



Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia

Dispatches

26 February 2021

The Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia provides a forum for the study, promotion and debate of defence and security issues.

Dispatches is a weekly collection of links and news of current interest, included those tweeted and posted by the Institute on social media. Links to articles are checked at the time they are put into *Dispatches* but may be unavailable at a later date or in some states other than Canada.

If you are not a routine recipient of *Dispatches* but wish to be so, email the Institute's Chief Information Officer (CIO) at RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com. If you do not want to receive *Dispatches*, or wish to receive it at some different frequency, please inform the CIO. If you wish to receive *Dispatches* at a different address (i.e., not your work address), please inform the CIO. Past editions of *Dispatches* may be requested by contacting the CIO.

Everyone is encouraged to email to the CIO links and other content to be included in *Dispatches*.

Submissions and feedback are welcome anytime. Comments to articles can be from members or non-members of RUSI(NS). Any comment in *Dispatches* is the sole opinion of the author and does not necessarily represent the views of the Canadian Department of National Defence, the Canadian Armed Forces, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police or the Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia

RUSI(NS) also publishes:

1. a weekly Dimensions Newsletter, (formally called *Defence & Security Newsletter*) aimed at opinion leaders and industry. If you are interested in receiving this newsletter, email admin@duncom.ca; and
2. a weekly *China Open Source Newsletter* of articles curated from Chinese military-related websites based inside mainland China. If you are interested in receiving this newsletter, email RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

Note: See "Public Safety Canada - Public Opinion Research on National Security Transparency and Information Sharing" at end of *Dispatches*.

Events:

To list an event in *Dispatches*, email the CIO by noon Thursday. If you have an idea for a topic or speaker, please email RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com. RUSI(NS) events may be cancelled at short notice – email RUSI(NS) if there is a question of an event occurring.

3 March, Wednesday - Navy League of Canada Maritime Affairs Virtual Speaker Deputy Commissioner Chris Henderson, Canadian Coast Guard, speaking on the "Future of the Canadian Coast Guard." 1200 EST. To register, email rsvp@navyleague.ca. You will receive an email confirming your registration and the meeting link will be sent out on 1 March 2021.

New: 8 March, Monday - RCN International Women's Day Leadership Panel "Empowering women of the RCN to achieve an equitable future" in RCN celebration of International Women's Day. 1200-1300 EST. Registration details to follow.

8 March, Monday - The Institute for Security Policy at Kiel University "Seapower from a South American Perspective & Colombian Naval Strategy." Via Zoom. To register, see: <https://kielseapowerseries.com/en/the-americas-series.html>.

9 March, Tuesday - Canadian International Council Victoria presentation "Struggles In The Spy House: Canada's Intelligence Efforts And Our Lost Secrets." 10-11:30 am PST. See: <https://thecic.org/event/cic-victoria-struggles-in-the-spy-house-canadas-intelligence-efforts-and-our-lost-secrets/>.

10-12 March, Wednesday-Friday - Canadian Defence Associations Institute Ottawa Conference on Security and Defence. In its 89th year, conference proposes a slate of speakers that includes: Minister Harjit Sajjan, former Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Deputy Minister Jody Thomas, Deputy Minister Marta Morgan of Global Affairs Canada, NATO Deputy Secretary General Mircea Geoana, US Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General John Hyten, NORAD/USNORTHCOM Commander General Glen VanHerck and experts from around the world. Topics range from great power competition and below the threshold warfare, AI and cyber threats, security in space, Arctic sovereignty and climate change, NATO 2030, NORAD modernization, and extremism. The event consists of half days for easier scheduling. For currently serving members with an @forces.gc.ca email, CAF/DND has taken care of the registration with no cost to the individuals. There is a DND/CAF button on the main registration page (<https://cdainstitute.ca/ottawa-conference-2021/>) that can be used. There is also a student price.

11 March, Thursday - The Institute for Security Policy at Kiel University "Brazilian Naval Strategy & China and IUU Problems in South America." Via Zoom. To register, see: <https://kielseapowerseries.com/en/the-americas-series.html>.

