

# Today's News

## Venezuela vents its anger at Brazil's Brics snub

Source: *BBC News*

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 02:19:58 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c624m4kgrg3o>

Summary: Venezuela has expressed strong criticism towards Brazil for its decision to veto the country's admission into the Brics group, which consists of emerging economies like Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa. The Venezuelan government argues that this rejection undermines regional integration and collaboration among Latin American nations. It highlights the potential benefits of being part of Brics, such as economic cooperation and investment opportunities, which Venezuela seeks amid its ongoing economic crisis. The Venezuelan administration framed Brazil's veto as a political maneuver rather than a decision based on economic criteria, suggesting that it reflects historical tensions between the two countries. In response to the veto, Venezuelan officials have called for solidarity among Latin American countries and reiterated their commitment to join international platforms that promote development and mutual support. The situation reflects broader geopolitical dynamics in Latin America, where relationships among countries often fluctuate based on political ideologies and regional partnerships. As Venezuela navigates its economic challenges, its pursuit of membership in Brics illustrates its desire to forge stronger alliances and enhance trade opportunities in the international arena.

## Top LA prosecutor backs Menendez brothers being released on parole

Source: *BBC News*

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 01:22:52 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cvglmv4lgx0o>

Summary: Erik and Lyle Menendez gained international notoriety when they were convicted of murdering their affluent parents, Jose and Mary Menendez, in 1989. The case drew intense media coverage and public intrigue due to the family's wealth and the gruesome nature of the killings. During their highly publicized trials, the Menendez brothers argued that they had endured severe emotional and physical abuse at the hands of their parents, leading them to commit the homicides in a moment of desperation. The defense sought to portray the brothers as victims of lifelong trauma, while the prosecution focused on the premeditation of the murders and the brothers' lavish spending habits following the killings. Ultimately, the jury was unable to reach a verdict in the first trial, leading to a retrial where both were convicted and sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole. The case sparked discussions around themes of familial abuse, the judicial system, and the media's role in sensationalizing crime stories. Over time, the Menendez brothers have remained a focal point of true crime discussions and psychological analysis, both for their crimes and the implications of their childhood experiences.

# Lebanon: 'Whole neighbourhood wiped out' in Israel air strike

Source: *BBC News*

Published: Thu, 24 Oct 2024 23:19:17 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/crr9l4l0xx4o>

Summary: Fouad Hassan recounts the traumatic experience of losing family members during the recent attack on the Jnah neighborhood of south Beirut. He describes a scene of destruction where buildings collapsed without any prior warnings, leaving residents in shock and despair. The attack not only claimed lives but also disrupted the fabric of the community, creating an atmosphere of fear and uncertainty. Hassan illustrates the intense emotional pain associated with the loss, emphasizing the profound impact on families and the neighborhood as a whole. The incident highlights the need for immediate international attention and support, as local communities grapple with the consequences of violence and instability. The destruction serves as a stark reminder of the vulnerability of civilians in conflict zones, where basic safety is compromised. Amidst the chaos, the resilience of the community becomes apparent, as they unite to support one another in the face of grief and adversity. The call for peace and reconciliation resonates strongly in Hassan's narrative, reflecting a shared desire for a future free from violence, where families can live without the fear of sudden loss or destruction.

# Moment BBC reporter returns tortured monkey into wild

Source: *BBC News*

Published: Thu, 24 Oct 2024 23:09:58 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/videos/clyd35gwd3do>

Summary: Mini, a young monkey, was rescued following a BBC Eye investigation that unveiled a disturbing global online monkey torture network. The investigation revealed that various social media platforms and online marketplaces were being used to exploit and sell monkeys for torturous and inhumane purposes, highlighting issues of animal cruelty and illegal wildlife trafficking. The broadcasting of Mini's rescue served as a poignant reminder of the suffering endured by countless animals caught in this cycle of abuse. Following reports from animal welfare organizations and public outcry, efforts intensified to hold accountable those who profit from this illicit trade. The investigation shed light on the urgent need for stricter regulations and enforcement against animal trafficking and exploitation, compelling authorities to take action against the perpetrators. The story of Mini's rescue not only emphasizes the individual plight of animals like her but also serves as a rallying cry for broader awareness and reform in the treatment of wildlife. Activists and organizations continue to advocate for the protection of endangered species and to dismantle the networks that perpetuate such cruelty, seeking to foster greater empathy and action among the public to combat this pressing issue.

