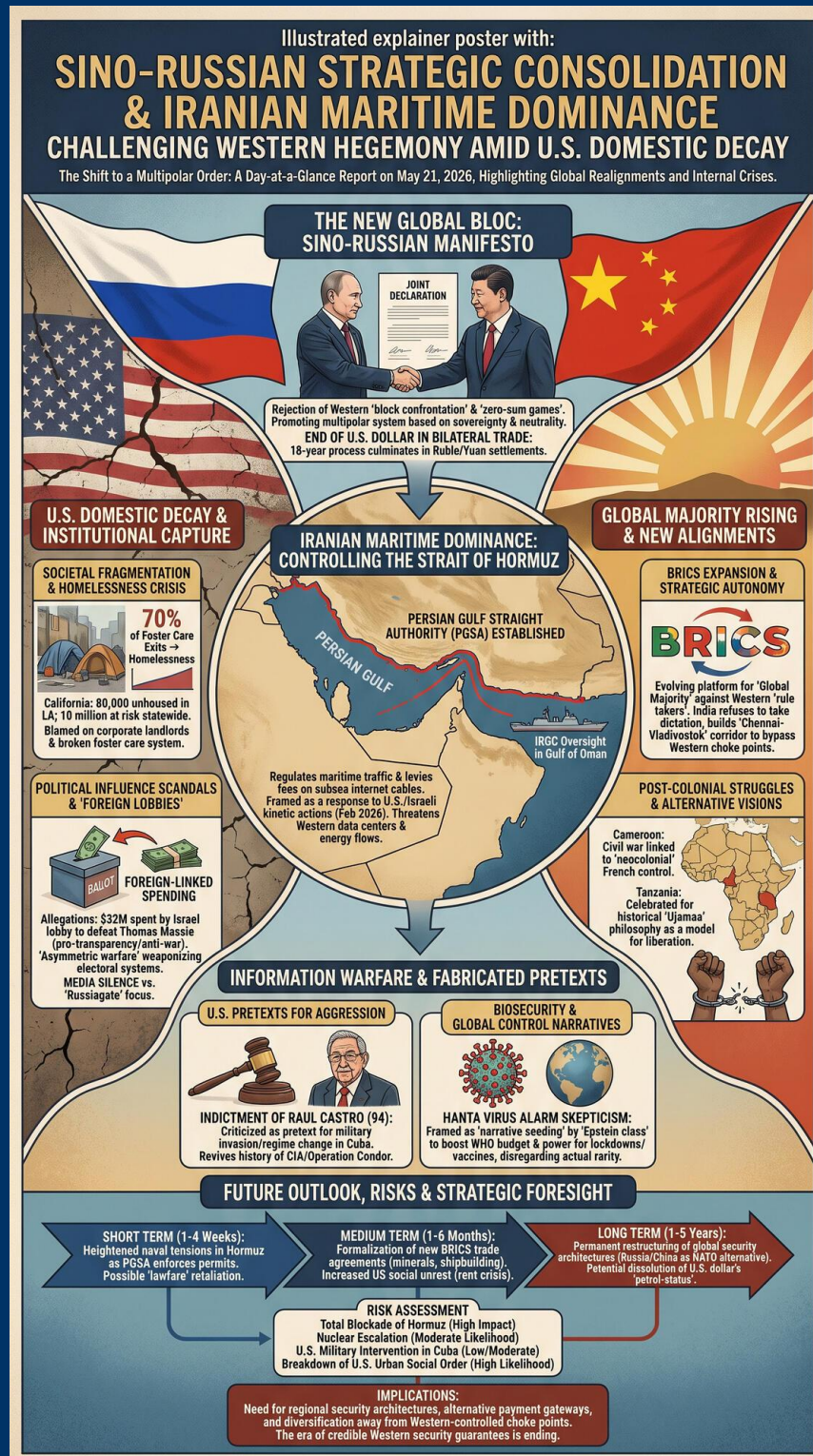


TODAY'S MEDIA TRENDS

RT

MAY 21, 2026

THE GDELT PROJECT



TODAY'S MEDIA TRENDS

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MAY 21, 2026

SINO-RUSSIAN STRATEGIC
CONSOLIDATION AND IRANIAN
MARITIME DOMINANCE
CHALLENGING WESTERN
HEGEMONY AMID U.S. DOMESTIC
DECAY

