2021



EVENT

Boris Johnson has told President Putin that any invasion of Ukraine would have “significant consequences” as Russia warned conflict was inevitable if Nato continued its expansion toward its borders. In a phone call Johnson told Putin that the UK was committed to Ukraine’s “territorial integrity and sovereignty” and that any “destabilising action” by Russia would be met with a united response from the West. In Moscow Russia’s deputy foreign minister gave the Kremlin’s first explicit warning of military action, amplifying tensions with Ukraine. “A lack of progress towards a political-diplomatic solution would mean that our response will be military and military-technical,” Sergei Ryabkov told the state news agency RIA Novosti. “There will be confrontation. There’s no trust in Nato as an alliance. **We’re no longer playing these kinds of games and don’t believe in Nato’s assurances.**”

COMMENT

Last week it was **president Biden warning Putin** of severe sanctions if he decided to invade Ukraine. This week it is the turn of the **UK prime minister Boris Johnson to phone Putin**. He has given the same warnings. Boris Johnson said there would be an “extremely tough package” of sanctions and that NATO forces would build in the “periphery” of Ukraine if needed before saying **such a decision would be “catastrophic” for everyone involved**. The European Union is ready to scale up its sanctions and take “unprecedented measures” against Russia if it shows further aggression towards Ukraine, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said on Wednesday. Daniel 11 says that the king of the south (US/UK) will push (militarily provoke) Gog – the king of verse 36-39 of the same chapter. **Ukraine could be where the push comes.**

BIBLE QUOTE

Thus shall he [Gog] do in the most strong holds with a strange god, whom he [Gog] shall acknowledge and increase with glory: and he [Gog] shall cause them to rule over many, and shall divide the land for gain. And at the time of the end shall the king of the south [US/UK] push at him [Gog]:
(Daniel 11:39-40)

Moscow lists demands for defusing Ukraine tensions

Reuters, December 17, 2021



Analysis

By Steve Rosenberg

Moscow correspondent

EVENT

Russia said on Friday it wanted a legally binding guarantee that NATO would give up any military activity in Eastern Europe and Ukraine, part of a wish list of security guarantees it wants to negotiate with the West. Moscow for the first time laid out in detail demands that it says are essential for lowering tensions in Europe and defusing a crisis over Ukraine, which Western countries have accused Russia of sizing up for a potential invasion after building up troops near the border. Russia has denied planning an invasion. The demands contain elements - such as an effective Russian veto on future NATO membership for Ukraine - that the West has already ruled out. Others would imply the removal of U.S. nuclear weapons from Europe and the withdrawal of multinational NATO battalions from Poland and from the Baltic states of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania that were once in the Soviet Union.

COMMENT

Steve Rosenberg is the BBC's Moscow correspondent and has been for many years. This is his analysis of the situation. *"Diplomacy is the art of the possible. Well it was... until now. It's virtually impossible to imagine the US and Nato signing the draft documents Russian diplomats have drawn up, without considerable changes. Russia is demanding a veto on who joins the Alliance. A non-starter. Nato has said many times before that Moscow can have no say over who gets to be a member. Plus the Russians want to turn the clock back to May 1997. Any country that joined the Nato alliance after that date won't be allowed Nato troops or weaponry. Moscow knows very well it's demanding things the West won't deliver, so why ask?"* Russia is demanding the "impossible" as far as NATO is concerned. *This could be Putin's way of blaming the West when (if) war starts on their own intransigence.* Gog is preparing for war....

BIBLE QUOTE

Be thou prepared, and prepare for thyself, thou, and all thy company that are assembled unto thee, and be thou a guard unto them. After many days thou shalt be visited: in the latter years thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, (Ezekiel 38:7-8)

Putin and Xi form a new axis against Nato

The Times, December 16, 2021



EVENT

President Xi of China has pledged to support Russian demands for guarantees that Nato will not expand any further into eastern Europe, according to a Kremlin aide. The Russian and Chinese presidents vowed to defend one another's interests against the US and its allies during a video call yesterday that underlined how the two countries' shared suspicions of the West have brought them into closer alignment. Yuri Ushakov, 74, a foreign policy adviser to President Putin, said afterwards that Xi had said China and Russia now had a relationship that was stronger than an alliance. Russia has dispatched tens of thousands of troops to the vicinity of its border with Ukraine and threatened this week to station medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe unless Nato came forward with a "political and diplomatic solution" to the tensions.

