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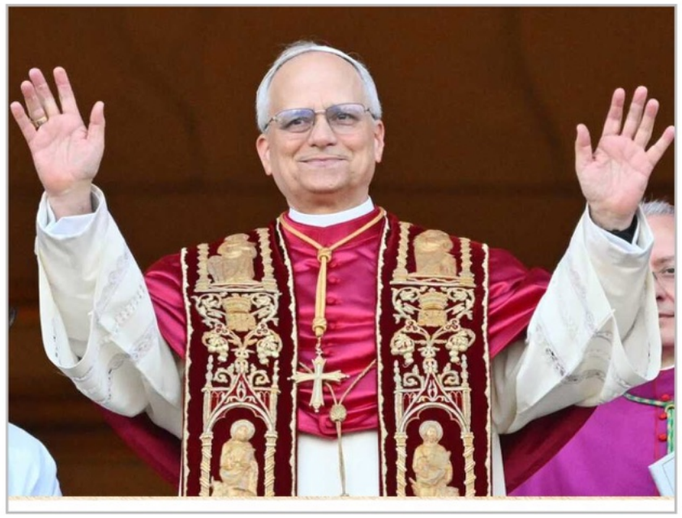
NEW POPE HAS BEEN CHOSEN

WHITE SMOKE EMERGES AS NEW POPE REVEALED

Pope Robert Francis also known as Pope Leo XIV has been chosen by the cardinals as the new pope. Pope Leo XIV is the bishop of Rome, head of the Catholic Church and sovereign of the Vatican City State. He was elected pope in the 2025 conclave on May 8, following the death and funeral of Pope Francis.

Pope Leo XIV[a] (born Robert Francis Prevost;[b] September 14, 1955) is the bishop of Rome, head of the Catholic Church and sovereign of the Vatican City State. He was elected pope in the 2025 conclave on May 8, following the death and funeral of Pope Francis.

Born in Chicago, Illinois, United States, and raised in a town near the city's South Side, Prevost became a friar of the Order of Saint Augustine in 1977 and was ordained priest in 1982. His service has included extensive missionary work in Peru from 1985 to 1986 and from 1988 to 1998, where he variously served as a parish pastor, diocesan official, seminary teacher, and administrator.



A United States citizen and a naturalized citizen of Peru, Leo XIV is the first pope from North America, the first from Peru, and the second from the Americas after Francis. He is the first pope from the Order of Saint Augustine. His papal name was inspired by Pope Leo XIII, who developed Catholic social teaching.

YOUR FLYING CAR WILL NEVER COME, BUT A FLYING MOTORCYCLE MIGHT

Everyone wants a flying car for some reason. Plenty of folks are desperate for it, despite not only the risks to public health and safety from giving Altima drivers the power of flight but the physical improbability of it all. Cars are heavy, which is why every flying car concept ends up just actually being a helicopter or small plane. Motorcycles, though — motorcycles are light. Flying cars may not be realistic, but flying motorcycles are a lot closer to reality.

Take, for instance, the Volonaut Airbike. Volonaut claims this is a fully-functional jet-powered flying motorcycle capable of speeds in excess of 120 miles per hour. Is that true? Who knows! Will this ever see broad adoption? Great question! There are a million things working against Volonaut here, from people's general sense of self-preservation to the maintenance intervals on jet engines, but the company has one thing right: It's a lot easier to lift a motorcycle than a car.

Of course, flying versions of both cars and bikes will generally be designed to weigh less than their terrestrial counterparts.

Again, whether that's actually true will depend on independent verification — it's hard enough to get terrestrial motorcycle manufacturers to be honest about weight specs — but the baseline weight comparison there is the part that really matters. An average motorcycle like a Yamaha MT-07 weighs 403 pounds, while an average sedan like a Chevy Mailbu weighs in at 3,135 — nearly eight times the weight. Which of those two will be easier to lift?