# Tense election fight for Georgia's future in Europe

Source: *BBC News*

Published: Thu, 24 Oct 2024 23:07:49 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c0lp8wen9zgo>

Summary: Georgia is at a crucial political juncture as the ruling party, Georgian Dream, navigates electoral challenges from opponents advocating for the revival of the country's stalled European Union (EU) membership bid. The EU aspiration, which has garnered significant public support, has encountered setbacks, particularly in the context of recent geopolitical tensions. Opposition parties are leveraging dissatisfaction with the current government's approach to EU integration, aiming to reignite momentum toward membership. They argue that aligning with the EU represents not only a pathway to economic modernization and democratic reforms but also a strategic defense against external threats, primarily from Russia. The upcoming elections are pivotal, with many citizens prioritizing EU integration as a key electoral issue. This political landscape reflects broader regional dynamics, where EU membership prospects are increasingly perceived as vital for national security and development. As the electoral battle unfolds, the outcome will significantly influence Georgia's future trajectory concerning European integration and its relationship with neighboring countries. The situation is emblematic of the struggles many post-Soviet states face in balancing domestic aspirations with external pressures and ambitions for European alignment.

## Mozambique's ruling party wins landslide in disputed poll

Source: *BBC News*

Published: Thu, 24 Oct 2024 18:44:02 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c14lzy75355o>

Summary: The political climate has intensified following the assassination of the main challenger's lawyer last week, raising concerns about the integrity of the upcoming elections. This incident has fueled existing allegations of rigging and corruption associated with the ruling party. The lawyer's death has sparked protests and calls for justice from opposition groups, who argue that the violence is indicative of a broader strategy to undermine democracy and suppress dissent. Critics warn that such actions are not only dangerous for political discourse but also jeopardize the safety of those involved in opposition movements. Despite the outcry, government officials have downplayed the severity of the situation, claiming that measures are in place to ensure a fair electoral process. Meanwhile, civil society organizations are urging for international monitoring and intervention, citing fears of escalating violence and potential electoral fraud. As tensions rise, both the government and opposition are under pressure to address these critical issues openly and transparently to restore public trust and prevent further unrest. The future of democratic processes in the region hangs in the balance as stakeholders navigate these turbulent challenges.

## Gaza ceasefire talks to resume in coming days

Source: *BBC News*

Published: Thu, 24 Oct 2024 18:09:59 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cvg742e3rexo>

Summary: The U.S. views the recent death of Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar as a potential turning point for diplomatic agreements in the region. Officials believe that his absence might weaken Hamas's leadership and facilitate negotiations for a ceasefire or a longer-term peace deal. Sinwar, who played a significant role in orchestrating Hamas's military strategy, was seen as a key figure in the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas. His death could lead to a power vacuum within Hamas, possibly allowing more moderate factions to emerge and pursue dialogue, rather than violence. U.S. leaders are optimistic that this situation may enable discussions focused on de-escalation and humanitarian efforts, urging both parties to explore pathways toward peace. However, challenges remain as the complex dynamics within Hamas and reactions from Israel and other regional players could affect the trajectory of any proposed agreements. The U.S. aims to facilitate an environment conducive to reconciliation, balancing military actions and diplomatic efforts to support a lasting resolution to the conflict. The coming weeks will be crucial in determining whether this moment can lead to substantive changes or if the strife will continue unabated.

