

CHRONOLOGY

July – December 2022

July 4

Finland and Sweden join the NATO. The 30 NATO allies signed the accession protocols for Sweden and Finland, sending the membership bids of the two nations to the alliance capitals for legislative approvals. These 30 ambassadors and permanent representatives formally approved the decisions of NATO summit when the NATO alliance made the historic decision to invite Russia's neighbor Finland and Sweden to join the military club.

July 11

EU Home Affairs Commissioner Ylva Johansson announced a Hub for Internal Security and Border Management in Moldova to combat organized crimes, and arms smuggling from Ukraine, at a meeting of EU interior ministers in Prague.

July 12

The Council of European Union formally approved the accession of Croatia to the euro area and to adopt the euro single currency from January 1, 2023.

July 13

The Dutch Senate approved the free trade agreement between the EU and Canada on Tuesday. Under the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), more than 99 percent of all trade tariffs currently in place between the bloc now Canada will be part of it.

July 14

Italy was plunged into fresh political turmoil on 14 July when prime minister Mario Draghi announced his resignation after a key ally (Five Star Movement) boycotted a parliamentary vote of confidence within his grand coalition government.

July 18

The EU signed a new agreement with Azerbaijan aimed at increasing the Azeri gas imports to Europe, particularly supplies to eastern member states.

The European Commission's Joint Research Centre published an assessment report on *Drought in Europe - July 2022*. It warned almost half of the EU +UK territory may confront severe drought situation. The Europe's drought report is based on the European Drought Observatory.

German chancellor Olaf Scholz emphasized on the need to abolish national vetoes in the EU Council to find common ground on divisive issues like migration.

July 19

North Macedonia finally opened accession talks with the EU on Tuesday after MPs backed a deal to end Bulgaria's veto.

The 9th China-EU High-Level Economic and Trade Dialogue (HED), co-chaired by China's Vice-Premier Liu He and Executive Vice-President of the European Commission, Valdis Dombrovskis was held in Brussels. The two sides reached at a series of consensus on deepening macro-economic policy coordination, and working on WTO reforms, trade, health, agriculture and regulatory cooperation.

July 26

Cypriot energy minister Ms. Natasa Pilidou announced that Cyprus has extended its offer to the EU for its gas supply in the time of need, when Russia threatening cut-offs, gas transporting to Europe.

July 28

The Spanish government has asked the European Parliament to allow Catalan, a regional language, to be used in the chamber. This is to express a conciliatory gesture by Madrid to the Catalonia separatist movement.

August 3

In Vienna, a high-level meeting was held on Iranian nuclear enrichment in which China, the US, Russia, France, Germany, the UK, Iran and the High Representative of EU CFSP, Josep Borrell participated. The EU became the mediator to reach a consensus on Iranian nuclear technology. In a "final

text”, the EU presented its proposal to resolve the tensions between Iran and the other nuclear powers.

August 14

The report of Agence France-Presse (AFP) news agency, according to EU data revealed that Europe is set for record wildfire land loss in 2022. Nearly 660,000 hectares of European land have already been destroyed by fires this year.

August 20

Greece officially exits the three-year EU bailout plan it accepted when it was on the verge of bankruptcy and close to be pushed out of the euro-zone.

August 26

The French President Emmanuel Macron paid a three-day visit to Algeria where President Macron and his Algerian counterpart Abdelmadjid Tebboune have declared a “new, irreversible dynamic of progress” in their ties.

August 27

European electricity prices have soared to a new record level presaging a bitter winter as Russia's invasion of Ukraine inflicts economic pressure across the continent.

September 1

Gazprom, the Russian leading giant suspended gas supply to Germany's major pipelines resulted in a severe energy crisis in Europe.

The German Chief of Defense Eberhard Zorn advise the western countries not to underestimate the Russian military strength as they have a potential to open the second “theatre of war”.

The Russian neighbours Estonia, Latvia, Poland, Finland and Lithuania welcomed the EU's decision of suspending Russia's visa facilitation deal to toughen the rules and regulations for Russians travelling to Europe.

