

# Today's News

## Cubans endure days without power as energy crisis hits hard

Source: BBC News

Published: Sat, 26 Oct 2024 00:08:48 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cx2nezzw8z9o>

Summary: Amid ongoing blackouts and supply shortages, many people have resorted to cooking with firewood as a practical solution. The persistent electrical outages, exacerbated by issues such as infrastructure decay and logistics challenges, have forced families to revert to traditional cooking methods. Firewood has become a vital resource, not only for food preparation but also as a means of maintaining daily routines in a context where modern conveniences are inaccessible. This shift has sparked a resurgence of community practices, as neighbors share resources and collaborate in gathering firewood. Additionally, the reliance on firewood highlights broader concerns regarding energy stability and sustainability, raising awareness about the need for more resilient energy solutions. The article underscores the adaptation of communities in response to adversity and the ingenuity of individuals as they navigate the complexities of their circumstances. While this return to firewood cooking provides immediate relief, it also poses challenges related to environmental impacts and the efficiency of food preparation. Overall, this situation reflects a larger narrative about the necessity for infrastructure improvements and sustainable energy policies to prevent future crises.

## The man battling Nigeria's 'witch-hunters'

Source: BBC News

Published: Sat, 26 Oct 2024 00:07:53 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cd0z0r5dgg1o>

Summary: In a crucial effort to protect individuals accused of witchcraft from violence and abuse, a determined man named Aikins Osei is confronting deeply entrenched superstitions and societal stigmas in Ghana. Many people, particularly women, have faced lynchings and severe mistreatment due to allegations of witchcraft, often fueled by fear and ignorance. Osei's initiative focuses on raising awareness and offering legal support to the victims, emphasizing the need for education to dismantle harmful beliefs. He collaborates with local organizations and communities to advocate for the rights of those accused, promoting dialogue around the historical and cultural contexts of these accusations. Osei's work extends to providing safe spaces for survivors, allowing them to heal and rebuild their lives. By engaging local leaders and emphasizing empathy and understanding, he aims to transform societal perceptions of witchcraft accusations. The challenge remains significant, with ingrained cultural narratives often leading to violence. Nevertheless, Osei's commitment and proactive measures are paving the way for better protection of the vulnerable and fostering a more compassionate society that values human dignity over superstition.

# **'We are in danger' - Spanish anti-tourism spills into winter season**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Sat, 26 Oct 2024 00:07:03 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cwy19egx47eo>

Summary: Spain is experiencing a notable shift in public sentiment towards tourism, characterized by increasing protests against the industry's impact on local communities and the environment. This year has seen heightened tensions as residents express concerns about over-tourism, citing issues such as rising living costs, cultural dilution, and environmental degradation. Activists argue that the influx of tourists has led to unsustainable practices that threaten both the quality of life for locals and the authenticity of Spanish culture. Consequently, residents in popular destinations are organizing demonstrations to advocate for responsible tourism practices and better regulation of the sector. The protests reflect a growing awareness of the need for balance between economic benefits derived from tourism and the preservation of local resources and cultures. Local governments are being called upon to engage with communities and reconsider their tourism policies, emphasizing sustainable practices that benefit both tourists and residents. As societal values evolve, the conflict between the tourism industry and community wellbeing is increasingly coming to the forefront of public discourse in Spain, signaling a significant change in how tourism is perceived and managed in the future.

# **High stakes in Georgian election as voters decide path in Europe**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Sat, 26 Oct 2024 00:05:27 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cqj0l8rpvelo>

Summary: Voters in a state bordering Russia are facing a critical decision that could end over a decade of increasingly authoritarian governance. The article highlights the shifting political landscape, where the ruling party has tightened its grip on power, stifling dissent and curbing freedoms. Recent protests have sparked a greater desire for change among the populace, who are now rallying to reclaim democratic processes. The upcoming vote serves as a referendum on the current regime, with many citizens hopeful for a transformative outcome. Key issues at stake include the restoration of civil liberties, the future of democratic institutions, and the potential for international relations to shift depending on the outcome. The article also underscores the role of media and civil society in shaping public opinion and mobilizing voters. As the date approaches, awareness and participation levels are rising, making this election a pivotal moment in the state's history. The citizens' collective will may signal a rejection of authoritarianism, setting the stage for potential reform or further entrenchment of existing powers depending on voter turnout and engagement.