DAY-AT-A-GLANCE

The broadcasts of May 21, 2026, highlight a decisive shift in the global order, centered on the formalization of a Sino-Russian "manifesto" to reshape international governance and the assertion of Iranian control over the Strait of Hormuz. Russia and China have issued a joint declaration explicitly rejecting Western-led "block confrontation" and "zero-sum games," instead promoting a multipolar system based on sovereignty and neutrality. This strategic alliance is reinforced by the expansion of bilateral trade conducted in national currencies, effectively [terminating the use of the dollar](#) in their mutual transactions. Simultaneously, Iran has established the Persian Gulf Straight Authority (PGSA) to regulate maritime traffic and [levy fees on subsea internet cables](#), a move framed as a direct consequence of U.S. and Israeli kinetic actions in late February.

While the East consolidates, the United States is depicted as suffering from severe internal decay and institutional capture. High-profile reports focus on a worsening homelessness crisis in California, attributed to a broken foster care system and [corporate landlord interests](#). Politically, the U.S. is portrayed as a nation where foreign lobbies exercise decisive control over elections, exemplified by the defeat of "uniquely principled" politicians like Thomas Massie through [massive foreign-linked spending](#). The narrative suggests that the U.S. administration is attempting to distract from these domestic failings by fabricating pretexts for a [military invasion of Cuba](#) and initiating legal warfare against aging foreign leaders like Raul Castro.

The overarching theme is one of a "declining empire" (the U.S.) reacting with increased brutality and "asymmetric warfare" against rising regional powers. In the Middle East, the continuation of genocidal conduct in Gaza and the subsequent expansion of conflict to Iran have turned global opinion against Israel and its Western backers. This has created a vacuum of leadership that Russia and China are actively filling, presenting themselves as [responsible world powers](#) advocating for the "global majority" in the Global South. The convergence of these events suggests an era where Western security guarantees are no longer viewed as credible, and regional actors are taking unilateral steps to secure their own strategic autonomy.

MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

- **Sino-Russian Joint Declaration:** Presidents Putin and Xi signed a [comprehensive strategic manifesto](#) in Beijing, calling for an end to global hegemony and the democratization of international governance. The document emphasizes that "no civilization can be regarded as superior" and rejects the use of human rights as a pretext for interference.
- **Iranian Control of the Strait of Hormuz:** Iran has announced the creation of the [Persian Gulf Straight Authority](#) (PGSA) to oversee ship transit permits and manage transit fees. The IRGC is extending oversight to the Gulf of Oman and charging companies for [undersea cable maintenance](#) within its territorial waters.
- **U.S. Indictment of Raul Castro:** The U.S. Department of Justice has indicted the 94-year-old retired Cuban leader for the 1996 downing of "Brothers to the Rescue" planes. The move is widely criticized as a [pretext for military aggression](#) or regime change in Cuba.
- **Israeli Domestic and Regional Flashpoints:** Far-right Security Minister Ben Gvir sparked global outrage by [taunting Gaza Flotilla activists](#). Internal Israeli dissent is rising as Netanyahu is characterized as "dependent for life support" on extremist elements, while reports of [abuses in Israeli jails](#) continue to surface.
- **U.S. Political Influence Scandals:** Allegations that the Israel lobby spent [\\$32 million to unseat](#) Congressman Thomas Massie because he sought transparency on the Epstein files and opposed war with Iran. The media's relative silence on this compared to "Russiagate" is framed as a double standard.