## **Venice to double number of days tourists must pay entry fee**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Thu, 24 Oct 2024 17:57:51 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c86qlz6l4qno>

Summary: Starting from April through July, a new fee will be implemented exclusively for daytrippers visiting certain locations, particularly on weekends and public holidays. This initiative aims to manage the increased foot traffic and impact on natural resources during peak times. Authorities believe that by charging day visitors, they can encourage a more sustainable approach to tourism and reduce overcrowding in popular areas. The revenue generated from this fee is intended to fund conservation efforts and maintain infrastructure that supports both visitors and the environment. The initiative is part of a broader strategy to balance tourism with ecological preservation while ensuring that locals still enjoy access to their surroundings without additional burden. This fee is a response to growing concerns about the environmental and social implications of unregulated tourism, and it's hoped that the measure will foster a more respectful relationship between visitors and the areas they explore. Communication about the fee will be essential to inform potential visitors and mitigate any misunderstandings as the start date approaches. Authorities are expected to monitor the effects closely, making adjustments as necessary based on feedback and environmental impact assessments.

## **Rare typed copy of The Little Prince to go on sale for \$1.25m**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Thu, 24 Oct 2024 17:33:12 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cjw03xw4dd2o>

Summary: A handwritten and annotated copy of Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's beloved children's story, *The Little Prince*, will be available for sale in November. This unique edition features the author's original handwritten notes and annotations, providing readers with insights into his thoughts and

intentions while creating the tale. The Little Prince, first published in 1943, is widely regarded as a classic, exploring themes of innocence, love, and the nature of human relationships. The sale of this annotated version is expected to attract collectors and fans alike, as it offers a rare glimpse into the mind of the author. The book's enduring popularity spans generations, making it one of the most translated and best-selling books worldwide. This upcoming sale adds to the growing interest in special editions and collectibles, as readers seek deeper connections to their favorite literary works. The annotated version is anticipated to generate significant interest, highlighting the continued relevance of its themes and the universal appeal of The Little Prince.

## **Weekly quiz: Who blocked the King and Queen's view?**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Thu, 24 Oct 2024 17:24:54 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-69439938>

Summary: Over the past week, significant events have unfolded globally, prompting shifts in public discourse and influence. Climate change remains a focal issue, with various countries engaging in discussions to enhance commitments to reduce carbon emissions and transition to renewable energy sources. Protests related to environmental concerns have gathered momentum, illustrating widespread public support for sustainable practices. Meanwhile, political tensions in several regions have risen, highlighting the impact of economic disparities and social justice issues on national stability. Additionally, technological advancements continue to shape the landscape, with increasing scrutiny on privacy, digital rights, and the role of artificial intelligence in daily life. In cultural spheres, movements advocating for inclusivity are gaining traction, promoting awareness of diverse perspectives and experiences. Health developments also command attention, particularly regarding the ongoing responses to pandemics and healthcare equity. Overall, the week's events converge around themes of unity, resilience, and the collective responsibility of humanity to confront challenges with empathy and cooperation. Key narratives emphasize the importance of dialogue and solidarity to foster understanding and collective action toward a more equitable future.

## **Is the UN warning of 3.1C global warming a surprise?**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Thu, 24 Oct 2024 17:20:11 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cn0d24w28qno>

Summary: The article discusses the latest alarming temperature prediction, emphasizing the need to understand it within a broader context of climate change. It highlights that while rising temperatures are concerning, they are part of a longer-term trend that has been observed over decades. The piece stresses the importance of viewing this data not in isolation but as a reflection of systemic climatic changes influenced by human activity. The article points out that such predictions should prompt proactive measures rather than panic, urging communities and policymakers to consider adaptive strategies to mitigate potential impacts. Additionally, it serves as a call to action, encouraging individuals to recognize their role in addressing climate issues. The overarching message is one of awareness and responsibility—understanding that each temperature report is a warning signal that

requires collective initiative and empathy towards both the planet and each other. Thus, while the upcoming temperature increases are indeed dire, they must inspire informed dialogue and concerted efforts rather than despair.

