

TODAY'S MEDIA TRENDS

PRESSTV

JULY 17, 2026

THE GDELT PROJECT

GLOBAL CRISIS REPORT: COLLAPSE OF THE ISLAMABAD MOU, REGIONAL WARFARE, & THE FUNERAL OF AYATOLLAH KHAMENEI (JULY 2026)

DAY-AT-A-GLANCE



- GEOPOLITICAL SHIFT:** Total collapse of Islamabad MOU. High-intensity warfare between Iran and US/Israel coalition. Death of Ayatollah Khamenei (framed as assassination) triggers massive regional mobilization.
- Iran moves to 'eye for an eye' strategy. IEA warns of imminent energy security threats. Diesel prices exceed \$5/gallon.
- Convergence of military and economic shocks framed as end of US hegemony.

MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

FAILURE OF ISLAMABAD MOU & HOSTILITIES



- MOU Nullified:** Article 5 violations in Strait of Hormuz.
- US Airstrikes:** 6 nights targeting Iranian civilian infrastructure (bridges, near hospital).
- Iran's Op. Thunder:** Retaliatory drone strikes on US command centers (Syria) & airbases (Bahrain, Kuwait).

POST-ASSASSINATION CRISIS & LEADERSHIP



Massive Funeral Processions:
15M in Tehran, 10M in Iraq. Framed as 'referendum' on Islamic Republic.



Leadership Council:
Functioned effectively during transition, proving institutional resilience.

GLOBAL ENERGY & MARITIME BLOCKADES

STRAIT OF HORMUZ & BAB-EL-MANDEB UNDER THREAT



- Hormuz Closed:** to vessels not coordinating with Tehran.
- IEA Director:** 80-90% of Asia's energy at risk.
- Houthi Threat:** Yemen to target Saudi oil facilities if Saudi continues coalition support.

ECONOMIC IMPACT & REROUTING



- Shipping Rerouted:** Adds billions in costs and 14 days to journey.
- Volatile Prices:** Oil spiking (\$14/week increase), diesel >\$5 in US.
- CPEC 2.0:** Pakistan & China accelerating industrial integration and non-dollar trade.

KEY GOVERNANCE TOPICS & INTERNAL DYNAMICS

ARMED CONFLICT & INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY



- Direct Warfare:** State-on-state strikes (hypersonic/ballistic missiles).
- Intentional Targeting:** US targets civilian infrastructure; Iran targets US-linked industrial assets (e.g., AI hubs).
- Bushehr nuclear plant safe.

US DOMESTIC & ELECTION CRISES



- Trump's Integrity Claims:** Declassifies intel on 280,000 non-citizen voters.
- Mass Protests:** Against 18-month anti-immigrant crackdown & ICE extrajudicial killings.
- Critics argue war is a 'distraction'.

GEOPOLITICAL FRAMING & NARRATIVE



- Axis of Resistance Consolidation:** Iran, Houthis, Hezbollah, Iraqi groups as unified front. Framed as 'defender of home'.
- Non-Western Bloc Hardening:** Russia & China as 'natural allies' to Iran, building parallel financial systems (RMB bonds). US framed as 'Imperialist Aggressor'.

FUTURE OUTLOOK & RISK ASSESSMENT

HYPOTHESES & SCENARIOS



Total Maritime Blockade: Permanent Hormuz closure could force oil to \$200-\$300/barrel.



Regional De-escalation: Gulf states might sign non-aggression pacts to avoid being 'killing zones'.



US Regime Instability: Midterm elections delegitimized by Trump's claims, leading to unrest.

STRATEGIC FORESIGHT



Short Term (1-4 Weeks): Escalation of drone strikes on US logistical centers.



Medium Term (1-6 Months): Formalization of CPEC 2.0 medical/tech corridor.



Long Term (1-5 Years): 'Atlantic Era' in West Asia concluding; shift to 'native security' architecture.

RISK ASSESSMENT & GAPS



High Risks: Global Economic Collapse (catastrophic depression), US Domestic Fragmentation, Ethnic Cleansing in Gaza.



Blind Spots: Precise cause of Khamenei's death (lack of tactical details), Iranian economic resilience data, point of Russian/Chinese strategic limits.

