

With ‘anti-monuments’ on power corridor Paseo de la Reforma, activists are trying to exert control over who gets remembered



It's been called one of the “world's coolest streets.” Slicing through the capital, Paseo de la Reforma is a European-style gem, a leafy boulevard of graceful fountains and historic bronze statues. It's Mexico's power corridor. The country's main parade route. And a symbol of a city exploding with bike lanes, charming Airbnbs and Instagrammable meals. But the 19th-century avenue has been swept up in a very 21st-century conflict, centered on questions familiar to people in the United States and Europe: Whom should a country's statues honor? Who gets to write history? In the United States, that debate has focused on memorials to Confederate leaders, enslavers and Christopher Columbus. In Mexico, activists have lined Reforma with grim remind-

## Bringing painful history to the fore in Mexico City

STORY BY MARY BETH SHERIDAN  
PHOTOS BY LUIS ANTONIO ROJAS  
IN MEXICO CITY

Demonstrators protest in front of an “anti-monument” to 43 missing students on Mexico City's Paseo de la Reforma.

ers of the extreme violence of recent decades. These “anti-monuments” aren't just a protest. Mexico's leaders have long tried to control the historical narrative to legitimize their rule — from the Mexican-American War of the 1840s to the Revolution starting in 1910. Now, a movement of artists, grieving families and feminists is trying to wrest that narrative away. Mexico's fight over monuments began in the wake of a notorious case of police abuse. On the night of Sept. 26, 2014, officers detained 43 students from the Ayotzinapa teachers college in southern Mexico as they headed to a demonstration. Then, the young men vanished. Authorities said that the police were in league with a drug-trafficking

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## U.N. builds case alleging sexual violence on Oct. 7

Report finds ‘clear and convincing information’ on Hamas hostage abuse

BY KAREN DEYOUNG  
AND SAMMY WESTFALL

A team of United Nations experts tasked with gathering information on sexual violence linked to Hamas's Oct. 7 attacks on Israel found “reasonable grounds to believe” that some victims were sexually assaulted, including rape and gang rape, according to a U.N. report released Monday. “In most of these incidents, victims first subjected to rape were then killed,” a press release announcing the report's findings said. “The mission team also found a pattern of victims, mostly women, found fully or partially naked, bound, and shot across multiple locations.”

The 23-page report said the team also found “clear and convincing information” that some of the women and children taken back to Gaza that day by Hamas as hostages were subjected to “rape and sexualized torture and sexualized cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment.” There were “reasonable grounds to believe,” it said, “that this violence may be ongoing.” Hamas has denied that its forces sexually abused any of the more than 1,200 Israelis killed or 253 captured on that day. The issue has been among the most volatile of the Israel-Hamas war, sparking extensive media accounts, outrage and suspicion, but little conclusive information. The release of the report, which also discussed allegations of “conflict-related sexual violence by the Israeli security forces and

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Tonal shift: Harris increases public critique of Israel's war in Gaza. A4



JAHU CHIKWENDU/THE WASHINGTON POST

### A solemn honor for an ‘absolute hero’

The body of Loudoun County firefighter Trevor Brown is carried from the back of a firetruck before his funeral at Cornerstone Chapel on Monday in Leesburg. Brown was killed by a house explosion caused by leaking propane in Sterling on Feb. 16. **Story, B1**

## All eyes on Va. senator as clock ticks on arena deal

BY LAURA VOZZELLA  
AND GREGORY S. SCHNEIDER

RICHMOND — Gov. Glenn Youngkin's plan to lure the Washington Capitals and Wizards across the Potomac to Northern Virginia is back where it began — behind closed doors, in the hands of a few powerful figures. But this time, the Republican governor and the billionaire team owner who secretly negotiated an arena deal late last year do not have seats at the table. Chief among those who do: Sen. L. Lou-ise Lucas (D-Portsmouth), a relentless Youngkin antagonist who hails from a poorer part of the state and expresses grave doubts about the \$2 billion arena for Alexandria's Potomac Yard. Lucas, who rose to a powerful position this year as chairwoman

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## IN THE NEWS

**Alternate-electoral plot** As part of a legal settlement in Wisconsin, two pro-Trump lawyers released a trove of communications about their work after the 2020 election. **A8**  
**Super Tuesday** The Post's live coverage of today's primary elections across the country begins at 7 p.m. at washingtonpost.com.

**THE NATION**  
**Texas Gov.** Greg Abbott endorsed challengers to Republicans who oppose school vouchers. **A3**  
**Jack Teixeira** pleaded guilty to a massive leak of intelligence documents on Discord. **A20**

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**JetBlue and Spirit** dropped plans to merge, a decision that follows a judge's ruling that their \$3.8 billion deal violated antitrust laws. **A16**

**THE REGION**  
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**Maryland transit** authorities are seeking an additional \$425 million for the long-delayed Purple Line project. **B1**

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