DAILY EDITION

OVERLOOKED

Under-covered news from around the globe. Every story, five layers deep.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2026 75 STORIES · THEOVERLOOKED.NEWS

BREAKING · MIDDLE EAST · HEBRON

Israeli forces withdraw from Hebron after a 10-day siege that displaced or affected 3,300 Palestinians, governor says



Explainer image: the old city of Hebron. Morjana Jalal, CC BY-SA 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

Hebron Governor Khaled Dudin said Monday that Israeli forces had withdrawn from the city in the occupied West Bank after a 10-day siege, that Palestinian security forces had taken full control, and that displaced families could return. Israel imposed the siege on Oct. 23 after two Palestinians shot dead two Israeli soldiers and wounded three; Israeli forces later killed the attackers. The Hebron Governorate says more than 3,300 Palestinians were displaced or otherwise affected and 15 homes and other structures were demolished.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

During the operation Israeli forces imposed closures on the city and surrounding villages, seized Palestinian homes in some areas and turned them into military posts (Al Jazeera). Dudin: “Palestinian security forces have taken full control of the area following the Israeli withdrawal.”

L2 **WHO'S AFFECTED**

More than 3,300 Palestinians were displaced or otherwise affected, particularly in Al-Jalda and Ein Deir Baha, and 15 homes and other structures were demolished, according to the Hebron Governorate. The Hebron municipality (city council) says 327 shops in the city were closed, and Sada News reports about 80,000 students were kept out of school. Civil Defense told residents not to touch suspicious objects or enter damaged buildings before they are checked.

L3 **WHY IT'S QUIET**

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] West Bank operations draw far less U.S. coverage than Gaza.

L4 **DEEPER IMPACT**

The Hebron municipality puts direct daily economic losses at more than 12 million shekels (about $3.8m), infrastructure losses at more than 6 million shekels (about $1.9m), and health and environmental losses at about 500,000 shekels (about $160,000), Sada News reports. The governorate says the operation damaged the local economy and infrastructure and disrupted education.

L5 **FULL CONTEXT**

The operation involved forced displacement, demolitions of homes, other structures and commercial properties, and damage to infrastructure, Al Jazeera reports. The displacement, demolition and loss figures come from the Hebron Governorate and the Hebron municipality; the reports did not include figures from the Israeli military.

SOURCES Al Jazeera (Al Jazeera Staff and Anadolu): Hebron governor says Israeli forces withdraw from city after 10-day siege · Sada News Agency: After days of aggression.. Withdrawal of the occupation from the entire city of Hebron - Sada News Agency

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/hebron-israeli-siege-ends-3300-displaced

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UKRAINE Hackers hijack Ukraine's and Russia's air raid apps, sending fake nuclear and radiation alerts

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YEMEN Houthis push to within 80 km of Aden, their closest to Yemen's government capital since 2015

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INDIA Tens of thousands rally in Delhi demanding India's election chief resign after 130 million names are cut from voter rolls

ZAMBIA Zambia's post-election crackdown: HRW documents 14 apparent disappearances, 61 beatings and an opposition ex-minister's killing

ARGENTINA Nearly 100 Argentine intellectuals break ranks on the Falklands as Milei's clash with Britain over offshore oil heads to court

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THAILAND Thai activist who called out the monarchy dressed as Harry Potter now faces more than 34 years in prison

SOUTH AFRICA Johannesburg's illegal gold miners take the blame for sinkholes, but experts point at big mining

SUDAN Sudanese survivors and rights groups fight the UAE's pick for UN secretary-general

YEMEN Yemen's Taiz under Houthi siege: governor says the city is being sent "back to the stone age"

CHINA Beijing's queer film festival, running since 2001, cancelled after police pressure

SYRIA Bread up tenfold: two years after Assad, Syrians say they're poorer than ever

RUSSIA "They chose to strangle us": Russia's Novaya Gazeta shuts down after 30 years

POLAND Riot police deployed at Poland's top court as Tusk moves to prosecute its judges

BRAZIL Brazil's defeated far-right candidate flees to Miami and briefly declares himself "true president-elect"

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VENEZUELA Venezuela's new foreign minister is a 35-year-old former opposition aide, and his predecessor is sent to London to recover $4bn in gold

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HAITI El Salvador sends more than 2,000 troops to Haiti to find four missing soldiers

INDIA India caps cancer drug mark-ups after a dying bank clerk's case reached the Supreme Court

ARGENTINA Milei pitches Patagonia as an unregulated home for AI data centres, and sheep ranchers are leasing land for one

COLOMBIA “Either we save ourselves or we’re screwed”: Colombia’s government warns of a 2027 default unless Congress passes its rescue law

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO Trinidad and Tobago breaks Caribbean ranks to back the U.S. embargo on Cuba at the UN

SOUTH AFRICA South Africa’s Gauteng shuts 20 liquor outlets after 7,322 inspections in a crackdown on gender-based violence

UNITED STATES Osage Nation is plugging abandoned oil wells faster after the BIA called them "not a federal function"

SRI LANKA Sri Lanka sends soldiers to protect elephants from snares, explosive bait and illegal electric fences

UNITED STATES Minnesota judges order a county to account for every child it placed through Red Lake Nation's seized child welfare agency

TUVALU Tuvalu replaces its 100-year-old public health law

UNITED STATES Border wall contractors unearthed Native American remains in Arizona's Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, weeks after an elder warned they would

SENEGAL Senegal's own ruling party keeps blocking the budget that would unlock a $2.2 billion IMF deal, with a full vote on Tuesday

NIGERIA Africa launches its own $5 billion energy bank after a 20-month delay, as Western lenders pull back from oil and gas

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ZIMBABWE Zimbabwe's top court reserves judgment on a challenge to the amendment stretching terms to seven years and letting Parliament pick the president

ARGENTINA Argentina's state workers' union plans protests at 27 airports Friday, warning underfunding is putting flight safety at risk

UNITED STATES Cherokee Nation lawmakers move to oppose Oklahoma's $4 billion Inola aluminum smelter, demanding tribal consultation

FIJI Fiji's military tells Parliament it no longer wants immunity for its three coups and asks for a truth commission instead

SOUTH AFRICA Ballot delays keep 217 Cape Town voting stations from opening on the first day of special voting before South Africa's local elections

GEORGIA Footage of dogs dumped in pits near a Tbilisi cemetery sparks protests and a criminal probe in Georgia

UNITED STATES In rural Warren, Pennsylvania, a 1917 family pharmacy is becoming the backstop for a shrinking health system

UNITED STATES A tiny Kentucky energy agency is suing more than 20 landowners to force a 53-mile gas pipeline across their farms

CAMBODIA Cambodia's "waiting villages" for 20,000 people still displaced by the Thai border conflict will become permanent, Hun Manet says

MALAWI Malawi's president comes home after 25 days in South Africa to fuel queues and blackouts, his fifth such trip in a year

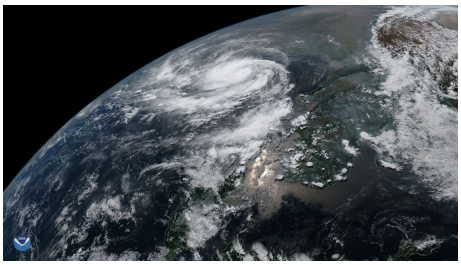
MADAGASCAR Scam compounds chased out of Cambodia resurfaced in Madagascar, where Africans say they were lured and forced to defraud Americans

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BREAKING · ASIA · AMARAVATI

India evacuates thousands as a second cyclone in a week bears down on Andhra Pradesh

UPDATE: The IMD warns of a storm surge of about 1.5 to 2 metres above the astronomical tide, very likely to flood low-lying areas of south coastal Andhra Pradesh at landfall, forecast between Nellore and Narsapur, south of Ongole, between 11:30pm Monday and 4am Tuesday IST (about 1pm to 5:30pm ET Monday). Tamil Nadu has sent 500 electricity workers in 25 teams to help restore power.



Explainer image: a tropical cyclone seen from space. NOAA, Public domain via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

Andhra Pradesh began evacuating low-lying coastal areas on Monday as Cyclone Murasu approached, less than a week after Cyclone Arnab struck the same coast and killed six people. About 2,000 people had been moved by Monday, with plans to evacuate about 30,000. The IMD expects Murasu to cross the south Andhra Pradesh coast near Ongole between 11:30pm Monday and early Tuesday local time as a severe cyclonic storm with winds of about 100-110 km/h and gusts to 120 km/h.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

UPDATE: An IMD bulletin based on 1430 IST observations put Murasu about 110 km from Nellore, with winds of 100-110 km/h gusting to 120 km/h, and forecast a peak surge over Bapatla and Krishna and Prakasam districts. Prakhar Jain, head of the state disaster authority: "We are planning to evacuate some 30,000 people." IMD: Murasu "is very likely to ... cross south Andhra Pradesh coast as a severe cyclonic storm with wind speeds of around 100 to 110 kilometres per hour."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Coastal residents of Nellore, Prakasam, Bapatla and Krishna districts, which Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan said face severe impact; fishermen told not to go to sea; schools closed in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Odisha. Chief Minister Naidu said 6,000 to 8,000 electrical poles could be damaged, a "severe threat to power supply." Tamil Nadu Electricity Minister R Nirmal Kumar said the state deployed 500 electricity personnel in 25 teams at Chief Minister Naidu's request. Extremely heavy rain is likely at one or two places in Bapatla, Prakasam, Nellore, Chittoor and Tirupati districts. Odisha placed its southern districts on high alert; Disaster Management Minister Suresh Pujari named Ganjam, Gajapati, Rayagada, Koraput and Malkangiri.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Indian cyclones are routine news abroad unless deaths are high, and U.S. coverage is consumed by the midterms.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Six NDRF and seven state response teams were pre-deployed, three NDRF teams from Tamil Nadu. Rain is expected over Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Odisha and Chhattisgarh until Wednesday even as the storm weakens. [Analysis · OVERLOOKED] back-to-back storms hit a region whose homes and crops were already damaged by Arnab.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Murasu formed over the Bay of Bengal, which CNA describes as a major region for tropical cyclones that has spawned deadly storms on India's east coast. Arnab struck the same coastline on Oct 28, killing six and destroying dozens of homes and crops; Murasu is expected to be less intense.

SOURCES Al Jazeera (AFP and Reuters): Thousands evacuated as India braces for second cyclone in a week · CNA (Reuters): India evacuates thousands ahead of second cyclone in a week · Indian Express: As Cyclone Murasu nears, Andhra braces for landfall; Odisha mobilises rescue teams · India Meteorological Department: 3-hourly bulletin, Severe Cyclonic Storm Murasu (1430 IST, Nov 2)

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/india-cyclone-murasu-andhra-pradesh-second-in-a-week

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BREAKING · MIDDLE EAST · ADEN

Yemen's war spills toward Saudi Arabia as government forces push into Houthi-held al-Jawf

The Saudi-led coalition said it intercepted a Houthi ballistic missile aimed at southern Saudi Arabia on Monday, a day after downing a drone, and Saudi authorities briefly issued danger alerts for Abha, Khamis Mushait, Taif and Najran. Houthi media reported seven people wounded in coalition strikes in Hodeidah. Yemeni government forces are pressing an offensive in al-Jawf, Marib and al-Bayda, claims Al Jazeera could not verify.



Explainer image: a relief map of Yemen. Carport, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Coalition spokesman Turki al-Maliki said defences "intercepted and destroyed a ballistic missile" targeting Saudi Arabia's southern region. Saudi Civil Defence warned residents against "filming, publishing or sharing information" about attacks.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Civilians in Hodeidah, where Houthi media said four were wounded at Ras Isa port and three at an oil company site in Bajil; residents of southern Saudi cities under alerts; about one million people in besieged Taiz (see our related story on the Houthi siege of Taiz), where 120 health centres have stopped operating and 66 more are close to shutting.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Yemen's ground war is overshadowed by the Iran conflict and Red Sea shipping coverage, and casualty claims on both sides are hard to verify.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Army spokesman al-Nazili claimed 1,272 "targeting operations" in 24 hours and about 500 Houthi fighters killed, which Al Jazeera could not verify. At least 23 trucks were damaged or overturned in two weeks trying alternative routes into Taiz.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

The Houthis seized Sanaa in 2014. Full-scale fighting reignited in September when they made gains on the Red

Sea coast, and the government launched Operation Dawn of Yemen last month. Yemen has roughly 43 million people.

SOURCES Al Jazeera staff: Saudi-led coalition intercepts a missile as fighting rages in Yemen's al-Jawf
Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/yemen-al-jawf-offensive-houthi-missile-saudi

BREAKING · EUROPE · RIGA

Latvia told residents near its Russia and Belarus borders to take cover as a suspected drone entered its airspace

Latvia's military said a flying object briefly entered its airspace near Kraslava and Ludza on the Russia and Belarus border on Nov 1, warning residents to "Go indoors, follow the two-wall principle!" The threat ended within an hour. Latvia launched a BLAZE interceptor drone and self-destructed it to avoid crossing into Russian or Belarusian airspace; the object's origin is unclear.



Explainer image: Krāslava, Latvia. CC0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED
The Latvian military posted on X: "Take action! We inform you that there is a threat in the airspace of Latvia." Less than an hour later it said the threat had left.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED
Residents of southeast Latvia's border towns, told to shelter and not approach low-flying or suspicious objects.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET
[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] It ended within an hour with no reported damage, and the object's origin is still unclear.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT
On Oct 18 a likely drone entered Lithuanian airspace and exploded, sending residents to shelters and damaging a civilian vehicle, and NATO jets were scrambled. On Oct 17, Romanian F-16s shot down two drones in Romanian airspace.

L5 FULL CONTEXT
European leaders have warned Russia could use drones for hybrid attacks testing NATO's Article 5. Ukrainian drones have also strayed into NATO airspace, as with a drone carrying a 5-kilogram warhead found in southern Estonia in June, partly because Russia diverts them with electronic warfare.

SOURCES The Kyiv Independent: 'Suspicious object' enters Latvian airspace near Belarus, Russia border
Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/latvia-suspicious-object-airspace-kraslava-ludza

BREAKING · EUROPE · KYIV

Hackers hijack Ukraine's and Russia's air raid apps, sending fake nuclear and radiation alerts

Ukraine's Air Alert app was apparently hacked on Sunday night, sending users false warnings of a radiation threat in Kyiv, a chemical attack, street fighting and an incoming Oreshnik missile. Hours later Russia's emergencies ministry said its own warning app suffered "a massive cyberattack" that spread false information; a pro-Ukrainian partisan group claimed responsibility. Both came minutes before the Kherson ceasefire ended.



Explainer image: an air-raid siren. Nikolai Bulykin, CC BY-SA 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Alerts began around 22:47. One read "Radiation threat declared in Kyiv"; another, in Russian: "Hi! There will be a nuclear alert across Ukraine. Don't worry, it's Oreshnik flying." All-clears came at 23:53. The Air Force: "There is no radiation threat! Stay calm."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

App users across Ukraine; in the Lviv region, the radiation signal was played on loudspeakers. Russian app users reportedly received fake nuclear warnings. Vinnytsia's Natalya Zabolotna warned the message's link could be phishing.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Ukraine war coverage in the U.S. focuses on front lines and diplomacy; a cyber incident with no casualties is easy to miss.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

SPRAVDI, Ukraine's Centre for Strategic Communications, blamed Russia. Partisan group Atesh claimed the Russian hack on Telegram with laughing emojis; a screenshot it shared telling Russians to stock up for three weeks has not been verified by the BBC. Ukraine's Centre for Countering Disinformation advises people to turn on smartphone notifications and pay attention to sirens.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

The alerts came minutes before a localised Kherson-region ceasefire ended at 23:00 Sunday; Al Jazeera says it was the longest truce of the war, set up to evacuate civilians from Russian-occupied Oleshky. The Air Alert app is backed by Ukraine's Ministry of Digital Transformation.

SOURCES BBC News (Jamie Whitehead): Ukraine air raid app apparently hacked as users receive false radiation alert, Air Force says · Al Jazeera (AFP, Reuters): Russia, Ukraine air raid alert apps hit by cyberattacks after truce ends

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/ukraine-russia-air-raid-apps-hacked-fake-nuclear-alerts

BREAKING · LATIN AMERICA · PLANADAS, COLOMBIA

Truck bomb near army base in Colombia's Planadas kills four, including a 2-month-old baby

An explosives-laden dump truck blew up near the army's 17th Infantry Battalion in Planadas, southern Tolima, on Sunday night, killing at least four civilians, including a two-month-old baby girl, and injuring 17, officials and the local hospital said. The blast badly damaged the town hospital, and the mayor imposed a curfew. The toll is preliminary and may rise. Authorities preliminarily blame FARC dissidents, but outlets name different factions and no group has been formally identified.



Explainer image: Nevado del Tolima, Tolima department, Colombia. Jorgegutierrezpareja, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

On the night of Nov. 1, a dump truck loaded with explosive cylinders detonated in the Aeropuerto neighborhood of Planadas, near the 17th Infantry Battalion "General Domingo Caicedo" (Caracol). Drones carrying explosives were also reported (Caracol; UPI), and Mayor Juan Camilo Hueje said drones were flying over the town (DW). Preliminary toll: four dead, including a 2-month-old girl, and 17 injured, per the hospital report (Caracol; Semana); La FM reported about 15 injured. Caracol said other bodies were awaiting identification by Medicina Legal, so the toll may rise.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Civilians in the Aeropuerto neighborhood; La FM reported damage up to three blocks away, and Semana reported 170 homes affected. Gov. Adriana Magali Matiz told La FM the hospital was 80% destroyed. The wounded were treated at the Santo Domingo Savio school (Caracol). The mayor decreed a curfew, and the CEATI health centre was evacuated (Caracol).

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] It happened in a remote mountain municipality in southern Tolima, and most detailed coverage is in Spanish-language Colombian media. BBC and UPI carried it in English.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Matiz said the attack was aimed at the military unit but went off early (La FM); Semana's military sources say the same is being checked. Portafolio counts four attacks attributed to dissidents in Cauca, Huila and Tolima over the weekend, with five dead and at least 12 injured, and reports the governor asked for three municipalities to be militarized. The army commander, Maj. Gen. José Bertulfo Soto Sánchez, ordered stepped-up operations and two platoons were sent (El Tiempo; Semana).

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Attribution is preliminary. El Tiempo and Semana point to the Gerónimo Galeano structure of the dissidents led by alias Iván Mordisco; UPI says regional authorities named the Ismael Ruiz Front, a faction of the main former-FARC dissident bloc. BBC says armed groups have stepped up attacks amid an offensive by President Abelardo de la Espriella. The 2016 peace deal with the FARC ended decades of conflict, but its implementation is slow (DW). On Oct. 28, Matiz warned that four people had been killed in three days in southern Tolima, with preliminary reports pointing to illegal mining in Ataco and Chaparral (El Tiempo).

SOURCES BBC News: Bomb attack in western Colombia kills four, including baby, local official says · El Tiempo (Spanish): Estructura Gerónimo Galeano de Iván Mordisco, señalada del ataque con explosivos que dejó muertos y heridos en Planadas, Tolima · Noticias Caracol (Spanish): Atentado con explosivos en Planadas, Tolima, dejó cuatro muertos, entre ellos una bebé de dos meses · La FM (Spanish): Atentado en Planadas deja 4 muertos y destruye el hospital · Semana (Spanish): Las hipótesis detrás del

atentado en Tolima que dejó cuatro muertos: disidencias de Mordisco serían las responsables · Portafolio (Spanish): Atentado en Tolima dejó un hospital con 80% de daños: gobernadora pide militarizar tres municipios · DW Español: Ola de violencia en Colombia: camión bomba mata a cuatro personas, incluida una bebé · El País (Cali, Spanish): Atentado en Planadas, Tolima: cuatro muertos, incluida una bebé de dos meses · UPI (Macarena Hermosilla): Explosives attack in Colombia kills four, including infant

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/colombia-planadas-tolima-truck-bomb-baby-killed

BREAKING · MIDDLE EAST · ADEN, YEMEN

Houthis push to within 80 km of Aden, their closest to Yemen's government capital since 2015

Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthis have advanced to within 80 km (50 miles) of Aden, the internationally recognised government's temporary capital, four military sources told Reuters on Monday, their closest since the early months of the war in 2015. Fighting was underway at a camp at the entrance to Tur al-Bahah district after the Houthis took all of Al-Maqatirah district, which overlooks the road linking Taiz to Aden.



