

Dear Reader,

The team at New Lines has continued to proactively monitor emerging geopolitical events to share our forecast-driven policy recommendations with you. By doing so, we aim to amplify the untold stories and struggles of those who often go unheard, emphasizing the value of bridging relationships with local experts from around the globe.

With the spotlight on Syria, [Calvin Wilder offers a detailed analysis on the potential long-term consequences of Turkey's threat to launch an offensive in Northeast Syria.](#) If Ankara follows through, this might trigger irreversible damage to the region.

Despite the fact that Syria has received \$40 billion worth of international aid since 2011, the Assad regime has pocketed funds flowing from the U.N.'s humanitarian aid program, rendering their current aid delivery system ineffective. [Sasha Ghosh-Siminoff and Nidal Betare have written an exhaustively researched report about aid diversion in Syria](#) and how the U.S. and other governments can curtail this corruption.

From Iran-aligned influence in southern Syria to Captagon trade-related clashes along the Syria-Jordan border, [Caroline Rose and Jesse Marks outline why Jordan-Syria relations are far from stable](#) and how Washington can help.

For over 130 days, Ukrainian and Russian civilians alike have faced the brunt of Putin's ruthless war in Ukraine. [Jeremy Morris discusses the economic, social, and personal consequences of the war on Russia's middle class,](#) and [Diana Rayes sheds light on why national health systems across the EU must ramp up their efforts to offer psychological and social integration services](#) to support newly displaced Ukrainian refugees.

[On Gendering Geopolitics, Emily Prey hosted Ethiopian journalist Lucy Kassa](#) for an emotional discussion on the brutal nature of the war in Ethiopia.

[And in a new episode of our "Contours" podcast series, host Nicholas A. Heras invited global experts on the Indian Subcontinent](#) to share their insights on the emerging dynamics in India and Pakistan.

We hope you enjoy this newsletter, and we thank you for reading and sharing.

As Ukrainian Refugees Arrive, the EU's Public Health Crisis Grows

Diana Rayes

Net Assessment, July 13, 2022



Nearly 12 million Ukrainians are either displaced within their own country or seeking refuge abroad after the Russian invasion. EU countries are not equipped to handle the mental health conditions of so many people affected by violence and sudden displacement. The countries providing assistance to these and other refugees should learn from past crises and scale up their national health systems to accommodate the mental health and social integration issues these newcomers face.

[Read Here](#)

The Deteriorating Security Situation in Northeast Syria

Calvin Wilder

Net Assessment, July 11, 2022



Turkey is threatening a third offensive into territory in northeast Syria controlled by the U.S.-backed Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF). While pressure from both the U.S. and Russia may have put those plans on hold, smaller-scale violence continues to kill both soldiers and civilians and threaten the area's stability. This analysis gives an overview of the situation on the front lines and shows ways Washington can de-escalate tensions and promote peace in the region.

[Read Here](#)

Jordan Is Far From Normalization With Syria

Jesse Marks & Caroline Rose

Net Assessment, July 7, 2022



Recent overtures between the Jordanian and Syrian governments have prompted concerns from the United States that Amman is seeking to normalize relations with the regime of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad. However, the security situation in southern Syria is still far too unstable for Jordan to consider resuming its ties with its northern neighbor. The authors explain the ongoing security situation and describe how Washington can help Jordan constructively engage with the regime over illicit narcotics streams, border clashes, and other security concerns – short of normalization.

[Read Here](#)

The Threat of Social Strife to the Putin Regime

Jeremy Morris

Net Assessment, July 2, 2022



Much has been made of political unrest in Russia over the past few years, but the Putin regime's invasion of Ukraine has increased the possibility of economic instability as the poor and middle class increasingly feel the effects of Putin's foreign policy adventure. The Putin regime could face threats from worker militancy, passive resistance to the state, and negative politicization of the war.

[Read Here](#)

A Crisis of Conscience: Aid Diversion in Syria and the Impact on the International Aid System

Sasha Ghosh-Siminoff & Nidal Betare

The Dossier, July 1, 2022



A looming U.N. Security Council vote on July 10 on whether to continue allowing cross-border humanitarian assistance into Syria via Turkey could result in a Russian veto, endangering millions of Syrians and further entrenching regime control over U.N. aid processes in Syria. This must-read report finds that there is more ability to create transparency and accountability for cross-border aid due to rampant aid diversion and corruption by the government in Damascus.

[Read Here](#)

Midnight's Borders: Emerging Dynamics on the Indian Subcontinent

Featuring Dr. Syed Mohammad Ali and Suchitra Vijayan

Countours Podcast, July 11, 2022



In this episode of the New Lines Institute's "Contours" podcast series, host Nicholas A. Heras is joined by two leading experts on the Indian Subcontinent to analyze the dangerous emerging dynamics there, especially inside India and in its contentious relationship with Pakistan.

[Listen Here](#)

From the New Lines Magazine



In London, the ‘Sons’ of Bin Laden Took Root

Tam Hussein

July 13, 2022

[Read Here](#)



Russia’s Arctic Resources Trump Sanctions

By: Courtney Dobson

July 11, 2022

[Read Here](#)



In the Mideast, Feuds and Friendships Turn Orwellian

By: Kareem Shaheen

July 11, 2022

[Read Here](#)

New Lines in the Media

New Lines' staff have been sharing their informed analysis of current geopolitical events with other media outlets. Read these highlights of their recent interviews and publications.

New Lines Media Center

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“The idea of a loose missile-defense alliance alone reflects a shift toward normalization between former adversaries coalescing around a more hawkish stance toward Iran.” in Politico

Quoted – Caroline Rose

July 12, 2022

The Biden administration urges Arab states to work with neighbor Israel to develop a Middle East air and missile defense system against Iranian missiles.

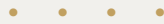
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"Green Energy? The West Must First Diversify Fossil Fuel Imports" in National Interest

By- Kamran Bokhari

July 11, 2022

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has provoked the West to limit their dependence on Russian natural gas. This may be a golden opportunity for the West to reform its energy security model and move towards alternative energy sources.

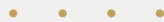


"The United States is trying to demonstrate to the SDF that it supports it and to make a statement to Turkey to stop the sabre-rattling." in Kurdistan 24

July 7, 2022

Quoted – Nicholas A Heras

An analysis on what recent U.S. military movements in Northeast Syria are signaling to Turkey.

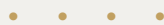


"It's a race between Turkey and China in Central Asia as to who gets more influence as Russia recedes." in The National News

Quoted – Kamran Bokhari

July 5, 2022

"The U.S. already supports the development of Turkey's Middle Corridor as a way to help Europe move away from Russian energy, and may provide significant funding and diplomatic support for Ankara's completion of the Trans-Caspian route."



Featured Podcast



On Gendering Geopolitics with Emily Prey Ethiopian investigative journalist Lucy Kassa discusses how the war in Ethiopia has affected Kassa's reporting capabilities, cases of sexual and gender-based violence in the region, and the importance of the political agenda to all groups party to the conflict.

The New Lines Institute for Strategy and Policy is a non-partisan think tank in Washington D.C. working to enhance U.S. foreign policy based on a deep understanding of the geopolitics of the different regions of the world and their value systems.

Read more of our publications at newlinesinstitute.org