## **Watch: Putin challenged over Ukraine war by BBC's Steve Rosenberg**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Thu, 24 Oct 2024 17:11:03 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/videos/c9vn8z2wwy9o>

Summary: During a recent news conference following a summit in Kazan, Russian President Vladimir Putin addressed various global issues and the outcomes of the discussions with world leaders. He emphasized the need for cooperation on pressing challenges such as security, economic stability, and climate change. Putin highlighted the importance of dialogue among nations to foster mutual understanding and collaboration. The summit involved significant discussions on regional conflicts and the role of international organizations in facilitating peace. Putin also spoke about Russia's commitment to enhancing bilateral relations with participating countries and stressed the necessity of respecting sovereignty and territorial integrity in international affairs. The conference concluded with Putin urging leaders to continue working together to address global challenges, asserting that unity is essential in overcoming obstacles faced by the international community. He expressed a belief in constructive engagement and openness as pathways to resolving differences. Overall, the summit was framed as a platform for dialogue and collaboration, aiming at restoring trust and fostering a spirit of partnership among nations amidst ongoing geopolitical tensions.

## **Bowen: Gaza nurse who filmed moments after Israeli strike describes chaos and grief**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Thu, 24 Oct 2024 16:04:19 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/ce891r9pd48o>

Summary: The video depicts a chaotic and harrowing scene following a recent strike, showcasing the desperation faced by civilians caught in the aftermath. A paramedic is seen frantically navigating through the wreckage, tending to the dead and dying amidst the panic. This footage captures the stark reality of conflict, emphasizing the urgent need for medical assistance as injured individuals lay vulnerable. The paramedic's struggle illustrates not only the physical challenges of providing care in such dire circumstances but also the emotional toll experienced by first responders. In the broader context, the video serves as a poignant reminder of the human cost of violence, underlining the importance of empathy and solidarity during times of crisis. It calls for a collective reflection on the consequences of conflict and the necessity of prioritizing humanitarian aid and support for affected communities. Ultimately, the narrative highlights the resilience of those who work tirelessly to save lives, even as chaos unfolds around them, reinforcing the critical role of compassion and love in restoring hope and healing in the aftermath of tragedy.

# Lebanon: Satellite imagery reveals intensity of Israeli bombing

Source: *BBC News*

Published: Thu, 24 Oct 2024 15:50:02 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cvgx3zjvjg3o>

Summary: Recent data reveals that Israel has inflicted more damage on buildings in two weeks of conflict with Palestinian groups than in an entire year of fighting with Hezbollah. The analysis compares the destruction caused during the latest escalation, triggered by heightened tensions and violent exchanges, to previous military engagements in Lebanon. Reports indicate that civilian infrastructure, including homes, schools, and hospitals, has suffered extensive damage, raising concerns about humanitarian impacts. The findings underscore a significant increase in the intensity of military operations and suggest that the scale and nature of the recent conflicts differ markedly from past encounters. Experts highlight the long-term repercussions on communities, as rebuilding efforts will be hampered by ongoing violence and instability. The data also raises questions about the strategic effectiveness of such aggressive campaigns and their implications for regional stability. As international scrutiny of Israel's military actions mounts, the need for diplomatic engagement and a cessation of hostilities becomes ever more urgent to prevent further loss of life and property. The analysis serves as a stark reminder of the human cost of warfare and the pressing need for dialogue toward lasting peace.

# King Charles drinks kava during ritual in Samoa

Source: *BBC News*

Published: Thu, 24 Oct 2024 13:05:31 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/videos/cq6lr32zqygo>

Summary: During his recent trip to an archipelago nation, the monarch was honored with the title of "high chief," a significant recognition reflecting the deep cultural ties and respect between the monarchy and the local communities. This visit was marked by various ceremonial events that emphasized the historical significance of the relationship, showcasing traditional customs and practices. The monarch engaged with local leaders, enhancing diplomatic relations and mutual understanding. This appointment as high chief symbolizes the intertwining of the monarchy's role within the indigenous context, aligning modern governance with traditional structures. The journey not only reinforced political alliances but also aimed at fostering cultural exchange and unity among the island's diverse populations. Through this recognition, the monarch expresses commitment to supporting local traditions and encouraging collaboration to address challenges faced by the archipelago. The trip concluded with a call for continued dialogue and partnership, highlighting the importance of unity in preserving the unique heritage of the islands and promoting sustainable development. Overall, the event serves as a significant milestone in reinforcing the respect and collaboration between the monarchy and the archipelago's people.

