



# **NORTH KOREA SECURITY ANALYSIS REPORT**

## **AI-Assisted Open Source Intelligence Assessment**

Analysis Period: March 02, 2026 - March 09, 2026

This report was produced using automated open-source intelligence analysis. The assessment is grounded in publicly available reporting and should be cross-referenced with primary sources. RSS feed articles are listed in the annex for reference.

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# Comprehensive Security Analysis Report: North Korea (March 02, 2026 - March 09, 2026)

## Executive Summary

During the period of March 02 to March 09, 2026, North Korea demonstrated a clear and unwavering commitment to advancing its military capabilities, particularly in nuclear and naval domains. A significant development was the test-firing of strategic cruise missiles from a new destroyer, signaling progress in equipping its navy with nuclear weapons. Pyongyang also reiterated its hardened stance towards South Korea, explicitly rejecting reunification and designating Seoul as a "first hostile state." Concurrently, North Korea continued to strengthen its strategic alliance with Russia, providing military aid in exchange for technology and economic support. These actions underscore a strategy of layered deterrence, military modernization, and a firm rejection of denuclearization, posing significant challenges to regional stability and international security.

## Key Security Developments

- Naval Strategic Cruise Missile Test

On March 4, 2026, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un oversaw the successful test-firing of sea-to-surface strategic cruise missiles from the newly commissioned Choe Hyon-class destroyer in the western port city of Nampho. This event, described as a pre-commissioning combat trial, highlights Pyongyang's push to transform its navy into a mobile strike force capable of launching nuclear and conventional attacks from the sea. The previous day, March 3, Kim Jong Un had inspected the destroyer, reviewing crew combat training and assessing its operational capabilities during a shakedown cruise.

- Commitment to Naval Nuclear Armament

Following the destroyer inspection and missile test, Kim Jong Un declared that the process of "arming the Navy with nuclear weapons is making satisfactory progress." He further ordered the construction of two surface combatants of the Choe Hyon class or higher annually during the new five-year plan, signaling a significant expansion of North Korea's sea-based nuclear deterrent. This move aims to diversify delivery

platforms and expand the operational scope of its nuclear forces.

- Hardened Stance Towards South Korea

North Korea formally reaffirmed its hostility toward South Korea, explicitly rejecting the possibility of reconciliation or reunification and designating it as the "first hostile state." This policy, institutionalized during the 9th Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea (which concluded on February 25, 2026), effectively discards their long-standing policy of reunification and underscores a "two hostile states" doctrine.

- Reaffirmation of Irreversible Nuclear Status

The 9th Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea solidified North Korea's position as a "permanent nuclear-armed state," emphasizing the "irreversible and permanent" status of its nuclear weapons. Kim Jong Un stated a "long-term plan to strengthen the national nuclear force on an annual basis," focusing on increasing both the number of nuclear weapons and the systems capable of delivering them.

- Formalization of "Haekpangasoe" (Nuclear Trigger)

A new concept, "Haekpangasoe" (nuclear trigger), was formalized at the Party Congress. This integrated nuclear crisis response system is designed to ensure the prompt and accurate operation of the national nuclear shield at any moment, including a pre-emptive nuclear strike capability, in response to perceived threats.

- US-South Korea Freedom Shield Drills (Upcoming)

The United States and South Korea announced their annual springtime Freedom Shield drills are scheduled to take place from March 9-19, 2026. North Korea consistently views these joint exercises as rehearsals for invasion and has historically used them as a pretext for its own military demonstrations and weapons testing.

- Condemnation of US-Israeli Strikes on Iran

North Korea condemned recent US and Israeli strikes on Iran as "illegal acts of aggression" on March 1, 2026. This condemnation is likely to reinforce Kim Jong Un's determination to strengthen North Korea's nuclear capabilities and deepen distrust of Washington, complicating future diplomatic efforts.

- Continued Military Aid to Russia

North Korea continues to provide significant military aid to Russia, including troops, artillery shells, missiles, and multiple launch rocket systems, for its war in Ukraine. In return, Russia is reportedly providing North Korea with financial assistance, military technology, and supplies of food and energy, further solidifying their quasi-alliance.

