

# ZeroFox Intelligence Geopolitical Brief for February 2023



TLP: CLEAR

B-2023-1-27a

## Executive Summary

The rapid lifting of China's COVID-19 restrictions continues to disrupt operations there while the virus continues to spread. Some countries, including Japan, South Korea, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), and the United States, have curbed visitations from China in order to prevent spread within their borders. China has responded by ceasing the issuance of short-term visas to visitors from Japan and South Korea, with more possibly to follow. Labor shortages in the agricultural and manufacturing sectors are expected to continue.

In Europe, French President Emmanuel Macron's recently-announced plan to raise the retirement age has sparked a wave of protests and strikes across France. As with previous bouts of unrest related to pension reform, labor unions will likely plan weekly periods of mass strikes with smaller strikes and protests planned in between. France's transportation, energy, and logistics industries will likely be particularly disrupted by walk-outs. Actions such as these will likely continue through February. Belgium, Spain, Italy, and the United Kingdom (UK) may see additional protest activity after strikes and protests in January.

Offensive operations by both Ukraine and Russia will likely resume in the spring. Western countries have promised tanks to Ukraine for the first time since Russia's invasion. They are not expected to make an immediate impact, as it will take months for Ukrainian crews to train on the new equipment.

The Latin American region is especially vulnerable to political unrest in 2023. Some of the issues, like those in Brazil, Peru, and Bolivia, are holdovers from 2022, but the potential for disruptive activity exists in other countries as well. A likely economic slowdown mixed with existing political leadership challenges across the region make disruptions likely to continue in 2023. This means that there is a constant risk of mass protests, which could disrupt supplies of valuable commodities like copper, lithium, soybeans, corn, and wheat.

## > Key Findings

- Western European nations will continue to see lower rates of inflation than Eastern Europe, which could dictate where social unrest occurs.
- Protests and political instability will continue in Latin America, particularly Brazil, Peru, and Bolivia.
- The security situation in Haiti is likely to get worse without elected officials, which could prompt an international intervention.
- Asian allies of the United States, in particular, are making moves to comply with U.S. trade restrictions on China while also striving to protect their own industries.
- With the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions, China has shown a commitment to economic growth not seen in years.
- The European Union (EU) will ban imports of Russian diesel fuel beginning on February 5.
- After reaching some progress on the Northern Ireland protocol, the EU and UK are set to debate more contentious issues in February 2023.
- Protests over changes made to Israel's judiciary by the country's new government will likely continue into February.
- Offensive operations by both Ukraine and Russia will likely resume in the spring.
- Taiwan is seeking to preserve its dominance in semiconductor manufacturing by giving chipmakers generous tax incentives.
- In Greece, the government is set to face a no-confidence vote, although it is unlikely to succeed.
- Indonesia's mineral export ban could cause further unrest and face legal challenges.

## Key Threats and Developments



Terror attacks are likely to escalate in Pakistan.



COVID-19 levels remain elevated in China, though appear to be ebbing.



Taiwan passed legislation to incentivize domestic semiconductor manufacturing.



Nigeria will hold elections in February 2023.



The EU's ban on Russian diesel is set to go into effect on February 5.



France will likely continue to see protests and strikes through February.



Latin American countries, including Peru and Bolivia, will continue to see unrest.



China will likely enact additional retaliatory measures against countries restricting Chinese visitation.

**SCOPE NOTE** ZeroFox Intelligence is derived from a variety of sources, including—but not limited to—curated open-source accesses, vetted social media, proprietary data sources, and direct access to threat actors and groups through covert communication channels. Information relied upon to complete any report cannot always be independently verified. As such, ZeroFox applies rigorous analytic standards and tradecraft in accordance with best practices and includes caveat language and source citations to clearly identify the veracity of our Intelligence reporting and substantiate our assessments and recommendations. All sources used in this particular Intelligence product were identified prior to 5:00 PM (EST) on January 26, 2023; per cyber hygiene best practices, caution is advised when clicking on any third-party links.