KEY GOVERNANCE TOPICS

Armed Conflict & Militarization

- Russia and Belarus are conducting [joint nuclear drills](#) to ensure "tactical forces are ready to respond" to external aggression.
- Ukrainian drones continue to violate [European and Belarusian airspace](#), with NATO accused of allowing these attacks to facilitate strikes on Russia.

Geopolitical Competition & Bloc Politics

- The BRICS grouping is evolving from a homogeneous group into an [expanded platform](#) for countries wanting their voices heard against the "rule takers" of the West.
- India maintains a policy of [strategic autonomy](#), refusing to "take dictations from the West" despite media labels as a "fence sitter."

Critical Infrastructure Security

- The new "Chennai-Vladivostok" maritime corridor is being pushed to [bypass Western-controlled choke points](#), enhancing long-term energy and trade security for India and Russia.
- Iran's control over [subsea internet cables](#) in the Gulf represents a new "avenue of empowerment" that threatens UAE and Saudi data centers.

Civil Unrest & Social Order

- California faces a "staggering" homelessness crisis with [80,000 unhoused in LA](#) and 10 million at risk statewide due to rent inflation and "corporate landlords."

- In Cameroon, a [state of civil war](#) exists in English-speaking regions due to the imposition of French systems by the "Paul Biya regime," supported by France.

DEEP DIVE: TRENDS AND THEMES

The Collapse of the Rules-Based International Order

The primary strategic narrative is the replacement of the U.S.-led "rules-based order" with a "multipolar reality." The Sino-Russian manifesto signed in Beijing is presented as a [foundational document](#) for this new era. It argues that the "law of the jungle" (U.S. unilateralism) must be replaced by "democratization of international governance." This trend is seen in Iran's legalistic justification for seizing the Strait of Hormuz, citing [international maritime law](#) (UNCLOS) while simultaneously leveraging its position to reverse decades of sanctions. The "Global Majority" is framed as siding with these rising powers, as seen in the [G20 consensus document](#) achieved under India's presidency, which Western states allegedly failed to block.

Institutional Capture and Elite Perversion

A recurring theme is the decay of Western democratic institutions through "perversion" and "degeneracy." The "Epstein class" is used to describe a [globalist elite](#) (including figures like Blair, Macron, and Starmer) who prioritize corporate interests (e.g., BlackRock) over their citizenry. The [indictment of Raul Castro](#) and the defeat of Thomas Massie are framed as examples of an "asymmetric warfare" where legal and electoral systems are weaponized to silence opposition. The U.S. media is categorized as "lame-stream," failing

to report on [foreign meddling in U.S. elections](#) when it involves the Israeli lobby, while focusing on "fabricated" stories like Russiagate.

Biosecurity as a Tool for Global Control

The reporting on the Hanta virus serves as a vehicle to critique global health governance. Medical professionals in the transcripts argue that the WHO's "pandemic treaty" is a [job justification scheme](#) designed to increase its budget tenfold and grant it powers to "lock us down" and "force vaccines." The Hanta virus is described as [extraordinarily rare](#) and non-transmissible between humans, with the current media alarm framed as a "narrative seeding" operation to restore the government trust lost during the COVID years.

INTERNAL DYNAMICS & DOMESTIC INSTABILITY

United States: Societal Fragmentation

The U.S. is portrayed as a nation in a state of advanced internal crisis. California is the epicenter of this decay, where [record billionaire profits](#) coexist with "extreme poverty." The "foster care to homelessness" pipeline is cited as a major driver, with [70% of children](#) exiting the system eventually becoming unhoused. Public sentiment is described as "disheartened" with "no faith in their government," as basic safety nets are removed while billions are sent abroad for "Israel's wars." Polarization is extreme, with the "working class" viewing politicians as "criminals" who have [sold them out](#).