- Escalating Cyber Threat

Britain's Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) identified North Korea as a "major" cyber threat actor as of March 5, 2026, alongside China, Russia, and Iran. Pyongyang's cyber activities, including cryptocurrency theft and attacks on critical infrastructure,

are aimed at securing financial gains to fund its military and nuclear programs. The sophistication of North Korea's cyber operations is reportedly "approaching the cyber programs of those in China and Russia," with a "not unreasonable" assumption of cooperation between North Korea and Russia on cyber operations.

- Warnings on North Korea's Nuclear Threat to US Allies

The Heritage Foundation's "2026 Index of U.S. Military Strength," published on March 4, 2026, highlighted North Korea's nuclear and missile capabilities as a significant security challenge to US military bases in South Korea, Japan, and Guam. The report noted North Korea's ability to strike the US mainland with intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) like the Hwasong-17 and presented evidence of its advanced technical sophistication for miniaturizing nuclear warheads.

## Geopolitical Impact and Regional Dynamics

North Korea's recent security developments have significantly heightened tensions and reshaped regional dynamics. The explicit rejection of reunification with South Korea and its designation as a "first hostile state" fundamentally alters the inter-Korean relationship, moving it further away from any prospect of dialogue or reconciliation. This hardened stance, codified at the 9th Party Congress, suggests a long-term strategy of antagonism towards Seoul, making any South Korean efforts for engagement largely futile in the short term. The upcoming US-South Korea Freedom Shield drills are likely to be met with strong condemnation and potentially further military demonstrations from Pyongyang, perpetuating a cycle of escalation on the Korean Peninsula.

The deepening quasi-alliance between North Korea and Russia is a critical factor influencing regional stability. Pyongyang's continued provision of military aid to Russia in the Ukraine conflict, in exchange for financial assistance and advanced military technology, strengthens North Korea's capabilities and reduces its isolation. This partnership, coupled with China's more tolerant attitude towards North Korea's nuclear status, creates a formidable bloc that challenges the traditional US-led security architecture in East Asia. The condemnation of US-Israeli strikes on Iran by North Korea further aligns Pyongyang with anti-Western sentiments and reinforces its determination to pursue nuclear armament as a deterrent against perceived external threats.

The United States faces a complex strategic landscape. While expressing openness to dialogue, Washington's insistence on denuclearization clashes directly with North Korea's declared "irreversible and permanent" nuclear status. The Heritage Foundation's report underscores the direct threat North Korea's nuclear and missile capabilities pose to US forces and allies in the region, including the potential to disrupt

troop movements in South Korea with nuclear attacks. The US "America First" defense policy, which calls on allies to shoulder greater security responsibilities, could also lead to increased strategic and financial burdens for South Korea, potentially impacting the strength and cohesion of the US-South Korea alliance in the face of North Korean threats.

## Military and Defense Analysis

North Korea's military and defense posture is characterized by an aggressive modernization program focused on expanding its nuclear arsenal and diversifying its delivery systems. The recent test of sea-to-surface strategic cruise missiles from the Choe Hyon-class destroyer is a significant step towards establishing a credible sea-based nuclear deterrent, adding a new dimension to its strike capabilities. Kim Jong Un's directive to construct two new destroyers of this class or higher annually highlights a sustained commitment to enhancing naval power and integrating nuclear weapons into its maritime forces. This development aims to create a "middle-rung" deterrence option between tactical nuclear weapons and ICBMs, further complicating adversary defense planning.

Beyond naval expansion, North Korea's five-year plan emphasizes the development of advanced weapons systems, including intercontinental ballistic missile complexes, AI-enabled uncrewed attack systems, electronic warfare capabilities, and anti-satellite weapons. The order to significantly increase missile production and construct new munitions factories underscores a drive to bolster its "war deterrent" and potentially supply its allies, particularly Russia. The formalization of the "Haekpangasoe" (nuclear trigger) system, which includes a pre-emptive nuclear strike capability, signals a more assertive and potentially escalatory nuclear doctrine. While the recent military parade on February 25, 2026, was notably devoid of heavy weaponry, the underlying message from the 9th Party Congress was a commitment to a nuclear-conventional integration (CNI) strategy, indicating future displays of enhanced military power.

