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- DETERRENCE: Topol, Yars ballistic missile launchers on combat patrol in 6 Russian regions
- DPRK: North Korea could have 100 nuclear weapons by 2020: U.S. researchers
- GOVERNANCE AND CIVIL SOCIETY: China's first lawsuit for environmental damage goes to court
- CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION: Climate change adaptation assets and group-based approaches

DETERRENCE: Topol, Yars ballistic missile launchers on combat patrol in 6 Russian regions, TASS Russian News Agency (4 February 2015)

Russia's Strategic Missile Force have put Topol and Yars road mobile ballistic missile launchers on combat patrols in six Russian regions. Mobility reduces their vulnerability to pre-emptive strike but may increase unreliability and inaccuracy. NATO is concerned about hybrid conventional-nuclear war at lower thresholds.

- Russia's nuclear strategy raises concerns in NATO, Adrian Croft, The Independent (5 February 2015)
- Russia is preparing for a new arms race, Alexander Golts, Moscow Times (15 December 2014)
- Russia's National Defense Control Center officially takes up combat duty, TASS (1 December 2014)

North Korea could have 100 nuclear weapons by 2020: U.S. researchers, Japan Times (25 February 2015)

World silence and ignorance ensures North Korea's nuclear arsenal will grow and possibly grow rapidly. Kim Jong-un recently chaired an enlarged meeting of the Korean Workers Party and an enlarged meeting of North Korea's Central Military Commission. Kim Jong-il rarely hosted such meetings, and it is unclear why Kim Jong-un and/or the Propaganda and Agitation Department – which determines the contents of North Korean news - feels a need to publicize these meetings.

They likely also serve a signaling function in the lead up to U.S.-South Korea military exercise season. North Korea is on another outreach with its diplomatic and economic delegations going to Mongolia, Switzerland and Russia.

- Korean leader calls for full combat readiness, Lee Chi-dong, Yonhap News (23 February 2015)
- Enlarged meeting of Political Bureaus of C.C., WPK held, (North) Korea Central News Agency. (19 February 2015)
- Korea's economy minister heads to Russia, Yonhap News (23 February 2015)

GOVERNANCE AND CIVIL SOCIETY: China's first lawsuit for environmental damage goes to court, Asia News (2 February 2015)

Environmental groups in China are bringing the first environmental damage lawsuit in the nation against four mining executives, a test of China's amended environmental protection legislation that came into effect in January. A positive step, while China's environment ministry has been reprimanded for corruption and pollution needs to be halved before environmental improvement is seen.

- China slates environment ministry after graft probe, Ben Blanchard and Judy Hua, Reuters (10 February 2015)
- China tries a new tactic to combat pollution: Transparency, Christopher Beam, New Yorker (6 February 2015)
- China must cut pollution by half before environment improves: official, David Stanway and Kathy Chen, Reuters (13 February 2015)

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION: Climate change adaptation assets and group-based approaches: gendered perceptions from Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Mali, and Kenya, Noora Aberman et al., International Food Policy Research Institute (2015) [PDF, 766KB]

Gender norms often exclude women from participating in decision-making and rule setting at various levels. Men's and women's priorities for adaptation are shaped by the existing norms, roles, and responsibilities and how adaptation strategies build on, ameliorate, or distort these. Furthermore, evidence indicates that men and women may actually perceive climate risks differently - a fact that may further contribute to the development of gender-differentiated priorities for adaptation.

- Social dimensions of climate change: equity and vulnerability in a warming world, Robin Mearns and Andrew Norton (Editors), The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development / The World Bank (2010) [2.2MB]
- No climate justice without gender justice: an overview of the issues, Gender & Development, vol. 17, Issue 1 (2009)

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- Editor: Arabella Imhoff

Contributors:

- Deterrence: Peter Hayes
- DPRK: Roger Cavazos
- Governance and Civil Society: Dyana Mardon
- Climate Change Adaptation: Saleem Janjua
- Climate Change and Security: Richard Tanter

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Nautilus Institute
608 San Miguel Ave., Berkeley, CA 94707-1535 | Phone: (510) 423-0372 | Email: nautilus@nautilus.org