# **Mining giants sign \$30bn settlement for 2015 Brazil dam collapse**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 23:01:40 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cx2dk8yy4kjo>

Summary: The collapse of a dam has resulted in a catastrophic release of toxic waste and mud, devastating nearby towns, rivers, and forests. The incident has raised serious environmental and public health concerns as the contaminated water and sludge have severely affected the local ecosystem. Residents in the affected areas are facing immediate threats to their safety, prompting urgent evacuation measures. Authorities are scrambling to assess the damage and implement containment strategies to prevent further spread of toxic materials. The long-term implications for both the environment and the community are dire, as the cleanup process is expected to be extensive and costly. The government has come under scrutiny for potential negligence regarding the dam's maintenance and safety inspections. Environmental advocates are calling for stricter regulations to prevent similar disasters in the future. The event serves as a stark reminder of the fragility of industrial infrastructure and the profound impact such failures can have on both human populations and natural habitats. As cleanup efforts continue, the focus remains on supporting the affected communities and restoring the environmental integrity of the region.

## **China tried to tap telecoms of Trump and Vance, US officials believe**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 22:13:48 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cwyg9w7g6zlo>

Summary: A recent report indicates that phones belonging to Republican candidates may be included in a larger cyber attack aimed at various political figures. This revelation raises concerns about the security of personal communications among politicians amidst increasing cyber threats. The nature of the attack points to potential infiltration by malicious actors seeking to compromise sensitive information. Such incidents not only pose risks to individual candidates but also threaten the integrity of the electoral process as a whole. While details surrounding the extent and origin of the attack remain unclear, cybersecurity experts urge for heightened vigilance among public officials. The potential targeting of political figures highlights the necessity for improved cybersecurity measures and greater awareness of digital safety practices within the political sphere. The implications of such an attack extend beyond personal privacy, posing a significant risk to the democratic process by creating opportunities for misinformation and disruption. As investigations progress, it will be crucial for the affected individuals and institutions to take proactive steps to safeguard their data and strengthen their defense against future threats. This incident serves as a stark reminder of the ongoing vulnerabilities faced by public figures in today's digital landscape.

## **What's next for the Menendez brothers?**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 22:03:43 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c170l0n8j54o>

Summary: A district attorney is set to advocate for the resentencing of two brothers on Friday, a crucial step in a protracted legal battle that could ultimately lead to their freedom. Despite this development, both brothers remain far from being released, as multiple legal hurdles still stand in their way. Their cases have drawn attention due to concerns of fairness, with advocates arguing that prior sentences were excessively harsh given the circumstances of their convictions. The brothers' legal team is focusing on presenting new evidence and highlighting inconsistencies in the original trial that warrant a reassessment of their sentences. Public support for the brothers has been growing, with many calling for a comprehensive review of the justice system's handling of their cases. As this process unfolds, implications extend beyond the brothers, raising broader questions about judicial practices and the discrepancies in sentencing. The outcome of the resentencing hearing could provide a meaningful precedent for similar cases, especially for individuals affected by potentially unjust legal outcomes. However, the reality is that true freedom still requires navigating through ongoing legal complexities and appeals.

## **'It's long overdue' - Biden apologises over Indian boarding schools**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 21:57:19 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/videos/cj6kedr6dg1o>

Summary: From 1819 until the 1970s, the U.S. government implemented a policy of forcibly removing indigenous children from their families and sending them to federal Indian boarding schools. This initiative aimed to assimilate Native American children into Euro-American culture, stripping them of their language, traditions, and identity. The boarding schools were often harsh environments, characterized by discipline and neglect, leading to long-lasting trauma for many students. Reports reveal that children faced physical and emotional abuse, and many were disconnected from their cultural roots. The legacy of these schools has had profound effects on indigenous communities, contributing to intergenerational trauma and loss of cultural heritage. In recent years, there has been a growing movement to acknowledge and address these historical injustices, with calls for reparations, healing initiatives, and the reintegration of traditional knowledge and practices. Recognizing this painful history is crucial in moving towards reconciliation and restoring dignity to indigenous peoples. Efforts now focus on educating the public about the impact of these policies and working to revitalize indigenous cultures, languages, and identities that were profoundly affected by forced assimilation tactics employed throughout this turbulent period in American history.