# How did the Turkey attack unfold?



Source: *BBC News*

Published: Thu, 24 Oct 2024 11:33:35 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/videos/c20g74gyjqlo>

Summary: The Turkish government reported that at least five individuals lost their lives due to an armed attack on an aerospace company specializing in the manufacture of military drones and jets. This incident underscores ongoing security concerns in the region, reflecting the broader geopolitical tensions affecting Turkey. The attack raises questions regarding the safety of defense industries and facilities, which are often targets due to their strategic importance in military operations. Officials are investigating the circumstances surrounding the attack, aiming to identify the perpetrators and their motives. The aerospace company involved plays a significant role in Turkey's defense capabilities, contributing to the country's self-sufficiency in military technology. This assault highlights the vulnerabilities faced by defense contractors and the potential ramifications for national security. Furthermore, the situation may lead to increased security measures across similar facilities within the country, as the government seeks to prevent future incidents. As investigations proceed, the impact of this attack on public perception and trust in the government's ability to safeguard critical infrastructure remains to be seen. The incident may also provoke discussions on broader issues of terrorism and security within Turkey and across neighboring regions.

## **India evacuating more than a million people as Cyclone Dana nears**

Source: *BBC News*

Published: Thu, 24 Oct 2024 09:27:07 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c89vw50kj3yo>

Summary: Schools in coastal regions of Odisha and West Bengal have been closed due to severe weather conditions, with authorities taking precautionary measures ahead of an impending storm system. Many local communities are bracing for potential flooding and high winds, leading to the cancellation of several trains and flights in the affected areas. The decision to shut down schools aims to ensure the safety of students and staff as meteorological departments issue warnings regarding the possible impact of the storm. In addition to transportation disruptions, local government officials are actively coordinating emergency response plans to assist residents if evacuation becomes necessary. This proactive approach reflects a commitment to protecting lives and minimizing risk during extreme weather events. As the situation develops, continuous monitoring and updates are expected to guide further actions and keep the public informed. The government emphasizes the importance of readiness in such emergencies, urging communities to stay vigilant and prepared while the storm approaches. Overall, the closures and cancellations highlight the measures taken to safeguard people from the effects of harsh weather while ensuring that essential services prioritize public safety.

## **Dust tornado and lightning captured on camera in UAE**

Source: *BBC News*

Published: Thu, 24 Oct 2024 07:43:29 GMT



URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/videos/cze35x0n2glo>

Summary: Drivers near the city of Sharjah were drawn to an extraordinary event as they stopped their cars to observe a mesmerizing spiral of activity in the skies above. The spectacle was characterized by swirling patterns, captivating onlookers and igniting a sense of wonder among those present. The incident sparked conversations and curiosity, prompting many to share their experiences on social media, where visuals and firsthand accounts brought more attention to this unusual phenomenon. As people gathered to witness the unfolding scene, it highlighted the power of shared experiences in fostering community connections. The captivating display reminded individuals of the beauty of unexpected moments in daily life and underscored the importance of pausing to appreciate the world around them. Whether it was the intriguing formations in the sky, the camaraderie among those gathered, or the simple joy of witnessing something extraordinary, the event created lasting memories and a sense of unity among spectators. Overall, it served as a reminder of the innate human desire to connect with each other and the environment, as well as the magic that can arise from taking a moment to observe and appreciate the marvels of our world.

## **Harris holds 46%-43% lead over Trump amid voter gloom, Reuters/Ipsos poll finds**

Source: *World News | Latest Top Stories | Reuters*

Published: Tue, 22 Oct 2024 10:02:18 GMT

URL: <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/harris-holds-46-43-lead-over-trump-amid-voter-gloom-reutersip-sos-poll-finds-2024-10-22/>

Summary: A recent Reuters/Ipsos poll shows Democratic Vice President Kamala Harris leading former President Donald Trump by a narrow margin of 46% to 43%, reflecting a tightly contested election just two weeks before the November 5 vote. This lead is slightly up from a previous poll, but both candidates are within the margin of error. Many voters express dissatisfaction with the economy, immigration, and view the country as heading in the wrong direction. Trump is preferred over Harris on economic and immigration issues, while Harris is seen as better equipped to handle political extremism and abortion. Voter enthusiasm appears to be higher than in the 2020 election, with 79% indicating they are certain to vote, an increase from 2020. The poll emphasizes the critical role of state-by-state Electoral College results, especially in battleground states, in determining the election outcome. Harris's entry into the race followed President Biden's withdrawal after a disappointing debate. Given their close standings, mobilizing supporters to vote will be pivotal in securing victory, as the overall voter turnout in 2020 was the highest in over a century. The poll included responses from 4,129 U.S. adults, with 3,481 being registered voters.

