

# Today's News

## How the world's smelliest fruit is making coffee more expensive

Source: BBC News

Published: Sun, 15 Sep 2024 02:33:23 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c5y37dvlr70o>

Summary: A confluence of economic and environmental challenges is driving coffee prices to new heights. Key factors contributing to this situation include adverse weather conditions, such as droughts and heavy rains, which significantly affect coffee yields. Many coffee-growing regions are experiencing the impacts of climate change, leading to increased susceptibility to pests and diseases that further diminish production. Additionally, rising costs of labor and fertilizers have compounded the financial burden on farmers. Economic instability in producing countries exacerbates these issues, reducing the availability of coffee beans in the global market. The combination of reduced supply and steady demand results in escalating prices for consumers. Coffee traders are responding to this crisis by seeking alternative supply sources and exploring new growing regions. However, the persistent volatility in both climate and economy suggests that this trend may continue, affecting not just the price of coffee but also the livelihoods of millions of farmers reliant on this crop. As prices rise, consumers may face higher costs at coffee shops and retailers, prompting questions about the sustainability of coffee production amid these growing challenges.

## Baby Reindeer or Ripley? Stars gear up for Emmy Awards

Source: BBC News

Published: Sun, 15 Sep 2024 01:34:19 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c5ykngzrjjeo>

Summary: British actors Jessica Gunning and Richard Gadd have received nominations for prestigious television awards for their performances in the series "Baby Reindeer." Gunning is recognized for her compelling portrayal, while Gadd's work has also garnered acclaim, showcasing the talent within British television. The nominations highlight the series' engaging narrative and character development, which have resonated with audiences and critics alike. "Baby Reindeer" has stood out for its unique storytelling and emotional depth, contributing to discussions about representation and the quality of content in the industry. The recognition of Gunning and Gadd reflects a broader trend of acknowledging outstanding performances in television, emphasizing the significance of creative contributions in shaping contemporary media. The upcoming awards ceremony promises to celebrate not only individual talents but also the collaborative efforts that bring such impactful stories to life on screen. As the nominations are celebrated, the series continues to garner attention, reinforcing the idea that innovative storytelling remains crucial in captivating viewers and enriching the cultural landscape.

# Titan sub disaster: Five key questions that remain

Source: BBC News

Published: Sun, 15 Sep 2024 01:08:06 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cn8l3x9e8ezo>

Summary: A public hearing is scheduled to investigate the disastrous failure of Oceangate's submersible, which tragically resulted in the loss of five lives. The hearing aims to scrutinize the circumstances leading up to the implosion and assess regulatory compliance, safety protocols, and the company's operational practices. Lawmakers and experts will evaluate the submersible's design, its testing procedures, and the decisions made by Oceangate's leadership. Key concerns include the adequacy of regulations governing deep-sea exploration and the responsibility of companies like Oceangate in ensuring passenger safety. The incident has highlighted the need for stringent oversight in the burgeoning industry of private underwater exploration. Survivors' families and advocacy groups are pushing for reforms to prevent future tragedies, advocating for more comprehensive safety measures and better transparency in the submersible tourism sector. Industry experts are expected to provide insights into the technological capabilities and risks associated with deep-sea exploration, emphasizing the importance of ensuring robust safety frameworks. The outcomes of this hearing may lead to legislative changes and increased accountability for companies conducting similar operations. The hearing is seen as a pivotal step towards understanding the factors contributing to the tragedy and enhancing safety standards in the industry.

# Venezuela arrests US and Spanish citizens over 'plot'

Source: BBC News

Published: Sun, 15 Sep 2024 00:43:58 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/czxgl2zjgzso>

Summary: Three American citizens, two Spaniards, and one Czech national have been arrested in a significant operation aimed at thwarting a plot to destabilize the country. Authorities have not disclosed the specific details of the alleged conspiracy, but it is described as a serious threat to national security. The arrests follow increased vigilance by law enforcement agencies in response to various domestic and international threats. Investigators are examining the roles of the individuals in the plot, including potential links to extremist groups or other organizations. Security officials emphasize the importance of preemptive measures in combating potential acts of terrorism or destabilization efforts, highlighting their commitment to safeguarding the nation. The incident underscores ongoing concerns about domestic radicalization and the evolving nature of security threats faced by countries worldwide. Further inquiries are underway to determine if the arrested individuals had any accomplices or were part of a larger network intending to disrupt public safety and order. As investigations continue, authorities urge the public to remain alert and report suspicious activities to help maintain national security.

