



## HIGHLIGHT – US WITHDRAWAL OF THE INF TREATY (INTERMEDIATE NUCLEAR FORCE TREATY)

President Donald Trump confirmed on Saturday, October 20, 2018 that the United States would withdraw from the important nuclear weapons treaty that had been concluded with Russia during the Cold War. By this treaty, the two countries had committed themselves to eliminate their nuclear and conventional missiles whose range is between 500 and 5 500 km. “Russia has not respected the treaty. So, we will end the agreement and develop these weapons”, said the US president about the interim treaty signed on December 8, 1987 by the US and Soviet Presidents of the time Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev. For the United States, one of the missiles held by Moscow would have a range of more than 500 kilometers, a system that would violate the treaty. For Moscow, this withdrawal from the United States is "a very dangerous step"; Mikhail Gorbachev, for his part, denounced a lack of wisdom on the part of Donald Trump and calls "all those who cherish a world without nuclear weapons" to convince Washington to reconsider its decision, in order to "preserve life on earth."

The withdrawal of the United States from this treaty could be an open door to rearmament since it had made it possible to avoid a concentration of American and Russian nuclear weapons and warheads, especially on the European continent.



## WASTE – PLANS FOR THE CREATION OF A STATE SOCIETY FOR WASTE MANAGEMENT IN RUSSIA

The news agency RBC reports that the Ministry of Natural Resources and Ecology of the Russian Federation has prepared a draft decree on the creation of a state management company, which will take care of the formation of an integrated municipal solid waste management system. It is expected that the state management company will consolidate data on capacity, storage locations, transportation routes and plans for the creation of new municipal solid waste processing, recycling and storage allocate funds from environmental collection, finance investment projects and buy assets for waste recycling. Recall that according to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Ecology, in Russia every year more than 70 million tons of municipal solid waste are formed, of which only 7% is recycled, more than 90% is placed on landfills sometimes no authorized, so that the measures to combat this problem are necessary and long awaited.



## CLIMATE – The flood threatens, the Hauts-de-Seine hold their breath; PARIS RISK TO BE INONDEED?

In 1910, Paris experienced a week of exceptional flooding, the largest in its history after 1658. Since then, two new floods have succeeded each other in 2016 and 2018. The first, from the end of May to the beginning of June 2016. The rising waters of the Seine reached up to 6 meters in height. Subway stations and museums were closed. It also



## POLLUTION – PARIS'S PEDESTRIANISATION

Paris, a metropolis of more than two million inhabitants seems to suffer from its renown. Indeed, this year it broke the 2003 record in terms of ozone pollution. This pollutant gas is mainly emitted into the air by car's activities. Efforts on the part of the Paris City Hall have been implemented to limit air pollution. Anne HIDALGO made a fight during her term. She is also the author of a book published September 26, 2018 entitled BREATHE to justify the measures taken to limit this "asphyxiation".

With a global budget of nearly 90 million euros, the City of Paris launches a "pedestrian plan" that aims to reduce the car's place in the capital. This plan is largely inspired by the International Charter for Walking, which aims to create healthy, viable and effective communities where people choose to walk. These measures aim to "promote urban walking as a mode of travel" and make the streets of the capital "safer and more welcoming". Each borough will have a "children's street" pedestrianized and punctuated with games. "Meeting areas" will be set up, particularly around parks. Some central boulevards will be transformed into a "sportive, green and cultural walk".



## FISHING INDUSTRY –

### AGREEMENT TO PREVENT UNREGULATED FISHING IN CENTRAL ARCTIC OCEAN SIGNED

required the intervention of the Civil Guard.

The second was on January 2018, the warning signal was "Yellow". Still, the municipality decided to close certain axes.

The government, worry by these situations, took measures to avoid flood damage. The Flood Risk Prevention Plan (PPRI) of the Paris Department aims to characterize the risk of overflow flooding of the Seine and to recommend measures to reduce the vulnerability of property and people. It is a regulatory document drawn up and approved by the State services in consultation with the Paris's government and the inhabitants, after public inquiry. This plan is a public utility easement for any planning permission located in a risk zone. This plan may be enough to protect the city of Paris from bad weather.



