

## US NATO Envoy Warns Russia to Halt New Missile Development

BRUSSELS — The U.S. envoy to NATO on Tuesday said that Russia must halt development of new missiles that could carry nuclear warheads and warned that the United States could “take out” the system if it becomes operational.

NATO fears the 9M729 system contravenes the 1987 Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces Treaty, or INF. The Cold War-era pact bans an entire class of weapons — all land-based cruise missiles with a range between 500-5,500 kilometers (310-3,410 miles), and the alliance says that the Russian system fits into that category.

“It is time now for Russia to come to the table and stop the violations,” U.S. Amba-



sador Kay Bailey Hutchison told reporters in Brussels, on the eve of a meeting between U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis and his NATO counterparts. She said that if the system “became capa-

ble of delivering,” the U.S. “would then be looking at the capability to take out a missile that could hit any of our countries in Europe and hit America.” Washington has shared intelligence evidence with its

28 NATO allies that Russia is developing the ground-fired cruise missile and that the system could give Moscow the ability to launch a nuclear strike in Europe with little or no notice.

Russia has claimed that U.S. missile defenses violate the pact. In the past, the Obama administration worked to convince Moscow to respect the INF treaty but seemed to make no progress. Mattis said Tuesday that he intends to bring the issue up during the NATO meeting. After four years of diplomatic effort, he said, the U.S. is living by the treaty and Russia is not. He said there is a lot of concern about that at the U.S. State Department and on Capitol Hill. (AP)

### Indian Police Fire Tear Gas, Water Cannon to Break Up Farmers' Protest

NEW DELHI - Indian police on Tuesday fired tear-gas and water cannons to halt and scatter a march by thousands of protesting farmers heading for the capital New Delhi to demand better prices for their produce.

Reeling from a crash in commodity prices, more than 50,000 farmers from the northern state of Uttar Pradesh, a top producer of wheat and cane, blocked part of the main highway to the capital.

They also sought loan waivers, cheaper power

and tougher action to get sugar mills to pay dues owed for their cane, as discontent in rural areas turns to anger against Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who faces tough general elections next year.

“Despite our repeated requests, the government has failed to help farmers in any meaningful ways,” a farm leader, Dharmendra Malik, told Reuters by telephone from the protest site. “Left with no choice, we’ve decided to march to Delhi to highlight our plight.” (Reuters)

### China Says Security Dialogue Postponed at U.S. Request

SHANGHAI - China has postponed upcoming security talks with the United States at the request of Washington, a Chinese foreign ministry spokeswoman said on Tuesday, amid rising tensions between the two sides over trade, Taiwan and the South China Sea.

Spokeswoman Hua Chunying said in a statement posted on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that the two sides had initially agreed “in principle” to hold the second round of

security talks in October. “The United States has recently expressed its wish to postpone the dialogue,” she said, adding that the two sides would continue to “maintain communication” on the talks. She did not elaborate.

The meeting of the U.S. China Diplomatic and Security Dialogue, which first took place in Washington last year, was due to be held with U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis.

A U.S. official confirmed



on Sunday that the meeting had been canceled, though he did not say whether it was related to an escalating trade dispute, concerns about

U.S. arms sales to self-ruled Taiwan, which Beijing claims as its own, or Chinese military activity in the South China Sea. (Reuters)

### Backing Out of the USSR? Theresa May Says the EU Is Not the Soviet Union



BIRMINGHAM, England - British Prime Minister Theresa May said on Tuesday the European Union was not the same as the So-

viet Union after her foreign secretary provoked anger by likening the 28-member bloc to the USSR. Foreign Secretary Jer-

emy Hunt cautioned the EU on Sunday that it was set up to protect freedoms but the lesson from Soviet history was that if you turned it into a prison then the desire to leave would increase. Asked whether Hunt was right to have made the comment, May said: “As I sit around that table in the European Union there are countries there who used to be part of the Soviet Union, they are now democratic countries and I can tell you that the two organizations are not the

same.” With less than six months until Britain leaves the EU, May has yet to reach a deal with the EU on the terms the Brexit divorce and rebels in her Conservative Party have promised to vote down any deal she makes. Hunt’s comment on the Soviet Union provoked anger in Europe, especially among some eastern members of the EU which only regained full independence after the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. (Reuters)

### Far-Right Surge in Bavaria Vote could Reshape Germany's National Politics

NUREMBERG, Germany - The right-wing Alternative for Germany (AfD) is poised to humiliate Chancellor Angela Merkel’s allies in an Oct. 14 vote for Germany’s most influential regional government, an election that could have far-reaching implications for national politics.