TODAY'S MEDIA TRENDS

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JULY 17, 2026

COLLAPSE OF THE ISLAMABAD MEMORANDUM AMID ESCALATING REGIONAL WARFARE AND THE FUNERAL PROCESSION OF AYATOLLAH KHAMENEI

DAY-AT-A-GLANCE

The geopolitical landscape on July 17, 2026, is defined by the total collapse of the Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and a transition into high-intensity, direct warfare between the Islamic Republic of Iran and a coalition led by the United States and Israel. The death of Iranian leader **Ayatollah Ali Khamenei**, described by Iranian sources as an assassination, has triggered a massive regional mobilization. While millions gathered in Tehran and Iraq for funeral processions, Iranian forces launched Wave 15 of **Operation NAS 2**, targeting U.S. military infrastructure in Qatar, Jordan, Kuwait, and Oman. Iranian military officials have declared that the period of "strategic restraint" is over, transitioning to an "eye for an eye" strategy targeting regional infrastructure that supports U.S. operations.

Simultaneously, the global economic environment is entering a state of crisis as the

International Energy Agency (IEA) warns of imminent threats to energy security. The dual choke points of the **Strait of Hormuz** and **Bab-el-Mandeb** are under threat of total closure, with Iran claiming full control over Hormuz and the Yemeni Ansarullah movement threatening Bab-el-Mandeb in response to Saudi and U.S. aggression. These developments have caused diesel prices to exceed \$5 per gallon in some regions, with projections of oil prices reaching "no sky limits" if the blockades become permanent. The convergence of these military and economic shocks is being framed as the end of U.S. regional hegemony and the birth of a truly multipolar order.

Domestic instability is also peaking within the United States and other regions. President **Donald Trump** is facing significant backlash regarding election integrity and the implementation of a "voter restriction act," while also being accused of manipulating foreign policy to distract from the **Epstein/Fsteen files** and domestic legal failures. In Latin America, Bolivia is paralyzed by a massive general strike against its pro-Israel government, while Venezuela continues to struggle with the aftermath of devastating twin earthquakes that have killed nearly 5,000 people. The global narrative is increasingly polarized, with non-Western blocs hardening their stance against what they term "U.S. imperialist aggression."

MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

Failure of the Islamabad MOU and Resumption of Hostilities

- The 14-point memorandum, signed on June 17, 2026, is now considered nullified due to repeated [violations of Article 5](#) regarding navigation in the Strait of Hormuz.

- U.S. forces have conducted six consecutive nights of airstrikes on Iranian civilian infrastructure, including several [critical bridges in southern Iran](#) and areas near a children's cancer hospital in Ahvaz.
- Iran has responded with **Operation Thunder (Saeqa)**, targeting U.S. command centers in Syria and airbases in Bahrain and Kuwait [using Arash drones](#).

Post-Assassination Crisis and Leadership Transition

- Massive funeral processions for Ayatollah Khamenei drew an estimated [15 million people in Tehran](#) and 10 million in Iraq.
- Iranian analysts highlight the stability of the state during the transition, noting that the [leadership council functioned effectively](#) even without a singular leader for over a week.
- The funeral is being framed as a "referendum" on the legitimacy of the Islamic Republic and the "Axis of Resistance."

Global Energy and Maritime Blockades

- The Strait of Hormuz is effectively closed to vessels that do not coordinate with Tehran, as Iran asserts [rightful sovereignty over the waterway](#).
- IEA Director Fatih Birol reports that [80-90% of Asia's energy](#) is at risk, with potential catastrophic impacts on the global supply chain.
- Yemen's leader Abdul Malik al-Houthi has threatened to [target Saudi oil facilities](#) if Saudi Arabia continues to participate in the U.S.-led coalition.

U.S. Domestic and Election Integrity Crises

- President Trump has announced the [declassification of intelligence](#) claiming 280,000 non-citizens are registered to vote in federal elections.
- Mass protests have erupted across the U.S. in response to an **18-month anti-immigrant crackdown** and the removal of at least 113 immigration judges.
- Critics argue the war with Iran is a [deliberate distraction](#) from domestic failures and the "Fsteen" files.

Israeli Expansionist Strategy in Gaza and Lebanon

- Israeli War Minister Israel Katz announced plans to build [new military outposts and settlements](#) in Northern Gaza, indicating a policy of indefinite occupation.
- Intense bombardments continue in Gaza and Southern Lebanon, with the U.N. warning of [violations of international law](#) regarding settlement city status in the West Bank.

KEY GOVERNANCE TOPICS

Armed Conflict & Militarization

- Transition from asymmetrical warfare to direct state-on-state strikes between the U.S. and Iran, including [the use of hypersonic and ballistic missiles](#).
- Iranian General Shirkashi warns that [confrontation will accelerate America's decline](#).