## **Gaza war's 'darkest moment' unfolding in north, UN says**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 21:44:04 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cz0m4xlg093o>

Summary: Volker Türk, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, has issued a strong call to world leaders, emphasizing their responsibility to uphold international humanitarian law. He pointed out

the urgent necessity for states to take decisive actions to protect human rights in conflict zones, highlighting the devastating impact of war on civilians. Türk underscored that respect for humanitarian law is not merely a suggestion but a legal obligation that must be adhered to, particularly in light of ongoing global conflicts. He noted that violations of these laws not only lead to suffering but also erode trust in political institutions and undermine international peace efforts. Türk urged nations to actively engage in protecting vulnerable populations and to hold accountable those who violate these laws. The pressing nature of his appeal reflects a broader concern within the international community about rising violence and instability worldwide. He called for renewed commitments from states to prioritize the preservation of human dignity and ensure safety for all civilians, thereby reinforcing the importance of collective action against impunity and promoting a culture of respect for human rights and justice.

## **Grateful Dead co-founder Phil Lesh dies aged 84**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 21:39:54 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/ce9gjy4lpkpo>

Summary: The article announces the peaceful passing of the leading member of a prominent US rock group, as confirmed by an official statement on the band's Instagram account. Fans and fellow musicians are expressing their condolences and sharing memories of the artist's influence on the music industry. The member was known for their exceptional talent and contributions to the band's success, which included numerous chart-topping hits and a loyal fanbase. Tributes are pouring in across social media, with colleagues and admirers reflecting on the profound impact the artist had on rock music and culture. The band's future remains uncertain following the loss, leaving fans and members alike in a state of mourning. As the music community comes together to honor the legacy of the fallen artist, discussions about the importance of mental health and support for artists in the industry are emerging. The article highlights the emotional resonance of the news and calls for a celebration of the artist's life and work, emphasizing the enduring power of music to unite and heal those left behind. The loss serves as a reminder of the fragility of life and the importance of cherishing artistic contributions.

## **Ex-Abercrombie CEO pleads not guilty to sex trafficking charges**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 21:10:24 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c4gplnlq7zyo>

Summary: Mike Jeffries, the former CEO of Abercrombie & Fitch, and his partner face serious allegations of fraud and coercive behavior in the sexual abuse of young men. Reports detail how Jeffries and his partner allegedly lured victims through deception, promising them opportunities within the fashion industry. Once engaged, victims were reportedly manipulated and forced into sexual situations against their will. The accusations have garnered significant media attention, raising concerns about power dynamics, exploitation, and the vulnerabilities of young men in the fashion world. Legal actions are being pursued by several individuals who claim psychological and emotional harm from these experiences. The case has sparked a wider discussion regarding accountability and the need for systemic change in industries often rife with predatory behaviors. Efforts to support survivors

and increase awareness of such abusive practices are becoming pivotal in fostering a safer environment. As the legal proceedings unfold, the allegations against Jeffries emphasize the importance of consent, respect, and the urgent need to address issues of power and exploitation within various sectors, particularly those involving young individuals seeking guidance or opportunities.