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## Russia's War in Ukraine

- After long NATO deliberations, on January 25 the United States and Germany announced they will provide Ukraine with tanks. This comes after the UK announced on January 15 it would supply tanks. Tanks will help Ukraine launch counteroffensives and retake territory. However, the tanks will not arrive for months, meaning their effects will not be felt until at least the spring.
- Recent shakeups in the Russian military leadership reflect an ongoing power struggle between the Russian military establishment and private Russian forces.

### Forward Look:

- Both Ukraine and Russia are expected to launch offensives in 2023. Any such offensives will see heavy fighting.
- **Russia:** Current Russian force posture suggests the military may be preparing for an upcoming offensive in Luhansk Oblast.[1] Experts note President Vladimir Putin has not officially decreed the end of the September 2022 mobilization order, despite previous statements the mobilization drive was complete. This could indicate Russia plans a stealth mobilization drive to increase troop levels without angering the public.
- **Ukraine:** The United States is advising Ukraine to delay offensive campaigns until its forces can be trained on new U.S. weapons being sent to Ukraine.[2] Meanwhile, Ukrainian military intelligence claimed Ukraine would launch an offensive in March 2023 in all areas of the country.[3] It remains unclear if Ukraine will attempt an offensive then or wait for the arrival of more advanced weapons.

## Other Russia-Related Developments

- U.S. and EU intelligence officials believe Russian military intelligence ordered a radical Russian nationalist group to conduct a letter bomb campaign against government targets in Spain.[4] The bombing campaign likely aimed to further Russia's strategy of keeping European countries on high alert, while also signaling Russia could organize violent attacks on EU soil.
- President Putin has signed a decree allowing some Russian companies to ignore the votes of foreign shareholders.[5]
- Russia is attempting to repatriate workers in the technology sector. About 10 percent of the tech workforce left Russia after it announced mobilization in September 2022.[6] Russian tech giant VK ordered all personnel working abroad to return to Russia or face dismissal. The government is also preparing official measures to repatriate key workers.[7]

### Forward Look:

- In late 2022, sanctions on Russia's energy sector began to significantly impact the country's revenues and economy. In 2023, Russia will likely enact aggressive foreign and domestic economic policies to shore up the Russian economy. These policies may negatively impact global economic conditions.

## French and European Union Protests

- **France:** Ongoing demonstrations and strikes in response to proposed pension reform
- **Portugal:** Education strikes and protests through mid-February 2023
- **UK:** Anti-strike legislation could prompt more protests

### Forward Look:

- On January 10, 2023, French Prime Minister Elisabeth Borne announced that the government plans to raise the official retirement age from 62 years to 64. This news prompted a one-day nationwide strike by eight of the main labor unions on January 19 followed by substantial street demonstrations on January 21. More strikes and protests are expected in connection with the pension reform on January 31 as well as in the coming weeks and months.
- Protesting education workers will hold a nationwide strike on February 11 in addition to constant smaller protests.[8]
- UK Parliament began debating and could pass legislation limiting the ability of workers to strike which could prompt more protests.

## European Policy Updates

- A deal between the **EU** and **UK** on the Northern Ireland Protocol, which would regulate the flow of goods between Ireland and Northern Ireland, is likely in the near future. Negotiations are ongoing.
- Inflation has so far fallen faster in Western Europe than in Eastern Europe.

### Forward Look:

- A deal over the Northern Ireland protocol between the UK and EU is more likely than not after positive talks in January 2023. This will ensure no new supply chain disruptions between the two sides.
- Western European nations continue to have the lowest inflation, as they have less vulnerability to Russia's war in Ukraine. The geographical and cultural proximity to Russia has left Eastern Europe with much higher rates of inflation.

