

Daily Memo: Kazakhstan Reaches Out for Help Amid Protests

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Kazakhstan update. After the Kazakh government resigned on Wednesday and protests continued into Thursday, President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev **turned** to the Russian-led Collective Security Treaty Organization for help in fighting what he called “terrorist gangs.” The CSTO **deployed** its Collective Peacekeeping Forces, including troops from Russia, Armenia, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, to Kazakhstan.

Africa matters. The U.S. special envoy for the Horn of Africa will **meet** with Ethiopian officials in Addis Ababa on Thursday to discuss peace talks with Tigray rebels. The visit comes a day after China’s foreign minister **held** a meeting with Eritrean officials where they too discussed the Tigray conflict. Relatedly, Beijing **announced** on Thursday that it would also appoint a special envoy for the Horn of Africa.

Gas deal. Russian firm Gazprom and Turkey’s Petroleum Pipeline Corp. **signed** a new contract for the supply of up to 5.75 billion cubic meters of Russian natural gas annually through the TurkStream pipeline for the next four years.

Diplomacy. The foreign ministers of Russia and Turkey held **talks** by phone. They discussed bilateral relations, the upcoming Russia-NATO Council summit in Brussels, Kazakhstan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the Caucasus. The Turkish minister also **spoke** Wednesday with the NATO secretary-general.

Chinese funding. Morocco and China signed an agreement to develop technology, energy, trade and agriculture projects. Funding for the projects will come from China’s Belt and Road Initiative.

Moscow meeting. Russia will hold **talks** in Moscow on Ukraine with Germany and France under the Normandy format on Thursday.

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