## Outlook and Forecast

Short-term trends (1-3 months): In the immediate future, North Korea is highly likely to respond to the upcoming US-South Korea Freedom Shield drills (March 9-19, 2026) with its own military demonstrations, potentially including further missile launches or other provocative actions. The explicit rejection of dialogue with South Korea suggests that inter-Korean relations will remain frozen, with Pyongyang maintaining its "hostile state" rhetoric. North Korea will continue its efforts to modernize its military, with a focus on missile production and naval capabilities, as evidenced by the recent

destroyer test and Kim's directives. The deepening ties with Russia are expected to continue, with ongoing exchanges of military aid and technology.

**Critical flashpoints and risk areas:** The most critical flashpoint remains the Korean Peninsula, particularly around the timing of joint US-South Korea military exercises. Any miscalculation or overreaction during these drills could lead to rapid escalation. The continued development and testing of advanced weaponry, especially those with nuclear capabilities, pose a significant risk of regional instability. North Korea's formalized pre-emptive nuclear strike doctrine ("Haekpangasoe") introduces a dangerous element, increasing the risk of nuclear use in a crisis. Furthermore, North Korea's sophisticated cyber activities, aimed at financial gain and military support, present a persistent threat to global financial systems and critical infrastructure.

**Indicators to monitor:** Key indicators to monitor include any further missile tests, particularly of new or advanced systems, and any public statements from Pyongyang regarding its nuclear program or relations with the US and South Korea. The nature and scale of North Korea's response to the Freedom Shield drills will be crucial. Observing the extent of military and technological cooperation with Russia, including potential transfers of advanced weaponry or expertise, will also be vital. Additionally, monitoring reports on North Korean cyber activities and their targets will provide insights into the regime's funding and intelligence-gathering efforts.

**Strategic recommendations:** Given North Korea's firm commitment to its nuclear status and military modernization, a multi-faceted approach is necessary. Diplomacy, while challenging, should remain an option, albeit with a clear understanding of Pyongyang's preconditions. Efforts to strengthen deterrence through robust US-South Korea-Japan trilateral cooperation and advanced defense capabilities are essential. Counter-proliferation efforts, including strict enforcement of sanctions, must be maintained to limit North Korea's access to resources for its weapons programs. Furthermore, international cooperation to counter North Korea's cyber threats, including intelligence sharing and coordinated defensive measures, is critical to mitigate financial and security risks.

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## ANNEX: COLLECTED ARTICLES BY SOURCE

### Source: NK News

- [100,000 South Korean troops mobilized for yearlong Korean War remains excavation](#) (2026-03-09 05:43)

South Korea's military began its annual campaign of searching for Korean War-era remains at frontline battlefields nationwide Monday, despite North Korea's continued absence from the effort. Roughly 100,000 troops from 30 Army formations and the 1st Marine Division will be mobilized for the eight-month excavation effort this year, according to a Defense Ministry news release [...]

- [UN envoy proposes new system for monitoring North Korean human rights](#) (2026-03-06 09:30)

The U.N. special envoy for North Korean human rights has proposed almost 50 indicators to track Pyongyang's compliance with its human rights commitments, calling for greater efforts to hold the country accountable for violations. In an advance, unedited copy of her report to the U.N. Human Rights Council's ongoing 61st session, special rapporteur Elizabeth Salmón [...]

- [Russian, North Korean firms building plastics factory in Vladivostok](#) (2026-03-06 09:19)

A Russian company has joined forces with a North Korean partner to build a plastics manufacturing plant in Vladivostok, despite U.N. sanctions that prohibit joint ventures with DPRK entities. The Moscow-based Golden Autumn Agroholding is in charge of the factory's construction in the Far East city, according to the social media account of Vladimir Sokolov, [...]

- [Seoul seeks to build blockchain-based 'peace trade system' with North Korea](#) (2026-03-06 09:18)

Seoul has announced a new plan to establish a blockchain-based "peace trade system" that would allow North Korea to export minerals under international oversight, despite Pyongyang's rejection of all inter-Korean dialogue at its recent Ninth Party Congress. The proposal is part of a "Korean Peninsula Peace Package" that the Unification Ministry released on Friday, laying [...]

- [North Korean doctors illegally working at clinics in Russia and Kyrgyzstan](#) (2026-03-06 08:02)

North Korean practitioners of traditional medicine are working at clinics in Russia and Central Asia, an NK News investigation has found, in what appear to be rare examples of the DPRK exporting skilled labor in violation of U.N. sanctions. In one case, a hospital in Moscow openly

advertised the services of a DPRK physician, releasing [...]