## FOOTNOTES

- [1] [hXXps://www.understandingwar.org/backgrounder/ukraine-conflict-updates](https://www.understandingwar.org/backgrounder/ukraine-conflict-updates)
- [2] [hXXps://meduza.io/news/2023/01/20/ssha-posovetovali-ukraine-povremenit-s-nastupleniem-na-fronte-i-dozhdatsya-postavok-oruzhiya](https://meduza.io/news/2023/01/20/ssha-posovetovali-ukraine-povremenit-s-nastupleniem-na-fronte-i-dozhdatsya-postavok-oruzhiya)
- [3] [hXXps://meduza.io/news/2023/01/04/nachalnik-ukrainskoy-voennoy-razvedki-kirill-budanov-anonsiroval-novye-udary-po-territorii-rossii-vse-glubzhe-i-glubzhe-vnutri-strany](https://meduza.io/news/2023/01/04/nachalnik-ukrainskoy-voennoy-razvedki-kirill-budanov-anonsiroval-novye-udary-po-territorii-rossii-vse-glubzhe-i-glubzhe-vnutri-strany)
- [4] [hXXps://www.nytimes.com/2023/01/22/us/politics/russia-spain-letter-bombs.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/01/22/us/politics/russia-spain-letter-bombs.html)
- [5] [hXXps://www.themoscowtimes.com/2023/01/17/kremlin-russian-firms-can-ignore-unfriendly-foreign-shareholders-a79968](https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2023/01/17/kremlin-russian-firms-can-ignore-unfriendly-foreign-shareholders-a79968)
- [6] [hXXps://www.dw.com/en/will-russia-launch-another-mobilization-drive/a-64345837](https://www.dw.com/en/will-russia-launch-another-mobilization-drive/a-64345837)
- [7] [hXXps://www.themoscowtimes.com/2023/01/12/russian-tech-giant-vk-orders-workers-to-return-from-abroad-report-a79931](https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2023/01/12/russian-tech-giant-vk-orders-workers-to-return-from-abroad-report-a79931)
- [8] [hXXps://sicnoticias.pt/pais/2023-01-03-Greves-de-professores-marcam-regresso-as-aulas-a669fb3f](https://sicnoticias.pt/pais/2023-01-03-Greves-de-professores-marcam-regresso-as-aulas-a669fb3f)



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## Peru and Bolivia Instability

- Protests are most severe in southern and eastern **Peru**, where there is strong anti-elite sentiment.
- Protests in **Bolivia** are concentrated in the wealthiest and most populated region of Santa Cruz, a key agricultural region.
- Protests may ebb at times, but the underlying causes will take years to resolve and continued unrest is expected.

### > Forward Look:

- Protests in both Bolivia and Peru resumed with vigor in January 2023, and the underlying causes of the protests are unlikely to abate. In Peru, protesters are calling for the release of former President Pedro Castillo and for the current government to step down and call new elections. Neither is likely, and there will be continued political and social unrest.
- In Bolivia, the government has continued to imprison key opposition leaders; the latest protests are over the continued imprisonment of opposition leader Luis Camacho, who is also the governor of the largest region. Targeting of opposition figures and continued opposition protests will remain a theme going forward. The protests are causing supply chain disruptions in both countries.

## Nigeria Election

- Elections are scheduled to be held on February 25, 2023, in Nigeria, with a runoff within three weeks if the first round does not produce a clear winner. Attacks on election facilities have raised suspicion that these elections will not be able to proceed, but authorities have insisted they will.
- Three main candidates are running: Bola Tinubu of the incumbent All Progressives Congress (APC) party, Atiku Abubakar of the opposition People's Democratic Party (PDP), and Peter Obi as a third-party Labor candidate.

### > Forward Look:

- Nigeria is grappling with dual challenges of physical and economic insecurity. Terrorist attacks, particularly in the north, have become a fact of life despite the best efforts of outgoing president Muhammadu Buhari. Kidnapping for ransom is also prevalent; 32 people were abducted from a passenger train in early January, many of whom remain captive. Economically, the country has been battling an inflation rate over 20 percent and substantial unemployment rates generally (33 percent), particularly for youth (42.5 percent).
- President Buhari won two terms largely on the strength of his military experience, which he argued would allow him to improve security within the country. However, eight years after his election, 68 percent of the country say Nigeria is "not safe,"[10] and armed groups have even attacked the Electoral Commission.