Israel: Extremist Ascendancy

Israel's domestic stability is under threat from its own cabinet. The inclusion of figures like Itamar Ben Gvir is seen as a sign that

[Netanyahu has lost his grip](#) on the nation's moral standards. Ben Gvir's actions are described as "degrading and wrong" by EU officials, yet he remains "indispensable" for Netanyahu's political survival. This internal friction is creating a "pariah" state status for Israel, [turning global opinion](#) even further against it since the events of October 8th.

Nations of the Global South: Post-Colonial Struggles

Cameroon is highlighted as a victim of ongoing [neo-colonialism](#), with its resources and elections "choreographed from Paris." In contrast, nations like Tanzania are celebrated for historical leaders like Nyerere, whose [Ujamaa philosophy](#) is framed as a model for African liberation from the "grip of the neocolonial system."

EXTERNAL DYNAMICS & GLOBAL POSTURE

The "outside world" is framed as a fracturing arena where the West's "strategic advantage" is rapidly evaporating. Russia and China are projecting a posture of [competent, stable, and unified leadership](#), contrasting with a U.S. leadership (Trump) described as "lacking mental and emotional balance." The Global South is increasingly viewed as a zone of opportunity for non-Western alliances; for example, India and Russia are building an [energy relationship](#) that bypasses Western influence. Iran's posture is one of "defensive empowerment," using its geographic position in the Strait of Hormuz to force the international community to [acknowledge its role](#) as a regional power and to "reverse decades of sanctions." The Western framework of "security" is being actively replaced by regional architectures that exclude the U.S. and UK.

THE ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

The economic environment is characterized by an aggressive decoupling from the U.S. dollar and the weaponization of energy and trade routes. Russia and China have achieved [full dedollarization](#) in their bilateral trade, a process 18 years in the making. Global energy markets are under extreme pressure due to Iranian control of the Hormuz choke point, where [one-fifth of the world's oil and gas](#) normally passes. U.S. sanctions are increasingly framed as "boomerangs" that have crippled Western economies while failing to "cripple Russia."

Key Economic Vectors

- **Dedollarization:** All deals between China and Russia are now conducted in [Rubles and Yuan](#).
- **Energy Supplies:** Russia has become [India's largest crude oil supplier](#) post-2022. The UK is reportedly buying Russian oil at [three times the price](#) via third countries to maintain the appearance of sanctions compliance.
- **Maritime Logistics:** Development of the [Chennai-Vladivostok](#) corridor and the potential opening of the Arctic route for navigation.
- **Trade Imbalances:** Trade turnover between Russia and China has grown 30-fold, exceeding the [\\$200 billion mark](#).

LEADERSHIP CHANGES

The day's coverage emphasizes the stability of Eastern leadership versus the chaotic and compromised nature of Western and Western-aligned leaders. Factional battles in the U.S.

and UK are presented as evidence of a systemic crisis of governance.

- **Vladimir Putin & Xi Jinping:** Portrayed as the [stable core](#) of the new world order, with a "personal friendship" that facilitates rapid strategic deal-making (40 documents signed).
- **Donald Trump:** Framed as "unbalanced" and "frustrated" because his [rivals do not surrender](#) to his bluster. His administration's attempts to "repeat the Nicholas Maduro playbook" in Cuba are seen as signs of desperation.
- **Itamar Ben Gvir:** A "convicted felon" and "extremist" who has become the [face of Israel](#), effectively holding Netanyahu's government hostage.
- **Keir Starmer:** Described as having approval ratings in "single figures," leading a government that [steals from pensioners](#) to fund foreign wars.
- **Thomas Massie:** The "most honest politician" in the U.S., whose defeat in the Kentucky primary is attributed to a [hostile takeover](#) by foreign-linked financial interests.
- **Raul Castro:** An aging revolutionary targeted by U.S. "legal warfare" (lawfare) to [manufacture consent](#) for military intervention.