With blunt anti-Islamic rhetoric and attacks on Merkel’s migrant policy, the AfD is expected to muscle into the regional parliament in Bavaria for the first time. That could help end one

of the iron laws of post-war Germany: the near total domination of one of the richest and most populous states by a regional conservative party that has used its clout there to wield outsized national power for decades.

Polls point to the Christian Social Union (CSU) losing its absolute majority and securing only about 35 percent of the vote. The biggest winners would be the Greens and AfD on about 16 percent and 12-13 percent respectively. (Reuters)

## Neighbor News

### China to Assist Pakistan through Increased FDI: Chinese Envoy

ISLAMABAD - The Chinese ambassador to Pakistan Yao Jing Tuesday said China will assist Pakistan to increase foreign direct investment (FDI) to come out of prevailing issues.

He said this while addressing a ceremony as a chief guest on the eve of Chinese National Day celebrations held at National University of Modern Languages (NUML) Islamabad.

Speaking on the occasion he further said China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is for peace and regional development and connectivity.

He applauded the Pakistan new government and said CPEC project will be more enriched in this government, joint ventures will be made in mega projects.

China wants to maintain and safeguard the friendship with Pakistan and will never

compromise on it, he added.

China and Pakistan both are on same path, two brother and friend states have the decades long cordial and historical bilateral relations, the friendship between two countries is unbreakable, he remarked. He further said China will also work in human resource sector, social-economic and poverty alleviation.

He said Sino-Pak cooperation in education is excellent, language is like a vehicle to understand each other and help in bridging the gap and assist to develop mutual understanding. Earlier, NUML Rector Major General (ret'd) Zia Ud Din Najam in his welcome address said today our Chinese brother and sisters are celebrating their National Day but by implication its our national day. (Monitoring Desk)

### Jahangiri Apologizes to Iranians over Problems as Rial Firms

TEHRAN - Vice President Es'haq Jahangiri has apologized to Iranians over economic problems in the face of US sanctions, assuring that state authorities are working “day and night” to tackle them.

“I apologize to the honorable people for some problems and assure that the country’s management and, at the helm, the Eminent Leader are working day and night so that we can remove the problems before the country,” he said Tuesday.

The fall of Iran’s currency following US President Donald Trump’s imposition of new sanctions on the country has resulted in steep rises in the prices of commodities and led

to a surge in the cost of living.

Jahangiri said the government is aware of the conditions and difficulties faced by the people. “Part of these hardships is the result of US sanctions and pressures, but what’s important is that Iran has a lot of potentials and capacities, and in addition to these capacities, there is an enormous manpower in the country,” he added.

His remarks, made during a ceremony to open 1700 educational and sporting centers across the country, came amid criticism of the government’s perceived failure to associate with the people and talk to them about the situation. (Press TV)

### The International Economic Forum will be Held in Tajikistan

DUSHANBE - The international economic forum “Sughd-2018” will be held on October 11 in Khujand in honor of the 10th anniversary of the creation of free economic zones of Tajikistan, Asia-Plus reports.

The event is organized by the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Tajikistan and the administration of the FEZ “Sughd” together with development partners.

“The holding of this forum along with the establishment of business relations with foreign partners, aims to conduct a multilateral analysis of the work done and to consider the future prospects for the development of free economic zones in Tajikistan.” - reports

the press service of the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade.

In addition, the message says, in the context of the problems under consideration, the issues of studying the best practices of neighboring countries in this direction are of utmost importance.

It is expected that the forum will be attended by about 200 delegates: representatives of the FEZ of neighboring countries and countries of the near and far abroad, subjects of the FEZ, representatives of ministries, departments and academia, international and public organizations, commercial banks, local and foreign entrepreneurs, the media. (Trend)

### China's Red Cross, Enterprises Assist Emergency Relief Work in Indonesia's Quake

JAKARTA - The Red Cross Society of China and Chinese enterprises have been actively taking part in emergency relief work in the quake, tsunami-affected areas in Indonesia’s Central Sulawesi province.