- [North Korean and Russian cyber actors are teaming up. So must allies.](#) (2026-03-06 05:50)

Editor's note: The following article is an opinion piece by Pia Hüscher and Joseph Jarnecki of the Royal United Services Institute, based on their research paper entitled "Strengthening UK–South Korea Cyber Security Cooperation." Views expressed in opinion articles are exclusively the author's own and do not represent those of NK News. Emerging evidence of cooperation [...]

- [China's repatriation of North Koreans may be crimes against humanity: Report](#) (2026-03-05 09:53)

China's forced repatriations of North Korean defectors could amount to crimes against humanity under international law, according to a new report that documented cases of abuse, including forced abortions and physical beatings. In its report released Thursday, the Database Center for North Korean Human Rights (NKDB) states that Chinese security officials' actions targeting a group [...]

- [US and Russia clash over North Korean nukes at UN forum](#) (2026-03-05 07:54)

The United States and Russia clashed over North Korea's nuclear program at a major international forum this week, with Moscow defending its ally's nuclear arsenal and demanding the U.N. watchdog stop releasing "speculative" reports on its enrichment activities. The head of the U.S. mission in Vienna condemned the DPRK's nuclear program as unlawful and called [...]

- [Lee Jae Myung dismisses talk of strikes on North Korea like those on Iran](#) (2026-03-05 06:34)

South Korean President Lee Jae Myung has dismissed speculation that U.S.-style military strikes similar to Iran could be directed at North Korea, warning that such rhetoric risks destabilizing the Korean Peninsula and urging officials to focus on maintaining peace. Lee made the remarks during a special Cabinet meeting on Thursday focused on the administration's response [...]

- [North Korean education officials visit Chinese school furniture factory](#) (2026-03-05 04:43)

A North Korean delegation visited a Chinese factory producing classroom desks and chairs, highlighting Pyongyang's interest in modernizing schools through potential imports of Chinese supplies. A short video posted on Chinese social media platform Douyin on March 3 showed North Korean Ministry of Education officials touring a factory owned by the Hebei Comnenir Furniture Sales [...]

- [Kim Jong Un oversees cruise missile test from new warship ahead of deployment](#) (2026-03-04 21:45)

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un oversaw cruise missile launches from the Choe Hyon destroyer on the west coast on Wednesday, according to state media, as part of testing before the warship's commissioning. He also boarded the "nuclear armed" vessel for maneuverability and navigation system tests on Tuesday, and attended sniper shooting competition that day [...]

- [North Korea, Russian nukes are 'primary existential threat' to US: Pentagon](#) (2026-03-04 08:37)

North Korean and Russian nuclear weapons constitute the "primary existential threat" facing the U.S., Undersecretary of Defense Elbridge Colby told lawmakers on Tuesday, defending the Trump administration's push for Seoul to take the lead in conventional defense planning against Pyongyang. Colby made the remarks during a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing on the 2026 National [...]

- [North Korea to hold elections for rubber-stamp parliament after two-year delay](#) (2026-03-04 08:16)

North Korea will hold elections for its rubber-stamp parliament this month after a nearly two-year delay, in what appears to be rapid preparations for endorsing new plans laid out at the Ninth Party Congress. State media on Wednesday released two decrees from the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly (SPA), which set the date [...]

- [How Kim Yo Jong's secretive new job helps her brother solidify control](#) (2026-03-04 07:55)

The promotion of the North Korean leader's sister Kim Yo Jong has put her in charge of a highly secretive party organ that plays a central role in overseeing the implementation of state policies, as well as in governing the flow of information to and from the leader. In other words, to get to Kim [...]

- [UN announces 8 new sanctions exemptions for humanitarian aid to North Korea](#) (2026-03-04 05:33)

The U.N. announced eight new sanctions exemptions to support humanitarian assistance bound for North Korea, in the first wave of approvals since the U.S. reversed course on blocking aid last month. On Tuesday, the website of the U.N. Security Council's 1718 Committee overseeing DPRK sanctions was updated to reflect the new exemptions awarded to multiple [...]