Emended: 17 March, Wednesday – RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker Cora Pictou, Transport Canada, titled "Marine Security Operations Centre East." 1300-1500. To register, email RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com by close of business Sun, 14 Mar. As subject line for your registration email, put: RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker 17 March 2021 Registration. The event will be done by Zoom. Instructions will be emailed by end Mon, 15 Mar.

24 March, Wednesday – RUSI(NS) **Annual General Meeting. 1900.** Via Zoom.

30 March, Tuesday - Centre for International Governance Innovation presentation "National Security Challenges in the 21st Century: A discussion with Vincent Rigby, National Security and Intelligence Advisor to the Prime Minister." 1:30-2:30 pm EST. See: <https://www.cigionline.org/events/national-security-challenges-21st-century-discussion-vincent-rigby-national-security-and>.

Recent Publications:

RUSI(NS) Presentation "Against Daesh, and for the World Order: An Update on Operation IMPACT in the COVID-19 Era," by MGen St-Louis, 20 January 2021
<https://rusi-ns.ca/jtf-impact/>

The Military Institute of Windsor Communiqué, Volume XXXIX Number 2 February 2021 is available on request to RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

The Edmonton United Services Institute President's Enews February 2021 is available on request to RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

New: Institute for Security Policy at Kiel University "The Americas Series" (Zoom recording) presentation "Americas as a Market & Mexico Naval Strategy," 10 February 2021
<https://kielseapowerseries.com/en/the-americas-series.html>

Naval Association of Canada Presentation "AOPS/JSS In Service Support (AJISS)" by Jamie Turcotte, 1 February 2021
<https://nac-o.wildapricot.org/resources/OTTAWA%20BRANCH/Documents/Meetings/Thales%20AJISS%20presentation%20to%20NAC%20Feb%201%202021%20Final.pdf>.

New: Canadian Marine Industries and Shipbuilding Association "On Watch" 3rd edition
https://send.successbyemail.com/prvw_message2.aspx?chno=be60b8fd-3e56-405e-bc7d-9051bf28ad10

Tweeted by @RUSI_NS: RUSI(NS) tweets may also be viewed by clicking on the icon at <https://RUSI-NS.ca>. To have something tweeted or retweeted, email the CIO at RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com. Original article title in parentheses.

Cost increase to build @CoastGuardCAN🇨🇦 offshore oceanographic science vessel. Reports this week of large cost increases of National Shipbuilding Strategy & Canadian Surface Combatant <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/765m-research-vessel-highlights-canada-s-shipbuilding-cost-debate> Premium to ensure CAN🇨🇦 has robust shipbuilding industry & capable ships (\$765M Research Vessel Highlights Canada's Shipbuilding Cost Debate)

Retweeted by Barry Walker, Naval Association of Canada: Part of the problem is trying to guess the cost 15 years before construction begins. What starts as a rough estimate is assumed to be the final cost, and all refinements of the real cost are reported as "over budget".

and

It gets worse when you only build 1 ship, since you can't spread out the engineering and other fixed costs.

Royal Canadian Air Force @RCAF_ARC 22 Feb tweeted: Two, ski-equipped #RCAF CC-138 Twin Otters from 440 Sqn recently took part in "ARCEX 21" near Deadhorse, Alaska, assisting the @USNavy with transport support for arctic ice floe studies. Read about ARCEX 21: <http://rcaf-arc.forces.gc.ca/en/article-template-standard.page?doc=twin-otters-transport-united-states-navy-scientists-in-alaska/klfo5aj4&wbdisable=false> (Twin Otters Transport United States Navy Scientists in Alaska)



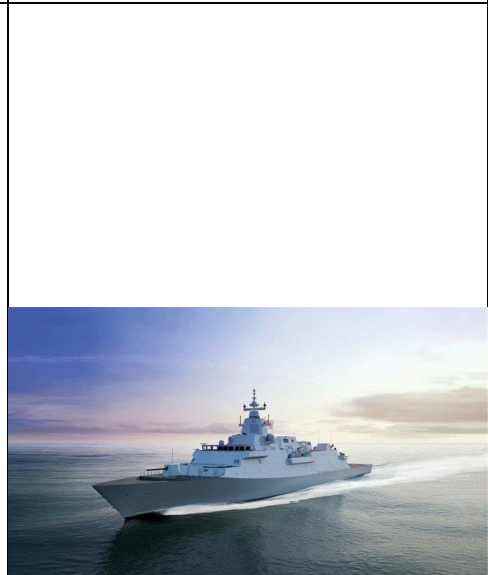
Issue of human trafficking was briefed to RUSI(NS)&guests by @RCMPgrcpolice. Eye opener. #HumanTrafficking is a real problem in CAN🇨🇦
<https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/human-traffickers-use-transportation-corridors-to-avoid-detection-report-1.5318853#>
 There needs to be more public awareness & countering of the issue
 (Human traffickers use transportation corridors to avoid detection: report)