Explainer image: Aden, Yemen. , Public domain via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Four military sources told Reuters the Houthis are within 80 km of Aden. They launched an assault on government positions in Al-Maqatirah three days ago and have taken the whole district, forcing government troops to retreat toward Tur al-Bahah. On Monday fighting was underway at a military camp at the entrance to Tur al-Bahah district, about 50 km from Lahj's provincial capital and 80 km from Aden. Houthi official Hamid Rizq posted a video, which Reuters could not immediately verify, that he said showed fighters entering Souq al-Rabouh in Maqatirah.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Residents of Aden, the government's temporary capital since 2015, where Houthi attacks have intensified: the group struck Aden airport on Wednesday after warning people to evacuate, and the presidential palace was hit in October. Taiz, Yemen's third-largest city, has been encircled since early October; the siege has displaced more than 100,000 people and caused shortages of food, fuel and medicine. The Maqatirah route has been the last link between government-held territory and Taiz.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] The advance is known only through military sources quoted on one Reuters wire report, and Yemen's information minister did not immediately comment. U.S. coverage of the region is dominated by the wider war with Iran.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Reuters says the offensive has opened a volatile new front in the wider US-Israeli war on Iran, drawing both the Houthis and Saudi Arabia deeper in: the Houthis have escalated attacks on Saudi Arabia, and the Saudi-led coalition has stepped up strikes. The military sources say the advance lets the Houthis outflank government forces along the mountains overlooking the Bab el-Mandeb Strait, which government troops had cleared only weeks ago.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

The war began in 2014, when the Houthis drove the government from Sanaa; in 2015 they briefly entered Aden before being driven out. A 2022 UN-brokered truce had largely halted major attacks until the current violence

shattered it. In September the Houthis swept down the Red Sea coast and seized territory along the Bab el-Mandeb, a key shipping lane and route for Saudi oil exports to Asia.

SOURCES Reuters via Al-Monitor (Mohammed Ghobari): Yemen's Houthis advance to within 80 km of Aden, sources say · Reuters via The Straits Times: Yemen's Houthis advance to within 80 km of Aden, sources say · Reuters via Aaj English TV: Yemen's Houthis advance to within 80 km of Aden, sources say

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/yemen-houthis-advance-80km-aden-tur-al-bahah

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BREAKING · AFRICA · SOKOTO, NIGERIA

Suspected bandits ambush police officers on Nigeria's Sokoto–Zamfara road; several reported killed

Suspected bandits ambushed a vehicle carrying Nigeria Police officers from Sokoto State to Zamfara State for a special-duty assignment on Monday, and several officers were reported killed, Sahara Reporters, Daily Post and other Nigerian outlets said. Police have NOT confirmed the attack: Sahara Reporters said the Sokoto and Zamfara police spokespersons told it they were unaware of the incident. The death toll is unconfirmed. The News Chronicle reports at least five people killed; Daily Post and Sahara Reporters say the number is not yet clear.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

UNCONFIRMED: Police have not confirmed the attack or a death toll. On Monday, Nov. 2, suspected bandits attacked a vehicle taking police officers from Sokoto State to Zamfara State for a special-duty assignment, "killing some of the personnel," Sahara Reporters said. Daily Post said the exact number of casualties and whether any personnel survived "remains unclear." Only The News Chronicle gives a figure: at least five people killed and several others injured, according to reports it obtained.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Photographs obtained by Sahara Reporters showed the bodies of some of the officers inside a bus; their hands and legs appeared to have been tied with ropes. A video described by Parallel Facts showed a white-and-green Zamfara State Mass Transit vehicle riddled with bullet holes, its windows shattered. Who the officers were, and how many survived, has not been reported.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] When Sahara Reporters asked for comment, the Sokoto and Zamfara police spokespersons, Rufai Ahmed and Yezid Abubakar, said they were unaware of the incident. Ahmed referred it to the zonal police spokesperson, Ambrusa, who had not replied when it filed. The News Chronicle and Parallel Facts also reported no official police statement. So far coverage comes only from Nigerian outlets.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Sahara Reporters notes that Zamfara, Sokoto, Kebbi, Katsina and Kaduna states are among those in the North-West still facing attacks by armed groups on communities and highways. Here, the security forces themselves were the target.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Two days earlier, on Saturday, Oct. 31, Zamfara police spokesperson DSP Yazid Abubakar said in a statement that officers had repelled an attempted bandit attack on Bukuyum and that more than 30 bodies, suspected to be those of neutralised bandits, had been found nearby (Politics Nigeria). The toll, the victims' identities and who carried out Monday's attack are all still unknown. We will update this story when police confirm.

SOURCES Sahara Reporters: BREAKING: Bandits Kill Nigerian Police Officers Travelling From Sokoto To Zamfara For Special Duty · Daily Post Nigeria (Vanessa Onah): Terrorists ambush Police convoy travelling to Zamfara · The News Chronicle (Esther Okpe): BREAKING: Gunmen Attack Police Vehicle Along Sokoto-Zamfara Road, Kill Five · Parallel Facts: BREAKING: Several Police Officers Killed as Terrorists Ambush Their Vehicle Along Sokoto-Zamfara Road · Politics Nigeria (Damilare Adeleye): BREAKING: Bandits

BREAKING · ASIA · BANGKOK

Myanmar airstrikes hit a maternity clinic and a school, killing at least 15 including a week-old baby

Myanmar military airstrikes over the weekend killed at least 15 people, including a week-old baby girl, hitting a makeshift maternity clinic in Arakan Army-held Mrauk-U in Rakhine state and a school in Loikaw, Kayah state, an ethnic armed group, an aid worker and rights monitors told Reuters on Monday. The tolls come from those sources and have not been independently verified. A spokesperson for the military-backed government did not immediately respond to Reuters' requests for comment.



Explainer image: Mrauk-U, Rakhine state, Myanmar. Go-Myanmar.com, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

On Sunday, Nov. 1, airstrikes hit four townships in western Rakhine state: a bridge in Kyauktaw, locations in Kyaukpyu and Pauktaw, and a makeshift clinic and maternity ward in Mrauk-U, killing at least 12 people and wounding 32, according to an Arakan Army spokesperson and an aid worker. A day earlier, on Saturday, Oct. 31, an airstrike hit a school in Loikaw, Kayah state, during classes, killing three students and wounding five, the Karenni Human Rights Group (KnHRG) said. Together that is at least 15 dead.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

The week-old baby girl, who has a surviving twin, was due to go home the next day but was "crushed and killed when the building collapsed from the blast," said Mrauk-U-based aid worker Wai Hun Aung. Four other people, including healthcare workers, also died, he said. Three schoolchildren died in Loikaw. Thailand's government says the conflict's spillover has damaged homes and injured at least one person on the Thai side of the border.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] The casualty figures and accounts come from the Arakan Army, a local aid worker and Karenni rights monitors, all on the opposition side; the military-backed government did not immediately comment. The only English-language coverage we found was the Reuters dispatch and its syndicated copies.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

KnHRG and Banyar Khun Aung, secretary of the Karenni Interim Executive Council, said a Y-12 transport aircraft and a fighter jet dropped more than 20 bombs on the Loikaw school, and Banyar Khun Aung said there were no military movements or clashes in the area. "Targeting a school where young children are learning and repeatedly bombing is an inhumane act that amounts to a war crime," he said. Thai fighter jets are flying air patrols, and Thai Prime Minister Anutin Charnvirakul said his government has urged Myanmar to exercise caution.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Myanmar has been in civil war since the military ousted Aung San Suu Kyi's elected government in a 2021 coup; the UN estimates 100,000 people have been killed and more than 3.5 million displaced. Coup leader turned president Min Aung Hlaing's military has support from China, India and Russia, and his administration has gained growing international recognition, including secret talks with U.S. officials, Reuters reports. His forces increasingly rely on airstrikes, powered by jet fuel obtained mostly from Iran, Reuters reported earlier this year. UN investigators in August accused the military of deliberate aerial attacks on civilian buildings including schools and hospitals; Myanmar's foreign ministry said the military "exercises maximum restraint to avoid civilian harm."

A month earlier, strikes on camps for displaced people in Rakhine's Kyauktaw and Ponnagyun townships killed at least 58 people. The government has said it is waging a legitimate campaign against "terrorists."

SOURCES Reuters (via Yahoo News): Newborn among 15 killed as Myanmar military strikes maternity clinic and school, sources say · The Straits Times (Reuters copy): Newborn among 15 killed as Myanmar military strikes maternity clinic and school, sources say

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/myanmar-airstrikes-mrauk-u-maternity-clinic-loikaw-school-newborn-killed

BREAKING · NORTH AMERICA · SHIPROCK, N.M.

Navajo Nation's Shiprock faces major San Juan River flood, second in 10 days

The National Weather Service in Albuquerque upgraded its forecast for the San Juan River at Shiprock, on the Navajo Nation, from moderate to major flooding at 9:32 a.m. MST Monday. The river was at 16.4 feet at 9 a.m. MST, above its 15.5-foot flood stage, and is forecast to crest at 20.7 feet late tonight, with the warning in effect until Wednesday afternoon. Navajo Police at Shiprock asked everyone living within a half mile of the river to leave on Sunday. It is the second flood at Shiprock in about 10 days.



Explainer image: Shiprock, New Mexico, on the Navajo Nation. Bowie Snodgrass, CC BY 2.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

The National Weather Service in Albuquerque, in a 9:32 a.m. MST bulletin Monday, said forecast flooding for the San Juan River at Shiprock had changed from moderate to major: "Minor flooding is occurring and major flooding is forecast." The stage was 16.4 feet at 9 a.m. MST (flood stage 15.5 feet), and the river is expected to crest at 20.7 feet late tonight before falling below flood stage early Wednesday morning. "Significant impacts are likely in the Shiprock area and along the San Juan River from Shiprock to the Four Corners," the bulletin said. A NOAA gauge read 16.78 feet at 11 a.m. MST; gauge figures are provisional.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

The Navajo Police Department at Shiprock asked everyone living within a half mile of the San Juan River to leave as a precaution on Sunday afternoon, Nov. 1, and the Utah Navajo Health Systems EMS station in Montezuma Creek, Utah, opened as a shelter, the San Juan Record reported. It said emergency management in San Juan County, N.M., issued evacuations for residents within a half mile of the Animas and San Juan rivers. The Navajo Times reported that county officials told residents near the Animas and La Plata rivers to evacuate immediately and that McGee Park in Farmington was open for evacuees. In Dennehotso, Ariz., flooding left the Dennehotso Loop (Navajo Routes 6460 and 6461) impassable, making it difficult for some families to reach their homes and livestock, the Navajo Times reported.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] AP's national story on Monday leads with Pagosa Springs and Sedona. It says only that the San Juan was still rising downstream in New Mexico, where new evacuations were ordered for some residents of San Juan County, "including some Navajo communities." It does not mention Shiprock or the major-flood forecast.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

It is the second flood here in about 10 days. A NOAA gauge at Shiprock peaked at 21.2 feet early on Oct. 24 (provisional data). The Kiowa County Press reports that the first flood pushed the San Juan at Four Corners to 54,100 cubic feet per second. Upstream, the weather service says the Animas River at Farmington was at 11.3 feet

Monday morning and is forecast to crest at 12.5 feet this afternoon. At 12 feet, the bulletin says, "water levels have not been this high since the flood of 1927." The Animas near Cedar Hill is in major flood, and the bulletin says it "approaches the flood of record." The La Plata River "is impacting the bridge over Pinon Hills near Farmington." The Navajo Times says the Navajo Division of Transportation has been responding to major washouts through the Navajo Nation Emergency Operations Center, in communities "still recovering from October's storms."

L5 FULL CONTEXT

AP says the weather service estimated as much as 4 inches of rain could fall across the region through Monday, fueled by a series of Pacific storm systems. The weather service office in Grand Junction, Colo., issued a "Particularly Dangerous Situation" flood warning for five Colorado counties and one in Utah, the Kiowa County Press reported. The Shiprock forecast has risen sharply: on Nov. 1 the Navajo Times cited a predicted crest of 16.2 feet; Monday's forecast is 20.7 feet. The weather service's next statement is due at 9:45 p.m. MST.

SOURCES National Weather Service Albuquerque: Watches, Warnings & Advisories: Flood Warnings for San Juan County, N.M. (issued 9:26–9:32 a.m. MST, Nov. 2, 2026) · NOAA National Water Prediction Service: San Juan River at Shiprock (SHRN5) observed stage and flow (provisional) · Navajo Times (Donovan Quintero): San Juan River forecast to flood again at Shiprock as heavy rain hits region · San Juan Record: Flooding Evacuations Due to Flooding on November 1 · Kiowa County Press (Kiowa County Press Staff): The second flood: the Piedra sets another record, the San Juan at Pagosa Springs comes within a foot of 1911, and rivers across the Four Corners are still rising Monday morning · AP (Philip Marcelo, Michael Casey and Christopher Weber), via Yahoo News: Floodwaters swamp the Southwest, forcing evacuations and altering some Election Day voting

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/navajo-nation-shiprock-san-juan-river-major-flood-warning

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ASIA · GELEPHU

40,000 volunteers raise 108 Buddhist stupas in one day for Bhutan's "mindfulness city"

More than 40,000 volunteers built 108 stupas, each 15 metres tall, in a single day along 12km of riverbank at the site of Bhutan's planned Gelephu Mindfulness City near the Indian border. Officials said about 200,000 people, nearly a quarter of the population, attended. The king hopes the city will revive the economy and keep young Bhutanese from leaving.



Explainer image: Buddhist stupas, called chortens in Bhutan: some of the 108 built in 2004 at Dochula Pass. Stephen Shephard, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Volunteers began after midnight and installed the stupas on Sunday as "a physical form of prayer made permanent in stone and earth," officials said. The number 108 is sacred in Buddhism. The king: "I was worried that raising 108 stupas in a single day might not succeed... everything went successfully."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Bhutan's population of just under 800,000; Gelephu, currently a town of about 10,000, 240km south of Thimphu; young Bhutanese facing rising unemployment. Resident Bishnu Maya Moktang, 56: "I hope to live long enough to see it."

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Bhutan rarely makes U.S. news outside travel features, and this landed on the eve of the U.S. midterms.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Bhutan faces rising unemployment, falling birth rates and mass migration of skilled workers. The city, designed by Danish architects, aims to attract investment in sustainable business, green tech, education, tourism and financial services. Analysts question whether Bhutan can attract enough investment. Gautam Adani joined as a founding member in January.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

The king created the special zone by royal charter in 2024. It is set to connect to India's rail network in Assam, with an international airport slated for 2029. Bhutan mines Bitcoin with surplus hydropower and has pledged digital assets to support the city. Bhutan is known for prioritising "Gross National Happiness."

SOURCES Al Jazeera (AFP, AP): Tens of thousands build 108 Buddhist stupas for Bhutan 'mindfulness' city

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/bhutan-108-stupas-gelephu-mindfulness-city

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ASIA · AHMEDABAD

India's election "consultants" sell bots and shadow pages to campaigns from Kenya to Suriname, and now the U.S.

An Al Jazeera investigation says Indian political consultancies are exporting shadow social media campaigns to elections abroad, using hidden pages, bots and VPNs. A 22-year-old content creator in Ahmedabad says he was paid about $7 a day, delivering up to 100 creatives on some days, for shadow accounts backing William Ruto's 2022 Kenyan campaign. Researchers found at least 28 X accounts, at least 15 posting from India, pushing videos for Haley Stevens in Michigan's Democratic Senate primary.



Explainer image: social media apps on a smartphone. mikemacmarketing, CC BY 2.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Consultant Tushar Giri: "We are manipulating elections; there is no other way to say it." Kumar said he trimmed opponents' speeches to twist them and made posters with false claims; "If there's a woman politician, we simply link her to someone to damage her reputation."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Voters in Kenya, the U.S. and elsewhere. Antibot4Navalny says the pro-Stevens accounts drew more than seven million views; Stevens lost the Aug 4 primary to Abdul El-Sayed. Workers like Kumar are paid little, coordinated on Telegram, and told to destroy SIM cards and delete chats.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] The work is designed to be hidden, and the distance between consultants and campaigns gives "plausible deniability," as author Amogh Dhar Sharma puts it.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Consultants say Meta and Google rules are routinely bypassed with premium VPNs or by changing an account's country. Payments use hawala networks and front companies; one consultant: "Black money is a pillar of political consultation," and described 10-rupee notes with set serial numbers used to collect millions in cash. Giri: "you can manipulate elections anywhere in the world at the cheapest cost in India."

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Consultants say they have pitched or worked campaigns in Suriname, Nepal and Sri Lanka; Sharma found Indian consultancies in Australia and Germany. Two Indian consultants working for Ruto's campaign, Zulfiqar Ahmad

Khan and Mohamed Zaid Sami Kidwai, went missing in Nairobi in July 2022 and were found dead in October, allegedly abducted by an elite police unit; in August 2026 Kenya's High Court terminated murder charges against 15 officers. Sharma: this is "an extension of the global outsourcing industry."

SOURCES Al Jazeera (Yashraj Sharma): 'Manipulated': Kenya to US midterms, Indian bots help campaigns sway votes
Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/india-shadow-election-consultants-global-bots-for-hire

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EUROPE · BUDAPEST

"Traitors in every family": Hungary will publish the names of tens of thousands of communist-era informants on Wednesday

Hungary's new government will on Wednesday publish the names of tens of thousands of communist-era state informants in a searchable online database. Prime Minister Péter Magyar promised the release in his campaign before April's elections, and a law passed in September; polls showed more than two-thirds support. Of the 50,000 to 60,000 people named, historians estimate about 10% are alive.



Explainer image: archive boxes. MHM55, CC BY-SA 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Minister Zoltán Tarr: "A democratic society has the right to know its past." Archive historian István Papp: "We are opening wide a door that was left ajar." Researchers say Hungary's former state service will become the most transparent in the former eastern bloc.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Families who will learn relatives informed on them, and informants' own families. Survivor Miklós Kiss: "People will learn that there were traitors in every family, in every neighbourhood and street... But what are we supposed to do with that now?" Historian Domokos Szokolay, whose father was outed in 2005, hopes it "won't turn into a public shaming."

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] The story is about history and domestic reckoning rather than a crisis, and lands in U.S. midterm week.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Detailed files on only 9,000 people will follow in February after redaction of health, addiction, sexuality and victim details. Religious figures were frequent targets; some estimates say 7-10% cooperated. Partial lists since the 2000s have plunged governments into crises; Szemlélek's call for ex-agents to speak drew no volunteers.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

From 1945 to 1989, security police used informants, some blackmailed, to suppress dissent. Files were long restricted to researchers and victims' relatives. Many were destroyed in 1956 or during 1989. East Germany opened Stasi files in 1992, the Czech Republic in 2003, Latvia in 2018. The release was moved from the 1956 revolution anniversary to Nov 4.

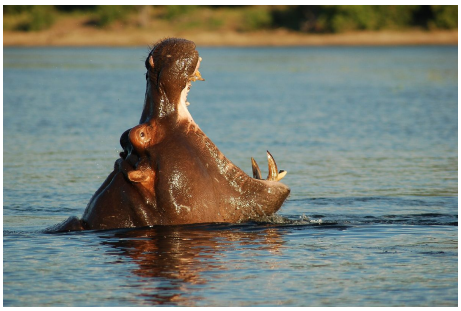
SOURCES The Guardian (Lili Rutai): 'Traitors in every family': Hungary to unmask communist-era informants and confront past
Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/hungary-communist-informant-files-made-public

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AFRICA · VITSHUMBI, DR CONGO

Anthrax kills 28 hippos in Africa's oldest national park as Congo fights Ebola

Lab tests confirmed anthrax is behind the deaths of 28 hippos in about a month along the Semuliki River in Virunga National Park, eastern DR Congo. The park warned that the disease can spread to people through contact with dead or sick animals or eating their meat, and told residents not to touch, skin or eat carcasses. It comes as Congo battles the deadliest Ebola outbreak in its history.



Explainer image: hippos in an African river. Joachim Huber from Switzerland, CC BY-SA 2.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Resident Michael Kambale: "It was in mid-September that we began to notice the mass deaths of hippos in the Semuliki River." The park confirmed Bacillus anthracis and said 28 hippos died over approximately one month.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Riverside communities such as the Vitshumbi enclave, about 100 kilometres north of Goma, who are being told not to touch, skin or consume dead animals; and the park's hippo population, estimated at more than 2,700 in 171 groups in February 2026.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Wildlife disease in a conflict zone is overshadowed by Congo's Ebola outbreak and, in the U.S., by midterm week.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Ecologist Joel Mbusa Mapoli says hippos are "ecosystem engineers" and their loss "could lead to a major disruption of aquatic ecosystems." He calls for a One Health response linking human, animal and environmental health, with stronger surveillance and carcass management. The park says it has lost control of a significant part of its territory over four years due to fighting between the army and M23.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Anthrax spores can survive for decades in soil. Park officials say outbreaks have previously hit hippos during droughts, when animals crowd around scarce water and grazing. A 2025 outbreak killed 65 hippos. Activist Olivier Ndoole Bahemuke says nearly three decades of conflict have fuelled poaching and deforestation. Virunga, founded in 1925, is Africa's oldest national park.

