

# The world in brief

Catch up quickly on the global stories that matter

The **Trump administration** deployed around 700 marines to **Los Angeles** to protect federal buildings and personnel. The active-duty soldiers are not meant to interact with demonstrators, who have been [protesting against immigration raids](#) since Friday. Earlier **California** sued the Trump administration for [sending National Guard troops](#) to the city without the consent of Gavin Newsom, its Democratic governor.

**Russia** launched another round of drone attacks on **Ukrainian** cities, a day after conducting its [biggest aerial assault](#) since the war began. Ukrainian officials said large parts of Kyiv, the capital, were struck on Tuesday. Meanwhile, Russia and Ukraine began to swap prisoners as part of what could be the largest exchange deal yet.

Shares in **Apple** fell after the tech giant failed to reveal any big new artificial-intelligence features during its annual developers conference. The firm said it would allow app developers access to its AI models, but investors were [hoping for more](#). However, Apple did unveil software that brings a new design and upgraded features to its products.

Australia's **securities regulator** said it would speed up the country's listing process in order to increase the number of IPOs. Starting on Tuesday, the Australian Securities and Investments Commission will informally review documents before companies begin a formal filing. The change could shave off a week from the 20-week IPO process. Last year, firms only raised A\$4.2bn (\$2.7bn) through public listings in Australia, a ten-year low.

An **Italian referendum** on updating **citizenship** rules failed because of low turnout. Currently non-EU citizens need to live in

the country for ten years before they can apply for a passport; the referendum would have reduced that to five. Just 30% of eligible voters participated, below the required threshold of 50%. Italy's hard-right prime minister, [Giorgia Meloni](#), opposed the measure.

**America** imposed sanctions on Los Chapitos, a faction of the [Sinaloa Cartel](#), **Mexico's** largest gang. The treasury accused the group of [fentanyl trafficking](#) and offered a reward for information leading to the arrest or conviction of its two leaders, who are the sons of Joaquín “**El Chapo**” Guzmán. In February the Trump administration [designated Sinaloa](#) a foreign terrorist organisation.

More than 300 lawyers focused on environmental issues in **New Zealand** sued the country for its “dangerously inadequate” plan to tackle emissions. They claim that New Zealand's government abandoned dozens of climate policies without consulting the public about the changes. The country has committed to cut emissions to net zero by 2050.

**Figure of the day:** 80%, the increase in searches for solo trips this spring compared with last year, according to Airbnb. [Read the full story.](#)



Photograph: Getty Images

## Europe treads carefully on tariffs

The European Union takes an old-fashioned approach to trade spats. Before hitting back, it consults businesses and affected groups to tailor its response. A month-long consultation on how to answer [Donald Trump's tariffs](#) ends on Tuesday.

The EU's counter-levies list contains about €95bn (\$108bn) worth of American goods typically exported to the EU, including aircraft, spirits and, fittingly, rollercoasters. But whether the bloc will follow through remains uncertain. Mr Trump's duties [mostly hurt American firms](#). And Europe is reluctant to escalate: it depends on America for security, especially in Ukraine, and is also deep in delicate trade talks with China. Policymakers worry that hitting back too hard at Mr Trump could leave the EU looking diplomatically overextended, as it manages several trade disputes at once. They also fear it could expose economic weakness if the countermeasures damage key European industries.



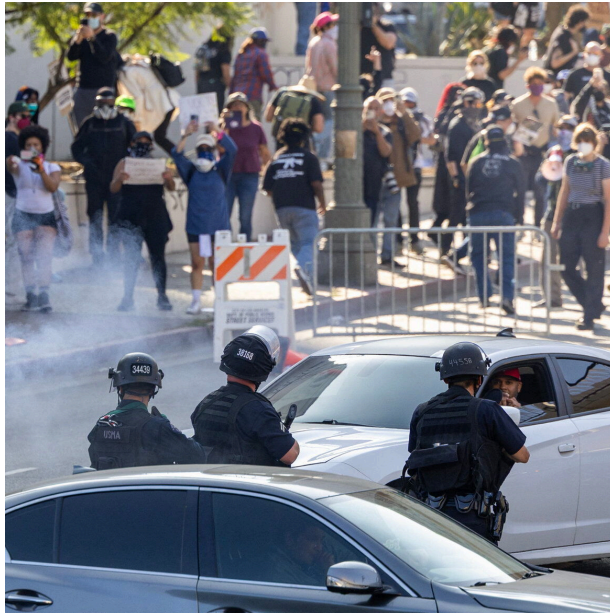
Photograph: EPA

## Hegseth in the hot seat

[Pete Hegseth](#), America's defence secretary, will be grilled by three congressional committees this week, starting on Tuesday. He will be laying out a proposed \$1trn defence budget for next year, a 13% boost over this year.