Canadian Armed Forces Operations @CFOperations 23 Feb tweeted: How we feel after our morning coffee.
 #HMCSMoncton is currently deployed to the Caribbean Sea with our @USCGSoutheast partners on #OpCARIBBE. The other day, they participated in a boat manoeuvring training exercise to increase team building and operational effectiveness!
 RUSI(NS) retweeted: .@USCG Law Enforcement Detachments (LE Dets) provide #RoyalCanNavy ships a 'main armament' for counter-narcotics operations in Caribbean Sea & eastern Pacific Ocean as part of #OpCARIBBE
<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/operations/military-operations/current-operations/operation-caribbe.html> Constabulary role of navies, no matter what size ship



National Defence @NationalDefence 24 Feb tweeted: We welcome the report of the @PBO_DPB on the Canadian Surface Combatant, and thank them for their important work to ensure the best value is provided to Canadians. 1/4
 After reviewing the report, we acknowledge there are some differences in how we estimate costs. Based on ongoing design progress and industry experience, our cost estimate remains within the \$56-60 billion range, before taxes. 2/4
 Our budget will continue to be closely monitored and refined as the project progresses. For more information on the differences in our cost estimates, read our statement:
<https://canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/news/2021/02/statement-by-the-department-of-national-defence-on-the-parliamentary-budget-officers-report-on-the-canadian-surface-combatant.html> 3/4
 (Statement by the Department of National Defence on the Parliamentary Budget Officer's Report on the Canadian Surface Combatant)
 Following extensive analysis and due diligence, we remain confident that basing CSC on the selected Type 26 design will deliver the right ship for the @RoyalCanNavy. We will not be selecting a new design. 4/4
 RUSI(NS) retweeted: "CSC is right ship for the @RoyalCanNavy & will provide best value for military, CAN&Cdn economy. ... the capability&versatility of selected CSC design will equip RCN with modern, capable&effective



fleet of 15 surface combatants that it will need to support ops for decades to come."

Canadian Armed Forces Operations @CFOperations Feb 19 tweeted: Yesterday, HMC Ships Brandon and Saskatoon deployed to the eastern Pacific region to participate detection and monitoring duties under #OpCARIBBE. Here are the assets currently deployed:
RUSI(NS) retweeted: #OpCARIBBE = CANADA participation in US-led counter-narcotics ops in Caribbean Sea & eastern Pacific Ocean. @CanadianForces ships & aircraft deploy to region on rotational basis to support US mission to suppress trafficking in international waters & airspace
<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/operations/military-operations/current-operations/operation-caribbe.html>

OPERATION CARIBBE 2021

Canada's support to U.S.-led enhanced counter-narcotics operations in the eastern Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean Sea.

CP-140 Aurora
39-person detachment
2 liaison officers in Key West, Fla
~150 flying hours
Coast-to-coast surveillance
Departed January 21

HMCS Brandon
~40-person crew
U.S. Coast Guard detachment
HMCS Saskatoon
~40-person crew
U.S. Coast Guard detachment
Eastern Pacific Ocean
Both ships departed February 18

HMCS Moncton
~40-person crew
U.S. Coast Guard detachment
Caribbean Sea
Departed January 22

National Defence / Défense nationale

Canada FORCES.GG.CA

Posted on Facebook Royal United Services Institute NS with comments:

Facebook 'unfriends' Australia: uproar as news pages go dark

<https://www.reuters.com/article/SOMNIA-idUSKBN2AI02A>



Seems as if Facebook borrowed from the Chinese Communist Party's playbook...