## CASE LAW

### Confirmation of the Netherlands' conviction, The Hague Court of Appeal, Tuesday, 9 October 2018

The Hague Court of Appeal confirmed Tuesday, October 9, the Urgenda verdict of June 24, 2015, which concluded that the Dutch state was not doing enough to protect its citizens against climate change. The Court went even further than the previous decision in stating that failure to take adequate measures against climate change constituted a violation of human rights. To protect the lives and family life of its citizens, the Dutch government must now reduce its emissions by at least 25% by the end of 2020 (compared to 1990 levels). This means that the Dutch state needs to enhance its current climate ambitions and take bold action now. This historic victory is also a big step forward for climate justice. It strengthens the fight for climate justice around the world, including the Milieu Defensie climate campaign against Shell in the Netherlands, the Klimaatzaak action in Belgium, the YouthVsGov case in the United States carried by Our Children's Trust.

According to the European Climate Foundation, this decision has a wider scope than that of the Netherlands alone, since the reasoning of the court is likely to apply to all countries of the world.

On October 3, 2018, in Greenland representatives of Denmark, the European Union, Iceland, Canada, China, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Russia, the United States and Japan signed the agreement to prevent unregulated fishing on the high seas in the Central Arctic Ocean. The objective of this agreement is to prevent unregulated fishing in the high seas sector of the Arctic Ocean through precautionary conservation and management measures as part of a long-term strategy aimed at to preserve the health of marine ecosystems and to ensure the conservation and sustainable exploitation of fish stocks.

According to this document, the parties to the agreement undertake to authorize vessels entitled to fly its flag to engage in commercial fishing in the Agreement Area only in accordance with the conservation measures and sustainable fishing management, adopted by one or more regional or sub-regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements. In addition, the parties agreed to establish a joint scientific research and monitoring program to help them better understand the ecosystems of the Agreement Area.

The validity period of the agreement is 16 years from the date of its entry into force and may be extended for five years in the absence of a formal objection by the parties. Thus, the conclusion of this agreement, which promotes international cooperation in the field of Arctic fishing, is an example of the application by States of the precautionary principle.



## THE WORLD –

### THE CARBON TAX SUPPORTER RECEIVED THE NOBEL ECONOMY PRIZE 2018

The 2018 Nobel Prize in Economics was awarded to Paul Romer and William Nordhouse for integrating climate change and technological innovation into long-term macroeconomic analysis. As stated in the Nobel Committee press release, William Nordhouse was the first to create an integrated assessment model describing the global interaction between the economy and the climate. For many years, it has proven the effectiveness of the price-enhancing mechanism for reducing carbon emissions compared to direct government regulation by setting emission standards. For example, raising product prices through the carbon tax will, he says, encourage businesses and consumers to look for cleaner products and encourage the development of new technologies that will make these products competitive.

Perhaps a clear example of the influence of William Nordhouse's ideas is that ExxonMobil, one of the largest oil and gas companies, has announced a \$ 1 million investment in a tax lobbying company on carbon.



## ENERGY –

### THE BALANCE SHEET OF WIND TURBINES' USE IN FRANCE

A wind turbine is a device that transforms the wind's kinetic energy into mechanical energy, which is then most often transformed into electrical energy. The wind power sector in France has gradually gained importance: France ranked 4th in Europe in 2017 for wind power generation. The size and the geographical position of its territory give to France the second European wind potential after Great Britain, a potential that France seems to want to use wisely.

France Énergie Éolienne, an association that represents, promotes and defends wind energy in France, indicates that wind power will play a key role in the French energy landscape in the coming years and is a mature and competitive industrial sector to the needs of environmental performance and securing the French electricity grid. The association also highlights the growth of employment in the sector. According to the Observatoire de l'éolien 2018, wind power has created 1230 direct and indirect jobs in France in 2017.

Only reservations were expressed as to the effectiveness of the device. Wind turbines produce barely 5% of the national energy, ten times less than the result promised ten years ago. In addition, the construction of a wind turbine requires significant civil engineering work as well as quantities of non-negligible materials. They also emit CO2 during their construction and end of life. These remarks make it possible to question the profitability of wind turbines.