SOURCES Al Jazeera staff: Anthrax outbreak kills hippos in DR Congo's Virunga National Park

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/virunga-anthrax-hippo-deaths-semuliki-river

EUROPE · EL HIERRO, SPAIN

A Spanish island of 11,000 people has seen nearly 3,000 migrants arrive since October

Nearly 3,000 migrants have reached El Hierro in Spain's Canary Islands since the start of October, on an island of about 11,000 residents. On Oct 22 alone, more than 400 people arrived at La Restinga port on four boats from the African coast, according to maritime rescue services. Migration has become a major issue ahead of Spain's early general election on Nov 29.



Explainer image: La Restinga harbour on El Hierro, Canary Islands. Pepelopex, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED
About 3,000 arrivals since October; more than 400 on Oct 22 on four boats.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED
Migrants making the Atlantic crossing, and island residents. Bar owner Luis Andres Gonzalez: "There have been days when 500 have arrived. That's why either we have to put a stop to all this, or I don't know how we're going to cope." Some residents voice frustration over the cost of water and perceptions that migrants receive free assistance.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET
[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Canary Islands arrivals are treated as a European story, and U.S. outlets are focused on their own midterms.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT
Migration is a major issue before Spain's Nov 29 early election; the July mass arrival in Ceuta from Morocco already fuelled opposition criticism of Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez's migration policy.

L5 FULL CONTEXT
El Hierro, a small Atlantic island home to around 11,000 people, is facing a sharp increase in arrivals along the Atlantic migration route. A French resident who has lived there for four years describes frustration among some locals.

SOURCES Africanews: Spain's El Hierro grapples with rising migrant arrivals

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/el-hierro-canary-islands-migrant-arrivals-atlantic-route

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AFRICA · PORT SUDAN

Sudan takes Ethiopia to the UN, saying 187 drones launched from Ethiopian soil have killed or wounded 484 civilians

Sudan has filed complaints against Ethiopia with the UN Security Council and the African Union's Peace and Security Council, accusing the RSF paramilitary of using Ethiopian territory to launch drone attacks on civilian sites and power stations. A report from Sudan's army-led Transitional Sovereignty Council alleges 70 assaults involving 187 one-way attack drones between February 15 and October 27, killing or wounding 484 civilians. It names launch sites at Asosa Airport, the Kurmuk-Gizen border area and Bahir Dar airbase.



Explainer image: a relief map of Sudan. C1MM, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Sudan's foreign ministry said the incidents "places Ethiopia before international law" and accused the RSF of "brazen aggression" against "civilian sites and power stations". The report says: "Since February 2026, armed drones have taken off from Ethiopian soil ... to strike Sudanese cities and civilians."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Civilians in Sudanese cities and border areas; the report counts 484 civilians killed or wounded, 176 soldiers killed and 200 wounded. It cites an Oct 9 attack on displaced families in Wad el-Mahi, Blue Nile, near the Ethiopian border, that killed 30 civilians (26 women, four children) and wounded 100.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] The claims come from one side of the war (Sudan's army-led council) and land in midterm week in the U.S., while Ethiopia's own Tigray fighting draws the region's limited attention.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

The report says last month alone saw 28 attacks by 97 drones, an escalation. A UN spokesman said Guterres "strongly condemns the escalating drone attacks in Sudan by the parties to the conflict", calling them violations of international humanitarian law, days after a strike on a market in RSF-held Darfur killed more than 100 people.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Sudan's military has repeatedly accused Ethiopia of aiding the RSF, which it has fought since April 2023. Ethiopia accuses Sudan's military of backing rebels linked to the TPLF, which Khartoum denies. Ethiopia's response is not reported in the source.

SOURCES Al Jazeera Staff and AFP: Sudan files complaints against Ethiopia with UN over deadly drone spree

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/sudan-un-complaint-ethiopia-drone-attacks

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AFRICA · MOGADISHU

Uganda starts pulling troops out of Somalia after nearly 20 years fighting al-Shabab

Uganda has begun withdrawing its troops from the African Union mission in Somalia, with a first contingent of 109 soldiers reportedly leaving Mogadishu on Friday. The pullout is phased and expected to finish in August 2027, though Ugandan troops under a separate bilateral deal will stay. The AU mission faces uncertain funding as U.S. and UN support winds down.



Explainer image: a relief map of the Horn of Africa. M.Bitton, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Army chief Gen Muhoozi Kainerugaba wrote on X: "As we promised, we have started withdrawing UPDF from Somalia. After 20 years of a lot of blood and sacrifice, we are handing over security to our Somali brothers."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Somalis living with al-Shabab's insurgency, Somali forces taking over security, and Ugandan troops. The BBC says an estimated 4,500 troops are in Somalia under the AU mission, alongside about 2,000 under bilateral arrangements.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] A phased, low-key handover in East Africa does not compete with U.S. election week, and Uganda's army spokesperson did not respond to the BBC.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

AUSSOM faces uncertainty over future funding amid plans to wind down U.S. and UN support. A 12-month transition plan is due to start in January to give Somalia and the AU time to find other funding.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Uganda was the first African country to deploy under AMISOM in 2007 and helped drive al-Shabab, an al-Qaeda-linked group, out of Mogadishu and other major towns. The mission became ATMIS, then AUSSOM in 2025, focused on preparing Somali forces to take full responsibility.

SOURCES BBC News: Uganda begins withdrawing troops from Somalia after two decades of fighting al-Shabab

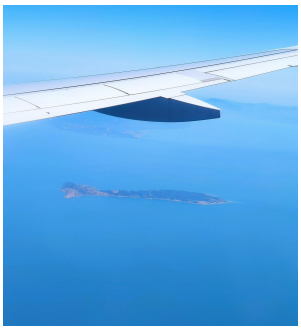
Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/uganda-begins-somalia-troop-withdrawal-aussom

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MIDDLE EAST · ISTANBUL

Turkey moves jailed PKK founder Ocalan to a new section of his island prison as Kurdish politicians say peace talks have stalled

Turkiye has moved Abdullah Ocalan to a newly built section of the Imrali island prison where he has been held for 27 years, pro-Kurdish DEM party legislators said. DEM's Mithat Sancar said the move "necessitates an acceleration" of a peace process he said had been paused for two months. Better prison conditions for Ocalan have been a key Kurdish demand.



Explainer image: Imrali Island in the Sea of Marmara. Myrat, CC BY-SA 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Sancar confirmed the transfer Saturday to Medya Haber TV: "The process cannot proceed with unilateral expectations and demands." Pervin Buldan said: "This new facility is part of the prison; it is not somewhere outside the prison."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Turkiye's Kurds, an estimated 15 to 20 percent of the population, former PKK fighters, and families affected by a conflict that has killed more than 40,000 people.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] The step is incremental and its meaning is disputed even among Kurdish politicians, so it reads as a minor prison story abroad.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Kurdistan24 described the facility as a new house built for Ocalan and said the move was seen as preparation for a more active role for him in the peace process. Buldan said "the question of status cannot be defined solely" by the move.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

The PKK, founded in 1978, launched an armed campaign in 1984 and is designated a "terrorist" group by Turkiye, the U.S. and the EU. Ocalan, held on Imrali since 1999, called on the PKK to disband in February last year; it announced its dissolution that May. Parliament passed a limited amnesty law for fighters in August, and the PKK leadership has repeatedly demanded his release.

SOURCES Al Jazeera Staff and AFP: Jailed PKK founder Ocalan moved to new section of Turkish island prison

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/ocalan-moved-imrali-new-facility-pkk-peace-process

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ASIA · KABUL

The Taliban voice "serious concern" over a U.S. plan to deport 150+ Afghans through Pakistan, including relatives of U.S. allies

Afghanistan's Taliban government said it has "serious concern" over reported U.S. plans to deport more than 150 Afghans to Pakistan for eventual return to Afghanistan. According to U.S. media and the group AfghanEvac, they include relatives of Afghans who helped the U.S. military before 2021. Anonymous U.S. officials told The New York Times that Pakistan will oversee their expulsion.



Explainer image: the Torkham crossing between Afghanistan and Pakistan, 1930s. Annemarie Schwarzenbach, Public domain via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Foreign ministry spokesman Abdul Qahar Balkhi: "The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan expresses its serious concern over reports that the United States intends to deport some Afghan refugees to Pakistan who have not yet been able to obtain legal residency documents in that country."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

More than 150 Afghans in the U.S., including relatives of former U.S. allies; advocacy groups warn removal could endanger their lives.

L3 **WHY IT'S QUIET**

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] The plan surfaced through anonymous officials in U.S. reporting the day before the midterms, and routing through Pakistan keeps it out of the usual direct-deportation framing.

L4 **DEEPER IMPACT**

The Taliban announced a general amnesty for those who worked with Western-backed forces, but the UN has recorded reports of extrajudicial killings, detentions and abuses. Pakistan earlier this year ordered nationwide arrests of Afghans without visas, part of a policy that has pushed back millions.

L5 **FULL CONTEXT**

The U.S. cannot deport directly to Afghanistan. The Trump administration issued travel bans last year including Afghanistan and sought to end deportation protections for Afghans. Germany and Turkey have deported Afghans directly. Pakistan-Afghanistan relations worsened after deadly border clashes last October that nearly closed the border.

SOURCES France 24 with AFP: Taliban voices 'serious concern' over US plan to deport Afghan migrants via Pakistan

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/taliban-concern-us-deport-afghans-via-pakistan

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EUROPE · WARSAW

"My life has been on hold": Poland's migrants wait up to two years for residence permits under a wartime law that never ended

Hundreds of thousands of foreigners in Poland are stuck in an overwhelmed residence-permit system, with average waits from 242 days in Malopolska to 658 in Silesia against a usual 60-day legal limit. A 2022 provision meant to help offices cope with Ukrainian refugees still suspends deadlines for all nationalities until March 2027. A migrant-led campaign, Glos Migranta, is pushing for repeal.



Explainer image: a Polish residence card. Government of Poland, Public domain via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 **WHAT HAPPENED**

Turkish software engineer Necati applied for long-term EU residency in December 2024 and is still waiting: "Since my EU Blue Card expired in February 2026, my life has been on hold."

L2 **WHO'S AFFECTED**

Workers, entrepreneurs and refugees; foreigners pay 21.5 billion zloty (5.5 billion euros) a year into Poland's pension system, 6.2 per cent of contributions. Banks may refuse services without valid documents, and leaving the country can mean being unable to return. The Mazovian office says it handles more than 200,000 cases, over 3,500 per employee.

L3 **WHY IT'S QUIET**

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Delays are administrative and slow-moving rather than a single event, and many affected migrants fear speaking out; Medvedev says "one of the biggest obstacles was psychological."

L4 **DEEPER IMPACT**

Article 100d suspends deadlines and restricts legal remedies. The Supreme Administrative Court in May 2025 refused to apply it after June 2024, but the Interior Ministry told offices to keep enforcing it. The Ombudsman's Marcin Kusy: "we're not talking about months of waiting, but years." The Ombudsman has received 1,161 complaints since April 2022.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Offices granted a record 190,900 temporary permits in the first half of 2026 but applications outpace staff. The provision was introduced under Law and Justice and repeatedly extended under Tusk's coalition. About 300 people protested in Warsaw on Aug 24. Migration is becoming a campaign issue before the 2027 election.

SOURCES BIRN / Balkan Insight (Ada Petriczko): ‘Life on Hold’: Poland’s Immigrants Face Years Waiting for Residence Permits

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/poland-migrants-residence-permit-backlog-article-100d

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ASIA · BANGKOK

Myanmar stays on the global money-laundering blacklist alongside only Iran and North Korea, despite Japan's lobbying

The Financial Action Task Force said Friday it will keep Myanmar on its blacklist of high-risk jurisdictions, citing "extensive" fraud and cyber scam activity. Iran and North Korea, the only other countries on the list, were also reconfirmed. The decision came shortly after a Reuters report that Japan had lobbied for Myanmar's removal to encourage business there.



Explainer image: Shwe Kokko, a scam-centre hub near Myawaddy, Myanmar. Angshu2193, CC BY-SA 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

FATF called for continued "application of enhanced due diligence" on Myanmar, telling financial institutions to "increase the degree and nature of monitoring" of business tied to the country.

L2 WHO’S AFFECTED

Myanmar banks and firms stay outside the mainstream financial system, and companies dealing with Myanmar citizens face onerous reporting. FATF said humanitarian aid, legitimate non-profit work and remittances should "neither [be] disrupted nor discouraged."

L3 WHY IT’S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] FATF list renewals are routine-sounding technical decisions, and Myanmar news is crowded out by bigger conflicts.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

FATF said "fraud and cyber scam activities in Myanmar remain extensive and present significant illicit finance risks." If no further progress is made by February 2027, it "will consider countermeasures," including greater oversight and potential banking restrictions.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Myanmar was blacklisted in October 2022. The article says scamming, money laundering and methamphetamine production have grown since the 2021 coup. Coup leader Min Aung Hlaing became president when direct military rule ended in April and has sought full ASEAN reintegration; the U.S. has held direct talks with Myanmar officials in recent months, sometimes with Japanese support.

SOURCES The Diplomat (Sebastian Strangio): Myanmar Remains on FATF Blacklist Due to Money Laundering Concerns

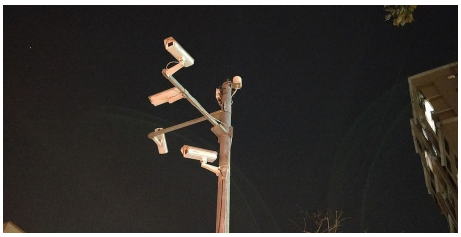
Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/myanmar-stays-on-fatf-blacklist-scam-centers

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OCEANIA · PERTH

Police in Western Australia scanned 1.38 million faces with live facial recognition vans in five months

A five-month trial of real-time facial recognition by Western Australia police scanned 1,380,882 faces at 100 deployments across 43 locations, leading to 122 arrests and nine incorrect alerts. Police say the false-alert rate was 0.00065 percent, but civil liberties groups say the real error rate won't be known until the arrests go to court. The vans have been pulled from public use while police review the trial.



Explainer image: a CCTV camera. Punit Rajpal, CC0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Cameras on or near marked police vehicles matched faces against an alert list from police databases. Alerts led to 122 arrests, contact with 146 registered sex offenders and 10 welfare checks. At the Perth royal show, 223,749 faces were scanned.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Everyone passing the vans, including at public demonstrations. Commissioner Col Blanch said of the nine false alerts: "No one was arrested. No one made a complaint." Sarah Schwartz of the Human Rights Law Centre said each false match is "a real person who may be stopped, questioned or investigated because an algorithm got it wrong."

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] It is a state-level Australian policing trial, reported mainly by Australian outlets.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Bill Rowlings of Civil Liberties Australia said police were "severely gilding the lily" and that "We will only know what the incorrect rate is when the 122 people arrested have their day in court." Experts quoted say such systems have historically had higher false-match rates for people with darker skin.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Police say images of people not on the list were pixelated in real time and deleted. The state's privacy watchdog said it was not involved and warned of "collective privacy harms." The vans are off the streets while police evaluate performance and "whether all requirements were met."

SOURCES The Guardian Australia (Penry Buckley et al.): Police use facial recognition to scan one million faces in WA trial leading to 122 arrests

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/western-australia-police-facial-recognition-trial-1-million-faces

AFRICA · PORT HARCOURT

Seven people drowned in Nigeria's Niger Delta when a speedboat capsized during a protest against moving an oil vessel

Seven people died and eight survived when a speedboat carrying 15 people capsized on Oct 20 in Kula Kingdom, Rivers State, during a community protest against the removal of the Anambra Basin floating storage and offloading oil vessel. Residents had grievances over an alleged oil spill, unpaid local vendors and neglect. The vessel's owner denies responsibility.



Explainer image: a relief map of Nigeria. Uwe Dedering, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

The speedboat capsized during an operation to move the Anambra Basin FSO vessel out of coastal waters. Five bodies were recovered first and the last two later, confirming seven deaths.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Families in Kula, a fishing community whose waterways sustain local livelihoods. HOMEF's Nnimmo Bassey: "No barrels of crude oil are worth a human life."

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] The deaths happened in a remote Niger Delta community and were first reported locally; national attention came mainly through an advocacy group's statement more than a week later.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Max Shipping Services Limited, an Ibeto Group subsidiary that owns the vessel, expressed sadness but denied responsibility, saying it had hired the vessel to Menal Technical Services Limited for crude evacuation.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

HOMEF says decades of extraction have left Niger Delta communities with oil pollution, damaged fishing grounds and threatened food security, and called for pollution prevention, ecosystem restoration and community participation in decisions.

SOURCES Premium Times Nigeria (Ekemini Simon): Kula Boat Tragedy: Oil profits must never trump human lives, HOMEF tells oil firms, govt

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/nigeria-kula-boat-tragedy-oil-vessel-protest

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LATIN AMERICA · ST JOHN'S

Caribbean leaders push slavery reparations at Antigua summit as UK opens door to an apology

As Commonwealth leaders meet in Antigua and Barbuda, Caribbean governments are pressing Britain on slavery reparations. UK PM Andy Burnham has said he is open to a formal apology and agreed to structured dialogue, a shift from his predecessors, but reparations remain off the formal agenda. Former St Vincent PM Ralph Gonsalves says UK officials were "vehement" it stay off; the UK Foreign Office calls that "completely untrue."



Explainer image: Betty's Hope, a former sugar plantation in Antigua. Paul Harrison, CC BY-SA 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Burnham, in a Guardian op-ed, called the slave trade a "brutal and barbaric violation," said Britain "must face up to the past," and agreed to structured dialogue and to consider an apology. The Palace says King Charles will speak with "unflinching honesty" and "sincere sorrow" at CHOGM on Tuesday; the UK has never formally apologised or offered reparations.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Caribbean nations and descendants of enslaved Africans; Antigua PM Gaston Browne said slavery's consequences "have not disappeared with the passage of time." Protests and a candlelight vigil planned in St John's.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] U.S. coverage of the tour has centred on the King himself; the policy fight among 56 Commonwealth states gets little airtime.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Gonsalves says UK and Canadian officials raised the prospect Burnham would not attend if reparations were on the agenda; the FCDO "categorically" rejects that. Guyana's Irfaan Ali wants a Commonwealth subcommittee to work out the dialogue over 6 to 12 months, focused on development gaps. Barbados PM Mia Mottley: "our views differ." UK Conservative leader Kemi Badenoch called apologies a "distraction."

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Caricom Reparations Commission chair Sir Hilary Beckles called it "the Chogm of reparations." Gonsalves cites a UN General Assembly resolution on March 25, 2026 that India supported. Earlier on the tour the King spoke of "suffering of the past" in the Bahamas and visited a slave rebellion site in Guyana.

SOURCES The Guardian (Natricia Duncan): UK was 'vehement' slavery reparations should not be on Commonwealth summit agenda · BBC News (Daniela Relph): King to address slavery in Antigua as PM says he is open to possible UK apology

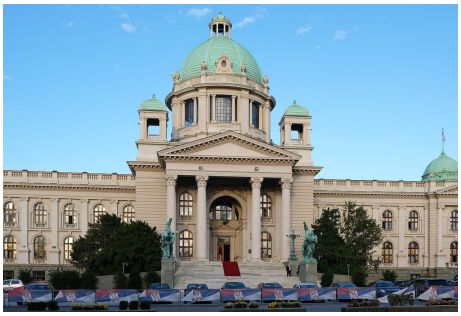
Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/antigua-chogm-slavery-reparations-uk-apology

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EUROPE · BELGRADE

Serbia's student movement, under two years old, ousts Vučić in a landslide, using Hungary's playbook

A student movement less than two years old won Serbia's parliamentary election by a landslide, ending President Aleksandar Vučić's 14 years in power, BBC reports. The Student List will hold 140 of 250 seats. Hungarian activists who helped topple Viktor Orbán in April trained Serbian students in election monitoring and sent 70 monitors to Vojvodina.



Explainer image: Serbia's National Assembly building in Belgrade. kallerna, CC BY-SA 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Vučić admitted defeat at 21:30 on election night, the same time Orbán conceded on Apr 12. Turnout was 69% in Serbia (79% in Hungary).

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Serbian voters and the young people who mobilised tens of thousands of monitors. Activist Péter Klemm (Subotica): "we noticed groups of masked hooligans - Vučić supporters - gathering near voting stations... So we sent mobile teams, and started filming everything." 20 to 30 volunteers per threatened station acted as a

deterrent, he believes.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] The result landed in the final week of the U.S. midterm campaign and amid Iran war coverage.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Orbán, 63, and Vučić, 56, may now both face prosecution for corruption and abuse of power; Serbia's JTOK and Hungary's new NVVH prosecutors have similar powers. Speculation that Orbán persuaded Vučić not to use force; Vučić acknowledges a call at 23:15 but denies one before conceding; Orbán declined to comment.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

The movement was sparked by the Novi Sad station canopy collapse on Nov 1, 2024 that killed 16, blamed on corruption and negligence; Hungarian firms close to Orbán were involved in that project. Both leaders were close to Putin and Xi and backed Bosnian Serb separatist Milorad Dodik. Áron Timar (DE): "once society found its voice and rose up, there was no way of stopping it."