## Latin American Political Updates

- **Brazil:** Crackdown on pro-Bolsonaro supporters and politicians could lead to a backlash
- Region led by **Peru, Brazil, and Bolivia** to endure constant risk of mass protests due to long-standing political disputes and worsening economic situation
- **Ecuador:** Nationwide referendum on February 5, 2023

### > Forward Look:

- Political supporters of former President Bolsonaro have called the mass arrests of Bolsonaro supporters who stormed Parliament in January 2023 an overreach, and continued clashes between the government and Bolsonaro supporters are likely. This could manifest in pro and anti-government protests.
- The economic situation in Argentina could lead to widespread protests in 2023. Chile's economic situation may also worsen.
- This presents risks to supply chains in the region; agri-business in Brazil was reportedly one of the biggest proponents of the pro-Bolsonaro protests. In Chile, the copper industry is struggling as is the important agricultural commodity sector in Argentina. If protests in Peru and Bolivia continue to disrupt key copper, lithium, natural gas, fruit, and grains trade, the entire region could fail to deliver key global commodities—which could increase inflation.
- Ecuadorian President Guillermo Lasso is seeking a consequential referendum to combat insecurity and government bureaucracy blocking his reforms.

## Latin American Security Updates

- **Haiti:** Worsening insecurity in February 2023 due to expiring terms of all elected officials
- **Honduras:** State of emergency and gang security crackdown extended until February 2023
- **Mexico:** Narco-violence unlikely to subside after high-profile cartel arrests
- **Colombia:** Nationwide taxi strike on February 22, 2023[9]

### > Forward Look:

- Haiti has been unable to hold elections since 2019, and the terms of both the House and Senate have now expired. Haiti has been led by Prime Minister Ariel Henry since July 2021. Henry, an unelected PM who was personally appointed by Moise just before his death, is the only political official capable of calling new elections. However he has not done so, despite being in power for 18 months. During that time, the security and migrant situation has worsened. Despite calls for foreign troops to alleviate the security vacuum, none are forthcoming.
- Mexico saw major acts of cartel violence for the second time in less than six months in January 2023. Continued security crackdowns could see the violence worsen.

## FOOTNOTES

[9] <https://www.infobae.com/america/colombia/2023/01/06/taxistas-confirmaron-paro-para-el-22-de-febrero/>

[10] <https://punchng.com/68-respondents-say-nigeria-insecure-poll/>



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### Balkans Political Updates

- Despite hostilities de-escalating in late December 2022, tensions between **Serbia** and **Kosovo** are likely to continue in 2023.
- **Greece**: The government will face a no-confidence vote over a wiretapping scandal.
- **Bulgaria**: President Rumen Radev announced that the country will hold its fifth parliamentary election within two years on April 2, 2023, after the October polls failed to produce a coalition government.

#### > Forward Look:

- The Greek motion of no-confidence is unlikely to pass, as the ruling New Democracy party holds 156 of the 300 seats in Parliament.

### African Political Developments

- **Uganda**: Ebola outbreak ends before international spread.
- **DRC**: Creation of a buffer zone, per a signed peace agreement, should reduce fighting but cannot solve underlying issues.

#### > Forward Look:

- On January 11, 2023, Uganda declared its latest ebola outbreak over after no new cases for 42 days. The outbreak started four months ago, infected 140 people, killed 55, and reached the capital Kampala. This was Uganda's seventh outbreak of the disease and the fifth caused by the Sudan variation of the virus—which has no vaccine, although three are being tested. The deadliest epidemic unfolded in West Africa between 2013 and 2016, killing more than 11,300 people; the disease originated in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), where there have been dozens of epidemics.
- After threatening to capture Goma, the major city in the eastern DRC, M23 rebels have withdrawn from advanced positions and allowed an East African security force to take over, creating a buffer zone between DRC and M23 troops. However, the rebels have been unwilling to vacate more interior areas of North Kivu province or to abandon their control of strategic border crossings that they depend on for financial sustainability.
- M23 is supported by the Rwandan government, which views maintaining a weak DRC as advantageous. For this reason, peace deals can only aim to lessen the tenor of conflict rather than provide a complete solution.