East Coast Navy Divers Take on a Minnesota Lake, As Service Eyes Greater Arctic Presence

<https://news.usni.org/2021/02/19/east-coast-navy-divers-take-on-a-minnesota-lake-as-service-eyes-greater-arctic-presence>



Whilst Navy's Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit (MDSU) 2 may not have "specifically been given instructions from higher up in the Navy to prepare for any specific Arctic missions or training," it could well, especially noting its 'leaning forward' to make such a deployment, end up operating up North soon. Canada's Fleet Diving Units (Atlantic) and (Pacific) [FDU(A) and FDU(P)] are well familiar with ice diving. One can envision the FDU and MDSU collaborating in missions, whether they be "salvage operations, maritime rescue and recovery of submerged objects, hazardous pollution control, and towing operations" or something else (always expect the unexpected up North). Defence Research and Development Canada is closely involved. To what extent the Canadian Rangers are involved is a question - one can be assured they are at least providing support to diving operations. Reading the article leads this commentator to wonder what training ship divers have/should have in ice diving. HMCS HARRY DEWOLF is currently conducting ice operations trials.

Western Countries Send Ships to South China Sea in Pushback Against Beijing

<https://www.voanews.com/east-asia-pacific/voa-news-china/western-countries-send-ships-south-china-sea-pushback-against>



"A Royal Canadian Navy warship sailed near the sea in January with a passage through the Taiwan Strait on its way to join exercises nearby with Australian, Japanese and U.S. navies."

Canada may not overtly practice Freedom of Navigation operations (FONOPS) by that name nor recognize such ops as part of official doctrine, but does ensure the freedom of the seas by our warships taking appropriate (i.e., direct) routes between locations, ignoring illegitimate claims along the way. Naval diplomacy.

PBO's latest estimate puts says warships will cost \$77B as estimated price jumps \$17B

<https://www.thestar.com/politics/2021/02/24/pbos-latest-estimate-says-warships-will-cost-77b-as-estimated-price-jumps-17b.html>







The alternative surface combatant force structure designs don't seem to cost that much less than the original 15 ship, Type 26 based, structure.

Ultimately, Canadians have to ask themselves (and answer), what do they want Canada to do in this world, and what they want their military to be able to do as part of that engagement. A reiterative process and ultimately a compromise, as the cost of what we want to do is assessed and factored into calculations.

So, if Canada acquires less Canadian Surface Combatant project frigates, or less capable (the Type 31 is a 'light frigate'), are there ramifications and therefore necessary changes to our foreign and defence/security policies?

Posted on Facebook Royal United Services Institute NS: RUSI(NS) postings may be viewed by clicking on the icon at <https://RUSI-NS.ca>. To have something posted or commented, email the CIO by noon Thursday.

 RUSI www.rusi.org This Week https://www.facebook.com/Royal-United-Services-Institute-of-Nova-Scotia-618819224873298/	
<p>New Zealand troops to leave Afghanistan after 20-year deployment</p> https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/2/17/last-new-zealand-troops-to-leave-afghanistan-in-may	
<p>The FC-31, China's 'Other' Stealth Fighter</p> https://thediplomat.com/2021/02/the-fc-31-chinas-other-stealth-fighter/	

Cost of Coast Guard ship nears \$1B as questions mount over federal shipbuilding plan

<https://meadowlakenow.com/2021/02/21/cost-of-coast-guard-ship-nears-1b-as-questions-mount-over-federal-shipbuilding-plan/>



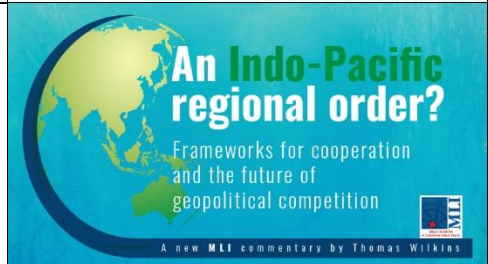
Satellite images suggest China's new tanker aircraft is under production

<https://www.defensenews.com/global/asia-pacific/2021/02/18/satellite-images-suggest-chinas-new-tanker-aircraft-is-under-production/>



AN INDO-PACIFIC REGIONAL ORDER: NEW MLI POLICY BRIEF

https://macdonaldlaurier.ca/files/pdf/20210203_An_Indo-Pacific_regional_order_Wilkins_COMMENTARY_FWeb.pdf?mc_cid=48f35c919e&mc_eid=a8426c0175