SOURCES BBC News (Nick Thorpe): How the downfall of Serbia's Vučić mirrored that of Hungary's Orbán

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/serbia-student-list-ousts-vucic-hungary-playbook

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EUROPE · FRANKFURT

Gen Z protests over cost of living spread to Germany, ending in looting in Frankfurt

Tens of thousands joined youth-led protests across German cities on Saturday, organised by "Gen Z regelt" ("Gen Z takes charge") against school underfunding, the cost of living, spending cuts and military service. Late-night violence followed: shops were looted in Frankfurt, 27 Berlin officers were injured, and NDR reported 120 arrests in Hamburg. More than 320,000 marched in France the same day.



Explainer image: a shopping centre on the Zeil, Frankfurt. Ermell, CC BY-SA 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Police used water cannon in several cities; in Frankfurt, a gun shop's windows were smashed and two weapons seized after an arrest. Authorities in Frankfurt, Munich and Berlin reported up to 18,000 protesters, about half the organisers' estimate.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Young Germans; spokesperson Lina Friedrich: "We are against compulsory military service and we are in favour of a fairer distribution of the burden." Up to 56 people temporarily detained in Berlin.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] European domestic unrest is crowded out by U.S. midterms and the Iran war.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Interior Minister Dobrindt called for "harsh punishments." Hesse's Roman Poseck said "around 100 clearly identified left-wing extremists" infiltrated Frankfurt. Cologne police chief: young people "were infiltrated today by extremists."

L5 FULL CONTEXT

France saw a third consecutive weekend of protests, with more than 770 arrests on Saturday; prosecutors opened

an attempted murder probe after an officer was injured by a molotov cocktail. Mostly young protesters have marched in France, Belgium, Ireland, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Greece, Serbia and Albania over housing, education and public services.

SOURCES BBC News (James Chater): Shops looted as German cost-of-living protests turn violent
Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/germany-gen-z-regelt-cost-of-living-protests-frankfurt-looting

ASIA · NEW DELHI

Tens of thousands rally in Delhi demanding India's election chief resign after 130 million names are cut from voter rolls

Tens of thousands gathered at Delhi's Ramlila Maidan on Sunday for an opposition rally led by Rahul Gandhi demanding the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar. At issue is the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of voter lists, which has removed more than 130 million names from draft rolls. The opposition says it is purging eligible voters to help the BJP; the BJP and the Election Commission deny this.



Explainer image: an Indian electronic voting machine. Shagil Kannur, CC BY-SA 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED
Crowds chanted "Save the vote, save the country" and "Vote thief, give up power." Gandhi: "We will not allow democracy to be destroyed in India. We will not allow the constitution to be destroyed." Kharge said the campaign continues until Kumar resigns.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED
Voters who may have been wrongly removed. The Commission says the purge targets duplicates, the dead, people who moved, and other ineligible voters, and those wrongly excluded can apply to be restored. Delhi lawyer Deepro Guha: "If people's names are removed without any explanation, there is a problem." Isha, a development professional: "We don't even know if this is a people's mandate or a stolen mandate."

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET
[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Indian electoral administration is technical and slow-moving, and the rally happened two days before the U.S. midterms.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT
BJP minister JP Nadda called the rally a "calculated conspiracy to plunge the nation into anarchy - in the name of democracy." Police required organisers to finish by 5pm, install CCTV and stay on the grounds. On Oct 10, several CJP leaders were detained and BBC reporters saw police beating some demonstrators with batons. The Commission can only be removed through a formal parliamentary process, so Saturday's mock impeachment had no legal standing.

L5 FULL CONTEXT
In September The Indian Express reported that Kumar made key decisions on the revision despite repeated objections from the two other election commissioners; the Commission said disagreements are normal. Gen Z-led Cockroach Janta Party backed the rally but stayed away to keep its independence, its founder Abhijeet Dipke said. Last month Gandhi led a march from Connaught Place to the Supreme Court. The INDIA bloc formed in 2023 to take on Modi's BJP.

SOURCES BBC News (Geeta Pandey and Nikita Yadav): Rahul Gandhi: India's opposition rallies against voter roll revision exercise
Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/india-opposition-rally-election-chief-voter-roll-sir

AFRICA · LUSAKA

Zambia's post-election crackdown: HRW documents 14 apparent disappearances, 61 beatings and an opposition ex-minister's killing

Human Rights Watch says Zambian police and soldiers forcibly disappeared, arbitrarily detained, beat and threatened opposition members, lawyers, journalists and critics around the August 13 election that re-elected President Hakainde Hichilema. HRW documented 14 apparent enforced disappearances and 61 cases of alleged beatings or violent abuse; 18 detainees are accused of treason. Authorities have not credibly explained the killing of former minister Mutotwe Kafwaya during an Aug 14 raid on opposition leader Brian Mundubile's home.



Explainer image: Lusaka, the capital of Zambia. Alex Mukuka, CC BY-SA 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Courts were closed and cordoned off Aug 24 to 28, blocking challenges to the presidential result; police called it "intelligence-led and preventive." Mundubile and running mate Makebi Zulu were charged with treason and seditious practices, accused of saying on Facebook Live that the opposition had won.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

43 opposition election monitors detained Aug 14 were missing for eight days; their lawyer said "most of them were swollen and had terrible injuries, including broken bones." Seven people, including lawyers and a journalist, told HRW they fled their homes; opposition leader Mulenga Kapwepwe: "I have been warned that the moment I come out of hiding, I will be targeted." Relatives of critics abroad were harassed, including a 76-year-old father.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] The crackdown peaked in August with little international attention, and HRW's findings came out the weekend before the U.S. midterms.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Officials contradicted one another: the ICT regulator texted all phones warning of "false reports of shootings and abductions," the information ministry called reports of the raid and shooting “disinformation,” and the Inspector General later admitted a "joint security-led intelligence operation." Mundubile stated in a High Court petition that he saw a member of the military fatally shoot Kafwaya. The government cancelled six critics' passports, including academic Sishuwa Sishuwa's, and called a UN rapporteur's call "inaccurate, undiplomatic." Zambia sits on the UN Human Rights Council for 2027-2029.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Observers said the election was marred by irregularities, including a suspension of counting. A petition by lawyers for the 18 accused alleges special forces led by Gen. Moses Shapwaya pressured detainees to incriminate Mundubile and Zulu. Before the vote, 17 performers at an opposition rally in Mongu were held over two weeks. HRW's Budoo-Scholtz: "Zambia's government should break this dangerous cycle of repression."

SOURCES Human Rights Watch: Zambia: Widespread Repression in Post-Election Crackdown · allAfrica (HRW republication): Zambia: Widespread Repression in Post-Election Crackdown

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/zambia-post-election-crackdown-hrw-disappearances

LATIN AMERICA · BUENOS AIRES

Nearly 100 Argentine intellectuals break ranks on the Falklands as Milei's clash with Britain over offshore oil heads to court

Nearly a hundred Argentine intellectuals, jurists, historians and politicians signed a declaration titled "Malvinas and dissent," rejecting the Falklands dispute as a "national cause" that "admits no dissent" and accusing Javier Milei's government of "flagrant opportunism." It comes as Argentina fights Britain's Sea Lion oil project north of the islands, with a sovereignty defence bill due for debate Nov 12 and international tribunal hearings in Hamburg on Nov 10-11.



Explainer image: a South American sea lion. Killy Ridols, CC BY-SA 2.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

The declaration, published in Perfil, says: "The national cause is, in short, an abuse of state, political, social and cultural authority," and ends: "On Malvinas, this is all we ask: that unanimity stop speaking in our name." Signers accept the dispute exists but object to branding critics "bad Argentine."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Signers criticise Article 111 of the sovereignty defence bill as "the criminalisation of dissent"; the government acknowledged in mid-October it would have to be removed. Sanctions in the bill were narrowed after U.S. objections. Falkland Islanders voted 99.8% in 2013 to stay British.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] The fight plays out in Argentine politics and a specialist tribunal, overshadowed abroad by the Iran war and U.S. midterms.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Signer Alejandro Cowes went further on Facebook, saying the islands are British, a position not in the joint declaration, and criticising sanctions on oil-linked firms and the purchase of F-16s. Law professor Donald Rothwell says Argentina's ITLOS case "could fall at the first hurdle" because the tribunal can't settle sovereignty, though it "has generally been reluctant to take a narrow view of its jurisdiction"; if it proceeds, it would be the first time any part of the dispute has gone before an international court. He suggests Milei may be stirring national pride before 2027 elections.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Sea Lion, run by Israel's Navitas Petroleum and Britain's Rockhopper Exploration, lies about 200 kilometres north of the islands. Argentina bases its claim on Spanish succession and its 1820-1833 occupation; the claim is in a transitional provision of its constitution and has broad public support. Milei says "the Malvinas are Argentine" but rules out "military solutions." Washington is officially neutral, but Trump has said that position is "under review," per Rothwell.

SOURCES MercoPress: Argentine intellectuals reject the Falklands "national cause" amid escalating tensions with London · MercoPress: Argentina's Sea Lion case could founder on Falklands sovereignty, a legal expert warns

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/argentina-intellectuals-falklands-dissent-sea-lion-oil

ASIA · DAK WAI, LAOS

Laos's giant wind farm powers Vietnam, but the villages under its turbines still lose electricity in storms

Laos's 600-megawatt Monsoon Wind Power Project, 133 Chinese-built turbines in the southern hills, is the first cross-border wind project in Asia and the largest wind farm in Southeast Asia. The $700 million scheme sells all its power to Vietnam. Nearby villagers say it brought roads, water and healthcare access but not reliable electricity of their own.



Explainer image: wind turbines. Photo by Kim Hansen. Postprocessing (crop, rotation, color adjustment, dust spot removal and noise reduction) by Richard, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Villager Toukta Phonsala, 23: "The view is beautiful. They're bigger than trees." EnergyLab Asia's Tristan Bellingham: "the economics are moving in favour of wind."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Rice and coffee farmers near the turbines, who still face outages because Laos's grid is outdated and its utility heavily in debt; Vietnam's power consumers. The manager says 1,600 grievances, mainly crop compensation claims, were resolved; CNA notes public dissent is severely restricted in communist Laos.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Slow-moving energy stories from small Southeast Asian countries rarely make U.S. news.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Thomas Jakobsen estimates EVN pays about six US cents per kWh, two to four cents below the Vietnamese rate; Monsoon, EVN and the ADB declined to share the rate. A Laos official points to 10 to 15 wind projects in development. By 2030, Laos imports could equal nearly 10% of Vietnam's installed capacity. Laos is set to get $180 million over the 25-year contract.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Laos already hosts 90 hydropower plants, which lose output in dry seasons. Drought cut hydropower and caused severe Vietnam blackouts in 2023, and Vietnam warned in September of shortage risk from 2027. Monsoon was built by a Chinese state firm, is owned by a Thai-led consortium, and plans 1,000 MW more, partly for use in Laos.

SOURCES CNA: Winds of change: Laos looks up for renewables push

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/laos-monsoon-wind-farm-powers-vietnam

AFRICA · HARGEISA

Israel's first ambassador to Somaliland presents credentials, and lays the stone for an embassy near the Red Sea

Israeli ambassador Michael Lotem presented his credentials to Somaliland President Abdirahman Mohamed Abdullahi in Hargeisa, and officials laid the cornerstone for an Israeli embassy. Israel became the first UN member state to recognise Somaliland in December 2025; no other has. Somalia's president says Israel's real aim is Red Sea access and a naval base, while Somaliland's president says no base talks have been held.



Explainer image: Hargeisa, capital of Somaliland. Yusuf Dahir, Public domain via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Cirro called it a "historical day," the first time a Somaliland president received credentials from a UN member state recognising its independence. Lotem said recognition acknowledged what Somaliland had built over 35 years. Sa'ar said the exchange fulfilled commitments made when relations were established.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Somaliland, self-governing for over three decades without wider recognition; Somalia, which calls it a violation of its sovereignty. HornPost reports Lotem named security and defence, trade, investment, technology, healthcare and education as cooperation areas.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Israel's Foreign Ministry announced the ceremonies on Sunday, saying they were held last week; Horn of Africa diplomacy gets little U.S. attention, especially in midterm week.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Cirro: "Given our strategic position around the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden, our cooperation carries important regional and international significance." Somaliland sits across from Yemen near Bab al-Mandeb, where the UN envoy warned on Oct 9 that Yemen had returned to full-scale war. Mohamud: "Israel wants the Red Sea, that is the only reason." Israel's defence minister said in June the two sides had cooperated on secret operations for years.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Somaliland declared independence in 1991. Israel recognised it on Dec 26, 2025; Sa'ar visited in January; Somaliland's first envoy presented credentials in Israel in May and it opened an embassy in West Jerusalem in June. The Arab League, African Union and OIC condemned the recognition.

SOURCES Al Jazeera (Faisal Ali): Israel's first ambassador to Somaliland presents credentials in Hargeisa · Africanews: Israel's first ambassador presents credentials in Somaliland · HornPost: Somaliland President Receives Credentials of Israeli Ambassador Michael Lotem

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/israel-ambassador-somaliland-credentials-hargeisa-embassy

GLOBAL · YEREVAN

Nearly 200 nations strike a nature deal in Armenia, but the world is on track for just one of 24 targets

Delegates from nearly 200 countries agreed key parts of a new nature action plan in Yerevan after nearly two weeks of talks. The UN says the world is on track for just one of the 24 targets set in 2022, including protecting 30% of land and seas by 2030. More than $1bn was pledged, about half from philanthropists.



Explainer image: Yerevan with Mount Ararat. (Serouj Ourishian), CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Agreement came hours after talks were due to end. Meeting president Hambardzum Matevosyan: "And that's it. Perfect."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Species are going extinct at 100 times the natural rate because of human activity, scientists say. Craig Bennett: "We are still seeing an appalling loss, threatening the collapse of ecosystems globally."

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Biodiversity talks get far less attention than climate COPs, and this one ended on the U.S. Halloween weekend.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Nations pledged $30bn by 2030 plus $170bn private, but many redirected aid to defence and energy shocks. The Cali Fund, estimated to raise up to $3.6bn a year, had just $10,000 pledged at the start. Saudi Arabia and Russia were reported to have frustrated approval of science reports.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Some progress on cutting harmful subsidies such as trawling. Countries have protected 623 million acres of degraded land, bigger than Greenland. COP31 follows next month.

SOURCES BBC News (Esme Stallard): Global nature talks reach deal but money remains an issue

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/yerevan-nature-talks-deal-biodiversity-targets-off-track

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EUROPE · CHERNIHIV

"We came back from hell": hundreds escape Russian-occupied Oleshky in a rare joint evacuation, then the truce ends

A six-day local ceasefire in Ukraine's Kherson region let hundreds of people leave Oleshky, a Russian-occupied front-line city where residents had cooked garden weeds to survive. Evacuees travelled through occupied territory and southern Russia, flew to Belarus, and crossed into Ukraine's Chernihiv region on Saturday, where families reunited after years apart. Melania Trump, who mediated the truce, said it enabled the evacuation of nearly 800 people. The truce ended Sunday night with no violations reported and no extension; Russia reportedly refused Kyiv's offer to extend it.



Explainer image: the Dnieper delta near Kherson. 7777777kz, CC BY 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Residents had a four-hour window on Friday to board a convoy of 25 buses (space for 750) plus ambulances. Lubinets said the oldest evacuee was 94 and the youngest one. Several hundred people chose to stay despite no gas, electricity or running water.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Families: Dasha and Anya Palii sprinted across the tarmac to their father Mykhailo; he promised their mother Zhanna they would finally marry. Olha: "People were stepping on mines, dying and being maimed, all just to survive." Her husband Viacheslav: "We came back from hell." Tetiana and Volodymyr said their home burned down three years ago. An estimated 2,000 civilians were in Oleshky when the truce began (Al Jazeera); BBC says up to 6,000, including 200 children, lived in Oleshky and its surrounding areas, 1,700 in the city itself.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] The truce was small and local, and it happened in the final week of the U.S. midterm campaign while the Iran war dominated foreign news. The human stories of the evacuees got much less attention than the diplomacy.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Lubinets became the first Ukrainian official since the start of the war to visit Russian-occupied Ukraine, travelling with his Russian counterpart Yana Lantratova; some Ukrainians recoiled at seeing them side by side. Peskov said Moscow viewed the operation positively. Melania Trump: "I hope Oleshky serves as a foundation for lasting peace." Pope Leo hoped it would "lead to new concrete peace initiatives." Ukraine, Russia and the U.S. are due to resume ceasefire talks in Abu Dhabi in early November.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Russia seized Oleshky in the first days of the February 2022 invasion; before the war it had 24,000 people. The city is trapped between the Dnipro River and Russian forces, its bridges are destroyed, and the riverbank is reportedly mined. One resident said he walked through 24km of minefields to escape. Fighting continued elsewhere: on Sunday Russia attacked with 433 drones, a drone killed three people including a 13-year-old girl in Vinnytsia, and Ukraine hit Russia's Nizhny Novgorod region, where a blaze broke out at the Kstovo refinery, Russian media reported. Kherson governor Prokudin warned residents to stay out of "red zones" near the Dnipro.

SOURCES BBC News (Dan Johnson, Jacob Phillips): Ukrainian evacuees reunite with family after years trapped in Russia-occupied city · BBC News (Dan Johnson, Mariana Matveichuk, Amy Walker): 'We came back from hell', say Ukrainians after years in Russia-occupied front-line city · Al Jazeera: Kherson braces for return of war as localised Russia-Ukraine truce ends

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/ukraine-oleshky-evacuation-kherson-truce-ends

LATIN AMERICA · MONTEGO BAY

Jamaicans win a rare court ruling in their fight against "plantation tourism" that locks them off their own beaches

Activists fighting the 1956 Beach Control Act, which gives Jamaica's state ownership of the foreshore and lets governments restrict access and sell coastline to luxury hotels, won a temporary injunction in October stopping the government from restricting access to Little Dunn's River in St Ann while their case continues. The government says it will appeal. Australian human-rights lawyer and marathon swimmer Eva Buzo swam 34km to Montego Bay's One Man Beach in support, greeted by chants of "free beach."



Explainer image: a beach in Jamaica. VV Nincic from Toronto, Canada, CC BY 2.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Jabbem founder Dr Devon Taylor: "This victory means a lot for the Jamaican people. It means that our case is strong." Wilbourn Carr, 73, fighting a separate access case in Portland: "one judge now believes that Jamaicans should have access."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Jamaicans priced out by entrance fees and bans on outside food. Taylor: "We the people do not want to be treated as second-class citizens in our country." Monique Christie: "The product that is Jamaica is not the hotel... It has always been us, the people."

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] The fight plays out in local courts over years, and coverage tends to focus on resorts rather than residents' access.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Environment minister Matthew Samuda says there is no basis for protest: “176,000 people are feeding their families because of our tourism product.” He says Little Dunn's River was restricted after a murder and the government will allow free access Friday to Sunday, with lifeguards, and that new legislation will require future developments to create access points. Taylor calls the restriction "collective punishment" and says four years later people can only use it on weekends. Buzo points to Australia and Barbados, which keep public beaches alongside thriving tourism.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

The 1956 Act gave the state ownership of the foreshore and seabed. Prime Minister Andrew Holness proposed a beach access and management policy in March; Jamaica Environment Trust's Dr Theresa Rodriguez-Moodie says it "really didn't" address the issues. Samuda says Jamaica "spent 30 years being in the top three most murderous countries on the planet" but has "conquered our crime monster."

SOURCES The Guardian (Natricia Duncan, Anthony Lugg): ‘Plantation tourism’: court victory signals hope in Jamaica’s fight to keep beaches public

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/jamaica-beach-access-court-injunction-plantation-tourism

AFRICA · KINSHASA

From president to rebel: Joseph Kabila now leads the alliance fighting the man he handed power to

Former DR Congo president Joseph Kabila, 55, was named leader of the rebel Front for the Refoundation of the Nation (FRN) this month, confirming long-held suspicions that he works with the M23 rebels who seized much of eastern Congo, including Goma and Bukavu, last year. He has sworn to topple President Félix Tshisekedi, the man he handed power to and once governed in coalition with. Kabila faces a death sentence in absentia for treason and U.S. sanctions over alleged M23 support.



Explainer image: Lake Kivu, eastern Congo. Grace Tshiyonga, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Kabila compared Tshisekedi to Mobutu: "You have a tyrant who wants to impose and dictate what he thinks is right and not necessarily follow the constitution." He invokes Section 64 of the constitution, which calls on citizens to resist anyone who seizes or exercises power unconstitutionally, and asked, "Does Congo need elections or a revolution?"