Critical Infrastructure Security

- Intentional targeting of civilian infrastructure by the U.S. (bridges, railways, silos) and Iranian retaliation against [U.S.-linked industrial assets](#).
- Iran confirms its **Bushehr nuclear power plant** [was not damaged](#) despite rumors of strikes.

Energy & Macroeconomics

- Global fuel prices are rising exponentially; diesel has topped [\\$5 per gallon](#) in the U.S. while shipping lines reroute around Africa, adding billions in costs.
- Pakistan and China are accelerating **CPEC 2.0**, transitioning to industrial integration and [settling trade in RMB](#) to bypass the dollar.

Leadership Dynamics & Governance

- The death of Khamenei has prompted a regional consolidation of the "Resistance Axis," with the Iraqi and Iranian people declaring ["our souls are one."](#)
- In the U.S., Vice President JD Vance has reportedly [rejected plans](#) for ground troop deployments for regime change in Iran.

DEEP DIVE: TRENDS AND THEMES

The End of "Strategic Restraint"

A major thematic shift is the abandonment of patience by Iranian military leadership. For months, Iran claimed to avoid hitting non-military targets, but the recent U.S. destruction of bridges has prompted a new doctrine where [infrastructure will be met with infrastructure](#). This trend suggests that the regional war is moving toward "total war"

parameters where economic hubs (like the Bapco facility in Bahrain) are now legitimate targets.

The Weaponization of Maritime Choke Points

Control over the Strait of Hormuz and Bab-el-Mandeb is no longer just a tactical advantage but an existential economic weapon. Analysts argue that the U.S. has [no military option](#) to keep these straits open against Iranian land-based missiles, leading to a potential "global economic meltdown" that forces international intervention to restrain the U.S. and Israel.

The Fragility of Pro-U.S. Alliances

A recurring theme is the perceived betrayal and vulnerability of Gulf states hosting U.S. bases. Iranian media characterizes these nations as "vassal states" whose bases have become ["giant magnets" for Iranian missiles](#). This trend is driving a "rapprochement" effort by countries like the UAE and Saudi Arabia to distance themselves from U.S. aggression to protect their own infrastructure.

INTERNAL DYNAMICS & DOMESTIC INSTABILITY

Islamic Republic of Iran

- The funeral of Khamenei has served to unify a supposedly "divided" nation. Reports indicate that even [secular and liberal crowds](#) gathered alongside conservatives, viewing the conflict as a national defense issue rather than a religious one.
- The state institutions have proven resilient; the [functioning of the government](#) without its top leader for over a week is touted as proof of institutional depth over individual personality.

United States

- The domestic environment is characterized by deep polarization and institutional distrust. President Trump's focus on [election hacking and interference](#) is framed by state media as a tactic to maintain power amidst an "extremely unpopular" war.
- The "anti-immigrant crackdown" and **extrajudicial killings** by ICE have led to calls for a "new government," suggesting a [significant loss of mandate](#) in certain sectors of the population.

Bolivia

- The country is in a state of "general strike" with [75 barricades](#) erected across highways. The unrest targets a government viewed as a "U.S. puppet" that has aligned itself with Israel against popular sentiment.

EXTERNAL DYNAMICS & GLOBAL POSTURE

Axis of Resistance Consolidation

The world is being framed as a "hostile threat matrix" for the U.S. and Israel. Iran is leveraging its regional proxies (Houthis in Yemen, Hezbollah in Lebanon, and various groups in Iraq) to create a [unified resistance front](#). This posture aims to "decimate" U.S. ability to project power by forcing it to fight on multiple, disparate fronts simultaneously.

Non-Western Bloc Hardening

Russia and China are increasingly framed as "natural allies" to Iran. There is documented [intelligence and weaponry assistance](#) from these powers. The global posture of these nations is to "implore the U.S. to return to the negotiating table," while building a parallel

financial system through [RMB-denominated bonds](#) to insulate themselves from U.S. sanctions.

THE ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

Geopolitical risks are now the primary driver of market volatility, with energy infrastructure becoming the central battlefield. Supply chains are being fundamentally altered as major shipping lines (Maersk, MSC) [reroute around the Cape of Good Hope](#), adding up to 14 days to journey times.

