



YOUR



EU NEWS OF MARCH 2025

- Talks for Ukraine Peacekeeping Forces
- DMA in action: US tech giants get fined
- Selection of 47 Strategic Projects for EU critical raw materials
- A €1.3B investment for AI, cybersecurity and digital skills
- Albanian migration centers turned into repatriation hubs





20th March 2025, London (UK)

Military leaders from 31 countries envisioned a "reassurance force" of 10,000 to 30,000 troops to:



monitor and enforce a ceasefire



prevent further aggression



secure critical infrastructure

However, this European-led peacekeeping force would depend on ceasefire efforts between the US and Russia to be successful. And there are still points of contention, such





duration ceasefire





control over the seized territories



idea of an UN-led transitional government

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TALKS FOR UKRAINE PEACEKEEPING FORCES





25th March 2025, Brussels (Belgium)

Following investigations and warnings, Apple and Meta now face fines for breaching the Digital Markets Act (DMA).



imposition of restrictions on app developers



under scrutiny for its "pay-or-consent" model

However, the fines are likely to be less severe than originally expected.

As US President Donald Trump has hinted at possible retaliatory tariffs and the EU wants to avoid escalating tensions, the fines, which can amount to up to 10% of a company's global annual turnover, will be reduced to mitigate the risk of a transatlantic trade conflict.

DMA IN ACTION: US TECH GIANTS
GET FINED



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25th March 2025, Brussels (Belgium)

In line with the implementation of the <u>Critical Raw</u>

<u>Materials Act</u> (CRMA), which

sets targets for 2030:



extract 10% of EU strategic raw materials needs



process 40%



recycle 25%

the Commission approved 47 strategic projects in 13 Member States.

The strategic projects have three main objectives:



diversify supply to reduce dependency on non-EU countries



use environmentally sound processes to extract and process CRMs



promote economic growth by boosting local economies

An initial investment of EUR 22.5 billion will be provided, as well as shorter approval procedures, taking no longer than 27 months.

SELECTION OF 47 STRATEGIC PROJECTS FOR EU CRITICAL RAW MATERIALS





28th March 2025, Brussels (Belgium)

With the adoption of the 2025-2027 "Digital Europe" (DIGITAL) work program, the goal for the next two years will be to strengthen Europe's technological sovereignty and drive its digital transformation forward.

use of AI by private companies and public administrations

cloud and data

Investments will focus on priorities such as the AI Factory Initiative, the EU Cybersecurity Reserve, the Destination Earth initiative, or the European Digital Innovation Hubs (EDIH).

The next calls for proposals are expected to be launched in April 2025, with further calls to follow later in the year.

A €1.3B INVESTMENT FOR AI, CYBERSECURITY, AND DIGITAL SKILLS

OF WORK

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28th March 2025, Rome (Italy)

Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni's cabinet has passed a decree to transform migration centers in Albania into repatriation hubs.

The decree allows
Albanian centers,
staffed by Italian person

Image retrieved

staffed by Italian personnel and operating under Italian jurisdiction, with Albania providing external security, to be used for :



initial processing of asylum applications



detention of migrants who have been issued with expulsion orders

However, Italian courts have challenges such practices, because it violates migrants' rights and international asylum standards, and have taken the case to the European Court of Justice.

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ALBANIAN MIGRATION CENTERS TURNED INTO REPATRIATION HUBS



- Sumatra_innovation
- in Sumatra Innovation
- info@sumatra-innovation.be