

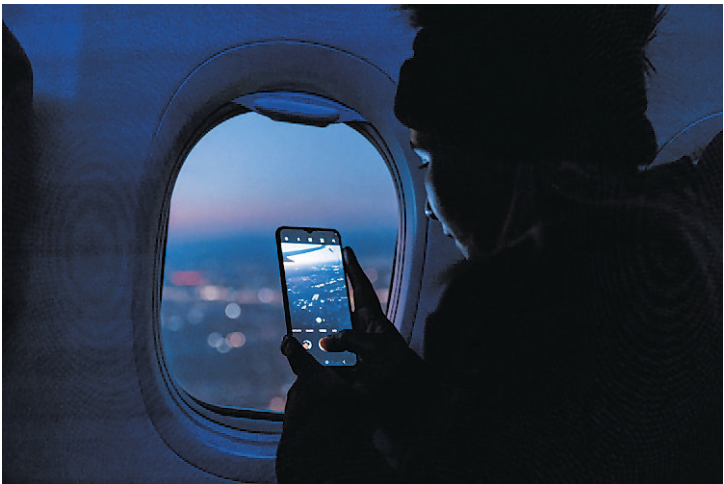
“All the News  
That’s Fit to Print”

# The New York Times

**THE WEATHER**  
Today, humid, sunshine and clouds, afternoon thunderstorm, high 89. Tonight, thunderstorm, humid, low 76. Tomorrow, humid, spotty storms, high 87. Weather map, Page B12.

VOL. CLXXIII . . . . No. 60,210      © 2024 The New York Times Company      TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2024      Prices in Canada may be higher      \$4.00

## Difficult Path to U.S. Through One Family’s Eyes



PHOTOGRAPHS BY JUAN ARREDONDO FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

With three children and a dog, the Aguilar Ortega family trekked through Central America, trudged through the jungle, hopped freight trains, and finally reached New York City. Significant challenges still lie ahead. Page A10.

### NEWS ANALYSIS

## A Compromise? France Needs It But Disdains It.

By ROGER COHEN

PARIS — Instead of waking up on Monday to a country dominated by the far right, France awoke to becoming Italy, a country where only painstaking parliamentary negotiation may eventually yield a viable coalition government.

France said no to Marine Le Pen's anti-immigrant National Rally party in legislative elections, another demonstration of its deep-seated resistance to nationalist adventures. It voted a resurgent left into a first place that fell far short of giving the left power, and it shifted the political heart of the country from an all-powerful presidency to Parliament. [Page A7.]

With the Paris Olympics set to open in less than three weeks, and an August exodus to the beaches or mountains a sacred feature of French life, talks to form a government may stretch into the fall, when France will need a government to pass a budget. The election, which might have provoked an uprising, produced an impasse.

The New Popular Front, a resurgent if fractious left-wing alliance, came in first with about 180 seats in the National Assembly and immediately demanded that President Emmanuel Macron ask it to form a government, saying it would put forward its choice of prime minister in the next week.

This demand ignored several

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## Russian Strike Levels Children’s Hospital in Kyiv

By MARC SANTORA  
and BRENDAN HOFFMAN

ODESA, Ukraine — Ukraine's largest children's hospital was destroyed by a Russian missile on Monday, shaking Kyiv, the capital, with images of bloodied and injured children, and sending hundreds racing to the scene to help clear twisted metal and smashed concrete in a desperate search for survivors.

The hospital strike was part of a barrage of bombings by Moscow across the country, including one of its deadliest assaults on Kyiv since the first months of the war. At least 38 people were killed across the country, including 27 in Kyiv. More than 100 people were

## Moscow Unleashes a Blitz Across Ukraine, Killing at Least 38

injured. The Ukrainian air force said it shot down 30 out of the 38 missiles launched by Russia during the attack, which began in the midmorning.

“The attack was massive, combined with the use of aerial, ballistic and cruise missiles,” said Serhii Popko, the head of the Kyiv military administration. “The missiles flew at the capital in waves and from different directions.”

At the hospital, one doctor and

another adult were killed and at least 10 more people were injured, including seven children, local officials said. At least three children were pulled from the rubble, Ukraine's emergency services agency said.

Olha Melnyk, the mother of a child being treated in the oncology unit of the hospital — who was not there at the time — said she was in a state of shock.

“There were so many families like us, who had their own personal war with oncology already,” she said. “And you know, these children can't go to the basement, because all the tubes and treatments. If they do this, there will be no healing at all. You can't inter-

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BRENDAN HOFFMAN FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Clearing rubble at a children's hospital in Kyiv, Ukraine, destroyed by a Russian missile on Monday.

## Platform Eases Abortion Stand To Suit Trump

### Document Cements His Control of G.O.P.

This article is by Maggie Haberman, Shane Goldmacher and Jonathan Swan.

Donald J. Trump told officials on Monday that he supports a new Republican Party platform, one that reflects his new position on abortion rights and slims down policy specifics across all areas of government.

The new platform, as described to The New York Times by people briefed on it, cements Mr. Trump's ideological takeover of the G.O.P. The platform is even more nationalistic, more protectionist and less socially conservative than the 2016 Republican platform that was duplicated in the 2020 election.

Mr. Trump, who has had the draft for several days, called into a meeting of party officials on Monday and said that he supports it. The document overwhelmingly was approved during a vote by the platform committee on Monday, passing 84 to 18, according to a person briefed on the matter.

The abortion section has been softened. There is no longer a reference to “traditional marriage” as between “one man and one woman.” And there is no longer an emphasis on reducing the national debt, only a brief line about “slashing wasteful government spending.”