Multiple powerful quakes which were followed by a tsunami struck Central Sulawesi province on Friday, killing 1,249 people so far and displacing more than 60,000 others.

The Red Cross Society of China has decided to donate a total of 200,000 U.S. dollars to its Indonesian counterpart, Palang Merah Indonesia, to help shore up relief works in the province, according to Chinese embassy officials in Jakarta.

Meanwhile, Chinese mobile phone producer OPPO has donated 4 billion rupiah (some 266, 666.7 U.S. dollars) to survivors of the catastrophe, said Ivan Lou, CEO of the company.

Chinese-invested company in Indonesia PT IMIP has sent three heavy machinery equipment to the disaster areas to help the evacuation of local residents, said Irsan Widjaja, director for operation of the firm, in a statement. “We have deployed a boom truck and two other heavy machinery equipment to the scene,” he said.

The tsunami with the height of 0.5 to 3 meters devastated coastal areas near Talisa beach in Palu city, capital of the province and Donggala district, the meteorology and geophysics agency said. (Xinhua)

### French Scientist Reacts to Winning Nobel Prize

STOCKHOLM — Nobel physics laureate Gerard Mourou says he finds it difficult to describe his emotions at winning.

“It’s something that sort of never happens at this level,” he said in a video released by France’s Polytechnique school, where he is professor. “I am very, very happy to share this distinction with my former student Donna Strickland and also to share it with Art Ashkin, for whom I have a lot of respect.”

“We invented a technique that made the



laser extremely powerful,” he said. “With the technology we have developed, laser power has been increased about a million times, maybe even a billion.”

France’s President

Emmanuel Macron has paid tribute to the French co-winner of the Nobel Prize for Physics, saying the award highlights French research and its applications. (AP)

### Beyond The Rhetoric, Britain, EU Preparing to Move Forward on Brexit

BRUSSELS/BIRMINGHAM, England - “Unworkable”, “unacceptable”, “im-passe” - the words used to describe Brexit talks between Britain and the European Union do little to temper concerns that the two are heading for a chaotic divorce. But behind the scenes, both sides are preparing concessions as part of what one British official called “a constructive dialogue” that could yet lead to a deal.

there is clear will to try to overcome the obstacles to winning a withdrawal deal and agreeing a framework for future ties - a Northern Ireland border and EU-UK trade deal.

Details are scarce, but the EU is planning to start putting in writing its offer for future trade ties, a demand Britain has pressed after officials felt Prime Minister Theresa May was snubbed at talks in Austria last month. (Reuters)

### First Lady Melania Trump Arrives in Ghana on Solo African Trip

ACCRA - Melania Trump arrived in Ghana on Tuesday, choosing for her first extended international trip alone to visit Africa, a continent her husband has referred to derisively.

The U.S. first lady touched down at mid-morning in Ghana’s capital, Accra, where she was greeted by the country’s first lady, Rebecca Akufo-Addo, and a young girl who offered her flowers.

A welcoming ceremony of drums and dancing by men and women dressed in traditional attire followed. Trump clapped her hands and waved at a group of school children waiting for her at the airport.

Trump then visited child health facilities and met caregivers during her stay in the capital. She has focused on children as her signature issue and plans to promote child well-being during her four-country tour, which will include stops in Kenya, Malawi and Egypt.

President Donald Trump has not visited Africa since taking office in 2017, but he has reportedly said immigrants from Africa came from “shithole countries”. He denied making the remark.

More recently, he said on Twitter, he had asked his Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo, “to closely study the South Africa land and farm seizures and expropriations and large scale killing of farmers.” South Africa has proposed land reforms but not implemented them. Forty-seven farmers were killed in 2017-2018 - a 20-year low, according to AgriSA, an association of agricultural associations. (Reuters)

### US Dollar Soars against Uzbek Soum

TASHKENT - The Central Bank of Uzbekistan has published new exchange rates, which will be valid from October 3, Podrobno.uz reported.

The US dollar shows positive dynamics for the eighth week in a row. This time it has grown by 100.38 soums. At the same time, last week, the growth

amounted to 40 soums. Starting from tomorrow, \$1 will cost 8179.66 soums. The Euro has unexpectedly fallen by 23.58 soums this week and has reached the level of 9648.77 soums. The Russian ruble continues to grow slowly. Its value has increased by 4.38 soums and has reached 125.84 soums. (Trend)