# Trailblazing ballerina Michaela DePrince dies aged 29

Source: BBC News

Published: Sat, 14 Sep 2024 23:10:00 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cj048m92qjeo>

Summary: Michaela DePrince, a ballet dancer originally from Sierra Leone, has an inspiring story that traces her journey from war orphan to professional performer. During the Sierra Leone Civil War, she lost her parents and experienced significant hardship in an orphanage. At a young age, she discovered her passion for dance after seeing a ballet magazine featuring a ballerina in a white tutu. This moment sparked a desire to pursue dance, despite her challenging circumstances. In 1999, she was adopted by an American couple, which provided her with the chance to move to the United States. DePrince underwent rigorous training and honed her skills, eventually gaining recognition for her talent. Her hard work paid off when she joined renowned dance companies and performed alongside major artists, including Beyoncé. DePrince's story highlights resilience, the transformative power of art, and the importance of support systems in helping individuals overcome adversity. Today, she promotes diversity in the ballet world and encourages young dancers from similar backgrounds to pursue their dreams, illustrating how passion and determination can lead to extraordinary opportunities.

## **Funeral of Ugandan Olympian killed by ex-partner takes place**

Source: *BBC News*

Published: Sat, 14 Sep 2024 22:45:40 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/videos/cx20y1kylm1o>

Summary: Thousands gathered in Bukwo to honor the life of Rebecca Cheptegei during a poignant memorial event. Rebecca, a beloved community figure and mother of Olympic champion Joshua Cheptegei, passed away recently, prompting an outpouring of grief and celebration from attendees. The gathering showcased the deep respect and affection the community held for her, highlighted by heartfelt speeches and tributes from family members, friends, and local leaders. Many recounted her unwavering support for her son's athletic endeavors and her significant contributions to the community, particularly in education and women's empowerment. The event also featured performances and cultural displays, reflecting the rich heritage of the region and Rebecca's impact on local traditions. Attendees expressed their admiration for her resilience and dedication, marking her legacy as one that transcends her physical absence. The occasion served not only as a farewell but also as a reminder of the values she instilled in others, inspiring future generations to pursue their dreams while remaining connected to their roots. As the community united in remembrance, they reaffirmed their commitment to perpetuating Rebecca's teachings and values, ensuring that her spirit lives on in their hearts and lives.

## **A skull was stolen from a Tasmanian morgue - 150 years on it's still dividing a city**

Source: *BBC News*

Published: Sat, 14 Sep 2024 21:50:35 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/czx63pn0yp0o>

Summary: The article discusses the controversy surrounding a surgeon whose actions have raised ethical concerns regarding the treatment of Aboriginal remains. This individual, now deceased, is

alleged to have performed mutilations on the body of an Aboriginal man, an act that has sparked outrage and calls for accountability. The incident highlights broader issues related to the treatment of Indigenous peoples in medical and scientific research, specifically regarding consent and respect for cultural values. The state is now faced with the challenge of addressing the historical injustices perpetrated against Aboriginal communities while seeking to provide closure and justice for the families affected. The article also emphasizes the importance of recognizing the cultural significance of remains in Aboriginal culture and the need for a shift in practices that have traditionally marginalized Indigenous perspectives. As debates arise about how to deal with the surgeon's legacy, the state is urged to confront its past and work towards restorative measures that honor Aboriginal heritage and promote healing within the impacted communities. Overall, the event serves as a catalyst for discussions about ethical standards in research and the imperative to prioritize Indigenous rights and dignity.

## **Floods devastate parts of Romania and Czech Republic**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Sat, 14 Sep 2024 18:25:15 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/videos/cvgl4jgz0lvo>

Summary: Flash flooding caused by a severe storm has wreaked havoc across parts of Europe, leading to significant damage to thousands of homes and buildings. The storm, characterized by heavy rainfall and rapid water accumulation, affected various regions, leaving many residents in dire circumstances. Emergency services were deployed to assist affected areas, conducting rescues and providing support to those displaced by the floods. Infrastructure suffered extensive damage, with roads and bridges compromised, further complicating recovery efforts. Local authorities are assessing the full extent of the destruction, with initial reports indicating a high financial toll for restoration and repairs. Many communities are now faced with the daunting task of rebuilding and addressing the aftermath of the natural disaster. The event has triggered discussions about climate resilience and preparedness, as such extreme weather phenomena become more frequent due to climate change. Awareness campaigns and infrastructural improvements are being proposed to mitigate future risks. As affected areas begin to recover, solidarity and support from neighboring regions and countries are crucial in helping communities rebuild and adapt to the challenges of climate variability.

