



Society for Indian Ocean Studies
SIOS NEWS BRIEF: 21-26 August

2023 Indian Ocean Island Games (JIOI)

Madagascar will host the JIOI from 25th August to 3rd September 2023 for the third time. The participants will be several Southwest Indian Ocean islands such as Réunion, Maldives, Mauritius, Seychelles, Madagascar, the Comoros, and Mayotte. Such games are an example of regional integration as during the JIOI, the participants undertake to fulfil several objectives such as to foster regional cooperation and to establish mutual understanding and friendship between the people of these island countries.

URL: <https://www.nation.sc/articles/17970/11th-indian-ocean-island-games-2023--madagascar>

The Battle for the Indian Ocean

The U.S. and China are vying for more influence and power in the world, and their rivalry is expanding to new domains. One of the new domain is the establishment of submarine cables on the island of Diego Garcia. The island is of strategic significance to the U.S. to monitor the security of oil tankers in East Asia and the Middle East. Recently, some papers have pointed that the U.S. is intending to change the internet connectivity of the island to submarine cables. This will improve the U.S. military communication and preparedness to address major threats from China. These developments point towards the U.S.-China rivalry in the IOR, with several technological and geopolitical aspects that could threaten the world peace.

URL: <https://thediplomat.com/2023/08/navigating-china-us-subsea-cable-competition/>

Japan's Wastewater Release

The Japanese Cabinet decision to release wastewater from Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean has raised several concerns about issues related to ecological environment and human health. There is also a worry about the potential of the wastewater to travel distant places.

URL: <https://www.financialexpress.com/business/defence-oceans-stir-japans-wastewater-release-and-why-india-is-tuning-in-3222811/>