COMMENT

As the West shores up their own strategies as conflict looms so is the East. Russia has turned to China to request its backing. President Xi has given his support to Putin's demands and promised to defend each other's interests against America. It is interesting the world splits into an East / West divide. This is part of the three "froglike spirits" of Revelation 16. They come out of the Dragon, Beast and False Prophet. The froglike spirits are the teachings that came out of the French Revolution –Liberty, Equality, Fraternity. The Beast (the EU / the West) promised liberty / freedom through democracy. The Dragon (Russia/ the East) promised equality through communism - which led to totalitarian rulers. The False Prophet (Rome) promised brotherhood with all religions. But all of these promises were lies and ultimately lead to Armageddon....

BIBLE QUOTE

And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

(Revelation 16:13-14)

ADDITIONAL AND SUPPORTING ARTICLES

DebkaFile Review (world events through the bi-focals of Israeli military intelligence) **TV-7 Israel News** **Watchman Newscast**

2021-12-18 [Tensions rise between Russia and Ukraine](#) – SkyNews - 2.39 min - YouTube

2021-12-18 [Israel is Prepared to Confront Iran With or Without the US](#) – CBN - 3.38 min - YouTube

2021-12-16 [U.S. Shoots Down Iran-Linked Drone Over Syria; Delays Crucial Israel Shipment](#) - 9.22 min – Watchman - YouTube

2021-12-11 What can the West do if Russia attacks Ukraine - DW News - 10.0 min - YouTube

2021-12-09 Can Iran really make a nuclear bomb - Gravitas - 4 min - YouTube

2021-12-08 Olaf Schultz – 4.05 min - YouTube

2021-12-08 Biden threatens Putin with severe economic sanctions over Ukraine - DW News - 6.0 min - YouTube

2021-12-07 Will Russia invade Ukraine in January 2022 - Gravitas - 6.0 min - YouTube

2021-12-07 Israel Launches Airstrikes on Iran Proxies in Syria; Blocks Hamas Terror Tunnels – Watchman - 11.29 min - YouTube

2021-12-06 Iran, China & Russia Threats Grow; U.S. Unwilling to Respond - Watchman - 10.31 min - YouTube