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Congolese civilians in the east, where fighting continues despite a Trump-overseen peace accord. Analyst Ovigwe Eguegu: "It looks like the Congolese people are going to lose either way." The C64 opposition coalition refused to back Kabila's rebellion and wants direct talks with both men.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Eastern Congo's war has run for years with shifting alliances, and the news landed in the last week of the U.S. midterm campaign.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Analyst Henry-Pacifique Mayala says Kabila "was left with no other choice" and that his role lets Rwanda say "It's finally a Congolese rebellion." ICG's Richard Moncrieff: "Tshisekedi has strong American backing. He has a lot of money." Tshisekedi: "it's simply proof that he has never loved this country." Tshisekedi is rumoured to want a third term and has warned fighting could delay 2028 elections. As part of that deal the U.S. signed an agreement to extract DR Congo's mineral wealth, and has sanctioned Rwandan officials.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Kabila fought in the rebellion that brought his father Laurent to power in 1997 and succeeded him after his 2001 assassination, ruling 18 years. Leaked results from Catholic Church observers say Martin Fayulu really won the 2018 election; ex-election chief Corneille Nangaa, now Kabila's FRN deputy, says he helped draft a Kabila-Tshisekedi deal. The power-sharing pact broke down in December 2020; Kabila went into exile in South Africa, reappeared in rebel-held Goma in 2025, and was sentenced to death in absentia that September. M23 formed in 2012 and fought Kabila's army; Rwanda denies backing it "despite overwhelming evidence," the BBC says.

SOURCES BBC News (Ondiro Oganga): Joseph Kabila: Former president becomes DR Congo's latest rebel leader

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/drc-joseph-kabila-rebel-leader-frn-m23

ASIA · ULAANBAATAR

Analysis: A telecom convoy is blamed for a fire that burned three-quarters of a Mongolian nature reserve, over 500,000 hectares

[Analysis · The Diplomat] This story is based on an analysis piece in The Diplomat by Sumiya Chuluunbaatar. A fire that broke out Oct 8 in Mongolia's Numrug nature reserve burned 504,960 hectares, about 1.2 million acres, before it was put out Oct 16, according to Mongolia's environment ministry. Preliminary investigations blame a vehicle convoy of Mobicom, a mobile operator 98.8 percent controlled by Japan's KDDI. Mobicom has apologized and agreed to pay compensation, while China mobilized more than 3,400 firefighters to keep the blaze from crossing the border.



Explainer image: forest in Khövsgöl, northern Mongolia. Enkhtuvshin from Budapest, Mongolia, CC BY 2.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

The fire burned from Oct 8 to Oct 16. Ministry figures released Oct 28 put the total at 504,960.4 hectares, 448,993.6 of them inside the Numrug Strictly Protected Area, which is 76.4 percent of the reserve. Investigators say a Mobicom vehicle's chassis got wrapped in dry plants and friction ignited the grass.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

The reserve is home to rare species on the IUCN Red List and Mongolian Red Book, including the Ussuri moose, black-billed capercaillie and Far Eastern taimen, and more than 250 bird species. The article says native plant communities may need 20 to 100 years to recover and warns of greater desertification and sandstorm risk.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] The fire was in a remote border region where, the environment minister admitted, on-site assessment is hard; the story has played out mostly in Mongolian, Chinese and Japanese media.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Mobicom first said it had followed "complete legal procedures," then publicly apologized and agreed to compensation once a joint working group assesses the damage, while still insisting it had proper permits. It said its vehicles were doing 4G tests near the Sumber-Rashaan border port. China is seeking compensation for its firefighting from Japan, the article reports. Japan's PM Takaichi told Mongolia's PM on Oct 29 that Japan "takes seriously the scale of the damage caused" and offered a recovery package based on a JICA assessment.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Japan's official development aid to Mongolia from 1977 to 2021 totals 364.107 billion yen. A 1999 China-Mongolia agreement covers border fire prevention, and a 2010 treaty requires prior notice of major border projects. [Analysis · Sumiya Chuluunbaatar, The Diplomat] The author argues Mongolian governance is known for “heavy approval, light supervision” and “heavy firefighting, light prevention.” Concerns raised in Chinese media about information security around Japanese communication projects in border areas have not been officially confirmed.

SOURCES The Diplomat (Sumiya Chuluunbaatar): Fire Devastated a Mongolian Nature Reserve. Who’s to Blame?

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/mongolia-numrug-reserve-fire-mobicom-kddi

ASIA · ISLAMABAD

Pakistan jails human rights lawyers Imaan Mazari and Hadi Ali Chattha for 10 years over a 2024 cricket-convoy road incident

A Pakistani anti-terrorism court sentenced human rights lawyer Imaan Mazari and her husband Hadi Ali Chattha to 10 years in prison, accusing them of removing road barriers and obstructing police during England's 2024 cricket tour. Both deny the charges. They were already jailed after earlier sentences of up to 17 years over social media posts criticising the military, which the Supreme Court had suspended.



Explainer image: the Supreme Court of Pakistan in Islamabad. Usman.pg, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Each got 10 years under the Anti-Terrorism Act plus one- and two-year terms for obstructing and using force against public servants, running concurrently, and a 200,000-rupee fine (£541/$723) each. Prosecutors said they removed barriers on a road set aside for the England team's security convoy at Zero Point, Islamabad, on Oct 25, 2024.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

The couple, who have represented activists, journalists and families of the forcibly disappeared, and the communities they defended. Chattha said he is "being punished for not only supporting my wife's work and activism, but for choosing this path of resisting injustice as our life journey together" (to Dawn News).

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Pakistan court cases rarely make U.S. front pages, and this verdict landed amid U.S. midterm and Iran-war coverage.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Amnesty's Yasmine Ahmed: "These convictions are an indictment of Pakistan's justice system." Amnesty says they were denied an open and fair trial; the trial was moved inside the prison, where they sat behind a cage-like structure. The couple say they are being "made an example to further cement the chilling effect."

L5 FULL CONTEXT

In custody since Jan 23 after a case over an altercation outside the Islamabad High Court; a day later sentenced to up to 17 years under the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act over posts critical of the military. The Supreme Court suspended those sentences and granted bail on Sep 17, but they were re-arrested the same day over a March 2025 protest. Mazari's mother Shireen Mazari was human rights minister under Imran Khan.

SOURCES BBC News: Human rights lawyer couple sentenced to 10 years' prison in Pakistan

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/pakistan-imaan-mazari-hadi-chattha-10-years-anti-terrorism

ASIA · BANGKOK

Thai activist who called out the monarchy dressed as Harry Potter now faces more than 34 years in prison

A Bangkok court gave 42-year-old human rights lawyer Arnon Nampa two years and eight months for lèse majesté, his 14th case under the law, bringing his total sentences to more than 34 years with two verdicts still pending. In 2020 he broke a national taboo by calling for scrutiny of the monarchy at a Harry Potter-themed rally.



Explainer image: Bangkok's Democracy Monument. Don Christie, CC BY-SA 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Friday's verdict was one of 14 lèse majesté cases against Arnon. "To me, this isn't a surprise," he told reporters. "If the country was more open, we would be able to talk about these issues freely."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Arnon's partner Lookwa, his 10-year-old daughter Pran and 3-year-old son Karl, who thinks court is where his dad works. BBC says 294 people, including 20 under 18, have been prosecuted since 2020, with sentences up to 50 years. Exiles include Melinn Chailom, who fled four 112 charges and got asylum in Canada.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Thai courts handle these cases slowly and often in secret, and the law itself chills domestic reporting.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

BBC says more people have been jailed under Thailand's law than in all other countries with such laws combined. The Move Forward party was dissolved in 2024 for proposing lighter penalties. Thai Lawyers for Human Rights says judges refuse defence subpoenas; one lawyer was warned of contempt for protesting a secret trial.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Article 112 carries three to 15 years per offence. Its use had been suspended for three years before 2020's student protests, then restarted at the end of 2020. Arnon has been in Bangkok Remand Prison for three years, writing letters to his children.

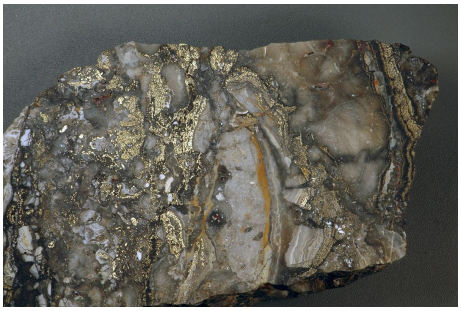
SOURCES BBC News: Lèse majesté: Arnon Nampa questioned Thailand's monarchy dressed as Harry Potter. Now he's in jail for 34 years

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/thailand-arnon-nampa-harry-potter-lese-majeste-34-years

AFRICA · JOHANNESBURG

Johannesburg's illegal gold miners take the blame for sinkholes, but experts point at big mining

As gold prices soar, tens of thousands of informal "zama zama" miners are digging through Johannesburg's abandoned shafts, even taking water from an animal charity. Politicians blame them for sinkholes swallowing roads ahead of Nov 4 local elections, but researchers say formal industrial mining is the main cause.



Explainer image: gold-bearing ore. James St. John, CC BY 2.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Zama zamas set up across from Claw's animal shelter in late September and drew on its water tanks. Police said they arrested 71 suspected illegal miners nationwide in the week to Oct 19.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Residents, the ~100 animals at Claw, commuters on the collapsed Wemmer Pan Road, and the miners themselves, mostly from Lesotho, Mozambique and Zimbabwe, per experts. In Khutsong, Vusi Cele says miners' rents keep the township afloat: "Without those rents, it's a ghost town."

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] A slow-burning local crisis with no single news event, overshadowed by bigger global stories.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Rosalind Morris (Columbia): "The biggest culprit of sinkholes in South Africa is formal industrial mining," which dewaters on a massive scale. Bench Marks' David van Wyk says armed gangs, not the "super-exploited" miners, take the gold. Mining minister Gwede Mantashe reported 6,100 derelict and ownerless mines and 1,170 unsafe openings in 2025.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Gold was found in 1884, creating Johannesburg; South Africa was the world's top producer until 2007. In 2019 a researcher estimated a tenth of South African gold, worth about $1bn, was exported illegally. In 2025, 93 bodies were pulled from a Stilfontein shaft after police blocked food and water.

SOURCES The Guardian (Rachel Savage): Sinkholes, scarred land and scapegoats: the scourge of illegal gold mining in Johannesburg

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/johannesburg-zama-zama-illegal-gold-mining-sinkholes

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AFRICA · NEW YORK

Sudanese survivors and rights groups fight the UAE's pick for UN secretary-general

The UAE nominated diplomat Lana Nusseibeh to succeed António Guterres as UN secretary-general. Sudanese activists and rights groups say she has repeated the UAE's denials of backing the RSF, accused of atrocities in El Fasher. Nusseibeh says she'd support UN accountability work on Sudan and calls RSF crimes "atrocious."



Explainer image: UN Headquarters in New York. Jakub Hałun, CC BY 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Rights groups at an Avaaz briefing criticised the candidacy. Kenneth Roth: "This is a completely unsuitable candidate." HRW's Bruno Stagno Ugarte said her dismissal of UN reports on UAE-RSF links "seriously undermined justice and accountability for the victims."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Sudanese civilians and survivors of El Fasher. Ibrahim Alduma, who grew up there: "How could the people... trust that the UN will achieve some kind of justice?"

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] The UN succession race gets little U.S. attention, and Sudan's war is routinely eclipsed by other conflicts.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Hala al-Karib says Security Council endorsement would amount to "a denial of the genocidal acts committed in El Fasher by the RSF." Kate Ferguson called it "autocratic capture of our most significant multilateral institution." Nusseibeh says she took leave from her UAE ministerial post and that Sudan will be "the litmus test" for the next secretary-general.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

A candidate needs nine of 15 Security Council votes and no permanent-member veto. An earlier informal poll had Costa Rica's Rebeca Grynspan as narrow frontrunner, but every candidate drew opposition from permanent members. The UN said the RSF's October 2025 El Fasher attack had "hallmarks of genocide." Nusseibeh was UAE ambassador to the UN until 2024.

SOURCES The Guardian (Carlos Mureithi): Sudanese diaspora and human rights groups denounce UAE nominee for UN top job

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/sudan-diaspora-oppose-uae-lana-nusseibeh-un-secretary-general

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MIDDLE EAST · TAIZ

Yemen's Taiz under Houthi siege: governor says the city is being sent "back to the stone age"

The governor of Taiz, Yemen's third city, says a month-long Houthi siege has cut water, food, oxygen and medicine to more than 800,000 people. He says the city needs about 35,000 cubic metres of water a day but no more than 1,000 gets through. The Houthi leader denies there is a siege.



Explainer image: the city of Taiz, Yemen. Rod Waddington from Kergunyah, Australia, CC BY-SA 2.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Governor Nabil Shamsan briefed to urge international action on the month-long siege. He said water shipments are stopped at Houthi roadblocks, food stocks are depleted, wheat prices are soaring and restaurants have closed for lack of fuel.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

More than 800,000 people inside the city; up to 1,800 dialysis patients without supplies; 120 health centres suspended; schools closed, affecting hundreds of thousands of children. He said 64 people were killed and 173 injured from August to Oct 20, and more than 6,400 newly displaced families arrived. "We are not talking about living, just surviving."

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Yemen's internal war rarely makes U.S. headlines, and regional coverage is dominated by the U.S.-Iran war and Strait of Hormuz talks.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Shamsan accused the Houthis of a "war of vengeance" to change Yemen's identity, saying captured villages get new religious leaders and curricula and children are being sent to front lines. He said Houthis control mobile networks and eavesdrop. HRW's Niku Jafarnia: renewed efforts to cut off food, water and medicine "show their utter disregard for civilian lives." Houthi leader Abdul-Malik al-Houthi says the way is open for aid and "anyone who wants to verify that there is no siege... can go to the city and see."

L5 FULL CONTEXT

HRW describes a 12-year-long siege of Taiz during which the Houthis have "bombed, starved and denied humanitarian aid to a million residents." Shamsan said what is needed is access for aid agencies, including the UN, not statements of solidarity.

SOURCES The Guardian (Patrick Wintour): Houthis sending Taiz 'back to the stone age', governor of besieged Yemen city says

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/yemen-taiz-houthi-siege-stone-age

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ASIA · BEIJING

Beijing's queer film festival, running since 2001, cancelled after police pressure

Beijing's independent queer film festival, one of China's oldest independent festivals and the only one in mainland China offering a public forum for LGBTQ+ film, was cancelled the day before it was due to open. The Guardian reports police had stepped up pressure with repeated phone calls in recent weeks. Organisers apologised on Instagram.



Explainer image: the rainbow pride flag. Benson Kua from Toronto, Canada, CC BY-SA 2.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED
Organisers: "We regret to inform you that the Love Queer Film Week ... has been cancelled." International film-makers had already travelled to China to take part.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED
China's LGBTQ+ community and independent film-makers. Hongwei Bao called the festival "a beacon for LGBT resilience" and said the shutdown has "a chilling affect on the Chinese queer community."

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET
[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Cultural closures in China seldom make U.S. news.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT
HRW's Maya Wang: the government under Xi "has been relentlessly tightening social and ideological control," and a queer film festival "faces all of these overlapping pressures." The festival still drew 200 volunteer applications last year, four times 2024's number.

L5 FULL CONTEXT
Founded in 2001 by Peking University students. Beijing Independent Film Festival was shut in 2014 after founders were detained and power cut; an independent Chinese festival in New York was cancelled last year after harassment; in June, LGBTQ+ screenings at Beijing's Institut Français were cancelled after police harassment. Beijing police could not be reached for comment.

SOURCES The Guardian (Amy Hawkins): Beijing Queer film festival cancelled after harassment from authorities
Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/beijing-queer-film-festival-cancelled-police-pressure

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MIDDLE EAST · DAMASCUS

Bread up tenfold: two years after Assad, Syrians say they're poorer than ever

Syria's government has slashed subsidies, pushing the price of bread up tenfold and some electricity bills up several hundred percent. A fuel-price hike triggered the largest protests since President Ahmed al-Sharaa took power, and was revoked days later. The UNDP said 90% of Syrians were in poverty last year.



Explainer image: pita flatbread, a staple across the Levant. Satdeep Gill, CC BY-SA 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Protesters burned tyres and blocked roads over a fuel increase; one told Sharaa, "this will [make] things explode." The rise was revoked days later amid calls for more protests.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Pensioner Marwan Bashour lives on about $90 a month, the public-sector minimum wage, and sells household items. Nabil al-Remhein, 63: "We're now having only one meal a day." A young mother said her family can afford a proper meal every two days.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Syria fell out of the headlines once Assad fell; the U.S.-Iran war and Israel's election dominate regional coverage.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Haid Haid (Chatham House) says a "significant portion of the population" is worse off than before Assad's fall and that part of the crisis is of the government's own making. Economist Samir Aita: "It's unsustainable. If they don't change, I fear chaos." Aid organisations have cut services because of funding cuts, and the U.S.-Iran war has hit fuel prices. A spokesman for the economy ministry said no one was available for an interview.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Sanctions have been lifted and the U.S. removed Syria from its state sponsors of terrorism list. The war killed half a million people and displaced half the population. The World Bank estimates reconstruction at $216bn.

SOURCES BBC News (Hugo Bachega): Syrians grow frustrated as soaring living costs threaten recovery

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/syria-cost-of-living-crisis-sharaa-subsidy-cuts

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EUROPE · MOSCOW

"They chose to strangle us": Russia's Novaya Gazeta shuts down after 30 years

Novaya Gazeta, Russia's most prominent independent newspaper for 30 years, is closing after being evicted from its offices and, it says, blocked from receiving reader donations. Co-founder and Nobel Peace laureate Dmitry Muratov says the authorities "chose to strangle us." Six of its journalists have been killed, including Anna Politkovskaya.



Explainer image: a stack of newspapers. Daniel R. Blume from Orange County, California, USA, CC BY-SA 2.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

The paper's closing statement: "They've killed us. The newspaper is no more." It blames "a coordinated act" by "the repressive state apparatus."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Its staff and readers who used VPNs to get around blocks. Muratov: "The banks are refusing to accept donations from our readers."

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Russia's domestic crackdown gets little U.S. airtime next to the battlefield and peace talks.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Earlier this year police searched the office; journalist Oleg Roldugin was arrested and charged with "unlawful access to computerised information," and editor Sergei Sokolov was questioned and his home searched. Muratov: "Different dictatorships in the world seek chaos."

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Muratov won the 2021 Nobel Peace Prize and was labeled a "foreign agent" in 2023. The paper lost its licence after new wartime laws following the 2022 invasion. Politkovskaya's office, preserved as a museum, has been emptied except for her desk and portrait.

SOURCES BBC News (Steven Rosenberg, Moscow): Prominent Russian newspaper shuts down under pressure from authorities

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/russia-novaya-gazeta-shuts-down-muratov

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EUROPE · WARSAW

Riot police deployed at Poland's top court as Tusk moves to prosecute its judges

Riot police were deployed at Poland's Constitutional Court after the justice minister sought to strip its president and vice-president of immunity to prosecute them. The court called it "the crime of a coup d'etat"; PM Donald Tusk says it is restoring the rule of law. President Karol Nawrocki cancelled a trip to Senegal mid-air and entered the court.



Explainer image: Poland's Constitutional Tribunal building in Warsaw. PanBe, CC0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Justice Minister Waldemar Żurek wants charges against Bogdan Święczkowski and Bartłomiej Sochański for not letting parliament-elected judges adjudicate. Anna Korwin-Piotrowska was placed in temporary charge.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Poland's courts and voters; PiS supporters protested outside. Critic Marcin Matczak said the move "buries this body and the issue of the rule of law for two decades."

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Polish judicial fights are complex and slow, and broke during the final week of the U.S. midterm campaign.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Nawrocki refuses to swear in five judges elected by parliament since March; the Venice Commission said he should. Tusk's government stopped publishing tribunal rulings. With parliamentary elections next year, some see the move as an attempt to boost Tusk's popularity; he was also criticised for nominating Maciej Berek, a former minister in his cabinet, as a judge.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

PiS packed the court after 2015. The ECHR and CJEU ruled three judges were improperly elected and the court is no longer "independent and impartial." Duda and Nawrocki vetoes blocked Tusk's reversals.

SOURCES BBC News (Adam Easton): Police deployed during stand-off over control of top Poland court

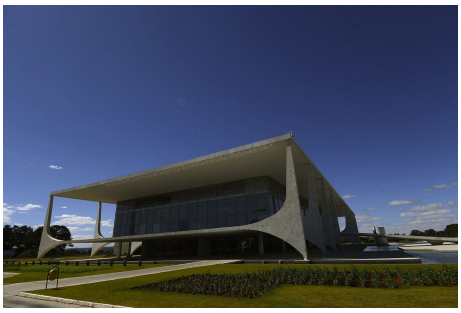
Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/poland-constitutional-court-standoff-riot-police

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LATIN AMERICA · SÃO PAULO

Brazil's defeated far-right candidate flees to Miami and briefly declares himself "true president-elect"

Flávio Bolsonaro flew to Miami 48 hours after losing Brazil's presidential election to Lula by 4.4 million votes, then for 58 minutes declared himself "Brazil's true president-elect" in a letter reportedly drafted with ChatGPT. A corrected version called him "leader of Brazil." Brazil's press, including conservative papers, met it with ridicule.