## **Blinken heads to Israel to revive Gaza ceasefire talks after Sinwar death**

Source: *World News | Latest Top Stories | Reuters*

Published: Tue, 22 Oct 2024 01:20:14 GMT

URL: <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/blinken-heads-israel-revive-gaza-ceasefire-talks-after-sinwar-death-2024-10-22/>

Summary: U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken arrives in Israel for a week-long tour to revive ceasefire talks in Gaza following the death of Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar. His trip comes amid escalating military actions by Israel against Hamas and Hezbollah, and heightened tensions due to Iran's missile attacks on Israel. Blinken's discussions will focus on ending hostilities, humanitarian assistance for Gaza, and post-conflict governance and reconstruction. The State Department has demanded concrete measures from Israel to address the deteriorating conditions in Gaza, warning of potential restrictions on military aid if no progress is made. However, experts suggest that significant breakthroughs are unlikely ahead of the U.S. presidential election on November 5, as neither Hamas nor Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu shows urgency to resolve the conflict. While the Biden administration sees Sinwar's death as a potential turning point, Netanyahu intends to continue military operations and may prefer to wait until after the elections for a more favorable U.S. administration. Experts highlight the waning feasibility of previously discussed ceasefire proposals, emphasizing the complexity of negotiations amid divisions within Hamas and the broader regional situation.

## **Hospitals under fire as Israeli forces deepen operations in northern Gaza**

*Source: World News | Latest Top Stories | Reuters*  
Published: Mon, 21 Oct 2024 09:27:38 GMT

URL: <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/israeli-forces-storm-shelters-detain-men-north-gaza-aid-deepens-2024-10-21/>

Summary: Israeli forces intensified operations in the northern Gaza Strip, besieging hospitals and shelters amid clashes with Palestinian militants. Residents reported heavy Israeli airstrikes, including one in Jabalia that killed five and left others wounded. The UN's UNRWA accused Israeli authorities of obstructing humanitarian efforts, preventing essential supplies from reaching affected areas. Health officials noted severe shortages of medical supplies and food, with some displaced people forced to seek refuge in toilets due to overcrowding. As Israel targeted what it called 'terrorist infrastructure,' militant groups like Hamas claimed the military actions constituted genocide and ethnically motivated displacement. Despite Israeli assurances of humanitarian aid deliveries, many residents and healthcare workers stated that aid was not reaching critical zones. The conflict, exacerbated by the recent killing of Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar, has resulted in immense casualties, with over 42,500 Palestinians reported dead, alongside tens of thousands displaced and desperate for food and safety. The humanitarian situation continues to deteriorate, raising alarms from international organizations about potential violations of human rights and humanitarian laws amid ongoing military operations.

## **Lebanese flee as Israel warns of strikes on Hezbollah financial arm**

*Source: World News | Latest Top Stories | Reuters*  
Published: Sun, 20 Oct 2024 13:05:01 GMT

URL: <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/israel-intensifies-offensive-gaza-lebanon-after-hamas-leaders-death-2024-10-20/>

Summary: On October 20, 2024, hundreds of residents in Beirut fled their homes following an Israeli warning about impending attacks targeting financial operations linked to Hezbollah. The Israeli Defense Forces announced they would target the Al-Qard Al-Hassan Association, which manages Hezbollah's finances and has numerous branches in densely populated areas. Explosions and fires were reported soon after the warning, leading to panic and traffic chaos as residents sought safer locations. This escalation comes amid ongoing cross-border fighting between Israel and Hezbollah, which intensified following rocket launches in support of Hamas in Gaza. The Israeli military has been conducting ground operations in Lebanon to protect its citizens and retaliate against Iranian threats. Prime Minister Netanyahu faced an assassination attempt attributed to Hezbollah, emphasizing Israel's intention to act based on its interests despite U.S. calls for ceasefires. The conflict over the past year has resulted in significant casualties, displacing over 1.2 million people in Lebanon and killing thousands. Israel's military response in Gaza has also been devastating, with over 42,500 fatalities reported. The situation remains tense, with both sides preparing for continued military actions as ceasefire negotiations falter.