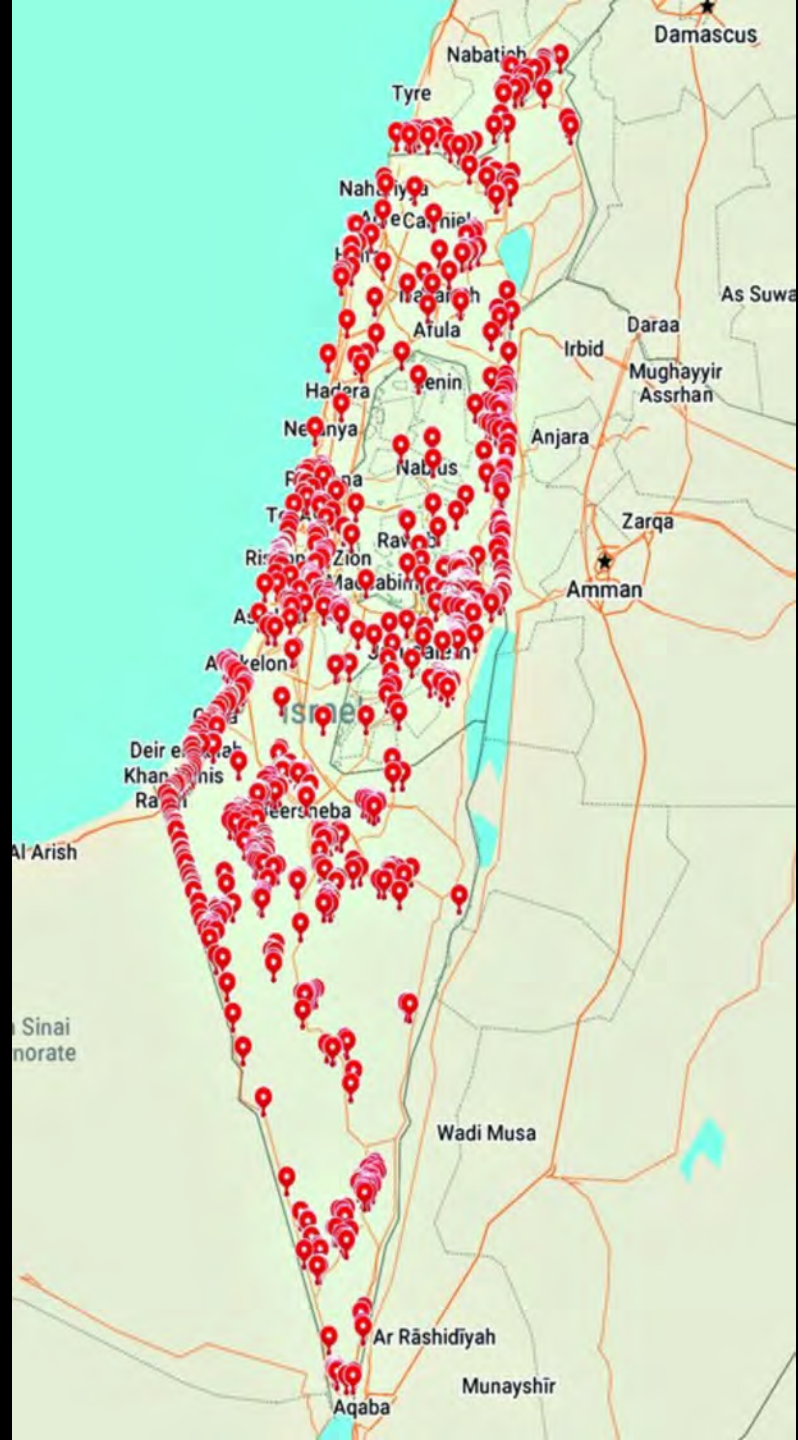
2021-12-03 Israel TARGETED by UN Resolutions; Jerusalem's Temple Mount a Muslim Site? – YouTube 9:38 min

2021-11-21 United Arab Emirates - Middle East Battle Lines – Interactive Map

2021-11-14 Has the Arab world abandoned Palestine - Gravitas - YouTube 5:29 min

2021-09-25 Understand German Politics and the election system -how it will affect the world - 6.0 min - YouTube