EDITORIAL POSTURE & STORY HIERARCHY

The network's editorial hierarchy prioritized the Sino-Russian summit and the Iranian control of the Strait of Hormuz, framing them as historical triumphs over Western dominance. The "indictment" of Raul Castro was used to launch long-form narratives about U.S. imperialism and CIA-linked terrorism

(Operation Condor). Domestic U.S. stories were curated to emphasize societal collapse (homelessness) and political corruption (the Massie defeat). The emotional tone was one of righteous indignation against the "hegemonic system" and "the Epstein class," often using George Galloway as a voice of "truth" against Western propaganda.

Buried Stories: Detailed casualty reports from the Russian frontline in Ukraine were absent, replaced by reports on "joint nuclear drills." The specific details of Iranian civilian casualties in the reported Miñab school strike were used to discredit U.S. "proportionality" claims, but the strike's military context (an active IRGC base) was minimized.

Conspicuous Omissions: There was no mention of China's own internal economic challenges or any critique of Russia's democratic record. The "Hanta virus" reporting omitted standard epidemiological data in favor of attacking the WHO's legitimacy.

GEOPOLITICAL FRAMING

The broadcasts frame the world as a battleground between a "cruel hegemonic system" led by the U.S. and a "multipolar global majority" led by Russia and China. This is consistent with a pro-Eurasianist worldview that seeks to delegitimize Western influence in the Global South. The framing of leaders centers on a spectrum of competence and moral integrity, where Western leaders are invariably portrayed as corrupt or inept puppets of corporate and foreign interests.

COUNTRIES

- **Russia:** Framed as a resilient and hopeful nation that "found a way" to pull itself out of the 1990s chaos. Implicitly strong and principled; Pres. Putin is seen as a leader with "phenomenal approval ratings" who has [marched past crippling sanctions](#).
- **China:** Portrayed as a responsible superpower and the [forefront of a global push](#) for international alignment based on equality. Xi Jinping is depicted as the "architect" of a new global manifesto.
- **United States:** Characterized as a "declining empire" that is "falling apart" internally while attempting to "starve" foreign populations into submission. Framed as a [hostile threat matrix](#) prone to fabrication and "pretexts for invasion."
- **Iran:** Depicted as a "liberated" nation [breaking out of the cage](#) of 47 years of sanctions. Framed as a legitimate regional power exercising its "full sovereign right" to control its waters.
- **Israel:** Framed as a "pariah state" that "devalues brown life" and has its [national values swept aside](#) by extremist ministers.

LEADERS

- **Vladimir Putin:** Competent and stable. "He looks comfortable... like capturing the [atmosphere of a friend's house](#)" when visiting China.
- **Donald Trump:** Inept and chaotic. Described as having "no idea how to [end a war](#)" and conducting "endless monologues" to himself.
- **Raul Castro:** Principled victim. Portrayed as a 94-year-old leader of a nation "exercising [years of patience](#)" against U.S. provocation.

NON-STATE & CORPORATE ACTORS

- **IRGC:** A highly disciplined military force that has [extended its oversight](#) to secure regional stability.
- **WHO:** A bureaucratic entity seeking to "manage the world" through [job-justification biosecurity threats](#).
- **The Israel Lobby:** A foreign operative group that "practically [owns the entire U.S. Congress](#)."

INFORMATION WARFARE ENVIRONMENT

- **Narrative Seeding:** The broadcasts use the Raul Castro indictment to reintroduce the history of the [CIA and FBI involvement](#) in Operation Condor, framing modern U.S. policy as a continuation of 1970s-era repression.
- **Propaganda/Spin:** The Hanta virus is framed almost exclusively as a "fabricated alarm" by the "Epstein class" to push a [fear-driven narrative](#) for global control, disregarding legitimate public health concerns.
- **Meta-Narrative:** The concept of "Strategic Autonomy" is seeded through multiple reports (India, Iran, Africa) to encourage a global "breaking out of the [cage of Western sanctions](#)."
- **Psychological Operations (Psy-ops):** Russia's joint nuclear drills are presented not as a threat, but as a "reliable [guarantee of sovereignty](#)," a clear message intended to deter NATO expansion.