Explainer image: Brazil's presidential palace, Palácio do Planalto. Senado Federal, CC BY 2.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED
The first letter used an outdated coat of arms reading "United States of Brazil," a name unused since 1967. The correction reportedly came after Trump administration officials upbraided him.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED
Brazilian voters; Lula's win was recognised by right-wing leaders including Nayib Bukele and Giorgia Meloni, and by Bolsonaro's own party.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET
[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] The episode coincided with the U.S. midterm home stretch.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT
Estado de São Paulo urged conservatives to back São Paulo governor Tarcísio de Freitas. Celso Amorim: "the last gasp of a radical, irrational, lying right wing." Others warned Bolsonarismo remains powerful. Televangelist Silas Malafaia: "Bolsonaro's kids are jackasses … A bunch of amateur morons."

L5 FULL CONTEXT
His father Jair Bolsonaro is jailed. Trump has declined to publicly recognise the result; asked if he saw Bolsonaro as Brazil's "rightful" leader, he said "I won't get involved"; a U.S. cable obtained by Folha called Lula's win "surprising but definitive." He compared himself to de Gaulle and José Martí.

SOURCES The Guardian (Tom Phillips): 'Amateur morons': Flávio Bolsonaro's short-lived 'president-elect' claim met with mockery
Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/brazil-flavio-bolsonaro-flees-miami-president-elect-claim

ASIA · NEW DELHI

"It's a man you don't want to run into": Delhi women band together to walk the city's forests safely

About 20 women gathered in Delhi's Sanjay Van city forest in October for a group nature walk organised by author Neha Sinha, many of whom had never experienced a forest before. Participants describe stalking, harassment and intrusive questioning by men when they birdwatch, photograph trees or run outdoors. After protests over the gang-rape of a 17-year-old in a public park, the government's response was to ban entry to public parks after



Explainer image: Sanjay Van, an urban forest in Delhi. Ramanujam Meganathan, CC0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

sunset.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Urban ecologist Vallari Sheel was screamed at by a man in a car: "You have been clicking photos here for 10 days. What are you going to do with them?" Sinha has organised these walks for two years.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

The group included a scientist who stopped birding after moving to Delhi, a psychiatrist who can't find a safe place to run, and a conservation student, Alankrita Narayan, who was told during an internship: "Oh, don't worry about the leopard. It's a man you don't want to run into." Sinha: "No woman in the city is fully free." The women agree their safety measures may not work for less privileged women.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Women's safety in India makes international news mostly after violent crimes, not the daily limits on ordinary life.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

The after-sunset park ban hurts women who need to work outdoors at night. Women pick each other up, wait at the gate until all arrive and stick together; walks start at 7am because not everyone can leave home in the dark. "Men can pee on the road and we can't even carry a camera," one woman said.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Sinha, author of My Wild City, describes Delhi's fireflies, flying foxes, jackals, leopards, hyenas, civets, owls and 350-year-old trees, and thousands of fruit bats in central New Delhi. She calls walking and observing nature "very political acts" and has promised the group she will try to arrange a night walk.

SOURCES The Guardian (Romita Saluja): 'Don't worry about the leopard. It's a man you don't want to run into': Delhi women reclaim the outdoors

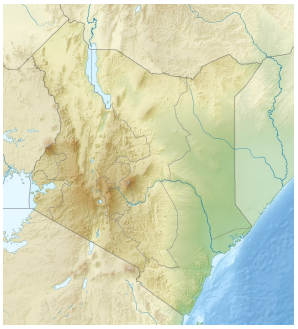
Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/delhi-women-reclaim-nature-walks-safety

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AFRICA · NAIROBI

Kenya seeks compensation from Russia for hundreds of citizens recruited to fight in Ukraine

After talks with Vladimir Putin in Moscow, President William Ruto said Kenya is seeking compensation for citizens recruited into Russia's military and has appointed a Defence Attaché to process claims and help bring people home. A Journalists for Justice investigation found 841 Kenyans recruited between October 2022 and June 2026 and at least 76 killed. Ruto said Russia agreed to stop recruiting Kenyans; the value and timeline of any compensation have not been announced.



Explainer image: a relief map of Kenya. Uwe Dedering, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Ruto said a Defence Attaché in Moscow will work directly with Russia's Ministry of Defence on compensation claims and safe return. Russia agreed to stop recruiting Kenyans, and Kenya has been classified as a non-source country.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Kenyan recruits and their families, including the dead and those unaccounted for. Some were reportedly promised civilian security and logistics jobs before being made to sign military contracts in Russia. Kenya's

intelligence service told Parliament more than 1,000 were recruited.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] The news came out of a Russia-Africa summit in Moscow, a venue U.S. outlets cover lightly, and is overshadowed by the midterms.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Across Africa, Journalists for Justice documented more than 3,000 recruits from 40 countries, with 502 confirmed deaths by June. "The precise value, eligibility criteria and payment timeline have not yet been announced."

L5 FULL CONTEXT

The leaders also discussed raising Russian scholarships for Kenyans from 70 to 300 and a bilateral labour deal. Ruto invited Putin to Kenya; it would be his first official visit there and first to Africa since 2018. Africanews says acceptance is unclear.

SOURCES Africanews (Rédaction Africanews): President Ruto seeks compensation for Kenyans recruited into Russian military
Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/kenya-ruto-russia-compensation-recruited-fighters

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LATIN AMERICA · CARACAS

Venezuela's new foreign minister is a 35-year-old former opposition aide, and his predecessor is sent to London to recover $4bn in gold

Acting President Delcy Rodríguez has named Oliver Blanco, 35, who began his career as an aide to opposition leader Henry Ramos Allup, as foreign minister. Outgoing minister Félix Plasencia was told to settle in the UK "until we recover the gold that belongs to Venezuelans": about 31 tonnes, worth about $4 billion, frozen at the Bank of England since 2019. The reshuffle came a day after Rodríguez promised elections under a "renewed" electoral authority, with no date.



Explainer image: the Bank of England in London. Diliff, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Blanco: "I will defend our sovereignty and the national interest, always working to achieve concrete benefits for the people," calling for "building from our differences" a country where "everyone has a place."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Venezuelans, whose central bank reserves are frozen; the opposition led by Dinorah Figuera, which is negotiating with the government, where gold recovery is a main demand.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Cabinet reshuffles abroad rarely draw U.S. attention, especially in midterm week.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Since joining the government, Blanco has worked on restoring relations with the U.S., UK, Chile and Israel. Rodríguez also named Marynna Saatdjian, Saúl Ameliach and Yuri Pimentel, a former Chávez-era communications minister, to deputy posts.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Blanco aided Ramos Allup when he led the 2015 National Assembly, the first opposition-controlled one. He joined Rodríguez's government after the January US military operation that removed Nicolás Maduro. The gold was frozen in 2019 when London recognised Juan Guaidó as interim president.

SOURCES MercoPress: Venezuela names Oliver Blanco, a former opposition aide, as foreign minister
Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/venezuela-oliver-blanco-foreign-minister-bank-of-england-gold

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AFRICA · ADDIS ABABA

Ethiopia gets 12 Russian Su-35 fighter jets as fighting with Tigray's TPLF intensifies

Ethiopia has received 12 Su-35 fighter jets from Russia and plans to buy four S-400 air defence systems, PM Abiy Ahmed said at the Russia-Africa summit in Moscow. He called it a "milestone" as fighting with Tigray's TPLF intensified and tensions with Eritrea persist.



Explainer image: a Sukhoi Su-35 fighter jet. Oleg Belyakov, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Abiy said the deal was agreed years ago and the jets arrived ahead of schedule, making Ethiopia the first sub-Saharan country with this kind of "advanced combat technology." "If we fail to build this capability, surviving as a country in our region will become difficult."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Civilians in Tigray and northern Ethiopia, and Eritrea, which Ethiopia accuses of backing the TPLF (Eritrea denies it).

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Coverage of the Russia-Africa summit and Ethiopia's renewed war has been thin outside regional outlets.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Analyst Qalaab Segatu told BBC Amharic the purchase signals Ethiopia "was preparing for possible wars with other countries, not just internal conflicts," and the systems could protect cities and the Renaissance Dam. Abiy also stressed drones; Ethiopia has used Turkish and Chinese drones.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Russia and Ethiopia signed a 2021 military training and technology deal. The government and TPLF blame each other for breaking the 2022 deal that ended the civil war. Abiy calls Ethiopia's lack of sea access "existential," which Eritrea sees as a sovereignty threat; Eritrea won independence in 1993. Related live slugs: ethiopia-drone-strikes-amhara-tigray-civilians, ethiopia-abiy-ministers-military-training-hurso.

SOURCES BBC News: Ethiopia receives 12 Russian fighter jets and air defence systems as Tigray war escalates

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/ethiopia-russia-su35-fighter-jets-s400-tigray

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LATIN AMERICA · PORT-AU-PRINCE

El Salvador sends more than 2,000 troops to Haiti to find four missing soldiers

El Salvador has deployed more than 2,000 soldiers to Haiti to retrieve four Salvadoran air force technicians who went missing almost two weeks earlier while serving with the UN-backed Gang Suppression Force. Haiti handed over four bodies, but President Nayib Bukele said they did not match, one being a child's. Bukele says the troops will also help fight Haiti's gangs.



Explainer image: a relief map of Haiti. Alexrk2, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

The foreign ministry said Bukele told Haitian PM Alix Didier Fils-Aime of the "robust deployment," a "large-scale operation" "supported by various countries and international organisations."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Four Salvadoran air force technicians ambushed in an armoured vehicle in gang-controlled Croix-des-Bouquets; their families; Haitians in gang-held areas. The UN says more than 5,700 people were killed in gang violence in Haiti this year.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Haiti coverage in the U.S. is sporadic, and this landed amid the midterms and Iran war.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Bukele said one returned corpse was a child's and another wore a different country's uniform. He had threatened on X to wipe out Haiti's gangs, replicating his crackdown at home, if the Salvadorans were not released. No gang has claimed responsibility.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

The UN Security Council expanded the GSF's powers in October last year, but the force has struggled to enter gang areas; gangs control much of Port-au-Prince. Violence worsened in the political vacuum after President Jovenel Moïse's 2021 assassination.

SOURCES BBC News: El Salvador sends 2,000 troops to Haiti to rescue four missing soldiers

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/el-salvador-2000-troops-haiti-missing-soldiers

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ASIA · NEW DELHI

India caps cancer drug mark-ups after a dying bank clerk's case reached the Supreme Court

India is capping trade margins at 30% on 137 more cancer drugs, which the government says could cut prices by up to 70% and save patients 2,500 crore rupees (£199m) a year. The move follows a case started by Sarojam Radhakrishnan, a retired bank clerk who couldn't afford her breast cancer treatment. Supreme Court judges called the mark-ups "carnage" and "extortion." She died in September 2022 while her case was still pending.



Explainer image: the Supreme Court of India in New Delhi. Pinakpani, CC BY-SA 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Judges noted a drug supplied to hospitals at 2,700 rupees sold for 27,000. The pricing authority found average mark-ups of 170% on some cancer drugs, some over 700%.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Radhakrishnan's monthly treatment was over 63,000 rupees (£500). India records about 1.56m new cancer cases a year. Health spending pushes about 55 million Indians a year below the poverty line (Public Health Foundation of India).

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Indian health policy rarely enters U.S. news, and the change was a regulatory cap rather than a single dramatic event.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Ayushman Bharat covers 500,000 rupees a year per family, the cost of one dose of Kadcyla; patients may need up to 14. Dr Ravi Kannan: some families "start but they don't come back for chemotherapy." Jyotsna Singh warns hospitals may raise other charges to offset the cap.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

A 30% cap already applied to 42 drugs. The court asked why the cap shouldn't apply to all non-patented drugs, giving the government until Oct 27 to respond.

SOURCES The Guardian (Amrit Dhillon, Delhi): India slashes cost of cancer drugs after court rules mark-ups are 'extortion'

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/india-cancer-drug-price-cap-supreme-court-extortion

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LATIN AMERICA · BUENOS AIRES

Milei pitches Patagonia as an unregulated home for AI data centres, and sheep ranchers are leasing land for one

Argentina's President Javier Milei says his country will not regulate artificial intelligence and is offering a corporate tax cut, from 25% to 15%, for AI projects of at least $1 billion; the Senate has yet to approve it. Polish renewable energy company Green Capital plans a $3 billion data centre in Chubut province on 130,000 hectares leased from 14 landowners, though it has yet to secure a customer. Residents of nearby Trelew say the company hasn't specified how much water it would need or how much of its power would come from gas.



Explainer image: server racks. Joël van der Loo, CC BY-SA 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Milei told the US Chamber of Commerce in Washington last month: "We are not going to regulate artificial intelligence... We are going to leave it free." Visitor logs obtained by AP show tech figures from Peter Thiel to representatives of OpenAI, Amazon, Google, Oracle and data centre companies meeting Milei and his aides in recent months.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Chubut's sheep ranchers, whose wool industry is in decline after decades of drought, overgrazing and soaring production costs; Francisco Sáenz's family is among the 14 landowners. Trelew residents, who have rallied under a "Trelew Free of Data Centres" banner. Cristina Gibón, 46: "There's just so little information."

L3 **WHY IT'S QUIET**

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Construction isn't expected until around 2028, so this is still a plan rather than a building site, which helps it stay off the radar.

L4 **DEEPER IMPACT**

If run continuously at projected peak demand, the campus would use about 2.7 times the electricity the entire city of Buenos Aires consumed in 2025, according to an AP calculation. The incentives don't require companies to reserve computing capacity for local use or disclose energy and water use. Alan Rocha Varsanyi of Observatorio Petrolero Sur: "The computing capacity will be exported wherever OpenAI or the other companies need it." Nicolás Wolovick of the National University of Córdoba: "Without rules, Argentina will become a laboratory."

L5 **FULL CONTEXT**

Patagonia's appeal is empty land, cool air, strong winds and gas from the Vaca Muerta shale formation. Opposition in Congress forced Milei to gut a bill easing limits on foreign land ownership and has stalled his plan to let AI agents control companies. Pope Leo XIV visits Argentina next week on a Latin American tour.

SOURCES Euronews (AP): Argentina courts AI data centres with no regulation and tax breaks

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/argentina-milei-patagonia-ai-data-centres-no-regulation

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LATIN AMERICA · BOGOTÁ

"Either we save ourselves or we're screwed": Colombia's government warns of a 2027 default unless Congress passes its rescue law

Colombia's vice president José Manuel Restrepo and finance minister Miguel Gómez Martínez told Semana that if the economic rescue law doesn't advance by the end of 2026, Colombia will default next year and struggle to pay public employees' salaries. They say 70% of the adjustment comes from cutting state bureaucracy, waste and unproductive assets. The bill raises VAT to 19% on some goods now exempt or taxed at 5%, including coffee, sugar and pasta, while refunding VAT to 19 million Colombians. Gómez put the deficit to finance at 80 to 90 trillion pesos.



Explainer image: Colombia's central bank, Banco de la República. Iñigo Pérez De Camino, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 **WHAT HAPPENED**

Restrepo: if the rescue law doesn't advance by year-end, "Colombia entra en default (suspensión de pagos) el próximo año." He added: "O nos salvamos o nos jodemos" ("Either we save ourselves or we're screwed"). Asked about Congress's Dec 16 session end, Gómez said the law must pass before the year ends or Colombia faces a crisis "similar a la que vivió Venezuela."

L2 **WHO'S AFFECTED**

Contractors (the bill cuts service-provision contracts by 50%), consumers facing 19% VAT on some staples, and higher earners: health contributions stay at 4% up to two minimum wages, then rise gradually to a maximum of 8%. Officials say 19 million people would get VAT refunded and 16.5 million more up to 50%, with refunds starting Jan 1, 2028.

L3 **WHY IT'S QUIET**

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] Fiscal fights in Bogotá play out in Spanish-language business press, and a government sounding the alarm to pass its own bill reads abroad as domestic politics.

L4 **DEEPER IMPACT**

The bill would give President Abelardo De La Espriella powers to merge or close state entities, cut income tax

from 35% to 31% for micro and small businesses, keep the financial-sector surcharge until 2030 and sell unproductive SAE assets. Gómez said talks with the IMF in recent weeks focused on the sustainability of Colombia's public finances.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Restrepo blames the previous Petro government, saying it raised debt from 800 to 1,200 trillion pesos and doubled the cost of debt service (government claims). The government had said there would be no tax reform; Restrepo said the previous government hid spending. Gómez said the law covers short-term measures and the full adjustment will need further decisions.

SOURCES Semana: "Sin reforma, Colombia entrará en default en 2027": la advertencia del vicepresidente y del ministro de Hacienda · Portafolio: Gobierno advierte que Colombia podría entrar en 'default' en 2027 si el Congreso no aprueba la ley de ajuste fiscal

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/colombia-default-warning-2027-ley-de-rescate

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LATIN AMERICA · PORT OF SPAIN

Trinidad and Tobago breaks Caribbean ranks to back the U.S. embargo on Cuba at the UN

Trinidad and Tobago became the first CARICOM country in decades to vote against the annual UN resolution condemning the U.S. embargo on Cuba, and Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar is doubling down. The resolution still passed 130-17 with 25 abstentions, a sharp drop from last year's 165 votes in favour. Cuba's ambassador said supporting the U.S. narrative means contributing to a policy "whose consequences can cost human lives."



Explainer image: the UN General Assembly hall. Basil D Soufi, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

At a Divali with the Diplomats function Thursday night, Persad-Bissessar said: "we cannot want to live in light at home and remain silent when others live in the shadows of oppression and exploitation," and "we cannot stand by and do nothing or say nothing to support a military dictatorship in Cuba. They're our neighbors, they're our friends."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Cubans, whom Ambassador Gustavo Veliz described as facing electricity shortages. In Wednesday's vote, Jamaica, Haiti and Guyana abstained; the Bahamas, Belize, Barbados, Grenada, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, St. Kitts and Nevis and Suriname voted in favour; Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica and St. Lucia were absent.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] The UN Cuba vote is an annual ritual U.S. media rarely cover, and the Caribbean angle was reported mainly by the regional wire CMC.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Veliz denounced "extraordinary diplomatic pressure exerted by the Permanent Representative of the United States to the United Nations" and "the unjustifiable energy siege imposed on Cuba." David Denny, president of the Barbados Cuba Friendship Association, condemned Trinidad and Tobago and the abstainers: "To vote against and to abstain is to betray."

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Veliz recalled that in 1972 Trinidad and Tobago was one of the first four countries to formally establish diplomatic

relations with Cuba. Last year the resolution won 165 votes, with seven against and 12 abstentions.

SOURCES Caribbean Times (CMC): PM Persad-Bissessar doubles down on support for UN vote on Cuba
Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/trinidad-tobago-votes-against-un-cuba-embargo-resolution

AFRICA · JOHANNESBURG

South Africa's Gauteng shuts 20 liquor outlets after 7,322 inspections in a crackdown on gender-based violence

Gauteng Premier Panyaza Lesufi said Sunday the province has shut 20 liquor outlets and issued 459 non-compliance notices after 7,322 inspections, part of a 90-day programme against alcohol-related gender-based violence and femicide that follows President Cyril Ramaphosa's Sept 29 address. Lesufi acknowledged significant work remains: only 21 of the province's 67 GBVF directives are complete.



Explainer image: Johannesburg, Gauteng. Frankbel, CC BY-SA 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED
Besides the 20 closures and 459 notices, 566 outlets were referred to the Liquor Inspectorate and 41 joint enforcement operations were run. Lesufi: "Enforcement operations will continue to target unlicensed liquor outlets, repeat offenders and illegal trading beyond permitted hours."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED
Women and children in Gauteng, and liquor traders. Johannesburg is preparing 10 previously hijacked or illegally occupied buildings for public reuse; Tshwane cleared overgrown vegetation around high-risk public transport stations; Ekurhuleni inspected taxi ranks and found faulty CCTV systems.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET
[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] It is a provincial progress report on a domestic programme, covered almost entirely by South African outlets.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT
Of 67 directives, 21 are complete, 38 underway and eight not started; three of the eight liquor-enforcement directives are done. Safety audits are 60% to 80% complete in most municipalities, with urgent hazards to be fixed or put into funded plans within 90 days. The province submitted inputs on the proposed Liquor Bill.