- [Russia asked for North Korean POWs in prisoner exchange, lawmaker says](#) (2026-03-03 09:34)

Russia has repeatedly sought the repatriation of North Korean prisoners of war during prisoner exchanges with Ukraine, according to an ROK lawmaker, warning that they are in danger of forced repatriation. Kyiv has confirmed that Russia included the two POWs detained in Ukraine in lists of prisoners to be exchanged, Yu Yong-weon of the conservative [...]

- [North Korea reveals first-known Kim Jong Un sculpture, boosting personality cult](#)

(2026-03-03 09:30)

North Korean state TV has revealed a new sculpture depicting Kim Jong Un at a groundbreaking ceremony, in what appears to be the first such artwork of the country's current leader. "A statue of Chairman Kim Jong Un appeared this time on Korean Central Television (KCTV), and to our knowledge it was the first time [...]"

- [Russian TV touts North Korean troops' 'selfless' sacrifice after US strikes Iran](#)

(2026-03-03 08:46)

Russian state TV aired footage of half-dressed North Korean soldiers practicing martial arts and glorifying suicide over capture in a segment on Sunday, praising the DPRK as the "only country" that has come to Russia's aid. The segment ran during a two-hour show that largely focused on U.S.-Israeli strikes against Iran, with an expert telling [...]"

- [China seizes 100 tons of frogs and scallops, possibly from North Korea](#) (2026-03-03 04:06)

A 100-ton shipment of scallops and frogs recently seized by China's coast guard may have originated from North Korea, according to NK News analysis. The Chinese coast guard said it seized a ship carrying the Yezzo scallops and Dybowski's frogs on Feb. 21. Twenty-seven suspects were detained and two trucks were seized in connection to [...]"

- [North Korea has finished new facility at nuclear complex, watchdog says](#) (2026-03-03 03:50)

North Korea has completed external construction of a new facility at its main nuclear research center in Yongbyon, according to the head of the U.N. nuclear watchdog, while continuing to operate its nuclear reactors in support of uranium enrichment. In a statement to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Board of Governors on Monday, Director-General [...]"

- [Ankit Panda: North Korea's deterrence calculus after US strikes on Iran](#) (2026-03-03 02:53)

International security expert Ankit Panda joins the podcast this week to unpack the latest U.S.-Israel strikes on Iran and what they could mean for North Korea's deterrence thinking. The conversation covers what does and doesn't translate to the Korean Peninsula: the impact of geography and escalation dynamics, why saturation tactics and interceptor "magazine depth" matter [...]"

- [Why Khamenei's death could spell the end of North Korea's friendship with Iran](#) (2026-03-02 09:43)

The death of Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei after a series of U.S. and Israeli attacks over the weekend has left a void at the top of Tehran's power structure — and taken one of North Korea's longest-lasting international partners off the board. Khamenei's relationship with the DPRK goes back decades, anchored by a [...]"

- [New Indonesian ambassador to North Korea takes up post in Pyongyang](#) (2026-03-02 08:53)

The new Indonesian ambassador to North Korea has arrived in Pyongyang to lead the embassy, heralding the full resumption of diplomatic activities that were suspended since the pandemic. Indonesian Ambassador to North Korea Gina Yoginda cut a ribbon at the entrance of the reopened mission and toured the facility in Pyongyang on Feb. 21, according [...]

- [Lee urges North Korea to return to talks, rejects ‘unification by absorption’](#) (2026-03-02 07:27)

South Korean President Lee Jae Myung urged North Korea on Sunday to return to dialogue so the two countries can “leave behind the dark past and move forward together toward a new future,” repudiating the goal of unification by force. Lee’s speech to mark March 1 Independence Movement Day came days after Pyongyang reaffirmed that [...]

- [Kim Jong Un lauds cement factory near capital for supporting construction goals](#) (2026-03-02 07:14)

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un visited a key cement production plant near the capital on Sunday, stressing the facility’s role in achieving the “gigantic” construction tasks laid out at last week’s Ninth Party Congress. Kim delivered a “significant speech of encouragement” to workers at the Sangwon Cement Complex, describing them as “ardent revolutionaries” who [...]

- [North Korea has sent 5K containers of munitions to Russia since August: Seoul](#) (2026-03-02 06:56)

North Korea has supplied Russia with around 5,000 containers of munitions over the last six months, the ROK military has assessed, underscoring Pyongyang’s continued support for the war against Ukraine. The new shipments bring the number of containers that the DPRK has provided to roughly 33,000 as of February, up from 28,000 containers in August, [...]