September 2

Poland estimated the financial cost of WWII losses to be 1.3 trillion euros (dollar) and asked Germany to pay these war reparations. Most of this

amount is the compensation for the deaths of more than 5.2 million Polish citizens.

September 4

The Russians paid their respect to the last Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in Moscow. The media has highlighted the absence of Russian President Vladimir Putin at the funeral ceremony.

Around 70,000 Czech people gathered to protest in the capital (Prague) against their government and played slogans to not get involved in Ukraine - Russia war.

September 5

Ukrainian Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal visited Germany and met his counterpart Olaf Scholz, for the assistance to rebuild the air defenses of Ukraine.

Diplomatic tension aroused between the UK and France as the French patrol failed to stop the illegal movement of nearly 1000 migrants who crossed the English Channel and entered Britain.

September 7

The European Commissioner for Energy Kadri Simson has paid an official visit to Indonesia to attend the G20 meeting and discussed the EU's new energy plans. He claimed that Russia is burning an excess amount of gas to cut down its supply to the EU.

Liz Truss, the leader of the Conservative party took over as Prime Minister of the UK after PM Boris Johnson was forced to resign.

September 11

After 50 years of searching, the Swiss government found a site on the northern border area near Germany for the storage of nuclear waste.

September 12

During the UN Session in New York, French President Emmanuel Macron urged Russian President Vladimir Putin to remove arms and ammunition from Ukraine's nuclear plant (Zaporizhzhia) for safety purposes.

September 15

The European Union planned to expand more than 140 billion euros to cope up with an energy crisis and increase the prospects of winter fuel rationing.

September 16

The Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky expressed his aspiration for war-scarred country to join the EU single market in a joint press conference along with EU President Ursula von der Leyen on her visit to Ukraine.

September 21

The 238 NGOs from 75 countries including Oxfam, Save the Children and Plan International sent an open letter addressing world leaders at the UN General Assembly expressing their concerns at the increasing hunger index worldwide.

September 24

The Fridays for Future movement led by Greta Thunberg called for global protests on Fridays and asked the UN leaders to provide more aid and assistance to poor countries hit by the climate change.

September 26

The UAE government agreed to supply natural gas and diesel to Germany as part of an energy security deal to replace Russian supplies.

September 27

The Russian President Vladimir Putin granted Russian citizenship to Edward Snowden, who exposed massive surveillance acts by the US National Security Agency and was charged for high treason in the US.

September 29

The damage of Nord Stream pipelines will cause the releasing of methane gas in the atmosphere and will impact on climate change. Many European countries condemned Russia for they believe that the damage of the massive project was a deliberate act.

October 1

From the industrial heartland of Donbas to Crimea on the Black Sea, Russia has declared annexing four regions of Ukraine – Luhansk, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia and Kherson. That act was highly condemned and rejected by

the international community.

October 2

Russia's Gazprom suspended gas supply to Italy because of a transportation issue in Austria.

October 5

Former German Chancellor Angela Merkel won the UNHCR prestigious Nansen award, and received praise for her determination to protect asylum seekers while she was in office.

October 6

The Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered the Russian government to take over operations at Europe's largest nuclear power station in Zaporizhzhya, Ukraine.

October 7

A UN Human Rights Council passed a motion to appoint an independent expert on alleged human rights abuses in Russia.

October 13

In a special session of the European Parliament in Brussels, the MEPs from the Industry Committee voted to allow investment in nuclear and low-carbon projects under the EU Green Fund (EUGF).

October 14

The Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP), a London based non-profit organization, presented an alarming report, that indicates four in five cities across the world are facing serious climate hazards such as heatwaves, super floods and droughts etc.

October 15

The European Court of Justice issued a ruling, which authorizes the ban on the headscarf and other religious and spiritual symbols at the workplace.

The Turkiye President Recep Tayyip Erdogan agreed with the idea of the Russian counterpart for creating an international gas hub in Turkiye and put forward instructions to the government to draw an implementation plan.