Motorcyclists, too, are accustomed to leaning in corners. Aircraft operate the same way, using not only yaw adjustments via rudder input but pitch and roll changes in order to bank and turn. The motorcyclist skillset doesn't translate one-to-one to assisted flight, but it's certainly better preparation than toddling through a parking lot to earn your New Jersey driver's license. A flying car is neither safe nor simple, but a flying bike is at least a little bit better.

THE RISE OF IMMERSIVE TECHNOLOGY

Immersive technologies are a group of emerging technologies that all share a common aim: to create an experience for users that mediates their perception of their physical environment.

Despite recent waning in investment interest in immersive technologies1 and underperformance of major products like the Apple Vision Pro, the technical ability of these technologies to simulate virtual environments or overlay visual or aural information onto the physical environment continues to develop.

As they advance, immersive technologies have increasingly utilised more sophisticated hardware, which, in turn, collects more data points from the user and their environment, such as head and hand movements, the scanning of a person's physical environment, and heart rate variability.

The collection of this data helps users to have a more immersive experience in virtual or augmented environments. However, it also opens the door to a host of potential harms and risks related to the data lifecycle of these systems.

Given that these technologies may be used in a variety of settings, regulators may find they need to determine how to apply existing regulatory guidance or whether new guidance may be needed to address the risks – be it for medical device regulation, employment law or online safety regulation.

Effective governance of these systems requires a common understanding of their capabilities, technical components and data lifecycle. This explainer seeks to address this need and provide a common understanding of immersive technologies by describing the essential terms and concepts, as well as the kinds of data, software and hardware that are used.

We conducted a literature review and 26 interviews with researchers, developers, investors and practitioners who are using, building and deploying different kinds of immersive technologies in the UK, Europe and the US.

Fostering a shared understanding of these technologies will help policymakers and regulators to better grasp their capabilities and risks, enabling more informed and effective policymaking in this domain.

STARS ON THE RISE: GORDON VS. BRUNSON

The NBA playoffs continue to heat up as standout players like Aaron Gordon and Jalen Brunson lead their teams with passion and precision. Gordon, known for his athleticism and defensive presence, has been a vital piece of the Denver Nuggets' success.

On the other end, Jalen Brunson's leadership and scoring ability have turned the New York Knicks into serious Eastern Conference contenders. With both athletes playing at their peak, fans are treated to thrilling performances and high-stakes matchups night after night.

Both Gordon and Brunson exemplify the modern NBA star — versatile, resilient, and relentless. Their ability to impact the game on both ends of the floor not only inspires their teammates but also captivates fans across the league. Whether it's a thunderous dunk from Gordon or a clutch three-pointer from Brunson, these moments define playoff basketball and highlight why these two players are among the brightest talents.

TRANQUIL MOMENTS IN VENICE

Captured in a brief yet picturesque moment, this video reveals the timeless beauty of Venice. With its iconic pastel-colored buildings, narrow bridges, and gently flowing canals,

Venice offers a glimpse into a world where time slows down. Locals and visitors stroll along the banks, boats glide silently through the water, and the architecture reflects centuries of history and culture. This scene is not just a visual delight—it's a reminder of the serenity found in the heart of Europe's most romantic city.

SG GENERAL ELECTIONS

As the nation heads to the polls, voters are poised to shape the future of Singapore's political landscape.

Key issues such as housing, sustainability, and economic resilience are at the forefront of debates.

With heightened civic engagement and a competitive race, this election could signal pivotal shifts in public sentiment and policy direction for the years ahead.

Notable parties such as the PAP, WP, SDP and NSP should be rallying strongly.

PAKISTAN AND INDIA CEASEFIRE

While tensions have long simmered at the borders, recent diplomatic talks between Pakistan and India mark a significant step forward.

Both nations have expressed a mutual desire to prioritize peace, regional stability, and economic cooperation moving ahead.

The international community continues to monitor the developments closely, hopeful for a sustained ceasefire and meaningful dialogue.

Many are hoping for peaceful and non-violent outcomes.