NEW POLLING FINDS CANADIANS SUPPORT A FOREIGN POLICY AGENDA THAT SIDES WITH DEMOCRACIES

https://macdonaldlaurier.ca/files/pdf/20210209_Rethinking_foreign_policy_Devlen_COMMENTARY_FWeb.pdf?mc_cid=b4cfc2d39&mc_eid=a8426c0175



New pistols for the Canadian military — defence industry told to expect request for bids shortly

<https://ottawacitizen.com/news/national/defence-watch/new-pistols-for-the-canadian-military-defence-industry-told-to-expect-request-for-bids-shortly>



Putin warns of unnamed foreign efforts to destabilize Russia

<https://www.militarytimes.com/news/your-military/2021/02/24/putin-warns-of-unnamed-foreign-efforts-to-destabilize-russia/>



Other Sources: Recommendations for ‘themes’ (e.g., #drones) to list in this section are welcome.

#Canadian Surface Combatant

Canada’s Surface Combatant Costs

https://www.navalreview.ca/wp-content/uploads/public/vol16num3/cnr_vol16_3_article_perry.pdf

#command and control

Balancing C2 Resilience

<https://wavellroom.com/2021/02/17/balancing-c2-resilience/>

#COVID 19

Ghosts of Viruses Past

<https://www.domesticpreparedness.com/journals/february-2021/>

#information operations

Social Media: Misinformation and Content Moderation Issues for Congress

<https://www.hsdl.org/?abstract&did=849695>

#maritime strategy

Defense Strategy and the Empire State of Mind: How Preparing for the Best Can Leave Washington Vulnerable to the Rest

<https://warontherocks.com/2021/02/defense-strategy-and-the-empire-state-of-mind-how-preparing-for-the-best-can-leave-washington-vulnerable-to-the-rest/>

Editor's note: we hope to provide more articles like this in advance of a RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker on Canadian maritime strategy this summer.

#naval strategy

Chinese Assessment of New U.S. Naval Strategy

<https://news.usni.org/2021/02/19/chinese-assessment-of-new-u-s-naval-strategy>

Editor: we're posting articles on naval strategy in preparation for a RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker on naval strategy this summer.

#operational art

The Integrated Operating Concept

<https://wavellroom.com/2021/02/19/the-integrated-operating-concept/>

#veterans

Supports and Services to Veterans’ Caregivers and Families

From the RUSI(NS) Veterans Affairs Committee:

<https://www.ourcommons.ca/Committees/en/ACVA/StudyActivity?studyActivityId=11087474>

Other:

Engaging with the NATO Association of Canada

The NATO Association of Canada is expanding its youth outreach component to engage youth from across Canada on issues related to NATO and global peace and security. We offer opportunities for professional development and networking, participation in events with high profile individuals, and possibilities to publish articles on security and defence issues. If you are interested in engaging with us in this regard further please contact us at robert.baines@natoassociation.ca.

We look forward to hearing about any individuals from your network who may be interested in engaging with us as well.

Gita Thiagarajah
Production Editor-Youth Engagement
NATO Association of Canada

Army University Press Leavenworth Papers

Lots of good lessons in historical analyses: <https://www.armyupress.army.mil/Books/Browse-Books/Leavenworth-Papers/>

Canadian Defence Academy "The Torch" Monthly Defence and Security Outlook

<https://cfc-ca.libguides.com/c.php?g=709488&p=5055085&preview=8d01d4c58cd1fa4b02bc759f34e935be>

Public Safety Canada - Public Opinion Research on National Security Transparency and Information Sharing

We are reaching out today to invite you to take part in a public opinion research survey on Canadians' awareness and interest in national security as it relates to information sharing and transparency. As some of our key collaborators in these areas, we hope that you will consider sending this survey to external stakeholders in your networks. This research has been commissioned by Public Safety Canada to help inform the work the Government of Canada is doing by directing information sharing and transparency efforts to areas where Canadians will most benefit.