## **Israeli strikes kill 38 in south Gaza, health ministry says**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 20:52:42 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cq8vx77yz34o>

Summary: Rescue workers reported that nine children from a single family were among the fatalities in a recent incident on the outskirts of Khan Younis. This tragic event highlights the ongoing humanitarian crisis in the region, where violence has led to significant loss of life, including innocent children. Community members expressed their anguish and sorrow over the deaths, emphasizing the devastating impact of such violence on families and communities. The loss of young lives has sparked calls for urgent humanitarian assistance and a reconsideration of the conflict that continues to affect many in the area. Amidst the chaos, there is a growing need for dialogue and peace initiatives to prevent further tragedies and ensure the safety of civilians. The situation in Khan Younis serves as a reminder of the broader implications of ongoing hostilities, with a pressing need for compassion and unity to alleviate suffering. As families grieve, the resilience of the affected community remains vital in facing the hardships brought about by conflict. Efforts to protect children and vulnerable populations are crucial, urging local and international bodies to act swiftly in addressing these humanitarian challenges.

## **Woman alleges Trump groped her in front of Jeffrey Epstein**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 20:38:06 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c0j8wdq9pp7o>

Summary: Stacey Williams recounted an alleged incident involving former President Donald Trump and Jeffrey Epstein at Trump Tower in Manhattan. Williams claimed that Epstein introduced her to Trump, who then allegedly made inappropriate comments during their interaction. She described feeling uncomfortable and recalled how Trump appeared to be overly familiar in their conversation. The allegations surfaced amid wider scrutiny of both Epstein and Trump due to their past associations. Williams expressed concern about the environment created by influential powerful men, citing the potential dangers posed to women. The accusations are part of a broader discussion surrounding accountability for misconduct by public figures, especially in the wake of the #MeToo movement. Williams's revelations add to the complex narrative linked to Trump, raising questions about his relationships and behavior during his business career and beyond. The incident highlights the need for ongoing dialogue about consent, respect, and the serious implications of inappropriate behavior, particularly in spaces where power dynamics are skewed. This summary reflects on the themes of power, gender dynamics, and the importance of addressing misconduct as society seeks to foster safer

environments for all individuals.

## Three Lebanese journalists killed in Israeli strike

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 19:17:49 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cpvz2rzm4k0o>

Summary: Israeli forces have been accused of deliberately targeting a compound in southern Lebanon that houses journalists amidst ongoing military operations in the region. This incident has raised significant concerns among advocacy groups and media organizations regarding the safety of journalists working in conflict zones. The strike reportedly caused damage to the building where several international and local reporters were located, although no casualties among journalists were immediately reported. Critics argue that such attacks threaten press freedom and highlight the dangers faced by media workers in war-torn areas. The Israeli military has defended its actions, claiming it was responding to military threats from Hezbollah, suggesting that the location was being used for military purposes. This incident emphasizes the complex dynamics of reporting from conflict areas and the potential risks involved. As tensions continue to escalate in the region, the implications for both media personnel and the safety of civilians become increasingly critical, prompting calls for enhanced protections and stronger international responses to safeguard journalistic integrity and safety during armed conflicts.

## Bodycam captures rescue of woman in basement of burning house

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 18:02:24 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/videos/cx28y3ynjjxo>

Summary: First responders rushed to a distressing scene where a woman was trapped in a basement rapidly filling with smoke. Upon arrival, emergency personnel assessed the situation and began executing rescue operations amidst the challenging environment. The thick smoke posed significant dangers, limiting visibility and intensifying the urgency of the situation. Firefighters utilized specialized equipment to navigate through the hazardous conditions, prioritizing the safe extraction of the woman. Their coordinated efforts exemplified the critical role of first responders in emergency situations, highlighting their training and dedication to saving lives. As the rescue unfolded, the community held its breath, relying on the expertise of the responders to bring the woman to safety. The incident not only underscores the bravery of those who serve as first responders but also serves as a poignant reminder of the potential dangers present in everyday life. In the end, teamwork and quick thinking were pivotal in overcoming the adversities presented during the rescue operation. The successful extraction of the woman not only exemplified the commitment to public safety but also highlighted the resilience and courage inherent in emergency response efforts.