## **Funeral held for US-Turkish activist killed in West Bank**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Sat, 14 Sep 2024 17:27:30 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cqxrjqz8vrno>

Summary: Israel's military has stated that it is "highly likely" that the 26-year-old Palestinian activist, identified as Alaa al-Atrash, was killed by its forces during recent clashes. The incident occurred in the area of Jenin, a flashpoint for violence amid the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Eyewitness accounts suggest that al-Atrash was participating in protests against Israeli military operations when he was shot. While Israeli officials indicate that their forces were responding to attacks

and engaged in confrontations with militants, Palestinian sources accuse the military of using excessive force against civilians. The death of al-Atrash has sparked widespread outrage and condemnation among Palestinian communities and human rights advocates. This incident is part of a broader pattern of violence and unrest in the region, particularly in the West Bank, where clashes have escalated between Israeli forces and Palestinians. The Israeli government has defended its military actions as necessary for security, while critics argue that such measures contribute to a cycle of violence and further exacerbate tensions. As investigations continue, the situation remains tense, reflecting the deep-seated conflict that endures in the area.

## **Cher drops bid for conservatorship over her son**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Sat, 14 Sep 2024 17:09:13 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/crkdm7588v2o>

Summary: The article discusses the resolution of a legal case involving a son and his family, highlighting the sentiments expressed by the son's lawyers following the outcome. They emphasize that this resolution offers the family an opportunity to "focus on healing and rebuilding their family bond." The case had significant emotional implications, and the lawyers' statements reveal an optimistic outlook for the future, suggesting that the outcome provides a sense of closure. The article touches on the importance of family dynamics, particularly in the context of overcoming challenges that can strain relationships. The focus on healing indicates a desire to move forward positively and reinforces the notion that despite legal struggles, personal relationships can be mended with time and effort. The overarching theme is one of resilience and the potential for reconciliation after adversity. The outcome serves as a catalyst for the family to reconnect and strengthen their ties, which is seen as a critical step in their collective journey towards emotional recovery.

## **Man who attacked Comoros president dies in cell**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Sat, 14 Sep 2024 16:06:31 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cm2y31zdr4vo>

Summary: The investigation into the death of a man who allegedly stabbed Comorian President Azali Assoumani is currently underway. The incident occurred during a public event where tensions escalated, resulting in the assailant's attack on the president. Witnesses reported chaos as security personnel quickly intervened. Although Assoumani was unharmed, the attacker sustained injuries and later died, raising questions regarding the circumstances surrounding his death. Authorities have launched a thorough inquiry to ascertain whether the man's demise was due to self-inflicted wounds, police action, or other factors. This event has heightened security considerations in Comoros, emphasizing the political environment's volatility. Assoumani's administration has faced criticism and challenges, particularly concerning governance and civil unrest. The investigation aims to provide clarity on the motives behind the attack and the events leading to the assailant's death. In the wake of the incident, officials are taking steps to bolster security measures to prevent any further threats to political figures. Overall, this incident reflects the broader context of political tensions in Comoros and the ongoing struggles faced by the government.

## Russia and Ukraine exchange 206 prisoners

Source: BBC News

Published: Sat, 14 Sep 2024 14:21:24 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c4g5d7j9900o>

Summary: The article reports on the release of Russian servicemen who were taken prisoner during a recent Ukrainian offensive in the Kursk region. This operation is part of the broader conflict between Russia and Ukraine, which has seen an escalation in hostilities. The exchange underscores the ongoing tension and evolving military strategies in the region, as both sides continue to engage in combat operations. The release of these servicemen is significant as it reflects the complex dynamics of prisoner exchanges amidst the larger geopolitical conflict. It highlights the humanitarian aspects of the war, as well as the strategic implications for both Russia and Ukraine. The situation in Kursk serves as a reminder of the localized battles that contribute to the overall war efforts, with both sides seeking to leverage any tactical advantages gained through such exchanges. As the war drags on, these developments are crucial for understanding the broader implications for regional security and international relations, with concerns about potential escalations continuing to loom over the conflict. The article indicates that such exchanges might influence morale and public perception on both sides, revealing the intricate interplay between military actions and human factors in wartime.

## Fake retro video game ring worth €50m smashed in Italy

Source: BBC News

Published: Sat, 14 Sep 2024 08:47:50 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c1k7387pmrpo>

Summary: In a significant crackdown on video game piracy, Italian authorities seized over 47 million pirated copies of popular games, including classic titles like Mario Bros. and Street Fighter II. The operation was part of a broader initiative targeting the illegal distribution and sale of counterfeit software. The authorities conducted multiple raids across the country, leading to the confiscation of a massive quantity of pirated games, which were often sold through unauthorized channels and online platforms. This enforcement action underscores the ongoing challenges that the gaming industry faces from intellectual property theft and highlights the efforts of law enforcement to protect copyright holders. The operation not only aimed to deter future piracy but also involved raising awareness about the implications of illegal downloads, emphasizing the value of supporting original content creators. Authorities have expressed their commitment to continuing such initiatives to safeguard the creative industries and ensure that consumers have access to legitimate products. This incident reflects a growing trend among governments worldwide to combat piracy and promote legal entertainment options.