### COVID-19 in China

- Infections surged after lifting of COVID-19 restrictions.
- China's borders reopened, while many countries tightened up border control on Chinese travelers.
- Authorities decried COVID data skepticism.
- China suspended short-term visas for Japanese and South Korean citizens.

#### > Forward Look:

- China's countryside saw faster-than-average rates of COVID-19 spread due to travel during the Festival season.
- China may take more retaliatory measures against countries that have imposed travel curbs on Chinese travelers. It has already stopped issuing short-term visas to visitors from South Korea and Japan, both of which restricted entry to Chinese visitors due to the rapid spread of COVID-19 in China. [11]
- Labor shortages in China's manufacturing and agriculture sectors are expected to continue.
- Similarly, China will continue to experience volatility in its supply chains and elevated inflation.

### Semiconductor Manufacturing Updates

- **Taiwan** enacted its Chips Act, which allows semiconductor manufacturers to turn 25 percent of their annual research and development costs into tax credits. Manufacturers will also be able to convert 5 percent of their costs related to purchasing equipment into tax credits. This is meant to incentivize chipmakers to remain in Taiwan as other countries, including the United States, seek to establish their own domestic manufacturing base. [12]

#### > Forward Look:

- U.S. allies impacted by U.S. trade restrictions on key minerals and semiconductors—like Taiwan, South Korea, and Japan—are making moves to protect their industries. They are announcing domestic tax incentives and subsidies that are similar to the U.S. Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), while also seeking to comply with U.S. sanctions on sending semiconductor chip technology to China. China, on the other hand, has had to delay investment in producing endogenous semiconductors due to the poor state of its economy.
- Other countries, including the EU, have passed their own Chips Acts that will grant special diplomatic status to major semiconductor producers such as Taiwan and South Korea. [13]

#### FOOTNOTES

[11] <https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3207119/chinas-retaliation-over-covid-travel-curbs-could-be-diplomatic-own-goal>

[12] <https://www.straitstimes.com/asia/east-asia/taiwan-passes-its-chips-act-offers-tax-credits-to-chipmakers>

[13] <https://en.rti.org.tw/news/view/id/2008905>



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### Additional Asia-Pacific Updates

- **Australia:** China restarts coal purchases in sign of diplomatic rapprochement
- **Myanmar:** Possible elections in 2023
- **Pakistan:** Pakistani Taliban threatens further attacks against ruling government
- **Japan:** Planned protests against constitutional reforms in Tokyo on February 13 and 19, 2023

#### > Forward Look:

- Australia and China are likely to continue their slow improvement of relations after China resumed purchases of Australian coal for the first time in three years. In 2020, as diplomatic tensions between the two rose, China cut its imports of Australian coal to nothing. Chinese willingness to engage in deals may open the door for orders of metallurgical/coking coal (used for mineral refining) as well. In the broader context of improving Sino-Australian relations, this is one more sign of an all-levels rapprochement that could benefit both sides.
- The Pakistani Taliban (Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan) (TeTP) threatened attacks against two major political parties: the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) and Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N). PML-N lead the country after replacing Prime Minister Imran Khan of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party. Khan was friendlier with TeTP, and there were few attacks during his tenure. Khan remains popular, and increased attacks could further weaken PML-N just as Khan plans his political comeback. Elections are needed in 2023. Expect an increase in TeTP attacks in the short term.[14]
- Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida announced his recent intention to visit Ukraine in order to meet with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in February, although this decision is not yet finalized. As one of the world's leading economies, Japan desires to provide additional support to Ukraine and also plans to issue a joint statement with Ukraine against Russia's aggression. [15]
- As a result of Japan recently revising its three main security-related documents, the Japanese and U.S. governments are set to accelerate meetings on reviewing the division of roles in security arrangements and developing integrated deterrence in the region. The United States and Japan held two meetings in January to modernize their alliance based on Japan's decision to acquire counterattack capabilities and will continue to meet to solidify updated security roles in the region. [16]