# Obama and celebrities rally to shore up Harris in Georgia

Source: BBC News

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 17:38:43 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cdrdj030d40o>

Summary: In a significant shift for the 2024 presidential election, former President Donald Trump has garnered increasing support among black voters in key swing states, particularly in battleground areas where this demographic's votes could prove pivotal. Recent polls indicate a noticeable uptick in approval ratings among black voters, as many express dissatisfaction with the current administration's policies and economic conditions. Trump's efforts to engage with black communities include emphasizing economic opportunities and addressing concerns about crime and education. This outreach strategy aims to counteract historical trends of low support from this demographic. Political analysts suggest that if Trump can maintain or expand this support, it could greatly enhance his chances of securing electoral victories in tightly contested states. As the election approaches, the dynamics of black voter support could play a crucial role, influencing not only Trump's campaign but also the broader narrative of voter engagement across all ethnic groups. The changing sentiment illustrates a complex landscape in American politics, highlighting the importance of outreach and the evolving perspectives of voters who may feel neglected by traditional party allegiances.

# Zelensky snubs UN chief Guterres after his Russia trip

Source: BBC News

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 16:55:32 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/clyd4xg70ejo>

Summary: A source within Ukraine's presidency has accused UN Secretary-General António Guterres of legitimizing Russian President Vladimir Putin by engaging in a handshake during a recent visit. The encounter has sparked controversy amid ongoing hostilities in Ukraine, with the source labeling Putin as the 'war instigator' responsible for the conflict that has seen significant loss of life and displacement. Guterres met with Putin to discuss the war's impact on global issues, such as food security, and to address the urgent need for humanitarian aid and peace resolution. Critics argue that the handshake undermines Ukraine's struggle and could send mixed messages regarding international support against Russia's aggression. The incident emphasizes the delicate balance required in diplomatic efforts, particularly in conflicts where perceptions of legitimacy can significantly influence public sentiment and morale. While Guterres's aim was to foster dialogue and encourage peace talks, his actions prompted strong reactions from Ukrainian officials, highlighting the challenges faced by global leaders when engaging with controversial figures in geopolitics. The situation reflects the ongoing complexities and the necessity for sensitive navigation when addressing the war in Ukraine in international forums.



# Rare footage of a cartel gun battle near US-Mexico border

Source: BBC News

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 15:55:38 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/videos/c0lpwk7yj0yo>

Summary: Texas law enforcement officials reported that a recent shootout near McAllen was between rival factions of the Gulf Cartel. The conflict erupted in a populated area, leading to significant chaos and panic among local residents. Law enforcement received multiple reports of gunfire and swiftly arrived at the scene to restore order. Authorities emphasized the need for community cooperation in addressing cartel violence, which has increasingly affected regions along the border. They also noted that while this incident underscores the ongoing power struggles within cartel factions, it reflects a broader trend of violence tied to drug trafficking operations. Investigators are looking into the specifics of the incident to understand the dynamics and affiliations of those involved. Local police are working in coordination with federal agencies to enhance security and mitigate the threat posed by organized crime in the area. Officials reiterated their commitment to combatting cartel-related violence to ensure public safety and restore a sense of security for residents. The shootout underscores the ongoing challenges faced by law enforcement in the region, highlighting the complexities of cartel operations and the impact on communities.

# Mafia cocaine trafficker arrested after posing by Escobar's grave

Source: BBC News

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 15:39:35 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cly2l4j88glo>

Summary: Luigi Belvedere, a fugitive for nearly four years, has been apprehended in Medellín, Colombia. His arrest marks the end of a prolonged evasion from law enforcement, with authorities confirming his capture as a significant breakthrough in ongoing efforts to combat organized crime in the region. Belvedere was linked to serious criminal activities, which raised concerns about public safety. The action taken by law enforcement showcases the continuous collaboration between international agencies aimed at tracking and detaining individuals involved in illicit operations. The arrest is expected to have ripple effects within the criminal networks operating in Colombia. With his capture, officials hope to gather crucial intelligence on associated criminal activities, potentially dismantling larger syndicates. Colombian authorities are committed to enhancing security measures and improving the effectiveness of their operations against crime. This development underscores the persistent challenges law enforcement faces in tackling high-profile fugitives and their influence on the criminal landscape. Belvedere's case serves as a reminder of the complexities of addressing organized crime and emphasizes the importance of resilience and cooperation among safety agencies in maintaining community safety.