The rest of the document reflects Mr. Trump's priorities as outlined on his campaign website: a hard-line immigration policy, including mass deportations; a protectionist trade policy with new tariffs on most imports; and sections on using federal power to remove policies in academia, the military and throughout the U.S. government put in place by what it describes as radical Democrats.

Mr. Trump and his top aides have alienated some activists by shutting them out of the development of the platform. The former president was especially focused on softening the language on abortion, the issue he views as his biggest vulnerability in the wake of the Supreme Court's decision overturning Roe v. Wade.

A Trump campaign spokesman did not respond to an email seeking comment.

The section on protecting human life has been significantly watered down in the 2024 draft platform. In the 2016 and 2020 platforms, that section included extensive specific details about

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## REFUSING TO EXIT, BIDEN DENOUNCES CRITICS IN PARTY

### IN A LETTER AND ON TV

## Fiery Reply to Doubters: ‘Challenge Me at the Convention’

By MICHAEL D. SHEAR

WASHINGTON — President Biden on Monday dared his critics to “challenge me at the convention” if they want him out of the presidential race, refusing to step aside in a defiant letter to Democratic members of Congress and in fiery remarks on MSNBC's “Morning Joe” program.

Declaring himself “frustrated by the elites” who have called for his exit from the race, Mr. Biden engaged in an offensive blitz aimed at saving his candidacy. But it also did little to mollify restless Democratic lawmakers and laid bare the fractures in his party over whether his position as its standard-bearer would help or hurt its fortunes this fall.

In effect, Mr. Biden decided to engage in a no-holds-barred fight with his allies for the world to see. He was at turns defiant, furious, indignant, exasperated and dismissive. He insisted that he would not withdraw from the race but accused those who have suggested he step aside of being routinely wrong about politics.

The president used the friendly venue of the morning news show — hosted by Joe Scarborough, a longtime supporter who recently has been critical — to respond to demands that he demonstrate the kind of vigor that was missing from his listless and at times incoherent debate performance on June 27.

Mr. Biden raised his voice repeatedly during the brief phone interview, including after Mika Brzezinski, the co-host of the show and Mr. Scarborough's wife, asked him whether he had undergone neurological exams after the debate. Sounding exasperated and angry, Mr. Biden rejected assertions that his stamina and mental abilities have not been tested in a real way.

“It drives me nuts, people talking about this,” he said.

In the days after the debate with former President Donald J. Trump, Mr. Biden tried to be conciliatory. He admitted that he had “a bad night” and tried to explain that his performance was the result of a cold and jet lag.

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## Companies Walk on Eggshells In Push to Reduce Plastic Use

By HIROKO TABUCHI

When Costco tried to cut down on its plastics use earlier this year, putting its popular rotisserie chicken in a thin bag instead of a bulkier clam shell, some chicken lovers were displeased.

The bags were leaky, they said, and risked making a greasy mess. Their edges were prone to splitting open. “Chicken juice spilled all over the trunk of our car!” one person complained on Reddit.

It was another chapter in the packaging wars.

There is broad agreement that the world needs to use less plastic. Plastic waste is filling the world's landfills and clogging rivers and streams. Recycling hasn't kept up; less than 10 percent of plastic waste gets recycled. Plastic can also contain chemicals linked to cancer and other health problems.

Reining in plastic packaging — often used only once, then thrown away — is an obvious first step. But putting that into practice has been tricky for businesses, policy-



SMITH COLLECTION/GADO/GETTY IMAGES

Costco puts chickens in bags instead of bulky containers.

makers and shoppers. Everyone has an opinion.

“You can see experiments all over the landscape with it,” said Sandra Goldmark, a sustainability expert at Columbia University's Climate School. “Right now many of the experiments are not working that well. We haven't really cracked this nut.”

Costco's rotisserie-chicken-in-a-bag was a classic example of a

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### SCIENCE TIMES D1-8

#### Stalking Sri Lanka’s Men

Climate change and contaminated water have combined to create an epidemic of kidney disease. PAGE D8

#### ‘Cultural Burn’ in California

Tribes are doing their part to prevent out-of-control wildfires, which have already taken a terrible toll. PAGE D4



### INTERNATIONAL A4-8

#### Dangers at the Hajj

“The halls felt like they were on fire,” one woman said of her lodging as an “unregistered” pilgrim. A majority of those who died lacked permits. PAGE A4

#### Gaza Cease-Fire Hopes Fade

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel repeated his assertion that Hamas must be destroyed first. PAGE A6

### OBITUARIES B11

#### A Force in Organized Labor

Jane F. McAlevey trained thousands of workers worldwide, exhorting them to take charge of their unions. She was 59.

### NATIONAL A9-17, 20

#### Houston Roads Become Rivers

Tropical Storm Beryl ripped power from more than two million customers across Texas and killed two people trying to shelter. PAGE A20

#### Closing Case vs. Menendez

Prosecutors walked jurors through the corruption charges against Senator Robert Menendez. PAGE A14

### SPORTS B7-10

#### The Isolation of Injury

For tennis players, who have no teammates, recovery can be rough and long-term effects frequent. PAGE B10

### ARTS C1-6

#### Breaking a Lyrical Taboo

Billie Eilish and Lorde are among the singers whose music reveals the pressure they have felt to look thin. PAGE C1

#### An Enduring ‘Samson’

A festival in France gives new life to the opera, created by Rameau and Voltaire, and starring Jarrett Ott. PAGE C1



### BUSINESS B1-6

#### Weaponizing Social Media

Middle schoolers impersonated their teachers on TikTok to post lewd, racist videos in a mass attack. PAGE B1

#### Boeing Agrees to Guilty Plea

As part of a deal stemming from two fatal 737 Max crashes, the company will pay a fine of \$487.2 million. PAGE B1

### OPINION A18-19

#### Paul Krugman

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