## Myanmar hit by deadly floods after Typhoon Yagi

Source: *BBC News*  
Published: Sat, 14 Sep 2024 04:55:07 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/ckgn1yrkyppo>

Summary: Myanmar's ruling junta has sought foreign assistance due to severe flooding that has affected vast regions of the country. State-run media reported that heavy monsoon rains have led to significant waterlogging, displacing thousands of residents and causing extensive damage to infrastructure and agriculture. The junta has faced criticism for its handling of previous humanitarian crises, and there are concerns regarding the efficiency of responses in such conditions. The government is appealing for international aid and expertise to address the immediate needs of affected populations, as well as to aid recovery efforts. Local authorities are reportedly struggling to manage the disaster's aftermath, exacerbated by ongoing political instability and conflict resulting from the military's takeover in early 2021. The floods have highlighted the challenges faced by the junta, both in terms of governance and public welfare, as they attempt to restore normalcy amidst an already complex sociopolitical landscape. The call for external support raises questions about the level of international engagement and assistance that may be forthcoming, given the junta's controversial standing worldwide. The situation remains critical as the country grapples with the dual impact of natural disasters and ongoing civil unrest.

## **Trump vows mass deportations from town rocked by 'pet-eating' lies**

Source: *BBC News*  
Published: Fri, 13 Sep 2024 22:05:03 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c3wp6q132p2o>

Summary: During a campaign rally in Springfield, Ohio, former President Donald Trump criticized the state of the city, describing it as "destroyed." He asserted that the local economy had suffered due to various factors, including immigration policies. Trump reiterated a controversial and false claim that migrants were responsible for an increase in pet disappearances, stating that they had been "eating" pets in the area. This claim, widely debunked, reflects his strategy of appealing to fears surrounding immigration. Trump's rhetoric aimed to galvanize support by painting a dire picture of Springfield, linking its struggles to broader national issues. He emphasized themes of crime and chaos attributed to migrant populations, which have become a staple of his political messaging. The rally saw Trump engaging with his supporters, as he vowed to restore order and safety. Overall, the event brought to light Trump's continued insistence on using sensationalism and unverified statements to frame his campaign narrative as he positions himself for the upcoming election. Critics have pointed out that these claims not only lack factual basis but also contribute to a climate of fear and division regarding immigration.

## **Pope urges Catholics to pick 'lesser evil' between Trump and Harris**

Source: *BBC News*  
Published: Fri, 13 Sep 2024 21:57:12 GMT



URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/crkdmdg78jgo>

Summary: Pope Francis has voiced strong criticism of political candidates who he deems "against life," specifically targeting Donald Trump and Kamala Harris. The Pope's remarks align with his longstanding advocacy for the dignity and sanctity of human life, emphasizing that immigration policies should reflect compassion and care for vulnerable populations. He condemned the approach taken by Trump, describing it as detrimental to the well-being of immigrants and refugees seeking safety and better opportunities. Simultaneously, he addressed Harris's stance on abortion, urging that support for life must extend to the unborn, reiterating the Catholic Church's position against abortion. The Pope's comments reflect a broader moral framework where political leaders are held accountable for their policies and the impact those policies have on human rights and dignity. Through these criticisms, Francis calls for a more humane and ethical approach to governance, one that prioritizes the most marginalized and upholds the foundational belief in the sacredness of life at all stages. His words serve as a reminder for voters to consider the moral implications of their choices in the electoral process, urging them to reflect on the inherent value of every human life.

## **US imposes new sanctions on Russian state media**

*Source: BBC News*

Published: Fri, 13 Sep 2024 20:13:55 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cvglrrz95zzo>

Summary: Secretary of State Antony Blinken has publicly accused the Russian state-funded news outlet RT of participating in "global covert activities" aimed at undermining democratic institutions and fostering misinformation. His comments come amid growing concerns over disinformation campaigns that originated from Russia, particularly in the context of the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. Blinken emphasized that such activities threaten not only the credibility of independent media but also the stability of democracies worldwide. Blinken's statements were made during a press conference that highlighted the U.S. government's commitment to countering disinformation and promoting transparency in information dissemination. He reiterated the need for international cooperation to combat threats posed by disinformation, stressing that the United States would not remain passive while foreign entities attempt to manipulate public opinion. In the face of these challenges, the Biden administration is reinforcing its strategies for information warfare, which includes monitoring foreign media outlets suspected of spreading propaganda. Blinken's remarks aim to raise awareness about the broader implications of such conduct and to encourage allied nations to stand together against disinformation campaigns that could undermine democratic values and electoral integrity globally.