October 17

In Brussels, the EU foreign affairs ministers announced a Military Assistance Mission to Ukraine, aiming to provide specialised training to Ukraine's armed forces, in a statement by the Council of the EU in Brussels.

October 19

The Dutch government has announced plans to withdraw from the Energy Charter Treaty over climate concerns, followed by Spain and Poland.

October 20

Spain, Portugal and France reached a gas pipeline deal to establish a submarine "Green Corridor" between Barcelona and Marseille to transport natural gas.

October 21

British Prime Minister Liz Truss announced her resignation just six weeks after taking the office.

October 23

Thousands of people gathered and protested in five cities of Germany to demand a distribution of government funds to deal with rising energy prices and expensive living costs and a faster transition away from fossil fuels.

October 24

The French President Emmanuel Macron said in a statement that, "there is a chance for peace in Ukraine", only the will of the Ukrainian people and its leader is required.

October 25

EU energy ministers met in Luxembourg to discuss energy market reforms proposed by the European Commission for decoupling gas and electricity prices which may lower the cost of renewable energy.

October 26

Rishi Sunak became the new British Prime Minister.

October 28

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen asked Serbia to firmly support the EU's decision of sanctioning Russia, if Belgrade is serious about

joining the Union.

November 7

The European Council President Charles Michel and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen representing the EU in the UN Climate Change Conference (COP27) begin in Sharm el Sheikh, Egypt.

The United Nations Secretary General, Antonio Guterres asked the world leaders to take climate issue as a serious problem in the COP27. He asked the world leaders to draw plans to coup with the rising incidences of climatic disaster.

November 8

The US State Department announced at a press conference that every country can import oil from Russia like India, as US does not currently have sanctions on Russian energy exports.

November 9

The Italian archeologists discovered more than 20 extraordinary bronze statues over 2000 years old from Tuscany, which were perfectly preserved in the mud.

Thousands of workers in Greece and Belgium marched on the streets of Athens and Thessaloniki as they hold a general strike over the increases in the cost-of-living.

November 11

The Public transport workers in Paris and London went for a strike and demanded for raise in the pay as the prices got high in Europe. The commuters began using bicycles as alternative transportation.

November 14

The British government revealed its plan for the wealthy one, to raise their taxes soon at the G20 economic summit in Bali, Indonesia. British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak heading the delegation to seek global economic cooperation.

November 15

The new deal signed between Britain and France related to the migrants crossing of English Channel, to pacify the tensions arose between the two sides on alleged security breach from French border patrolling.

November 16

The Russian missiles hit the Poland's village resulted in a killing of civilians. The Polish government highly condemned the act although the Russian government denied it.

The European Union supported the call by India to phase down the use of fossil fuel, as part of a COP27 deal, provided it does not weaken the previous agreements on reducing the use of coal.

November 19

The European Bank of Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) offered the Central Asian states for the investment of billions of euros for the development of cargo routes between Europe and Asia that bypass Russia.

France reaffirmed its support for India, Germany, Brazil and Japan as permanent members of the UN Security Council.

November 20

The British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has paid a visit to Kyiv and showed solidarity with Ukraine. He offered a major new air defense package on the occasion when the Ukraine retake the southern city of Kherson.

The Ukrainian families reunited as the train station of Kherson was reopened.

The United Nations Climate Change Conference COP27 closed today with a breakthrough agreement to provide "loss and damage" funding for vulnerable countries hit hard by climate disasters.

November 23

The Prime Minister of Hungary, Viktor Orban apologies under pressure, for wearing the controversial scarf that depicted historical Hungary Empire that ruled over the parts of Ukraine and neighboring countries.

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has announced that Turkiye would “soon” unleash a ground operation into Syria against Kurdish targets in defiance of mounting international pressure.

The Britain’s highest court rejected a bid by the devolved Scottish government in Edinburgh to hold a new referendum on independence without British government’s consent.

