

The world in brief

Catch up quickly on the global stories that matter



Photograph: Anadolu via Getty Images

Hamas said it would return another deceased hostage to **Israel** as part of the ceasefire agreement. The slow return of the bodies has put the agreement under strain. Earlier Israel said it would resume aid deliveries to **Gaza** and would return to observing the [ceasefire](#) in the territory after it had suspended aid and launched air strikes that killed 26 people.

Many services impacted by problems with **Amazon Web Services** are recovering. Earlier AWS caused an **internet outage**, affecting as many as 500 companies. The firm said it was “continuing to work towards full recovery” while the underlying problem had been “fully mitigated”. Amazon’s cloud-computing arm provides services to millions of companies and accounts for over half of Amazon’s operating income.

Shares in **BNP Paribas** fell by more than 10% after an American court ordered the French bank on Friday to pay over \$20m to three **Sudanese refugees**. Lawyers for the refugees accused the bank of abetting Omar al-Bashir, Sudan’s repressive former dictator. In 2014 the bank was fined for providing financial services to his government. The verdict may lead to further fines still.

China's [growth](#) slowed to 4.8% in the third quarter, compared with a year earlier—the weakest pace in a year. A crackdown on excess capacity and a prolonged property slump have weighed on demand. Meanwhile, the country's rulers gathered for the Communist Party's "fourth plenum", during which they will review a new [five-year plan](#).

Shares in British **arms manufacturers** rose. **Babcock**, which builds submarines, climbed by almost 3%. **Rolls-Royce**, a manufacturer of engines for military hardware, and **BAE Systems**, [the country's biggest defence contractor](#), each gained around 2%. On Friday their shares fell as Donald Trump urged Ukraine to negotiate with Russia. The rebound comes as it emerged the two leaders bitterly disagreed on the way forward.

Donald Trump said Volodymyr Zelensky should cede **Ukraine's** eastern Donbas territory to Russia to end the war. "I think 78 percent of the land is already taken by Russia. You leave it the way it is right now", he told reporters. The comments followed a heated meeting between the two leaders on Friday, during which the Ukrainian president failed to secure sought-after Tomahawk missiles.

A manhunt is under way for masked thieves who stole nine pieces of jewellery from the Apollo Gallery in the **Louvre Museum**, which has housed what remains of France's crown jewels since 1887. The heist took place shortly after [the museum](#) opened on Sunday morning. France's interior minister, Laurent Nuñez, said that the stolen objects are "priceless".

Figure of the day: 0.4%, the share of Ukrainian territory that Russia has seized since it launched a big offensive in May. [Read the full story](#).



Photograph: Getty Images

Gaza's ceasefire hangs in the balance

As expected, making sure that Donald Trump's ceasefire deal holds in Gaza is [proving to be the hard part](#). On Saturday America's State Department warned of "an imminent ceasefire violation by Hamas against the people of Gaza". Israel accused Hamas militants of killing two Israeli soldiers near Rafah, in southern Gaza, on Sunday, prompting dozens of Israeli strikes on the territory. The fighting ended after a few hours; the ceasefire is now back in effect. But it was a reminder of how fragile the deal is.

Meanwhile Hamas continues to return the bodies of hostages who died in captivity in Gaza. It returned two on Saturday night. Hamas told mediators that it may take time to find the 16 remaining bodies, but Israeli officials accuse it of violating the agreement. Binyamin Netanyahu, Israel's prime minister, said on Saturday that the Rafah crossing between Gaza and Egypt would remain closed until Hamas fulfils its obligations.



Photograph: Getty Images

China's rulers set out their plans

China's ruling elite (diminished by a recent purge of several generals for lack of loyalty and "chastity") gathered in Beijing on Monday for the Communist Party's "fourth plenum". The meeting will review a draft of the next five-year plan. China's leaders must decide whether to set a formal growth target for the economy from 2026 to 2030.

Meanwhile, the [economy](#) must get through the rest of this year. Figures released on Monday showed that China's growth slowed to 4.8% in the third quarter, compared with a year earlier. The government's campaign against overcapacity, aimed at improving the allocation of capital, seems to have stunted the flow of investment, which fell by around 7% year-on-year in September. Although surprisingly strong exports have helped fill the gap, even this source of growth cannot be taken for granted, given renewed trade tensions with America. The next five years may get off to a slow start.



Photograph: Alamy

Australia's prime minister meets Donald Trump

On Monday Donald Trump will meet Anthony Albanese, Australia's prime minister, in Washington. America has been conducting a review of AUKUS, a submarine-building pact with Australia and Britain that was signed under Joe Biden. Under the deal America is expected to sell as many as five nuclear-powered submarines to Australia. Mr Trump is expected to confirm his support for the project at his meeting with Mr Albanese.

In return, Mr Albanese is making promises of his own. He is expected to offer supplies of critical minerals to America and encourage Australian pension funds to invest in America. He has also pledged to [increase defence spending](#).

The two will also discuss China. Mr Albanese has been resisting the spread of Chinese influence in the Pacific. Australia has signed a series of treaties with Pacific-island countries to stop China from gaining access to their territory or critical infrastructure. The latest, between Australia and Papua New Guinea, is Asia's [first new military alliance](#) since the cold war.



Photograph: Kay Nietfeld/dpa

No end in sight for America's government shutdown

On Monday the [shutdown](#) of America's government is set to become the third-longest in history. But neither side is bending. Democrats in the Senate have voted for the tenth time to reject a short-term spending bill to fund the government. Democrats insist they will not budge until Republicans agree to continue tax credits that have expanded health-care coverage.

So the Trump administration is looking for ways to apply extra pressure on Democratic lawmakers. On October 15th it made sure that 1.2m members of the armed forces received their pay checks despite the shutdown, closing off one line of attack for Democrats. The administration has fired 4,100 federal employees and plans to slash at least 10,000 government jobs overall. But such threats have hardened Democrats' positions. Expect plenty more votes in the days ahead. They are unlikely to end the shutdown.



Illustration: The Economist

Daily quiz

We will serve you a new question each weekday. On Friday your challenge is to give us all five answers and tell us the theme. Email your responses (and your home city and country) by 1700 BST on **Friday** to [\[email protected\]](#). We'll pick three winners at random and crown them on Saturday.

Monday: Which veteran singer shares his name with an 18th century novel by Henry Fielding?

Architecture aims at eternity.

Sir Christopher Wren