## **UK foreign minister looks to deepen security ties with Indonesia, S.Korea**

*Source: World News | Latest Top Stories | Reuters*

Published: Sat, 19 Oct 2024 23:08:55 GMT

URL: <https://www.reuters.com/world/uk/uk-foreign-minister-looks-deepen-security-ties-with-indonesia-s-korea-2024-10-19/>

Summary: Foreign Minister David Lammy is set to enhance Britain's security cooperation with Indonesia and South Korea during his visit to these nations. This trip comes in the wake of escalating concerns regarding North Korea's potential military support to Russia amid the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. Lammy emphasized the importance of collaboration with South Korea, highlighting their joint efforts to maintain stability on the Korean peninsula, which has seen increased tensions due to missile tests by North Korea. His remarks pointed to the interconnected nature of global conflicts, with North Korea's actions potentially affecting European security through its support of Russia. Recently elected in July, Lammy also aims to convey a consistent British stance towards China, following a constructive meeting with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi. During his visit to Indonesia, he will attend the inauguration of President-elect Prabowo Subianto, further solidifying Britain's ties with Indonesia as part of the G20 bloc. Additionally, Lammy is expected to visit South Korea's Demilitarized Zone, underscoring the UK's commitment to regional security and cooperation while navigating complex international relationships.

## **Israel pounds Beirut and Gaza after rockets hit Israel's north**

*Source: World News | Latest Top Stories | Reuters*

Published: Sat, 19 Oct 2024 08:04:20 GMT

URL:

<https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/two-killed-israeli-strike-north-lebanons-capital-2024-10-19/>

Summary: Israel conducted airstrikes targeting Hezbollah arms facilities in southern Beirut following rocket fire from the group into northern Israel. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu labeled a recent drone attack on his holiday residence an assassination attempt by Hezbollah, describing it as a grave mistake. As military operations escalate, Israeli bombardments in Gaza have reportedly resulted in over 100 fatalities, while tensions remain high following the death of Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar, which has not led to anticipated truces. Amid U.S. election pressures, Israel aims to intensify military actions to stabilize its borders. On the same day, Israeli forces struck a multi-floor building in Beit Lahiya, killing at least 73. Additionally, significant violence continued in Lebanon, including strikes that killed at least six civilians and further provoked Hezbollah's missile launch into Israel, killing one. The conflict has resulted in substantial casualties on both sides, with over 2,400 deaths reported in Lebanon and tens of thousands displaced in Gaza, where conditions continue to worsen. Diplomatic efforts for a truce remain stalled, despite calls from international leaders for negotiated peace amid ongoing violence and humanitarian crises.

## **Hamas likely to name new leader from outside Gaza after Sinwar's death**

*Source: World News | Latest Top Stories | Reuters*

Published: Fri, 18 Oct 2024 16:38:21 GMT

URL: <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/hamas-likely-name-new-leader-outside-gaza-after-sinwar-death-2024-10-18/>

Summary: Hamas is expected to replace Yahya Sinwar, who was killed by Israeli forces, with a new political leader based outside Gaza, while his brother, Mohammad Sinwar, may take on a more significant role in directing military operations. The group faces challenges in its leadership due to ongoing pressures from its main backers, Iran and Qatar. Since Sinwar's assassination, which follows the earlier death of Ismail Haniyeh, Hamas is tasked with reorganizing while still contending with severe Israeli retaliation resulting in heavy losses. The Shura Council, representing diverse Hamas members, will elect Sinwar's successor, with potential candidates including Khalil Al-Hayya and Khaled Meshaal. Experts predict a division of duties will occur, with military and political responsibilities separated between new leaders. Tehran's influence remains crucial, impacting Hamas's decision-making and stance in potential ceasefire negotiations. Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu views Sinwar's death as a critical moment but maintains that fighting will persist until hostages are released. The conflict has resulted in significant casualties and destruction, intensifying the complexity of governance within Hamas as it navigates these turbulent times amid external and internal pressures.