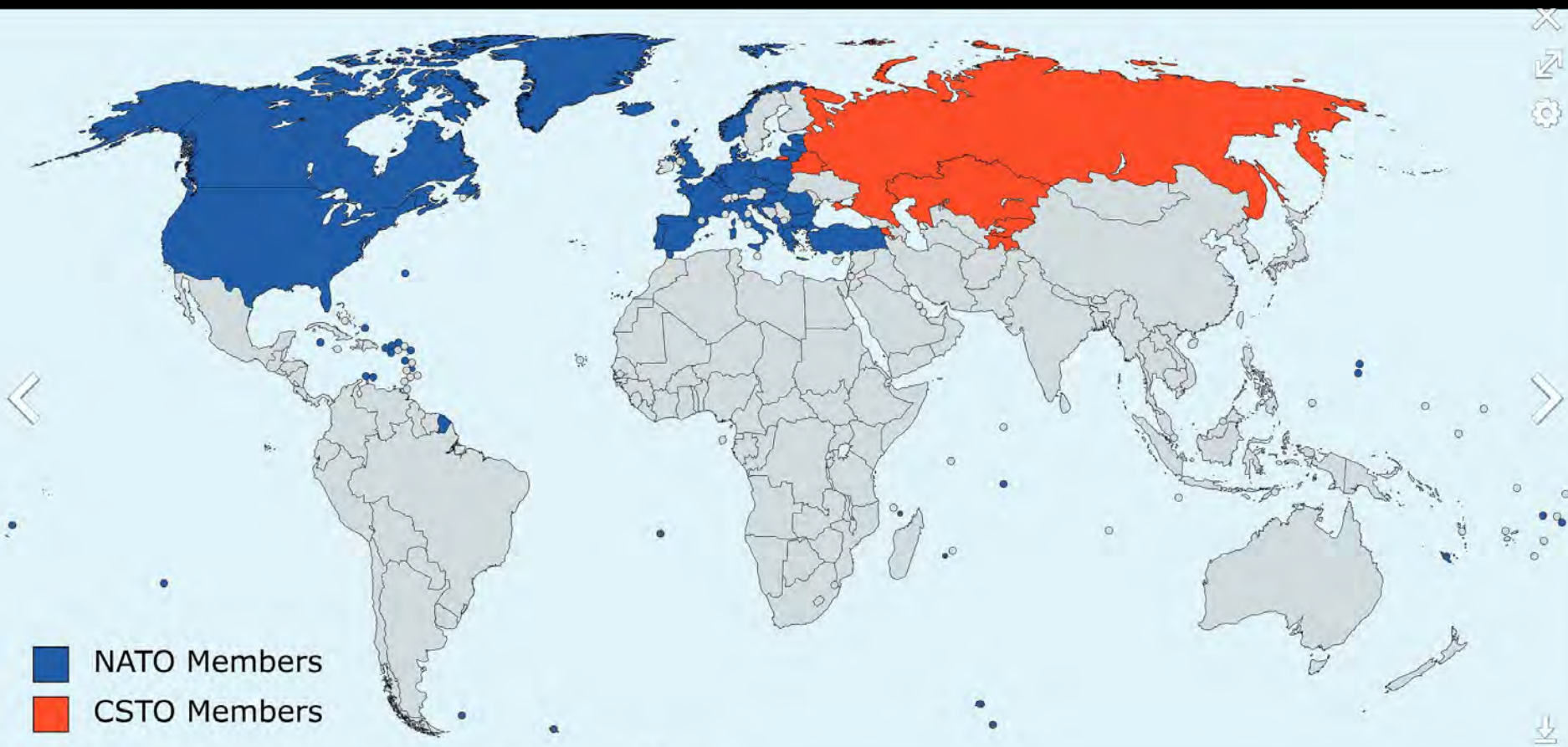
2017-09-14 How do German elections work - CNBC Explains - 5.33 min - YouTube





Map indicating locations of NATO and Russia

 [More details](#)

