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## Hezbollah leader threatens Israel over Jerusalem Day march

**May 26, 2022 Arutz Sheva** 7 reported: "Hezbollah Secretary General Hassan Nasrallah threatened Israel Wednesday ahead of the Jerusalem Day Flag March on Sunday.



In a speech marking the anniversary of Israel's withdrawal from southern Lebanon in 2000, Nasrallah claimed that the 'harm' the Al Aqsa Mosque caused by the Jerusalem Day celebrations and could ignite the entire Middle East, 'In a few days, events are expected to take place in Jerusalem that could lead to an explosion. This is provocation against all Arab and Islamic nations,' the Hezbollah leader claimed..."



Secretary General  
Hassan Nasrallah

## EU summit will be 'unwavering' on arms for Ukraine

**May 26, 2022 EU Observer** reported: "EU leaders will shortly vow to continue arming and financing Ukraine in the face of 'unspeakable' Russian 'atrocities ... suffering and destruction'.

That is the thrust of a draft EU-Ukraine summit statement, dated 24 May and seen by *EUobserver*.

'The European Union is unwavering in its commitment to help Ukraine exercise its inherent right of self-defence against Russian aggression,' it also says.

EU states have so far pumped in €2bn of weapons into Ukraine from a joint fund, and much more in bilateral terms — despite Russian targeting of Western arms convoys and complaints about a 'proxy war'..."

## Western powers sound alarm on China plan for South Pacific

**May 26, 2022 AFP** reported: Western powers sounded the alarm Thursday over leaked plans to dramatically expand China's security and economic reach in the South Pacific, in what one regional leader called a thinly veiled effort to lock island states into "Beijing's orbit".

If approved by Pacific island nations, the wide-ranging draft agreement and a five-year plan, both obtained by AFP, would give China a larger security footprint in a region seen as crucial to the interests of the United States and its allies.

In a sign of the region's growing importance to Beijing, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi landed in the Solomon Islands Thursday at the start of a high-level, eight-nation Pacific tour to present the potentially lucrative offer.

The package would offer 10 small island states millions of dollars in Chinese assistance, the prospect of a China-Pacific Islands free trade agreement and access to China's vast market of 1.4 billion people."..."

## Putin allies eye prolonged conflict in Ukraine

**May 25, 2022 spacewar.com** reported: "Top allies of President Vladimir Putin said Tuesday that Moscow was ready for a prolonged conflict in Ukraine in order to achieve the Kremlin's goals in the pro-Western country.

The hostilities, which entered their fourth month Tuesday, have killed thousands of people, displaced more than eight million and forced more than six million refugees to flee across the borders.

'We will continue the special military operation until all the objectives have been achieved, regardless of the massive Western aid to the Kyiv regime and the sanctions against Russia,' Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu told regional counterparts from the Russia-led Collective Security Treaty Organization.

He added that Moscow's efforts to avoid civilian casualties 'are of course slowing down the pace of the offensive, but this is deliberate'.

Separately, the secretary of Russia's Security Council, Nikolai Patrushev, said that Moscow's offensive would last as long as necessary..."

## Quad nations warn on 'change by force' with eyes on China

**May 24, 2022 spacewar.com** reported: "Leaders of Japan, India, Australia and the United States warned Tuesday against attempts to 'change the status quo by force' as concerns grow about whether China could invade self-ruled Taiwan.

A joint statement by the so-called Quad bloc avoided any direct mention of China's growing military power in the region, but left little doubt about where its concerns lie.

The carefully worded document also made reference to the conflict in Ukraine, but without offering any joint position on an invasion that India has pointedly declined to condemn.

The Quad's other members have been less coy about their view that a strong response to Russia's war is needed and sends a message that will deter other countries, including China..."

### **Senior Israeli lawmaker warns of "religious war" over Jerusalem moves**

**May 23, 2022 reuters.com** reported: A senior Israeli lawmaker said on Monday the country risked "religious war" after a court ruled in favor of Jews who had tried to pray at Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa Mosque compound and as nationalists planned a march near the flashpoint site.

Palestinian factions have denounced Israeli moves in Jerusalem's Old City, the heart of their decades-old conflict, and reiterated threats that echoed their warnings in the run-up to the May 2021 war in Gaza.

Jerusalem Magistrates' Court on Sunday rescinded a restraining order against three Jews who had prayed while visiting the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound.

Jews revere the site as vestige of two ancient temples, but are barred from worship there under an Israeli pact with Muslim authorities. The mosque is Islam's third-holiest shrine." ..."

### **China warns Biden not to 'underestimate resolve' on Taiwan**

**May 23, 2022 sinodaily.com** reported: "Beijing on Monday said it was ready to defend its national interests over Taiwan, in a rebuke to US President Joe Biden's vow to protect the island from any invasion by China.

China's Communist Party has never controlled self-ruled Taiwan but it views the island as part of its territory and has vowed to one day seize it, by force if needed.

Biden, who is in Tokyo to meet regional allies, earlier on Monday warned that China's increasingly assertive stance over the island was 'flirting with danger' and promised to defend Taiwan from any military action by its giant neighbor.

The comments were met with defiance in Beijing, with foreign ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin telling reporters 'Taiwan is an inalienable part of China's territory'.

'The Taiwan issue is a purely internal affair for China,' he said..."

### **'Sexual form of monkeypox' blamed for global spread of virus**

**May 22, 2022 smh.com.au** reported: "The World Health Organization said it expects to identify more cases of monkeypox as it expands surveillance in countries where the disease is not typically found.

As of Sunday, 92 confirmed cases and 28 suspected cases of monkeypox have been reported from 12 member states that are not endemic for the virus, the UN agency said, adding it will provide further guidance and recommendations in coming days for countries on how to mitigate the spread of monkeypox.

"Available information suggests that human-to-human transmission is occurring among people in close physical contact with cases who are symptomatic", the agency added.

Australia reported its first confirmed cases of monkeypox on Friday in a traveler who had recently flown from Britain to Melbourne and a Sydney man who had returned from Europe.

Monkeypox is an infectious disease that is usually mild, and is endemic in parts of West and Central Africa. It is spread by close contact, so it can be relatively easily contained through such measures as self-isolation and hygiene.

"What seems to be happening now is that it has got into the population as a sexual form, as a genital form, and is being spread as are sexually transmitted infections, which has amplified its transmission around the world," WHO official David Heymann, an infectious disease specialist, told Reuters." ...

He stressed that the monkeypox outbreak did not resemble the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic because it does not transmit as easily. Those who suspect they may have been exposed or who show symptoms including bumpy rash and fever, should avoid close contact with others, he said.

"There are vaccines available, but the most important message is, you can protect yourself," he added." ..."



*Foreign Ministry Spokesman  
Wang Wenbin*