HYPOTHESES AND FUTURE OUTLOOK

- The formalization of the [PGSA fees](#) in the Strait of Hormuz will lead to a permanent increase in global energy costs and a shift in data center infrastructure away from the Persian Gulf toward more secure "multipolar" zones.
- The U.S. indictment of Raul Castro will likely result in a "Venezuelan-style" scenario where Cuba [seeks closer military ties](#) with Russia and China for protection against perceived imminent invasion.
- Dedollarization will accelerate in the Global South as BRICS bank (New Development Bank) mechanisms mature, making [national currency settlements](#) the default for non-Western trade.
- U.S. domestic instability will continue to worsen, leading to [increased radicalization](#) of the "working class" and a potential breakdown of the two-party system as foreign lobby influence becomes more overt.

STRATEGIC FORESIGHT

Short Term (1-4 Weeks): Expect heightened naval tensions in the Strait of Hormuz as the PGSA begins [enforcing permits](#) for commercial vessels. Possible retaliatory "lawfare" from Cuba or regional allies against U.S. officials.

Medium Term (1-6 Months): Formalization of new trade agreements within the BRICS framework, specifically in [critical minerals and ship building](#), to counteract Western supply chain dominance. Likely social unrest in major U.S. cities related to the homelessness and rent crisis.

Long Term (1-5 Years): A permanent restructuring of global security architectures, with Russia and China acting as the [alternative to NATO](#). Potential dissolution of the U.S. dollar's "petrol-status" as Iran and other producers shift to regional currencies.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The global risk landscape is dominated by the potential for miscalculation in high-tension maritime corridors and the increasingly unstable political foundations of Western nations.

- **Total Blockade of the Strait of Hormuz:** A critical risk to global energy security. **Triggers:** Further U.S./Israeli strikes on Iranian soil or IRGC assets. **Likelihood:** High, given recent rhetoric. **Impact:** Catastrophic; oil prices exceeding \$200/barrel, [mass movement of people](#) from uninhabitable Gulf states. **Mitigations:** Immediate diplomatic formalization of the "Treaty of Montreux" style agreement for Hormuz.
- **Nuclear Escalation in the Baltic/Eastern Front:** Russia's nuclear drills signal a lowering threshold for use. **Triggers:** Major Ukrainian drone strikes on [Russian nuclear command posts](#). **Likelihood:** Moderate. **Impact:** Existential. **Mitigations:** Formal de-confliction channels between NATO and the Russian MOD.
- **U.S. Military Intervention in Cuba:** The "pretext for invasion" narrative is strong. **Triggers:** An alleged "provocation" similar to the 1996 plane incident. **Likelihood:** Low to Moderate. **Impact:** Destabilization of the Caribbean and [Regional war](#) in Latin America. **Mitigations:** UN-led monitoring of Cuban airspace.

- **Breakdown of U.S. Urban Social Order:** Homelessness and drug addiction reaching a breaking point. **Triggers:** Failure of the 2024 [rent control initiative](#) in California. **Likelihood:** High. **Impact:** Collapse of municipal services and rise of "paramilitary" security. **Mitigations:** Massive federal intervention in affordable housing and addiction treatment.
- **Global Health Governance Collapse:** The loss of trust in the WHO could hamper responses to actual pandemics. **Triggers:** Forced approval of the [PAB's pathogen sharing system](#). **Likelihood:** High. **Impact:** Uncoordinated global health responses and rise of localized biosecurity threats. **Mitigations:** Reform of WHO budgeting to reduce reliance on "private donors" like Bill Gates.

GAPS & BLIND SPOTS

Strategic assessment is limited by several critical omissions in the news cycle that likely mask ongoing vulnerabilities in non-Western states.

