



SIOS NEWS BRIEF (31March- 3 April)

Macron calls for ceasefire in Mideast during visit to Japan (April 1)

During a visit to Japan, French President Emmanuel Macron called for a ceasefire in the Middle East. Macron held talks with Japanese PM Sanae Takaichi and said, they both believe in international law, adding “This is why ... we both advocate for a return to peace, a ceasefire, calm, and free passage through the Strait of Hormuz.” The leaders also agreed to deepen their cooperation in rare earths development, nuclear energy, defense, space, and other areas. Macron visited Japan as President Trump said that the responsibility for keeping the Strait of Hormuz open would be on countries that rely on it. He also lashed out at France, saying it has been “very unhelpful”.

URL: https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2026/04/01/macron-takaichi-japan-france-iran-minerals-security/e5204830-2dd9-11f1-aac2-f56b5ccad184_story.html

Indian Navy Launches IOS Sagar Mission with 16 nations for Maritime Security (April 2)

The Indian Navy’s offshore patrol vessel INS Sunayna was redesignated as IOS Sagar as it set sail from Mumbai for a 50-day multinational mission involving 16 countries to foster maritime security in the IOR. The mission will focus on ‘Viksit, Board, Search, and Seizure’ operations for tackling illegal trafficking and piracy in the IOR. The vessel was flagged off by the Minister of State for Defence Sanjay Seth he said, “This initiative is not merely a demonstration of India’s maritime capability but a reflection of our collective vision. It represents how India sees its role in the maritime domain and how we engage constructively with the wider world.”

URL: <https://www.freepressjournal.in/india/indian-navy-launches-ios-sagar-mission-with-16-nations-for-maritime-security>

One killed and buildings damaged as magnitude 7.4 earthquake strikes Indonesia (April 2)

An undersea magnitude 7.4 earthquake toppled buildings, killed one person, sent people fleeing from their homes, and generated a small tsunami in parts of northern Indonesia. According to Indonesia’s disaster management agency (BNPB), strong shaking lasting 10 to 20 seconds was felt in Bitung (coastal city on edge of Sulawesi Island) and in Ternate city. A spokesperson for BNPB said, “At this stage, caution is still required, particularly for communities living along the coast”.

URL: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2026/apr/02/magnitude-7.4-earthquake-strikes-in-indonesia-sparking-tsunami-alert>