### Middle East Protests

- Protests in Iran appear to be waning as cold weather, fatigue, and a government crackdown dampen turnout. Some organizers remain active, and protests could re-occur if conditions are right.
- Lebanon has seen small protests in Beirut calling for a resumption of the investigation into the 2020 port explosion.
- Israel witnessed large-scale, anti-government protests in major cities each Saturday of January, and more have been announced. The protests in Tel Aviv have drawn massive turnouts.

#### > Forward Look:

- Israeli protests are motivated by the incoming government's plans to add an "override clause" to Israel's Basic Law that would enable the Knesset to reject High Court rulings. Opponents characterize this ambition as a threat to democracy in Israel. Protests opposing the government's stance have been organized at a steady tempo, and continued high turnout suggests they will continue.
- A European investigation into the governor of Lebanon's central bank over alleged money laundering could spur renewed judicial activity in Lebanon. Shortly after a visit by European investigators, the Lebanese probe into the 2020 Beirut port blast resumed unexpectedly after a long suspension.
- Turkey's next election, scheduled for May 14, will likely be President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's toughest in his 20 years in power. President Erdogan's economic policies have resulted in high inflation and currency devaluation, while the normally fragmented opposition has united in a six-party alliance.

### Additional Middle East Updates

- As of January 26, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) have been instructed by leadership to "increase preparedness" following a counterterrorism raid at the Jenin refugee camp in the West Bank that led to gunfire exchanges and the death of at least eight Palestinians. Among those killed were members of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) militant group, which has vowed to retaliate.
- In Tunisia, a two-day transportation strike was canceled January 25 after the government and labor reached an agreement.

#### > Forward Look:

- Egypt and the Gaza-based Hamas militant group have reportedly sought to persuade PIJ to refrain from a major escalation. Despite these efforts, PIJ has reiterated its intention to respond forcefully.[17] The last major escalation between Israel and PIJ occurred in August 2022. That conflict, ending in a ceasefire after three days, involved PIJ rocket attacks from Gaza and targeted airstrikes from Israel, which limited civilian deaths. [18]
- The terms of the agreement that averted a strike in Tunisia are unknown. Tunisia is required to reduce public spending to qualify for an International Monetary Fund loan worth USD 1.9 billion. New concessions to labor could complicate the government's efforts to secure the loan.[19]

#### FOOTNOTES

- [14] <https://tribune.com.pk/story/2394165/ttp-issues-threat-to-ppp-pml-n-in-major-policy-shift>
- [15] <https://japannews.yomiuri.co.jp/politics/defense-security/20230123-85993/>
- [16] <https://japannews.yomiuri.co.jp/politics/defense-security/20230123-85993/>
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- [19] <https://www.aal.com.tr/ar/%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AF%D9%88%D9%84-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B9%D8%B1%D8%A8%D9%8A%D8%A9/%D8%AA%D9%88%D9%86%D8%B3-%D9%86%D9%82%D8%A7%D8%A8%D8%A9-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%86%D9%82%D9%84-%D8%AA%D9%84%D8%BA%D9%8A-%D8%A5%D8%B6%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%A8%D9%87%D8%A7-%D8%A5%D8%AB%D8%BI-%D8%AA%D9%88%D9%82%D9%8A%D8%B9-%D8%A7%D8%AA%D9%81%D8%A7%D9%82-%D9%85%D8%B9-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AD%D9%83%D9%88%D9%85%D8%A9/2796569>



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## Indonesian Mineral Export Bans

- In 2020, Indonesia banned export of nickel in order to promote the domestic nickel-smelting industry, a move that prompted outcry among the EU but has proved highly popular locally.
- President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo has followed up with a ban on bauxite exports and indicated plans to ban export of tin, gold, and copper.
- Tensions between local workers and Chinese nationals spilled over into a deadly riot in January, highlighting a potential downside to these policies.