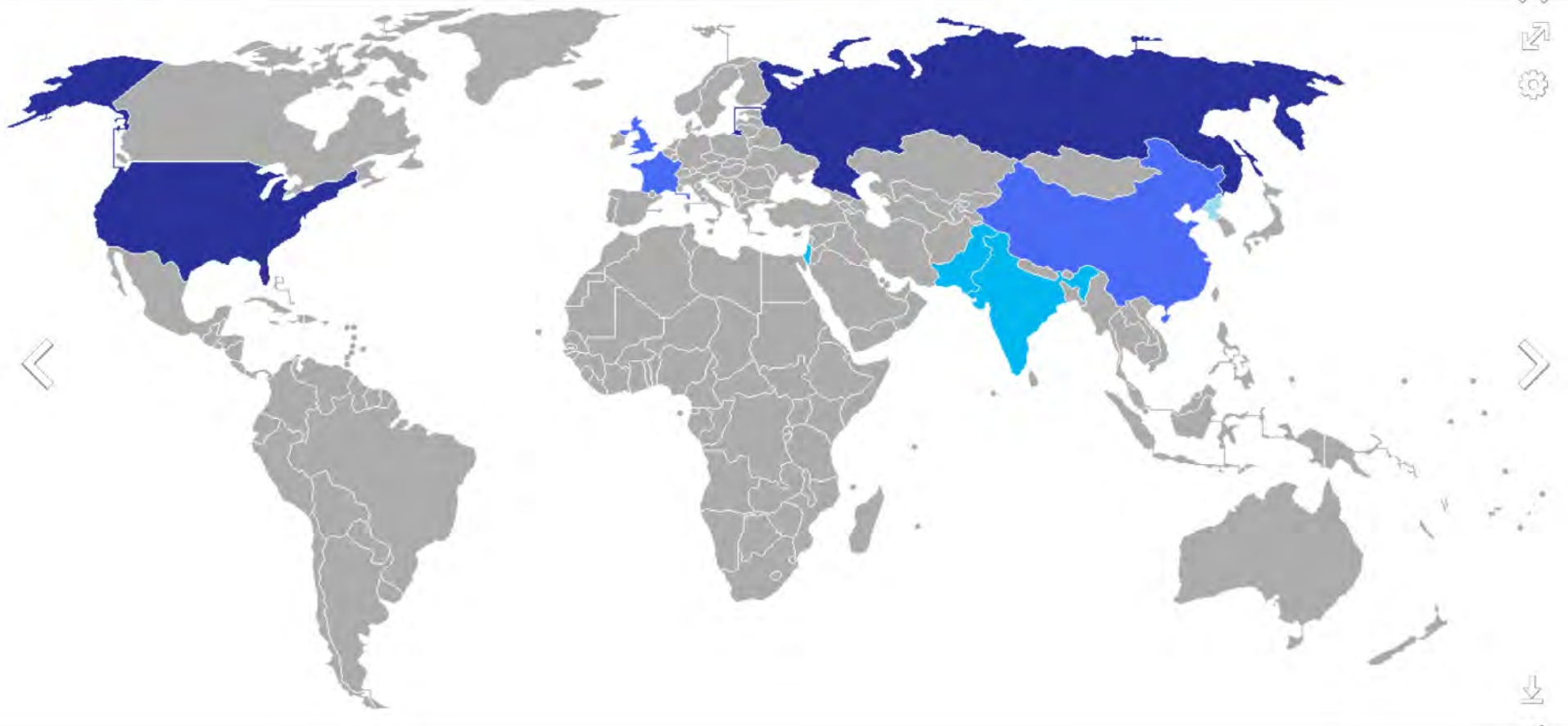


■ NATO Members
■ CSTO Members

P. S. The territory of Crimea is de jure part of Ukraine, de facto part of Russia.

North Atlantic Treaty Organization vs Collective Security Treaty Organization NATO vs CSTO

 [More details](#)



Large [nuclear weapons](#) stockpile with global range (dark blue), smaller stockpile with global range (medium blue)

 [More details](#)

Russia's Militarization of the Arctic

Russian Arctic Bases



Missile ranges



S-400 Triumph Air Defence System

Max detection range	600km
Max altitude	30km
Maxi target speed	4.8km/sec
Targets engaged simultaneously	up to 36

How China is building an invasion force ★★



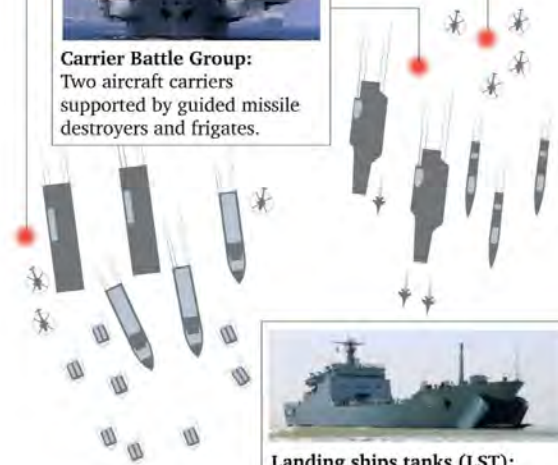
Type-075 Assault Carriers:
Can deploy attack helicopters, transport helicopters and landing craft.



Type-071 Landing Platform Docks:
Carry large numbers of troops with supporting landing craft and helicopters.



Carrier Battle Group:
Two aircraft carriers supported by guided missile destroyers and frigates.



Landing ship tanks (LST):
landing craft and ships taken up from trade land reinforcements.



ZTD-05 Amphibious Tanks: Can 'swim' from a ship to fight for control of a beach.



Zubr Hovercraft: Can quickly carry troops and light vehicles from ships to shore.