L5 FULL CONTEXT
Ramaphosa's Sept 29 address called for coordinated action on alcohol-related violence. Lesufi: "The fight against GBVF requires sustained government action, effective law enforcement and active participation from communities and all sectors of society."

SOURCES IOL: Gauteng shuts down 20 liquor outlets after more than 7,300 inspections in GBV crackdown · Gauteng News Agency: Gauteng shuts down 20 liquor outlets as province intensifies fight against gender-based violence
Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/gauteng-shuts-20-liquor-outlets-gbv-crackdown

NORTH AMERICA · PAWHUSKA

Osage Nation is plugging abandoned oil wells faster after the BIA called them "not a federal function"

After the Interior Department's Orphaned Wells Program Office revised its tribal grant guidance on March 13, the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Osage Agency stopped issuing plugging permits for orphaned wells in the Osage Nation's federally funded program. A process that could take 120 to 130 days now takes one to two weeks. The Nation has plugged about 160 wells, 70 to 80 of them this year, but its natural resources official asks whether the change quietly makes thousands of abandoned wells the tribe's problem.



Explainer image: an oil pumpjack in Oklahoma. roy.luck, CC BY 2.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

BIA Osage Agency superintendent Adam Trumbly: "The BIA–Osage Agency is not issuing plugging permits for orphan wells" plugged under the Interior program's tribal grants. The BIA told the Nation's Department of Natural Resources that wells without a responsible party are not a federal function.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Osage residents and landowners on a reservation of about 1,470,559 acres. Reporting by Grist and Osage News found roughly 2,300 documented orphaned wells, though the true number may be higher. Crews have inspected at least 2,500 to 2,700 wells; "We keep finding new wells every quarter section we get into," said Fred Beartrack of the Osage DNR.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] The change came through a revised grant guidance document, not a public rule, and was reported by tribal and nonprofit outlets.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Beartrack: "They just said it's not their problem... Are all of these orphan wells our responsibility?" Former Principal Chief Geoffrey Standing Bear, now on the Osage Minerals Council, wants a scientific and environmental review. The Nation's award is about $91 million over five years; asked if that is enough, Adam Peltz of the Environmental Defense Fund said, "No, not even close." Plugging one well costs $40,000 to $500,000.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

An Interior Inspector General report found the Nation had plugged 14 of 290 planned Phase 1 wells as of Dec. 31, 2024. The 2021 infrastructure law funded well plugging, with about $150 million going to tribes and Osage receiving the largest share. Oklahoma has about 18,000 documented orphan wells and is believed to have more than 300,000 undocumented ones, Peltz said.

SOURCES Osage News via Grist (Allison Herrera): Osage Nation speeds up orphan well cleanup as federal oversight recedes

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/oklahoma-osage-nation-orphan-wells-bia-not-federal-function

ASIA · COLOMBO

Sri Lanka sends soldiers to protect elephants from snares, explosive bait and illegal electric fences

Sri Lanka launched "Hasthi Sena" (Elephant Force) on Monday, an islandwide operation pairing the military and wildlife officials to protect elephants and reduce human-elephant conflict. The first phase focuses on 17 elephants facing threats, and plans are underway to cover about 80% of areas where elephants live. Teams will carry out raids and legal action against illegal firearms, "hakka patas" explosive bait, unauthorised electric fences and snares.



Explainer image: a Sri Lankan elephant. Charles J. Sharp, CC BY-SA 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

The operation began in Galkiriyagama in the North Western Wildlife Zone, run by the Environment Ministry, the Department of Wildlife Conservation and the Tri-Forces, under the direct supervision of Army Commander Lt. Gen. Nilantha Premaratne.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Elephants, starting with 17 at-risk animals, and the farming communities living alongside them. Sixty military personnel are deployed in 10 operational teams organised into six groups.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] A domestic launch event reported only by Sri Lankan outlets on its first day.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Continuous raids and legal action will target illegal firearms, hakka patas (described by the Daily Mirror as improvised explosive devices), unauthorised electric fences and snares. The remaining 20% of elephant areas will be covered by a separate initiative, Environment Minister Dr. Dammika Patabendi said.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Authorities said the initiative would focus on scientific and planned measures to safeguard elephant populations. Attendees included North-Western Wildlife Director Pushpantha Wimaladasa, ministry adviser Ravindra Kariyawasam and Maj. Gen. Kaminda Silva of the 21st Division.

SOURCES Daily Mirror (Sri Lanka): Hasthi Sena launched to protect elephants, tackle human-elephant conflict · Ada Derana: Hasthi Sena operation launched · The Lanka Leader: Sri Lanka deploys armed forces to protect elephants under Hasthi Sena

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/sri-lanka-hasthi-sena-army-protects-elephants

NORTH AMERICA · BEMIDJI

Minnesota judges order a county to account for every child it placed through Red Lake Nation's seized child welfare agency

Two Beltrami County district judges have ordered social workers to identify every child the county has placed on the Red Lake Nation reservation, after the Bureau of Indian Affairs seized the tribe's child welfare agency, Ombimindwaa Gidinawemaaganiaadog ("Ombi"), on Sept. 10. At least seven children have died since 2021, when federal officials first became concerned about Ombi. The county attorney says fewer than 10 of the county's 80 children in out-of-home placement are in Red Lake; Ombi has about 200 children placed with relatives or foster homes.



Explainer image: Red Lake Nation reservation land at the Northwest Angle, Minnesota. Ken Lund from Reno, Nevada, USA, CC BY-SA 2.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

The Oct. 22 order told social workers "to confirm the current placement and status of all affected children," with a list due Oct. 30 including each child's location and their social worker's most recent face-to-face contact. Judges Matti R. Adam and Annie P. Claesson-Huseby will decide next steps.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Children in county placements on the reservation (fewer than 10, per Beltrami County Attorney David Hanson) and about 200 children Ombi has placed. Hanson: "We're not going to disrupt if it's safe and appropriate." The Red Lake Tribal Council acknowledged "children and families who have suffered, especially those who have experienced the heartbreaking loss of a child."

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] This is a regional court order in northern Minnesota, reported mainly by the Star Tribune and tribal media during midterm week.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

The BIA says Ombi put children at risk of death, abuse and severe malnutrition, citing a child life-flighted twice to a hospital with skull fractures and suspicious bruising. The reassumption notice says cooperation with the BIA and FBI eroded to "a point where it is actively impeding investigations." Red Lake is appealing and asserting tribal sovereignty, saying "we know best" how to keep children safe and connected with families.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Red Lake controls its own social services and judicial system, except major crimes, which the FBI and federal courts handle. Ombi assumed full jurisdiction of Red Lake's child protection and welfare cases in 2021 rather than partnering with Beltrami County. Reassumption is a rare emergency BIA move that can be voluntary; Red Lake's was not. The FBI investigation is separate. Ombi and the BIA did not respond to the Star Tribune.

SOURCES Minnesota Star Tribune (Kim Hyatt): Judges order county to identify children placed in Red Lake's welfare agency · Red Lake Nation News (republished): Judges order county to identify children placed in Red Lake's welfare agency

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/minnesota-red-lake-ombi-judges-order-child-placement-accounting

OCEANIA · FUNAFUTI

Tuvalu replaces its 100-year-old public health law

Tuvalu's Parliament has passed the Public Health Act 2026, replacing a law first enacted in 1926. The new law sets out how the Pacific nation prevents, manages and responds to health risks from the community level up to national emergencies and pandemics. Health Minister Tuafafa Latasi called it "an important moment for all Tuvaluans."



Explainer image: Funafuti, Tuvalu. Davidarfonjones, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

The act provides "an updated framework for preventing, managing and responding to public health risks from the community level through to national emergencies, public health emergencies of international concern, and pandemics."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

People across Tuvalu: the law gives different levels of health risk identified pathways for escalation and response, "with clear powers and responsibilities to support decision-making."

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] It came out as a WHO release and a regional wire item; lawmaking in Pacific microstates rarely reaches U.S. outlets.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

It covers communicable disease management, planning, standard setting, and the collection and use of health information, and will help Tuvalu meet its obligations under the International Health Regulations. Latasi: the country's health needs "have changed significantly over the past century."

L5 FULL CONTEXT

The previous Public Health Act was first enacted in 1926 and amended several times. WHO's Dr Mark Jacobs: "For Pacific island countries like Tuvalu, having a modern legal framework is essential."

SOURCES World Health Organization, Western Pacific: Tuvalu Parliament passes Public Health Act 2026, modernizing century-old public health legislation · PINA: Tuvalu Parliament passes Public Health Act 2026

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/tuvalu-public-health-act-2026-replaces-1926-law

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NORTH AMERICA · ORGAN PIPE CACTUS NATIONAL MONUMENT, ARIZ.

Border wall contractors unearthed Native American remains in Arizona's Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, weeks after an elder warned they would

The National Park Service confirmed to ProPublica that human remains consistent with tribal cremation practices were unearthed Sept. 8 in soil overturned by contractors building a second border wall through Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. The discovery had not been reported until now. Hia-Ced O'odham elder Lorraine Eiler had warned about 15 days earlier that bulldozers would disturb her ancestors' graves.



Explainer image: Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Arizona. Blervis, CC0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

The Park Service said "the University of Arizona conducted an assessment and confirmed that the remains are human and align with tribal cremation practices." Curator James T. Watson wrote the evidence suggested cremation consistent with precolonial practices in the region dating back 1,500 years. CBP said it learned of the discovery six days after it was made and that "no additional construction has occurred at this location to date."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Hia-Ced O'odham and Tohono O'odham families. Eiler's family decided to hold off on reburial until construction stops: "They're going to find remains wherever they dig." Chairman Verlon M. Jose: "Every time this happens it is a wound to the heart of all members of the Tohono O'odham Nation."

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] The discovery was made on remote federal land and only surfaced through a ProPublica investigation.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Since the Real ID Act, DHS has invoked its waiver power 66 times, 60 of them under President Trump's two administrations. A 2019 Organ Pipe waiver set aside more than 40 laws, including NAGPRA, and CBP says it is still in effect. Lawyer Dinah Bear: "there is no end date to the effectiveness of the waivers." Rep. Adelita Grijalva is preparing legislation to void existing waivers.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Sundt Construction holds a $443 million contract, finalized in May, for the second wall. In April, contractors bulldozed the Las Playas Intaglio, believed to be at least 6,500 years old (CBP called it accidental). DHS then awarded a $1.3 billion contract for a 62-mile wall across the Tohono O'odham Nation, which the tribe is fighting in federal court. A 2024 Park Service report noted a Quitobaquito cemetery holding at least two families, including Eiler's, and 34 graves.

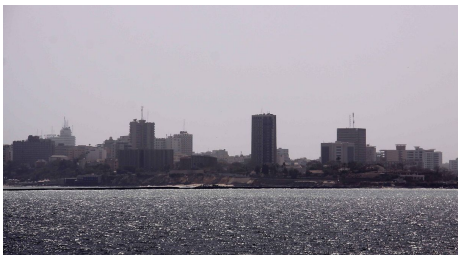
SOURCES ProPublica (Ryan Devereaux): Tribal Leaders Warned Border Wall Construction Would Disturb Native American Remains. They Were Right.

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/arizona-organ-pipe-border-wall-native-remains-unearthed

AFRICA · DAKAR

Senegal's own ruling party keeps blocking the budget that would unlock a $2.2 billion IMF deal, with a full vote on Tuesday

Senegal's National Assembly finance committee rejected the government's revised 2026 budget for a second time on Oct. 30, along with two government amendments. The ruling Pastef party, which holds 130 of 165 seats, says the government's answers were "insufficient and unsatisfactory." The text carries measures agreed with the IMF to unlock a proposed $2.2 billion, three-year programme, and goes to a full vote Tuesday.



Explainer image: Dakar, Senegal. Vincenzo Fotoguru laconianni, CC BY-SA 2.5 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

The committee rejected the revised budget "à la majorité" on Oct. 30 after the government asked for it to be sent back on Oct. 27. Pastef said the government "n'a apporté aucune modification" (made no changes) and would not adopt it "en l'état."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Senegal's households and public finances. Pastef objects over household purchasing power, budget transparency and management of special funds; the draft includes a CFA 555 billion (about $960 million) cut in investment spending.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] The fight is inside the ruling party and covered mostly in French-language Senegalese media and specialist briefs.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

IMF staff agreed the proposed $2.2 billion, 36-month programme on Sept. 1; it still needs IMF Executive Board approval. If the revised budget isn't adopted, the initial 2026 budget stays in force without the IMF-negotiated measures. Ouelen reports, citing AFP, debt at 132% of GDP.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

The finance ministry said Oct. 31 it regretted the decision and had answered lawmakers in a 29-page response sent Oct. 29. Finance Minister Cheikh Diba had withdrawn the text from the plenary on Oct. 27. The vote outcome is not yet known.

SOURCES The Sable Africa: The Sable Daily Brief, 2 November 2026 · SenePlus (French): La commission des finances rejette la LFR 2026 une seconde fois · Ouelen (French): Sénégal : budget rejeté, l'aide du FMI en jeu

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/senegal-revised-budget-rejected-imf-program-vote

AFRICA · ABUJA

Africa launches its own $5 billion energy bank after a 20-month delay, as Western lenders pull back from oil and gas

Afreximbank and the African Petroleum Producers' Organisation formally established the Africa Energy Bank at its first general meeting in Abuja on Oct. 31, with $5 billion in authorised capital and Egyptian banker Helmy Ghazi as its first president. It will finance oil, gas and other energy projects across the value chain. The launch comes after a January 2025 start date was missed amid disputes over equity and capital commitments.



Explainer image: Abuja, Nigeria. AdastralNg22, CC BY-SA 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

The AEB was formally announced at its inaugural general meeting; resolutions appointed Ghazi and formed the first board of directors.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

APPO's 18 member countries (Nigeria, Algeria, Angola, Benin, Cameroon, Chad, Republic of Congo, DR Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Ghana, Libya, Namibia, Niger, Senegal, South Africa), plus governments, national oil companies and investors the bank aims to attract. Nigeria committed $100 million.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] It was announced on a Saturday in Abuja via press release and covered mainly by African business media.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Per THISDAY, the bank was created against an estimated $200 billion in energy investment needs across Africa and "the increasing reluctance of traditional international lenders to finance fossil fuel projects." Promoters say it will reduce reliance on imported petroleum products and promote intra-African energy trade.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Talks began in 2022. The proposed January 2025 launch deadline was missed over "disagreements over the transfer of equity subscriptions, capital commitments, and other establishment requirements." It will operate as "an independent, supranational pan-African financial institution."

SOURCES Afreximbank/APPO joint statement (via APO newsroom): Joint statement: Afreximbank and APPO formally establish Africa Energy Bank · THISDAY (Emmanuel Addeh): After 20-month Delay, $5bn Africa Energy Bank Takes off in Abuja · Business Tech Africa: Breaking News Today - Monday 2 November 2026

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/africa-energy-bank-launched-abuja-5-billion-helmy-ghazi

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NORTH AMERICA · WINDOW ROCK, ARIZ.

Navajo Nation becomes the first tribe eligible to run its own Clean Water Act pollution permits

The EPA approved the Navajo Nation for "treatment in a similar manner as a state" under the Clean Water Act's wastewater-discharge (NPDES) and sewage sludge programs, making it the first tribe in the country with that status. It means the Nation can now apply to run those permitting programs on its land. The Navajo Nation EPA says it must still submit its own program for federal review before it can take over.



Explainer image: Window Rock, capital of the Navajo Nation. Ben FrantzDale, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

EPA approved the Nation's TAS application for the NPDES and sludge management programs; it is "the first Tribe in the country to attain TAS status for these programs."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Navajo communities and the facilities that discharge into tribal waters. EPA Region 9 currently issues all NPDES permits on Navajo lands, including for wastewater plants, mines and a power plant listed on EPA's Navajo permits page.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] It was a regulatory eligibility step announced by an EPA regional office, reported mainly by trade and tribal outlets.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

If the Nation's program is later approved, it could issue permits setting discharge limits and monitoring rules, regulate sewage sludge, and enforce them, "similar to states." Navajo EPA cautions that this "will require adequate resources and continued federal support" and that tribal efforts "should strengthen water quality protection, not serve as a replacement for federal responsibility."

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Etsitty: "While obtaining water rights for the Navajo Nation is critical, we also need to manage all aspects of water quality protection." EPA tied the approval to "cooperative federalism," one of Administrator Lee Zeldin's five pillars.

SOURCES U.S. EPA news release: Navajo Nation Becomes First Tribe Eligible to Administer Clean Water Act Permitting Programs · WaterFM: Navajo Nation first tribe eligible for Clean Water Act permitting · Navajo Nation EPA: NNPDES Program

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/navajo-nation-first-tribe-clean-water-act-permitting-tas

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AFRICA · HARARE

Zimbabwe's top court reserves judgment on a challenge to the amendment stretching terms to seven years and letting Parliament pick the president

Zimbabwe's Constitutional Court has reserved judgment in a challenge by Eliphas Kawa and Hazvineyi Machingura to Constitutional Amendment No. 3, which Mnangagwa signed into law. The amendment extends presidential and parliamentary terms from five to seven years and replaces direct presidential elections with Parliament electing the president. It is the first of six challenges the court is set to hear this month.



Explainer image: Harare, Zimbabwe. Radozw at Serbian Wikipedia, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

The court concluded proceedings without immediately ruling, the CDF announced. Reserving judgment means the court will rule later, not that it has ruled for or against the applicants. The immediate question is whether the applicants may bring their challenge directly to the Constitutional Court.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Zimbabwean voters. The applicants argue changes affecting the right to vote require a referendum, and they also challenge provisions on presidential appointments to the Senate.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] A procedural step in a domestic court case, reported mainly by Zimbabwean outlets.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

The CDF said: "we remain resolute in our commitment to intensify and escalate our peaceful, lawful and constitutional efforts to restore constitutionalism in Zimbabwe." Other cases question whether the amendment process was lawful, whether term extensions can benefit current officeholders, and whether changes to presidential elections need a referendum.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

The government defends the changes as measures for political stability, policy continuity and governance. DailyNews reports six challenges this month, starting with Eliphas Kawa v. Minister of Justice and three others (CCZ 278/26), followed by Thamsanqa Ncube and 13 others (CCZ 284/26).

SOURCES ZimEye: Con Court Reserves Judgment In Constitutional Amendment No. 3 Challenge · DailyNews (Zimbabwe): ConCourt to hear CAA3 challenges

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/zimbabwe-constitutional-court-reserves-judgment-amendment-3-seven-year-terms

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LATIN AMERICA · BUENOS AIRES

Argentina's state workers' union plans protests at 27 airports Friday, warning underfunding is putting flight safety at risk

Argentina's state workers' union ATE says it will hold a work stoppage at 27 airports on Friday, Nov. 6, two days before Pope Leo XIV arrives, over what it calls government failures on airport safety. Only medical, humanitarian, organ-transport and official flights will be guaranteed, and delays and cancellations are possible at Ezeiza and Aeroparque. The union says ambulances, fire extinguishers and emergency supplies are lacking at most airports.



Explainer image: Ezeiza International Airport, Buenos Aires. Martin St-Amant (S23678), CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

ATE announced the stoppage and a "paro a la japonesa" at Ezeiza and Aeroparque, with workers doing full inspections of aircraft, ramp equipment, runways and taxiways. Aguiar: "Sin presupuesto no hay vuelos seguros" (Without a budget there are no safe flights).

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Passengers on Argentine flights Friday, including at Ezeiza and Aeroparque, and airport workers. Aguiar said the protest is not against passengers.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] It is a domestic labor dispute, reported in Spanish-language media.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

ATE's complaint to the Labor Secretariat says the air passenger fee raises an estimated 220,000 million pesos a year, but under 10% returns to the agency's operations or salaries. It asks for full safety inspections of the airports named.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

In early September the union held "48 hours of protests" at more than 20 airports over unpaid wages for ANAC workers.

SOURCES LA NACION (Spanish): ATE anunció protestas en 27 aeropuertos para el viernes y podrían registrarse demoras y cancelaciones en vuelos

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/argentina-ate-airport-protests-27-airports-milei-safety

NORTH AMERICA · INOLA, OKLA.

Cherokee Nation lawmakers move to oppose Oklahoma's $4 billion Inola aluminum smelter, demanding tribal consultation

The Cherokee Nation Rules Committee unanimously approved a resolution formally opposing the $4 billion aluminum smelter planned for Inola, backing the neighboring Muscogee Nation, which opposed it in July. The project, a joint venture of Emirates Global Aluminum and Century Aluminum backed by President Trump and Gov. Stitt, would be the first U.S. aluminum smelter built in more than 40 years. The resolution now goes to a full tribal council vote.