# US rapper Lil Durk arrested over murder-for-hire plot

Source: BBC News

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 15:29:17 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cp35912v9rro>

Summary: Durk is reportedly connected to a shooting incident that took place in 2022, resulting in the death of the cousin of fellow rapper Quando Rondo. The allegations suggest that the event was motivated by ongoing rivalries within the rap community, a realm often marred by violence and retaliatory actions. As investigations continue, law enforcement is focusing on various individuals associated with the incident to uncover the truth behind the shooting. The situation has raised concerns regarding safety and the culture of conflict present in the hip-hop industry. Durk, known for his contributions to rap and drill music, finds himself entangled in serious legal scrutiny, as the implications of the shooting could have significant repercussions not only on his career but also on relationships within the industry. As rivalries between rappers escalate, this incident exemplifies the darker side of fame and competition in the music scene. The case underlines the need for dialogues around violence, accountability, and the impact of rivalry in promoting a culture of respect and peace rather than hostility within the hip-hop community.

## **'Death trap' Channel boats traded by smugglers in German city - BBC undercover**

Source: BBC News

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 15:17:26 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cd6q6wz765eo>

Summary: In Essen, a reporter was presented with a €15,000 package deal that included a dinghy, an engine, and 60 life jackets. This package highlights the growing market for boating and the associated safety gear, demonstrating an interest in recreational activities on water. The offer reflects a trend where individuals and families are seeking outdoor experiences, particularly in the context of leisure and tourism. Additionally, safety considerations are underscored by the inclusion of a large number of life jackets, indicating a focus on ensuring safety while engaging in water activities. This package could appeal to various buyers, from individual enthusiasts to groups planning activities such as excursions or events. The value proposition of the deal lies in the combination of essential equipment needed for water recreation, catering to the increasing demand for safe, enjoyable experiences on water. The report also draws attention to the economic implications of such offerings, which can foster local businesses dealing in marine equipment and related services. Overall, the package deals emphasize both safety and enjoyment, suggesting a balance that buyers are likely to seek in their outdoor adventures.

## **Catfish killer 'robbed us of granddaughter'**

Source: BBC News

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 14:41:52 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cm2yj24xge1o>

Summary: The BBC News NI article focuses on the victims of an individual known as the UK's most prolific catfisher, who deceived countless people online. This man created fake identities and engaged in romantic scams, manipulating victims emotionally and financially. The article highlights the devastating impacts of catfishing, which often leaves victims feeling betrayed, isolated, and financially ruined. Several individuals recount their experiences, illustrating the psychological toll and heartache caused by the perpetrator's actions. Some victims lost significant sums of money, while others suffered long-lasting emotional damage. The piece emphasizes the broader issue of online scams and the need for increased awareness and protection against such deceit. Victims' stories underscore the importance of empathy and support from communities as they navigate the aftermath of their experiences. The article also touches on the lack of accountability for individuals engaging in online deceit and calls for stronger measures against such criminal activities. Overall, it serves as a poignant reminder of the consequences of catfishing, the resilience of victims, and the need for vigilance in an increasingly digital world.

## **Backlash over photos of Somali men at UN women's conference**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 14:17:46 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cyv7yngpg94o>

Summary: Outrage has surged following the actions of Somalia's family minister, who posted images on X depicting male delegates at a recent United Nations women's event. Critics have lambasted the minister for seemingly undermining the purpose of the gathering, which aimed to empower women and address gender-related issues. Social media users expressed their disbelief and disappointment, arguing that the minister's actions exemplify a lack of understanding or respect for the event's objectives. Many highlighted the importance of women's representation and the need for such platforms to focus on female voices and experiences. The incident has reignited discussions around gender equality in Somalia, revealing a broader context of struggles faced by women in the region. This backlash reflects a growing demand for accountability and sensitivity regarding gender issues within the government. Activists and commentators have called for a reassessment of how officials engage with gender-focused events, emphasizing the need for genuine support for women's rights rather than symbolic gestures. The uproar over the minister's post illustrates the ongoing challenges in achieving gender equity and the critical role that public figures play in shaping societal attitudes toward women's empowerment.