Fiscal hawks are alarmed by its effect on the ballooning federal deficit; security hawks worry that base defence funding will shrink next year. The Trump administration has issued only a “skinny”, rather than a full, budget for fiscal year 2026, which proposes to keep underlying defence spending at \$893bn, the same level as this year's. Because of inflation, that would be a cut in real terms. The extra \$119bn comes from one-off measures in the “Big Beautiful Bill”, which is at the heart of Donald Trump's bust-up with Elon Musk.

Making his first appearance before Congress since his contentious confirmation, Mr Hegseth will face flak over much else, including his crusade against “woke” culture in the [armed forces](#) and the deployment of the National Guard to quell unrest in Los Angeles.



Photograph: Getty Images

## Trump v California

Donald Trump's fight with California [is escalating](#). Over the weekend the president—calling Gavin Newsom, California's Democratic governor, “incompetent”—[ordered National Guard troops](#) into Los Angeles to quell protests sparked by federal immigration raids. On Monday the state sued the Trump administration over the deployment. The governor maintains the police were coping fine on their own, and that the troops' presence only inflamed the situation. “None of this needed to happen,” Karen Bass, Los Angeles' mayor, said.

Protests could spread. Los Angeles is not the only place to experience immigration raids, and members of the administration have loudly decried the sanctuary policies of liberal cities such as Chicago, Boston and Denver. Mr Trump and his advisers think that the politics of imposing the National Guard are on their side. The Los Angeles case could serve as a template: announce an immigration crackdown on a city whose leadership does not want it, wait for protests, then call in the troops to put down the protesters.





Photograph: Alamy

## Lula's inflation gamble

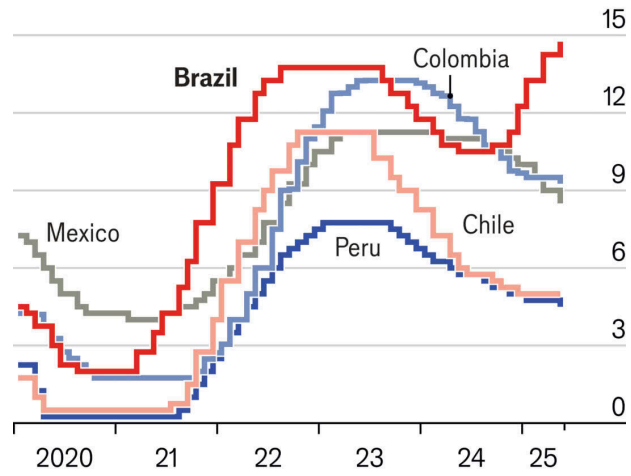
Brazil's annual inflation rate in May was well above the Central Bank's target of 3%, data released on Tuesday are likely to show. In April it was 5.4%. The bank's policy rate is 14.75%, already among the highest in the world, but policymakers may raise them further when they meet next Tuesday.

The economy is running hot: government spending is high, the labour market is tight and consumption remains strong. In recent weeks [Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva](#), Brazil's president (also known as Lula), has boosted severance pay, expanded access to payroll-deducted loans for private-sector workers from 4m workers to 47m and handed pensioners an early year-end bonus—all aimed at reviving his weak approval ratings in time for a general election in 2026. Congress, too, is loosening the purse strings.

Some analysts believe that inflation may soon peak, giving the Central Bank room to lower rates. But that can happen only if Lula and Congress stop giving out cash.

## Against the tide

Central-bank policy interest rates, %



Source: Haver Analytics



Photograph: Disney

## The success of “Call Her Daddy”

It is one of the most [popular podcasts](#) in the world. “Call Her Daddy”, hosted by Alexandra Cooper, an American, offers listeners frank advice about sex, relationships and mental health. Recent guests include Monica Lewinsky, Kate Hudson and Kamala Harris.

“Call Her Alex”, a two-part documentary released on Hulu on Tuesday, tells the story of the woman behind the podcast. Ms Cooper talks about being bullied at school and allegedly harassed by her football coach at Boston University and about starting her podcast with little investment or experience.

Parts of the series are fawning; words like “vulnerable” and “unique” are uttered too often. But viewers will be interested to learn how “Call Her Daddy” became an audio brand worth more than \$100m. As Dawn Ostroff, a former executive at Spotify, notes, Ms Cooper is a savvy businesswoman who used her podcast to “recreate” for Gen Z women “what daytime television is” for older ones.





Illustration: The Economist

## Daily quiz

We will serve you a new question each day this week. On Friday your challenge is to give us all five answers and, as important, tell us the connecting theme. Email your responses (and include mention of your home city and country) by 1700 BST on Friday to [\[email protected\]](#). We'll pick randomly from those with the right answers and crown three winners on Saturday.

**Tuesday:** What title did Lauren Weisberger give to her novel about life in the fashion publishing industry?

**Monday:** Which comic book hero fought Ming the Merciless?

*Destroying rainforest for economic gain is like burning a Renaissance painting to cook a meal.*

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***Edward Wilson***