Explainer image: Verdigris, Rogers County, Oklahoma (the county where Inola sits). Pom', CC BY-SA 2.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

The Rules Committee unanimously approved the resolution, sponsored by Joe Deere, Johnny Kidwell and Julia Coates. Deere: "Tribal consultation needs to be the first thing (to) happen, no matter what it is. Doesn't matter how much money is on the table, who's getting phone calls behind the scenes. It's about our people that we represent."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Cherokee and Muscogee citizens near the site (it would sit near the Muscogee reservation border, just west of Cherokee Nation), and Inola residents who gathered an initiative petition to vote on the project next spring.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] It is a committee-level tribal vote in rural northeastern Oklahoma, covered so far by KOSU and an Indigenous news outlet.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

The residents' petition is being challenged by the City of Tulsa-Rogers County Port Authority. Kidwell said Cherokee leaders have met with Muscogee and other tribal officials about the smelter over the past month.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

The Muscogee National Council formally opposed the project in July. That same month, Principal Chief Chuck Hoskin Jr. expressed concern and called on officials to consult tribal nations. The smelter is supported by President Trump, Gov. Stitt and the Oklahoma state government.

SOURCES KOSU (Thomas Pablo): Cherokee Nation Tribal Council committee opposes Inola smelter · Global Indigenous Times (republication): Cherokee Nation Tribal Council committee opposes Inola smelter

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/oklahoma-cherokee-nation-committee-opposes-inola-aluminum-smelter

OCEANIA · SUVA, FIJI

Fiji's military tells Parliament it no longer wants immunity for its three coups and asks for a truth commission instead

Fiji's military commander, Maj. Gen. Jone Kalouniwai, told the parliamentary committee reviewing the Constitution (Amendment) Bill that the RFMF does not want the immunity in Section 206 and asked Parliament to remove Chapter 14. He said he signed a declaration on Oct. 16 rejecting the protection, and that the RFMF accepts civilian authority without condition. The military wants immunity replaced with a Truth, Accountability and Reconciliation Commission, with protection only for full disclosure and never for the gravest crimes.



Explainer image: Suva, Fiji. Collins, Tudor Washington, 1898-1970, photographer, CC BY 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Kalouniwai: "The RFMF does not seek the immunity in section 206, and we do not wish to receive it. We ask Parliament to remove Chapter 14." He added: "No court has ordered it. No Government has demanded it. No law compels it. It is a willing sacrifice, and only a willing sacrifice carries moral weight."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Fijians affected by the 1987, 2000 and 2006 coups, which PINA reports the RFMF acknowledged it was at the centre of, and soldiers who would become subject to ordinary law.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] It is testimony before a Pacific parliamentary committee, covered by Fijian and regional Pacific media.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Kalouniwai said removing immunity "convicts no one. It restores the ordinary law, with all its protections." Mai TV reports the RFMF also proposed a constitutional duty for soldiers to refuse manifestly unlawful orders, parliamentary oversight of internal military deployments, and a two-thirds majority before Parliament's term could be extended.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Kalouniwai cited the Supreme Court's August 2025 advisory opinion, which he said recognised that immunity weakened the rule of law and could encourage future coups. The Fiji Times reports he said immunity had been kept partly to secure the military's return to civilian rule.

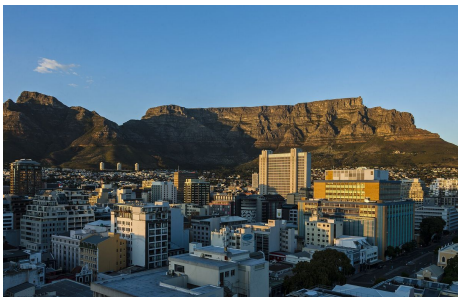
SOURCES The Fiji Times: RFMF voluntarily gives up constitutional immunity – Kalouniwai · PINA: Fiji Military ready to surrender coup immunity · Mai TV: RFMF Offers to Surrender Constitutional Immunity, Calls for Removal of Chapter 14 · FBC News: RFMF rejects immunity to break coup cycle

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/fiji-military-rfmf-surrenders-coup-immunity-chapter-14

AFRICA · CAPE TOWN

Ballot delays keep 217 Cape Town voting stations from opening on the first day of special voting before South Africa's local elections

On the first day of special voting for South Africa's Nov. 4 local elections, 217 voting stations in the Cape Town metro could not open at 8 a.m. because ballot papers arrived late, EWN reports. The IEC linked the delay, African Insider reports, to an Oct. 15 Constitutional Court ruling reinstating 181 ANC candidates, plus relief extended to 32 other parties, forced it to reprint ballots. More than 2.65 million voters were approved for special votes, according to IOL's Cape Times.



Explainer image: Cape Town, South Africa. Daniel Case, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Western Cape Chief Electoral Officer Michael Hendrickse apologised and said stations will open as ballots arrive. The IEC said that despite its efforts and the printer's, there was "an unforeseen delay" in having all ballots ready.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Special voters: the elderly, infirm and people working on election day, who vote Monday and Tuesday. EWN reports voters arrived early to find no ballot papers; Hendrickse said outlying areas of the province had no problems.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] A logistical problem in a foreign municipal election, covered by South African outlets.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

African Insider, citing The Citizen, reports Sheburi said the delays were directly linked to the court ruling and that the IEC had planned to have all ballots in storage by Oct. 21. IEC posted that close to 99% of voting stations nationally opened on time at 8 a.m.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

The ConCourt required the IEC to include 181 ANC candidates (51 ward, 130 proportional representation) across six municipalities; the IEC extended the same relief to 32 other parties. African Insider reports 33 million ballots were reprinted (per The Citizen headline).

SOURCES EWN (Lindsay Dentlinger): Late ballot paper deliveries affect special voting in Cape Town · News24 (Marvin Charles): Ballot-delivery blunder leaves 217 Cape metro voting stations unable to open on time · IOL / Cape Times: Special voting: 2.65 million approved as ballot delays hit Cape Metro stations · African Insider: Cape Town's ballot crisis: ConCourt ruling forces IEC to reprint 33 million ballots

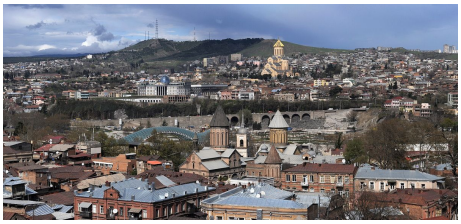
Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/south-africa-cape-town-special-vote-ballot-delays-217-stations

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EUROPE · TBILISI, GEORGIA

Footage of dogs dumped in pits near a Tbilisi cemetery sparks protests and a criminal probe in Georgia

Georgia's Interior Ministry has opened a criminal investigation under Article 259 of the Criminal Code into possible cruelty to animals after TV Pirveli aired footage of dog carcasses being driven at night and dumped in what appeared to be a mass grave near a Tbilisi cemetery. Tbilisi City Hall says the footage shows a lawful burial of dogs that died of disease, accidents or natural causes and called claims that live dogs were put down "a complete lie." Activists rallied Nov. 1 and a petition for an independent probe had about 3,500 signatures by 3 p.m. local time that day, Genews reported.



Explainer image: Tbilisi, Georgia. User:Ggia, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED
The TV Pirveli report aired Oct. 30 on Nodar Meladze's Saturday Night program. The Interior Ministry then confirmed the investigation into possible torture, cruel treatment or other violence against animals.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED
Stray dogs and the people looking for them. A protester said several dogs at the site were recognised by people who had been searching for them and had received no answer from the monitoring service.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET
[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] A local animal-welfare dispute in a small Caucasus country, reported by Georgian outlets.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT
Zero Strays Georgia demands an independent examination of the cause of death and whether sedation or anesthesia was used, full medical and drug records, and an explanation of why biothermal pits were not used. Blogger Tornike Razmadze called for public access to shelters and state facilities.

L5 FULL CONTEXT
Civil Georgia reports a series of earlier controversies, including allegations that strays were euthanised, cremated or released into the wild, which officials denied, and October footage from a Gori shelter where activists alleged about 300 puppies were kept without adequate food or water; the regional agency said that footage was "out of context."

SOURCES Civil Georgia (Luka Gventsadze): Reports of Dog Burials in Tbilisi Reignite Concerns Over Stray Animal Treatment · Georgia Today: Georgia launches investigation into alleged illegal killing and burial of dogs · Genews: Activists Demand Probe Into Tbilisi Dog Burial Site

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/georgia-tbilisi-dog-burial-site-criminal-probe-protests

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NORTH AMERICA · WARREN, PA.

In rural Warren, Pennsylvania, a 1917 family pharmacy is becoming the backstop for a shrinking health system

In Warren County, Pa., where the population has fallen from 49,200 in 1972 to 37,038, Warren General Hospital has cut services to stay solvent and closed its labor and delivery unit in January 2026 after failing to recruit an OB/GYN. The hospital's CEO estimates more than 1,100 county residents will lose Medicaid eligibility under cuts that begin January 2027. Gaughn's Drug Store, a family pharmacy founded in 1917, has applied for a $509,895 federal rural health grant to add telehealth rooms and fill specialist gaps.



Explainer image: Warren, Pennsylvania. Andre Carrotflower, CC BY-SA 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Warren General remains open but is "operating at a fraction of its potential." Its full-time staff fell 7% in the past year, from 490 to 452. Mothers now travel about 20 miles to Jamestown, N.Y., or more than 60 miles to Erie to give birth.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Warren County residents, half of whom are over 50 and 25% of whom are 65 or older. Residents can wait 20 or 30 minutes for an ambulance, according to the county EMA director. Pennie reports 39% of Warren County marketplace enrollees have dropped coverage since tax subsidies were not extended, with premiums up an average of 21.7%.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] It is a single-county rural health story produced by a university news lab and carried by a regional public station.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

The hospital posted a $65,000 operating profit this past year after a combined $9.5 million loss over the previous three years, and gained Critical Access Hospital status in February. It opened a location in Bradford, whose hospital closed in May. The Area Agency on Aging served 5,000 people last year with a 25-person staff and saw a 25% increase in people seeking services over two years with flat funding.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

The July 4, 2025 law made more than $900 billion in Medicaid cuts beginning Jan. 1, 2027. WPSU reports nearly a third of Pennsylvania's rural hospitals are at risk of closure. Gaughn's grant application is to the $50 billion federal Rural Health Transformation Program.

SOURCES WPSU / The News Lab at Penn State: In Warren, a reflection of rural healthcare's turmoil

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/pennsylvania-warren-county-rural-healthcare-gaughns-pharmacy-medicaid-cuts

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NORTH AMERICA · CHRISTIAN COUNTY, KY.

A tiny Kentucky energy agency is suing more than 20 landowners to force a 53-mile gas pipeline across their farms

The Pennyrile Regional Energy Agency, a public agency created by the Todd County cities of Guthrie and Trenton (combined population under 2,000), is entangled in more than 20 lawsuits in which it has sued landowners under Kentucky's eminent domain laws for easements along a proposed 53-mile natural gas pipeline through Christian, Todd, Trigg, Caldwell and Lyon counties, the Kentucky Lantern reports. Landowners say they were told to sign or face condemnation. The agency, whose sole funding source is a $30 million state appropriation, says it has secured the vast majority of the easements it needs and calls the line an economic development boon.



Explainer image: Christian County, Kentucky. Bedford at en.wikipedia, Public domain via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Landowner Greg Davenport, whose family has owned its Christian County farm since the 1940s, told the Lantern: "Basically, they said, 'Sign this, or we'll take you to court. Sign this, or we'll condemn your property.'" Agency board chair Eston Glover told the Lantern that on his attorneys' advice he could not "discuss anything relative to what's going on in the court," and said, "There are a lot of inaccurate statements being passed around."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Farm families along the route are affected. Caldwell County farmer Firmon Cook told WPSD the line would "compact all the soil" and "destroy drainage systems."

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] This is a slow-moving fight playing out in county courts and the state legislature in rural western Kentucky, reported by a state nonprofit newsroom and local broadcasters.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

The pipeline was initially proposed to supply natural gas to an existing Novelis aluminum recycling plant for a potential expansion, according to a past court filing; Novelis told the Lantern it had no plans to share "regarding an expansion." The agency also touts an agreement to supply Fort Campbell. In early September, Christian Circuit Judge Andrew Self sided with the agency in one case; the landowner's lawyers are seeking to vacate that order. The agency is also in a lawsuit with the state's utility regulator over whether the pipeline should be subject to its oversight, and Rep. Jason Petrie, R-Elkton, sought earlier this year to help the agency in that case by passing an exemption.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Petrie and Gov. Andy Beshear hailed the $30 million appropriation in 2022. A new state law, House Bill 757, lets counties along the route appoint board representatives, but together they share a single vote; only Todd County has made an appointment. Trigg County Judge-Executive Stan Humphries pointed to local memories of the federal government seizing and flooding county land in the 1940s and 1960s to create Kentucky Lake and Lake Barkley.

SOURCES Kentucky Lantern (Liam Niemeyer): A WKY agency is wielding eminent domain for a gas pipeline. Landowners say they're being bullied. · WPSD Local 6 (Mackenzie Lionberger, Bryce Anglin): Farmers resist pipeline construction on their lands in western Kentucky · WKDZ: Gilliam Urges PREA to Work With Landowners on Proposed Natural Gas Pipeline

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/kentucky-pennyrile-energy-agency-eminent-domain-gas-pipeline-landowners

ASIA · PHNOM PENH

Cambodia's "waiting villages" for 20,000 people still displaced by the Thai border conflict will become permanent, Hun Manet says

Prime Minister Hun Manet says the resettlement villages built for Cambodians displaced by the border conflict with Thailand will remain permanent communities even if residents later return home. About 20,000 people still cannot go back, and nearly 6,000 houses have been built, including about 3,000 in Banteay Meanchey province. He said Cambodia would pursue diplomatic and legal channels rather than renewed fighting.



Explainer image: Oddar Meanchey province, Cambodia. Stefan Fussan, Public domain via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Hun Manet: "Even if, in the future, we resolve the border issue and people return to their original land, these villages will remain, because part of the land has already been allocated to them." He spoke at a distribution of rice seed and food to flood-affected families in Battambang province on Oct. 30.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

About 20,000 displaced Cambodian civilians are affected. Cambodianess, citing the Interior Ministry, reports about 649,000 were displaced in total and about 625,000 had returned as of Oct. 25. In Oddar Meanchey, 1,077 families (4,243 people) have benefited from housing and land initiatives.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] The fighting ended with a December 2025 ceasefire, and resettlement updates are reported mainly by Cambodian and regional outlets.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Families receive land, housing, clean water, electricity, monthly subsidies and livelihood help such as vegetable growing and livestock. Hun Manet said some border families still keep belongings and agricultural vehicles ready to evacuate, fearing renewed fighting. "Let anyone who wants to call us cowards do so... we are first using the diplomatic and legal fronts to resolve it."

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Cambodianess reports residents cannot return despite the Dec. 27, 2025, ceasefire because, in the Cambodian government's account, the Thai military remains in areas inside Cambodia, placing containers and barbed wire in Preah Vihear, Oddar Meanchey, Banteay Meanchey and Pursat provinces. That is Cambodia's position; Thailand's was not in the sources. The World Bank-supported LASED land allocation programme is part of the resettlement.

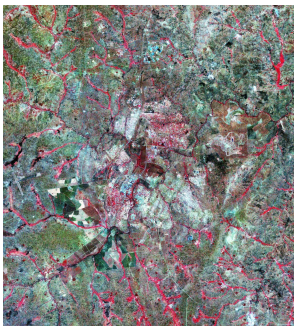
SOURCES The Star (Phnom Penh Post/ANN): Cambodian PM pledges permanent status for 'waiting villages', even after border dispute resolution · Cambodianess (Torn Chanritheara): "You'll Return:" Hun Manet Tells Displaced People in Oddar Meanchey Province

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/cambodia-waiting-villages-permanent-border-displaced-hun-manet

AFRICA · LILONGWE, MALAWI

Malawi's president comes home after 25 days in South Africa to fuel queues and blackouts, his fifth such trip in a year

President Peter Mutharika returned to Malawi on Oct. 31 after 25 days on a private visit to South Africa, his longest documented such trip since returning to power, Malawi24 reports. He insisted he was "in full control" throughout, while the country faces fuel shortages, scarce foreign exchange and power cuts. Malawi24 counts five documented private trips totaling 77 days, and the government has said details of the visits will not be disclosed.



Explainer image: Lilongwe, Malawi. NASA/METI/AIST/Japan Space Systems, and U.S./Japan ASTER Science Team, Public domain via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Mutharika said: "I was in full control of the country and the government. I was in contact with the Chief Secretary sometimes 10 times a day and the ministers... So nobody should complain." He arrived at Kamuzu International Airport in Lilongwe around 4:15 p.m. on a chartered plane, accompanied by First Lady Gertrude Mutharika, Nyasa Times reports. The jet, a Bombardier Global 5000, flew in from Lanseria Airport in South Africa.

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

Motorists, transport operators, households and businesses bear the shortages. Malawi24 reports truckers waiting up to a week for fuel and bus fares doubling on some routes earlier this month.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] It is a domestic accountability question in a small southern African country, reported mainly by Malawian outlets.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Mutharika blamed the fuel crisis on transport and logistics; Malawi Voice reports he said supplies were available at Tanga and Dar es Salaam in Tanzania and Nacala and Beira in Mozambique. He promised an end to blackouts by December. Malawi24 reports the IMF has warned that foreign-exchange shortages constrain imports of energy, food and fertiliser; the government has denied that devaluation is being discussed with the IMF. "Private is private. It is not public," Chief Secretary Justin Saidi told The Nation, according to Malawi24.

L5 FULL CONTEXT

Malawi24 lists the trips as Dec. 1-15, 2025, and Mar. 1-12, Jun. 12-29, Aug. 5-15 and Oct. 6-31, 2026, totaling 77 days, earning him the nickname "the virtual president." Nyasa Times reports he won back the presidency with 56.8% of the vote against incumbent Lazarus Chakwera, after the courts nullified his 2019 victory. Official headline inflation was 19.4% in September (Malawi24).

SOURCES Malawi24 (Alex Chikanga): Video: Mutharika returns after nearly a month in South Africa — when will he leave Malawi next? · Nyasa Times (Wongani Chiuta): Mutharika back in Malawi, no presidential vacuum · Malawi Voice: Mutharika returns in good health, dismisses claims Malawi is being run by proxy

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/malawi-mutharika-returns-25-days-south-africa-fuel-crisis

AFRICA · ANTANANARIVO, MADAGASCAR

Scam compounds chased out of Cambodia resurfaced in Madagascar, where Africans say they were lured and forced to defraud Americans

Raids on online scam centres in Madagascar have exposed ties to a criminal group that ran similar operations in Cambodia, authorities told AFP. Thirteen Chinese-run compounds were taken down in August and September in operations with the U.S. Justice Department, 148 Chinese nationals have been extradited to China, and about $52 million in cryptocurrency was seized in a single day, U.S. authorities said. Around 20 Kenyans, Rwandans, Ugandans and Zimbabweans remain in custody, even though initial findings suggest some African workers may have been trafficking victims.



Explainer image: Antananarivo, Madagascar. Sascha Grabow www.saschagrabow.com, CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons. Context, not a photo of the event.

DEPTH five layers, from what happened to the full picture

L1 WHAT HAPPENED

Police crime unit chief Hassan Mouigni told AFP the African workers "were recruited via Facebook to come work in Madagascar in the commercial sector... But when they arrived here, most of the passports were confiscated by the boss and they were forced to scam. They were victims of deception."

L2 WHO'S AFFECTED

The centres "primarily targeted English-speaking countries," including the United States, Canada and Pakistan, Mouigni said, running romance, cryptocurrency and investment fraud.

L3 WHY IT'S QUIET

[Analysis · OVERLOOKED] The raids happened months ago and have been reported mainly by AFP and outlets that carry its copy.

L4 DEEPER IMPACT

Eleven Chinese nationals arrested separately in the crackdown walked free from a Madagascar jail in August in a scandal allegedly implicating the head of the prison service. U.S. authorities charged a Malaysian national, Chui Kok Wa, with running one romance scam scheme from a villa in Ivato near Antananarivo. The FBI said: "Cyber scam centres are increasingly opening in Africa following the closure of such compounds in Southeast Asia."

L5 FULL CONTEXT

The Justice Department believes the group "opened scam compounds in Madagascar in early 2025, likely having moved those operations from Cambodia after law enforcement action in that country." An FBI court document drew a similar conclusion after questioning three Brazilian nationals who worked at a compound in Antananarivo. The UN Office on Drugs and Crime warned last year about expansion into Southern Africa. "What alerted us was that they started renting entire hotels," Mouigni said.

SOURCES AFP: Scam centres relocated from Cambodia operate in Madagascar · New Straits Times (AFP): Cambodia-linked scam centres resurface in Madagascar, Malaysian among suspects

Read online: theoverlooked.news/story/madagascar-scam-compounds-relocated-from-cambodia-trafficked-africans

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Everything is a fact unless it's noted otherwise (opinion, prediction, guess, etc.). Every claim traces to a cited source.