- **Internal Dissent in Russia/China:** The broadcasts present a monolithic front of public support that [ignores domestic opposition](#) or economic strain within the Sino-Russian bloc.
- **Iranian Economic Resilience:** While control of Hormuz is framed as a win, the long-term impact of [new blockade measures](#) on the Iranian common man is not detailed.
- **Israel's Military Readiness:** The focus on political scandal and "extremist" ministers obscures the actual status of the IDF's ground operations and its ability to [sustain a multi-front war](#).

- **African Resource Competition:** The "neo-colonial" narrative avoids discussing China's own increasing [economic dominance](#) and resource extraction in Africa.
- **The Reality of the Hanta Virus:** The dismissal of the virus as a "hoax" for budget justification lacks a **scientific counter-narrative** regarding the actual cases mentioned in the MV Handia incident.

CONTRARIAN NARRATIVE SCENARIOS

- **The "Desperate Divergence":** Instead of a show of strength, the Sino-Russian manifesto could be a desperate attempt to [shield internal economic fragility](#) from Western sanctions. In this scenario, the move to Rubles/Yuan is a forced survival tactic, not a proactive strategy.
- **The "Hormuz Trap":** Iran's assertion of control over the Strait could be a [deliberate provocation](#) by Western intelligence to justify a final "kinetic solution" to the Iranian nuclear file. The U.S. "frustration" could be a feigned posture to lure the IRGC into overextending.
- **Black Swan - The "Massie Mutiny":** A sudden, coordinated uprising within the U.S. military or intelligence community against "foreign lobby capture." This would lead to a [radical realignment](#) of U.S. foreign policy overnight, potentially abandoning Israel and focusing inward on "National Interest."

RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLICATIONS

For Statecraft/Public Sector:

- **Security:** Urgent requirement to establish regional security "architectures" that [respect local neutrality](#) to prevent a total shutdown of global maritime trade.
- **Economic:** Accelerate the development of **alternative payment gateways** to Ruble/Yuan settlements to maintain competitiveness in Global South markets.
- **Diplomatic:** Shift focus toward "Strategic Autonomy" engagement with partners like India to [prevent total bloc polarization](#).

For Private Sector/Investors:

- **Supply Chain:** Diversify away from dependence on the Persian Gulf for both energy and [data transit](#).
- **Regulatory:** Prepare for a high-risk environment in U.S. urban real estate as [rent control initiatives](#) gain populist momentum.
- **Capital Allocation:** Reassess sovereign risk for U.S. assets given the potential for [institutional breakdown](#) and political capture by foreign entities.

LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP

Legislative activity on May 21 focused on rent control in the U.S. and "lawfare" indictments in the international arena, alongside the formalization of the PGSA in Iran.

BILLS DISCUSSED/DEBATED:

- **California Rent Control Initiative (Nov 2024):** A ballot measure to expand rent control, supported by 815,000 signatures, intended to [counter corporate landlord dominance](#).
- **Cuba Liberty and Solidarity Act (Update):** Discussion of the 1996 act's expansion as part of a new [pressure campaign](#) against the Castro regime.
- **Israeli Terror Sentence Law:** A new law providing the [death sentence for terror convicts](#), allegedly framed to apply exclusively to Palestinians.

HEARINGS & PRESS EVENTS:

- **Admiral Bradley Cooper Centcom Testimony:** A congressional hearing where the head of Centcom refused to [acknowledge responsibility](#) for the killing of 100 girls in a Miñab school strike.
- **Jose Busulto Congressional Testimony:** Historical testimony revisited, where the founder of "Brothers to the Rescue" acknowledged [affiliation with the CIA](#).
- **WHO Pathogen Access Hearing:** Discussion of the "PAB system" and its strategic intent to [centralize global biosecurity](#).

KEY STORIES

- **Sino-Russian Manifesto for a Multipolar World:** Vladimir Putin and Xi Jinping signed 40 documents in Beijing, establishing a [comprehensive strategic partnership](#) that rejects U.S. hegemony and promotes "sovereignty and neutrality" for all nations.