The main research survey is being distributed to a statistically representative group of around 2,000 Canadians. Public Safety Canada has launched a second, parallel survey, intended exclusively for national security stakeholders. You are receiving the link to the latter survey, the results of which should be reflected in our research firm's (EKOS) final report. For this particular survey, we have included a comments box at the end for respondents to freely share their thoughts. We encourage respondents to pass along any views on questions and issues related to transparency and information sharing in the national security arena.

The survey can be completed in the official language of the respondent's choice, and should take up to 20 minutes to complete. It is accessible and is compatible with adaptive screen-reading technology. Responses are anonymous and confidential.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could share this survey link with Canadian organizations or individuals (with whom you are personally connected) that have a valuable perspective on information sharing, transparency or national security more broadly. This may include, but is not limited to:

- Non-government organizations;
- Academics;
- Ex-federal public servants;
- Community leaders and/or activists;
- Municipal, provincial or territorial government representatives;
- Lawyers;
- Media; and,
- Private sector experts.

Note: we ask that current members of the federal public service do not complete the survey.

Survey link in English: <https://www.ekos.com/nss>

Survey link in French: <https://www.ekos.com/ssn>

The link will remain open until February 28th, 2021.

If you have additional comments or questions, please feel free to contact us at: ps.transparency-transparence.sp@canada.ca. If you choose to send this survey link to your contacts, please also feel free to emphasize that they can send additional comments by emailing us directly. For specific technical or privacy-related questions, we ask that respondents please contact EKOS at the email provided in-survey.

Thank you very much for your participation.

Sincerely,

National Security Transparency Commitment Secretariat

Ps.transparency-transparence.sp@canada.ca

Public Safety Canada | Sécurité publique Canada

Roadmap for a Renewed U.S.-Canada Partnership

Statement following PM Trudeau and President Biden meeting 23 February 2021 (highlights added)

<https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/statements/2021/02/23/roadmap-renewed-us-canada-partnership>

Bolstering Security and Defence/Defense

The President and the Prime Minister agreed that collective security is a shared responsibility.

- The leaders agreed on the importance of investment in modern, ready, and capable forces in line with their commitments to **NATO** under the 2014 Wales Summit Defence/Defense Investment Pledge. Such investments enable effective contributions to NATO, United Nations, and other global missions.
- The Prime Minister and the President agreed to expand cooperation on continental defence/defense and in the Arctic, including by modernizing the North American Aerospace Defense/Defence Command (**NORAD**). They directed their Ministers of Foreign Affairs and National Defence and Secretaries of State and Defense to meet in a 2+2 Ministerial format to further coordinate our joint contributions to collective security.
- The President and the Prime Minister reaffirmed their determination to work together to **counter terrorism and violent extremism** in all forms, both at home and abroad. In this context, the leaders agreed to enhance cooperation to counter exploitation of social media and the Internet by terrorists, violent extremists, and hate groups, strengthen information sharing to improve our respective prevention strategies addressing domestic violent extremism, and enhance reciprocal sharing on known and suspected threats.

- Canada and the United States will enhance law enforcement collaboration by reestablishing the **Cross-Border Crime Forum** to facilitate cooperation among law enforcement bodies, including strengthening information sharing between the two countries and addressing justice reform, as well as cross-border law enforcement challenges to make communities safer. The challenges include, but are not limited to tackling illegal cross-border flows of firearms, drugs, and currency, as well as organized crime, mass marketing fraud, and human trafficking. In this context, the President and Prime Minister noted their common objective to reduce gun violence and directed officials to explore the creation of a cross-border task force to address gun smuggling and trafficking.
- The two countries will launch an expanded **U.S.-Canada Arctic Dialogue** to cover cross-cutting issues related to continental security, economic and social development, and Arctic governance.

Canada and the United States will increase cooperation to **strengthen cybersecurity**, and to confront foreign interference and disinformation. As part of their efforts to protect critical infrastructure in North America, the two countries will implement a **Framework for Collaboration on Cybersecurity in the Energy Sector** to enhance the security and resiliency of our cross-border energy infrastructure.

Building Global Alliances

- ...
- They also discussed ways to more closely align our approaches to **China**, including to address the challenges it presents to our collective interest and to the international rules-based order. This includes dealing with its coercive and unfair economic practices, national security challenges, and human rights abuses, while cooperating with China on areas where it is in our interest, such as climate change.

• ...