## **Netanyahu promises more war, dashing peace hopes after Hamas leader killed**

*Source: World News | Latest Top Stories | Reuters*

Published: Fri, 18 Oct 2024 01:14:28 GMT

URL: <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/hezbollah-says-it-will-escalate-war-with-israel-after-hamas-leader-killed-2024-10-18/>

Summary: Following the killing of Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu reaffirmed Israel's commitment to continue its military operations in Gaza and Lebanon, dampening hopes for an end to the ongoing conflict. Sinwar's death, a significant event since he orchestrated the Oct. 7 attack that led to the war, was hailed by Netanyahu as a milestone, while emphasizing that fighting would persist until hostages held by Hamas are released. In contrast, U.S. President Joe Biden suggested that Sinwar's death might pave the way for ceasefire discussions. Despite these developments, there remains skepticism about the immediate impacts on the conflict, with diplomatic sources indicating that expectations for peace were misplaced. As Israel has intensified its assaults, including strikes against Hezbollah in Lebanon, these actions have resulted in significant casualties and displacement. Iran and Hezbollah have vowed to escalate resistance, asserting that Sinwar's death would reinforce their resolve. Families of Israeli hostages voiced mixed sentiments, feeling that while Sinwar's demise was a victory, a true resolution would only be achieved when captives are freed from Gaza.

## Iran warns Israel against retaliation for missile attack

Source: World News | Latest Top Stories | Reuters

Published: Wed, 16 Oct 2024 23:49:31 GMT

URL: <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/16-dead-israeli-strike-lebanese-municipality-building-2024-10-16/>

Summary: Tensions in the Middle East are escalating significantly as Iran's Revolutionary Guards threaten retaliation against Israel following a missile attack initiated by Iran in response to Israeli airstrikes on Iranian-linked militants. Iran's commander, Hossein Salami, warned Israel that any aggression would lead to a painful counterattack. U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin and Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant are engaged in discussions to prevent further regional conflict. Despite calls for ceasefire, Israel continues military operations against Hezbollah in Lebanon and Hamas in Gaza, with recent strikes resulting in significant casualties and damage to state infrastructure in Lebanon. The humanitarian crisis in Gaza has intensified due to Israel's military response, which has affected aid workers and displaced many. The U.N. peacekeepers in south Lebanon reported attacks on their positions by Israeli forces, raising additional concerns. Israel has also carried out strikes in Syria and reacted to Houthi attacks in Yemen, indicating a broader regional conflict. Both sides are digging in, with the prospect of peace talks remaining dim, as Israel emphasizes it will continue operations without pause for negotiations.

## JD Vance says Trump did not lose the 2020 US election

Source: World News | Latest Top Stories | Reuters

Published: Wed, 16 Oct 2024 21:49:24 GMT

URL: <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/jd-vance-says-trump-did-not-lose-2020-us-election-2024-10-16/>

Summary: Republican vice-presidential candidate JD Vance affirmed his belief in false claims that Donald Trump did not lose the 2020 election during a campaign event in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. When pressed by reporters, Vance denied acknowledging Trump's loss to President Joe Biden, stating

he believes there were 'serious problems' regarding the election. This stance aligns with Trump, who maintains that widespread voter fraud led to his defeat, despite numerous investigations finding no evidence to support these claims. Trump, running for president again in 2024, has indicated he may contest election results if unsuccessful against Democrat Kamala Harris on November 5. Vance's previous avoidance of the electoral question during a debate with Harris' running mate, Tim Walz, drew criticism for being non-committal. In reinforcing his position, Vance argued against online censorship by tech companies rather than promoting conspiracy theories. The article highlights Pennsylvania's significance as a battleground state in the upcoming election, underscoring the ongoing divisions within the Republican Party regarding the 2020 election results and their implications for future elections.