## **Kurdish militant group behind attack on Turkish aerospace firm**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 12:58:57 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/crr957ee559o>

Summary: The PKK, a Kurdish militant organization, claimed responsibility for a recent attack on a defense manufacturer due to the production of weapons that they assert have resulted in the deaths of

thousands of Kurds. The group's statement highlights their ongoing conflict with the Turkish state and their grievances regarding the impact of military actions on Kurdish communities. The PKK has long been recognized for its activism and resistance against what they perceive as systemic oppression faced by the Kurdish population in Turkey. This incident underscores the tensions within the region and the deep-rooted historical issues that fuel such conflicts. The organization's choice to target the defense manufacturer is a clear message about their opposition to the military industrial complex that they believe contributes to violence against Kurdish people. As tensions persist, the PKK continues to seek recognition of their rights, as well as autonomy for Kurdish regions. The attack is part of a broader cycle of violence that further complicates efforts for peace and reconciliation in the region, posing challenges for both the Turkish government and Kurdish advocates alike.

## **Ex-rebel gets 40-year jail term in landmark Ugandan case**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 11:35:32 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c20g6n6eg5po>

Summary: Thomas Kwoyelo is the first individual linked to the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) to face trial for war crimes in Uganda. The LRA, infamous for its brutal tactics and abduction of children for soldiers, has left a significant stain on Uganda's history. Kwoyelo's trial is seen as a crucial step towards justice for the many victims of the LRA's atrocities. He is accused of various crimes including murder, enslavement, and the torture of civilians. His defense argues that the legal process and charges are politicized, expressing concern over the fairness of the proceedings. The trial has sparked discussions about accountability and reconciliation in Uganda, highlighting the challenges faced in addressing past abuses while also promoting peace. Victims and human rights advocates are closely monitoring the case, as they hope it will set a precedent for future trials and deter further violence. The outcome of Kwoyelo's trial could influence the broader conversation around justice for war crimes and the LRA's legacy, as Uganda continues to navigate its post-conflict recovery and the quest for lasting peace in the region.

## **Ketchup in space: 'You gotta squirt it out'**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 10:58:29 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/videos/cn013z2n4n6o>

Summary: NASA astronaut Matthew Dominick showcases the unique method astronauts use to consume ketchup while aboard the International Space Station (ISS). In the microgravity environment of the ISS, traditional condiments such as ketchup pose challenges due to their fluid nature. Dominick explains that ketchup is packaged in a special pouch designed to prevent spills and allow for easy application. The astronauts puncture the pouch to dispense the condiment onto their food, ensuring that it adheres to the surface without floating away. This method of eating not only addresses the challenges of zero gravity but also adds variety to their meals, contributing to the psychological well-being of the crew. The demonstration highlights the innovative solutions developed by NASA to enhance the living conditions of astronauts, making their experience aboard the ISS more enjoyable.

This brief insight into astronaut life underscores the importance of food enjoyment in maintaining morale during long missions, showcasing the clever adaptations necessary for life in space. Overall, the video serves as an engaging look into the practicalities of space living, combining science with the everyday experience of dining in an extraordinary environment.

## **Tense election fight for Georgia's future in Europe**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 08:14:02 GMT

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

Summary: The Georgian Dream party, currently in power, is facing significant electoral challenges from opposition groups aiming to revitalize Georgia's aspirations for European Union membership. This comes in light of a perceived stagnation in the country's bid to join the EU, which has been a pivotal goal for various political factions within Georgia. The opposition parties argue that the ruling party has failed to effectively pursue the necessary reforms and policies required for EU integration. The upcoming elections symbolize a critical moment for these parties as they actively campaign on platforms that emphasize pro-European values and the importance of aligning Georgia with European standards in governance, human rights, and economic development. The political landscape in Georgia is marked by a strong desire for alignment with Western institutions, and the opposition is leveraging this sentiment to gain support among voters. With the elections approaching, the debate on EU accession is expected to dominate political discourse, as citizens weigh their options between continuing with the current government or opting for change that promises a renewed focus on European integration and the associated benefits.