November 25

The UK government departments ordered to stop installing Chinese made surveillance cameras especially at sensitive sites.

November 26

The Climate change activist Greta Thunberg and other 600 young climate activists filed a lawsuit against the Swedish State for climate inaction. This is the first time in the history of Sweden.

November 29

Ukraine urged the NATO member states to speed up the deliveries of weapons and help to restore its shattered power grid, as Ukraine’s energy infrastructure is devastated by Russian’s attacks and millions of people facing energy crisis.

November 30

Qatar announced its first major deal to send liquified natural gas (LNG) to Germany as the European states scrambled to find alternatives to Russian energy sources.

December 1

The US president Joe Biden said, is willing to talk with Russian President Vladimir Putin only if he wants to end the war in Ukraine.

Russia has condemned a call by a top EU official to create a special court to prosecute the possible war crimes by top Russian officials in Ukraine.

Italy put a refinery run by Russian oil giant Lukoil into provisional state supervision to avoid its closure and guarantee energy supplies.

December 6

The EU delayed Hungary funds as Hungary vetoed bloc's joint financial aid of Ukraine.

December 7

Russia could be fighting in Ukraine for a long time according to the Russian President Vladimir Putin.

The EU decided to take legal action against China over Lithuania. The reason behind the legal action of EU against China is for alleged restrictions imposed by Beijing on Lithuania's exports.

The European Union today proposed travel bans and asset freezes on almost 200 Russian officials and military officers as part of a new round of sanctions aimed at ramping up pressure on Russia over its war in Ukraine.

December 8

The risk of Russia using nuclear weapons in the Ukraine conflict has diminished because the international community "has drawn a red line" at Russia, the German Chancellor Olaf Scholz said in a statement.

Thousands of Europeans have already lost their jobs because of the ongoing energy crisis, according to the latest report published by the Euro found.

December 9

The European Union approved Croatia as the newest member of the border check-free Schengen zone from January 2023. But Austria and Netherland blocked Romania and Bulgaria by joining, because of the already inflow of asylum seekers.

December 10

Britain, Italy and Japan is all set to develop future fighter jet in a joint project and British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak is considering it as a guarantor of national security and opportunity for new jobs as well.

The ongoing energy crisis caused by the war in Ukraine has accelerated the Europeans to plan for bolstering renewable energy as an alternative to Russian gas and for that, France and Spain agreed to build hydrogen pipeline with a cost of \$2.6bn.

December 11

The British government claimed that Russia is obtaining more weapons from Iran including hundreds of ballistic missiles as well. And in return, Russia is offering to Iran military and technical support too.

December 13

The Dutch Foreign Minister Wopke Hoekstra apologized for the reports of institutional racism in his ministry with the employees of different ethnic backgrounds.

December 14

The United Nations talk in Montreal demanded for creating a fund for biodiversity and specially for the developing world and also to reform the existing financial mechanisms as well. the Canadian environment minister Steven Guilbeault said in a meeting.

Ukraine allies states and humanitarian organizations pledged more than 1 billion euros in aid to help Ukraine get through winters as Russian forces destroyed their energy grids and other civilian infrastructure.

December 16

The European Parliament approved a resolution, declaring the 1930s starvation of millions in Ukraine under Soviet leader Joseph Stalin a “genocide”.

The paramedics of British Health Services went on a strike because of a bitter pay dispute with the government over work overload.

December 17

The Russian air strikes rained down on Ukraine’s power grid and damaged nine energy facilities.

December 19

Nearly 200 countries signed a historic deal at the UN biodiversity conference in Montreal, Canada. It aims to protect the world's lands and oceans, making financial arrangements to prevent biodiversity loss in the developing world.

December 21

The London High Court ruled that the British government's post-Brexit settlement scheme for EU citizens is unlawful, as Britain is breaching the deal by requiring EU citizens to reapply for the right to live and work.

December 22

Germany has sent its first batch of BioNTech Covid-19 vaccines to China to be administered initially to German expatriates, a German government spokesperson stated in a press conference.