

# The world in brief

Catch up quickly on the global stories that matter

A federal appeals court temporarily reinstated many of **Donald Trump's tariffs**, a day after the United States Court of International Trade ruled that America's president lacked the authority to impose them. The Trump administration had swiftly sought to appeal [the earlier ruling](#) and said it planned to ask the Supreme Court for "emergency relief" as soon as Friday.

**Israel** agreed to an American-backed **ceasefire** proposal for **Gaza**, which is now being reviewed by **Hamas**. The deal reportedly includes a 60-day pause in [fighting](#) and the resumption of aid flows through UN agencies. But Hamas will probably reject the proposal because it does not include a commitment to [end the war](#).

Viktor Orban, **Hungary's** prime minister, endorsed Karol Nawrocki, the nationalist opposition candidate in **Poland's** [presidential election](#). Speaking at CPAC, a right-wing get-together in Budapest, Mr Orban vowed that the populist right would "take Europe back from migrants" and preserve "Christian culture". Poland's foreign minister, Radoslaw Sikorski, mockingly congratulated Mr Nawrocki on the endorsement, asking whether he would emulate Mr Orban's pro-Russian policies.

Four **pro-democracy** activists in **Hong Kong** were released from jail after completing their four-year sentences. The group, which includes Jimmy Sham, an advocate for LGBT rights, is the second to be freed in relation to the "Hong Kong 47" case. In 2021, 47 campaigners were charged with "conspiracy to commit subversion" under a [security law](#) imposed by China.

**Russia** accused **Serbia's** military industry of selling weapons to Ukraine, claiming that it is trying to "profit from the blood of

fraternal Slavic peoples”. A [traditional ally](#), Serbia has exported nearly \$1bn of ammunition to Ukraine via third countries since Russia attacked Ukraine, according to Western media. The Balkan country has denounced Russia’s invasion but has not joined Western sanctions against the country.

Saskatchewan, a western province in **Canada**, declared a state of emergency as **wildfires** continued to spread. A day earlier officials in neighbouring Manitoba advised 17,000 people to evacuate. Over 1.5m acres have burned across these two provinces. The situation is “unlike anything we have faced in quite some time, if not ever,” said Scott Moe, the Premier of Saskatchewan.

The *New York Times* agreed to a licensing deal with **Amazon**, the first time the publication has allowed a technology company to train AI models using its articles. Reporting and recipe summaries will also be featured by Amazon products. In 2023 the *Times* [sued Microsoft and OpenAI](#), accusing them of using its content to train AI chatbots without permission, which both companies deny.

**Figure of the day:** 47%, the share of Albertans who support secession from Canada, according to recent data from Léger, a pollster. [Read the full story.](#)



Photograph: Getty Images

## Twists in the tariff saga

On Wednesday the United States Court of International Trade put America's wide-ranging "reciprocal" tariffs (though not sector-specific levies) on hold. [The ruling](#) delighted markets: the s&p 500 index jumped by 1.5% in futures trading, to just a few percent below all-time highs. But on Thursday afternoon a federal appeals court temporarily reinstated the levies in response to a request from the Trump administration.

Ordinary Americans appear to be growing accustomed to the whipsawing news. A consumer-sentiment measure from the Conference Board, published on May 27th, rebounded in May. On Friday household spending data for the month of April are released. So far, "soft" data like consumer surveys have fallen farther and faster than "hard" data on production, sales and spending. Friday's numbers will reveal how Mr Trump's tariff tear is affecting consumers' buying behaviour.



Photograph: AP

## America's allies in Asia hope for reassurance

Pete Hegseth, America's defence secretary, will deliver a big speech on the Trump administration's Asia policy on Saturday. He is attending the Shangri-La Dialogue, a meeting of defence ministers, brass, academics and industry held every year at Singapore's Shangri-La Hotel.

American allies in Asia have not been given as many reasons as European ones to fear abandonment by Donald Trump. But [concern remains](#) about the president's commitment to their protection. Previous defence secretaries used speeches at Shangri-La to lay out the administration's approach to the region, respond to critics, and reassure doubters. But it is unclear how influential Mr Hegseth is with Mr Trump on these issues, leading to doubts about how authoritative his remarks will be.

In past iterations, Shangri-La has also served as neutral ground for America and China's defence ministers to meet. But for the first time since 2019 China is not sending its minister. The two may go another year before their first sit-down.



Photograph: AP

## Germany's various inflation pressures

On Friday Germany's federal statistics agency, Destatis, publishes its provisional figures for inflation in May. Inflation continued to decline in April, to 2.1% year on year, owing in part to lower energy prices. That trend is expected to continue, as prices for food and services keep rising.

International trade tensions and Germany's massive fiscal stimulus will affect German prices this year in opposite ways, according to ING, a Dutch bank. A trade war might cause deflation by strengthening the euro and encouraging Chinese manufacturers to send goods to Europe that they might have sold to America. But the ambitious plans of Friedrich Merz, Germany's new chancellor, to [invest](#) in defence and infrastructure could foster inflation.

Construction and engineering firms in particular raised prices in recent years because of the high costs of materials and a dearth of qualified labour. The trend is expected to continue.



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.

**Friday:** Braeburn, Gala and Pink Lady are all types of what?

**Thursday:** A mass audition for a showbiz event is colloquially known by what term?





Illustration: The Economist

## The winners of this week's crossword

Thank you to everyone who took part in our weekly crossword, published in the weekend edition of Espresso. The winners, chosen at random, were:

**Amelia Cheng**, Coquitlam, Canada

**Michael Bryant**, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

**Axel Ehrstrom**, Helsinki, Finland

They all gave the correct answers of [Chicago](#), [author](#), [Alawite](#) and [Cyril Ramaphosa](#).

*When the people are being beaten  
with a stick, they are not much  
happier if it is called “the  
People’s Stick”.*

---

***Mikhail Bakunin***