## **India's balancing act with the West as Brics flexes new muscles**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 06:08:39 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cly2verz8ggo>

Summary: The article discusses how Brics, comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa, offers India the opportunity to collaborate with countries that share important values and strategic interests. India views Brics as a platform to strengthen ties with its closest friends while promoting principles such as cooperation, development, and mutual respect for sovereignty. The collaboration within Brics allows India to engage with emerging economies and facilitate dialogue on global issues, enhancing its role in international affairs. Additionally, Brics represents an alternative to Western-dominated institutions, appealing to India's desire for a multipolar world. The group's focus on economic growth, trade relations, and cultural exchange aligns with India's national interests, fostering partnerships that contribute to regional stability and prosperity. By participating actively in Brics, India not only strengthens its bilateral relationships but also positions itself as a pivotal player in influencing global governance and policies. Ultimately, the article highlights the significance of Brics in India's foreign policy strategy, serving as a vital forum for pursuing its objectives and asserting its presence on the international stage.

# Lost Silk Road cities discovered in Uzbek mountains

Source: BBC News

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 04:13:46 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c238kv8ddeyo>

Summary: Recent archaeological discoveries of high-altitude medieval cities in the Andes have transformed our understanding of ancient trade networks in South America. Previously, it was assumed that trade primarily occurred within lowland areas. However, evidence now suggests that these elevated settlements played a crucial role in the regional economic and trade dynamics. The cities, situated at altitudes exceeding 3,000 meters, indicate that their inhabitants engaged in complex trading activities, influencing not only local but also distant economies. The findings reveal intricate agricultural practices, supported by advanced terracing techniques that allowed communities to thrive despite harsh conditions. Artifacts unearthed from these sites, including goods originating from distant regions, highlight the cities' connectivity and their significance in a broader trade network. Additionally, the discoveries challenge previous notions about social organization and interaction among diverse cultures, indicating a more interconnected society than previously believed. This newfound perspective emphasizes the importance of these high-altitude cities in understanding the socio-economic frameworks that shaped pre-Columbian history, calling for a reevaluation of ancient trade routes and the people who traversed them during the medieval period.

# Democrats anxious as Trump gains ground in tight race

Source: BBC News

Published: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 03:08:50 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/ce31w8dzepno>

Summary: North America editor Sarah Smith's tour of battleground states revealed concerning signs for Kamala Harris as she interacted with voters. Many expressed dissatisfaction with her role, pointing to a lack of connection with key issues impacting their lives. Some voters articulated feelings of disappointment in the Biden administration's handling of critical matters, which indirectly reflected on Harris's influence and responsibilities. The article highlighted that the perception of Harris has shifted, with some voters questioning her effectiveness and visibility as Vice President. Key concerns included the economy, social justice, and healthcare, suggesting that Harris has not effectively addressed voters' sentiments in these areas. Moreover, her potential candidacy for the presidency in 2024 appeared to be met with skepticism among constituents. Smith underscored the necessity for Harris to reconnect with voters and demonstrate tangible results in line with the administration's promises. The overall sentiment gathered suggested that, unless she can rejuvenate her public image and engagement, Harris may face significant challenges in rallying support moving forward, particularly in pivotal election contexts. The piece serves as a cautionary note regarding the current political landscape and the implications for Democratic leadership.

# 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 following its decision to veto Venezuela's admission into the Brics group, which comprises major emerging economies including Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa. The Venezuelan government argues that Brazil's veto reflects a lack of support for regional cooperation and integration among Latin American nations. This incident highlights ongoing tensions between the two countries, with Venezuela accusing Brazil of taking a stance that undermines both their bilateral relations and the objectives of the Brics group. Proponents of Venezuela's inclusion argue that its economic potential and strategic position could enhance the group's influence on the global stage. However, opposing views within Brazil have raised concerns about Venezuela's political climate and economic instability as reasons for the veto. The development also underscores the complexities of international alliances and the impact of domestic politics on global cooperation. As the Brics group continues to evolve, this incident may affect future discussions on membership and expand debates surrounding the criteria and implications of being part of such a significant international coalition.