- [UNICEF says it completed two drinking water projects in North Korea last year](#) (2026-03-02 05:41)

UNICEF completed two water supply projects to provide access to safe drinking water for over 23,000 North Koreans last year, according to an agency spokesperson. The water supply systems provide water to five schools and four health care facilities in two counties across two North Korean provinces, Eliane Luthi of UNICEF East Asia and Pacific [...]

- [North Korean condemns US attacks on Iran but doesn’t mention Khamenei’s death](#) (2026-03-02 04:04)

North Korea slammed the U.S. and Israel on Sunday for launching a “war of aggression” against Iran a day earlier without mentioning Tehran’s retaliatory strikes and the death of

Iran's supreme leader. In a statement released through the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA), a DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesperson strongly condemned Washington and Tel Aviv's "shameless [...]"

## Source: NK Pro

- [Breaking down the debate over military exercises on the Korean Peninsula](#) (2026-03-09 03:23)

U.S.-South Korea combined exercises are kicking off this week after some deliberation on the scale of the training by Seoul, based on the impact on potential inter-Korean engagement. While the allies eventually approved of most of the planned exercises, the debate will continue to play out in Seoul, as the South Korean government pushes for [...]. The post [Breaking down the debate over military exercises on the Korean Peninsula](#) appeared first on NK PRO.

- [North Korea goes into overdrive to promote Party Congress plans](#) (2026-03-06 05:55)

the recently concluded Ninth Party Congress this week, depicting the entire country as mobilizing behind the Workers' Party of Korea to implement its plans. Reports on workers, soldiers and party organizations pledging their support for the congress' decisions filled the pages of official outlets daily, while leader Kim Jong Un's inspections of a concrete factory [...]. The post [North Korea goes into overdrive to promote Party Congress plans](#) appeared first on NK PRO.

- [Why health insurance could be coming to North Korea](#) (2026-03-04 02:17)

North Korea appears to be preparing a major shift in how it funds health care, seeking to fix a broken system that has increasingly fallen outside state control. For most of the DPRK's history, free medical care has been a basic promise of the communist state, with the government paying to build hospitals and provide [...]. The post [Why health insurance could be coming to North Korea](#) appeared first on NK PRO.

- [North Korea in February 2026: A month in review and what's ahead](#) (2026-03-03 09:26)

About the Month in Review Every month, NK Pro conducts an in-depth analytic review of news on the Korean Peninsula. This Month in Review covers the period of Feb. 1, 2026 to Feb. 28, 2026. In addition to an executive summary providing top-line findings, the following review includes detailed analysis on a wide range of [...]. The post [North Korea in February 2026: A month in review and what's ahead](#) appeared first on NK PRO.

- [New construction starts at North Korean shipyard, site of failed warship launch](#) (2026-03-03 09:10)

Large new construction recently began at North Korea's Chongjin Shipyard, possibly signaling progress in Pyongyang's efforts to build another destroyer-type warship at the site after a

disastrous failed launch last year, according to NK Pro analysis of satellite imagery. Planet Labs imagery shows digging work started in late January to the south of the outdoor [...] The post New construction starts at North Korean shipyard, site of failed warship launch appeared first on NK PRO.

- [How the Iran strikes could reshape Kim Jong Un’ s calculus on US talks](#) (2026-03-02 09:59)

The U.S. turned on a dime from high-level diplomatic negotiations with Iran on its nuclear program to a full-blown military operation to take out Tehran’ s leadership, an extraordinary sequence of events that could shape North Korea’ s own willingness to engage in talks. For weeks, Oman had brokered talks involving Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi and [...] The post How the Iran strikes could reshape Kim Jong Un’ s calculus on US talks appeared first on NK PRO.

- [Kim Jong Un’ s new five-year weapons plan keeps nukes front and center](#) (2026-03-02 04:47)

North Korea’ s much-anticipated Ninth Party Congress concluded with new announcements about Kim Jong Un’ s core weapons modernization plans, and while the regime offered less information than many had hoped, it still provided a good sense of Kim’ s high-level priorities in the years ahead. In order to “usher in a new era of building a powerful [...] The post Kim Jong Un’ s new five-year weapons plan keeps nukes front and center appeared first on NK PRO.