### Forward Look:

- Though Indonesia's nickel export ban was found to contravene World Trade Organization agreements, the appeal process is long enough that companies are forced to invest in Indonesia-based refining projects or lose out on market share. A host of international companies have made or are planning to make substantial outlays to build plants.
- The popularity of the nickel ban gives Jokowi ample incentive to extend the policy to other minerals. Construction of these large smelters, foundries, and the like provides high-salary jobs for local workers.
- It remains to be seen how much the Indonesian economy as a whole will benefit from these plants, as they are owned and operated by foreign companies, particularly Chinese firms.
- Additionally, Indonesia is not currently a favored trading partner of the United States, which passed laws aimed at promoting purchase of nickel products from favored trading partners. If Indonesia cannot change this status, it may become shackled to China with "golden handcuffs," making profits that are highly dependent on a single purchaser.

## ABOUT ZEROFOX

ZeroFox (Nasdaq: ZFOX), an enterprise software-as-a-service leader in external cybersecurity, has redefined security outside the corporate perimeter on the internet, where businesses operate and threat actors thrive. The ZeroFox platform combines advanced AI analytics, digital risk and privacy protection, full-spectrum threat intelligence, and a robust portfolio of breach, incident, and takedown response capabilities to expose and disrupt phishing and fraud campaigns, botnet exposures, credential theft, impersonations, data breaches, and physical threats that target your brands, domains, people, and assets. Join thousands of customers—including some of the largest public-sector organizations as well as finance, media, technology, and retail companies—to stay ahead of adversaries and address the entire lifecycle of external cyber risks.

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## Cyber Updates

- UK:** International mail delivery disrupted by cyberattack
- Serbia:** Anonymous cyberattacks targeting government websites
- Brazil:** Social media firms restricted from sharing anti-democratic posting after Bolsonaro supporters storm Congress
- Russia:** Hackers target U.S. nuclear laboratories
- North Korea:** Lazarus subgroup BlueNoroff adopts new malware delivery method
- India:** Ministry of External Affairs hacked; credentials and confidential emails leaked by alleged North Korean hackers

## Appendix: Traffic Light Protocol for Information Dissemination

|                         | Red                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Amber                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| WHEN SHOULD IT BE USED? | <b>Sources may use</b><br><b>TLP:RED</b> when information cannot be effectively acted upon by additional parties and could lead to impacts on a party's privacy, reputation, or operations if misused. | <b>Sources may use</b><br><b>TLP:AMBER</b> when information requires support to be effectively acted upon but carries risks to privacy, reputation, or operations if shared outside of the organizations involved.                                                                                                           |
| HOW MAY IT BE SHARED?   | <b>Recipients may NOT share</b><br><b>TLP:RED</b> with any parties outside of the specific exchange, meeting, or conversation in which it is originally disclosed.                                     | <b>Recipients may ONLY share</b><br><b>TLP:AMBER</b> information with members of their own organization and its clients, but only on a need-to-know basis to protect their organization and its clients and prevent further harm.<br><b>Note that</b><br><b>TLP:AMBER+STRICT</b> restricts sharing to the organization only. |
|                         | Green                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Clear                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| WHEN SHOULD IT BE USED? | <b>Sources may use</b><br><b>TLP:GREEN</b> when information is useful for the awareness of all participating organizations, as well as with peers within the broader community or sector.              | <b>Sources may use</b><br><b>TLP:CLEAR</b> when information carries minimal or no risk of misuse in accordance with applicable rules and procedures for public release.                                                                                                                                                      |
| HOW MAY IT BE SHARED?   | <b>Recipients may share</b><br><b>TLP:GREEN</b> information with peers and partner organizations within their sector or community but not via publicly accessible channels.                            | <b>Recipients may share</b><br><b>TLP:CLEAR</b> information without restriction, subject to copyright controls.                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