- **Iran Establishes Control over Strait of Hormuz:** The new Persian Gulf Straight Authority (PGSA) has begun [regulating maritime traffic](#) and charging fees for undersea internet cables, citing national security after U.S./Israeli strikes.
- **Indictment of Raul Castro:** The U.S. DOJ indicted the 94-year-old retired leader for a 30-year-old plane downing incident, a move framed by locals and analysts as a [pretext for a U.S. invasion](#) of Cuba.
- **Thomas Massie Primary Defeat:** Allegations that the Israel lobby spent [\\$32 million to unseat](#) Congressman Massie through "mail-in ballot dumping" and voting machine manipulation because of his anti-war and pro-transparency stances.
- **California Homelessness Crisis:** Extensive coverage of the 80,000 unhoused people in Los Angeles and the [failure of the foster care system](#), with 10 million people statewide at risk due to high rents and corporate landlords.
- **Russia-Belarus Joint Nuclear Exercises:** Tactical nuclear drills conducted under Putin and Lukashenko to [guarantee sovereignty](#) against NATO "eastward expansion."
- **Hanta Virus Narrative Skepticism:** Medical professionals claim the Hanta virus "outbreak" is a [fabricated biosecurity alarm](#) used by the WHO to pass a global pandemic treaty and increase their budget.
- **Israeli Minister Ben Gvir Controversy:** Security Minister Ben Gvir [taunted Gaza Flotilla activists](#) on video, drawing global condemnation and highlighting internal Israeli government instability.
- **Cameroon Civil War and Neo-colonialism:** Reports on the "sad story" of Cameroon, where a state of civil war persists under a regime [choreographed from Paris](#) to control oil resources.
- **The Chennai-Vladivostok Maritime Corridor:** A forward-looking project to [bypass Western choke points](#), enhancing energy flows like coal and fresh water between India and Russia.
- **World War II History Revisionism:** A narrative pushing for Western recognition that [80% of German casualties](#) were inflicted by the Soviet Red Army, and criticizing Russia's exclusion from commemorative ceremonies.
- **Operation Condor Archives in Paraguay:** Historical analysis of the "Archive of Terror," detailing CIA and FBI [support for repression](#) and torture in Latin America.
- **UK Economic Mismanagement:** Claims that the UK is buying Russian oil at [triple the cost](#) while cutting cold weather payments for pensioners to fund the war in Ukraine.
- **Indian Strategic Autonomy in BRICS/ G20:** Analysis of India's role as a [bridge between blocs](#), maintaining its own national interest while pulling off a consensus document at the G20.
- **Assassination of Ayatollah Ali Khamenei:** Reports that the Supreme Leader was [assassinated by U.S. strikes](#), leading to a "more hard-line" successor and a sense of revenge in Tehran.

ABOUT THIS REPORT

Today's Media Trends is a public interest experiment in applying deep thematic trend analysis to television news coverage from

around the world to explore how responsibly applied advanced AI can help journalists and scholars better understand the overarching trends, themes and patterns of our global world.

No data is used to train or tune any AI model.

Each morning, in collaboration with the Internet Archive's TV News Archive, we apply Google's Gemini 3 to deeply examine yesterday's coverage from each television news channel to tease out the overarching themes and trends of its news coverage into a richly annotated thematic analysis. Each high-level insight is connected back to the original broadcast, allowing journalists and scholars to understand the dominate themes and trends and instantly click out to the underlying sources for details.

By helping journalists and scholars see the broader trends and patterns of global news

coverage, this analysis helps them identify relevant stories and coverage they might not otherwise have encountered and uncover connections, emphases and narrative shifts that enable more comprehensive reporting and deeper, evidence-based research.

This report is entirely machine generated using Gemini 3 and may include errors and omissions. Please verify all findings. No data is used to train or tune any AI model.

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