Key Economic Vectors

- **Energy Prices:** U.S. diesel averages over [\\$5 per gallon](#); gasoline near \$4. Oil prices are volatile, spiking by \$14 in a single week after a brief dip to \$68.
- **Reparations:** Iran is demanding a [\\$300 billion reparations fund](#) as part of any future deal to compensate for "destruction" caused by the U.S.
- **Market Sentiment:** The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 0.2%, while S&P 500 futures [declined nearly 1%](#) due to West Asia tensions.
- **CPEC 2.0 Integration:** Moving beyond infrastructure into [high-tech healthcare and pharmaceutical ventures](#) settled in local currencies.

LEADERSHIP CHANGES

The landscape is marked by the violent removal or death of top-tier leaders and the

resulting succession battles or power vacuums.

- **Ayatollah Ali Khamenei (Late Leader):** His death/assassination has created a void that is currently being filled by a [leadership council](#) consisting of the President, Head of Judiciary, and Guardian Council representatives.
- **Immigration Judges (U.S.):** In a significant institutional purge, the Trump administration has removed [135 judges](#) since January 2025, specifically targeting those with higher asylum grant rates.
- **Linsy Graham (Zionist Official):** Controversial reports suggest his [death in Ukraine](#) may have been an assassination via poisoning.
- **Kurdish Separatist Commanders:** Eight commanders were reportedly [eliminated in Iraq Kurdistan](#) by Iranian retaliatory strikes.

EDITORIAL POSTURE & STORY HIERARCHY

The network's editorial posture is **high-intensity nationalistic resistance**. The lead stories are consistently the "decisive blows" delivered by Iranian forces and the "failure" of U.S. military strategy. There is a strong emphasis on **victimhood and moral superiority**, framing the U.S. as a "terrorist regime" and Iran as the "defender of home." Buried stories include any internal Iranian dissent or the specific details of how the late leader was "assassinated." Conspicuous omissions include the lack of any reporting on the status of the Iranian economy outside of its "resistance" capacity, and a failure to address how the total closure of the Strait would affect Iran's own trade dependencies.

GEOPOLITICAL FRAMING

The day's narrative establishes a clear binary between the "Axis of Resistance" and "Imperialist Aggressors."

COUNTRIES

- **Iran:** Portrayed as principled, resilient, and militarily precise. "Iran has never lost a military war with the US" [but has never won a negotiation](#).
- **United States:** Framed as chaotic, inept, and hypocritical. "Trump is unhinged... divergence from sociology to the psychology of Trump" [where all you find is mystery](#).
- **Israel:** Portrayed as a "genocidal entity" with "colonial dreams" of a ["Greater Israel"](#) from Cyprus to Iraq.
- **Gulf States (GCC):** Characterized as weak, complicit "vassal states" that have become ["imperialist shields"](#).

LEADERS

- **Donald Trump:** Portrayed as a "narcissist" who is **panicking** due to the upcoming midterms. "Trump has overplayed his card... [misplayed his hand](#)."
- **Benjamin Netanyahu:** Framed as the "puppet master" of Trump, pushing for an ["indefinite war"](#) with Iran.
- **Abdul Malik al-Houthi:** Portrayed as a strong, principled leader capable of ["direct response"](#) to regional aggression.

INFORMATION WARFARE ENVIRONMENT

The information space is a contested domain of "narrative inversion." Iranian media highlights **ABC News and CNN** as part of a

campaign to frame Iran as the "spoiler" of a deal that the U.S. itself bombed [during a funeral](#). Conversely, the U.S. is accused of using "fake news" regarding the execution of prisoners and the release of spies to discredit the Iranian judiciary [misled once again by false sources](#). The most potent psy-op is the claim that **Trump is terrified** of a full-scale war because of the "Vietnam-style body bags" that would return during an election year [returning in numbers seen in Vietnam](#).

HYPOTHESES AND FUTURE OUTLOOK

- **Total Maritime Blockade:** If the U.S. continues hitting Iranian infrastructure, the IRGC will likely initiate a permanent closure of the Strait of Hormuz, forcing oil to **\$200-\$300 per barrel**.
- **Regional De-escalation by Necessity:** Gulf states may unilaterally sign non-aggression pacts with Iran to prevent their own cities from becoming ["killing zones"](#) for intercepted missiles.
- **U.S. Regime Instability:** The midterm elections in 2026 may be delegitimized by Trump's own claims of "shocking vulnerabilities" [in the election infrastructure](#), leading to civil unrest.

STRATEGIC FORESIGHT

Short Term (1-4 Weeks): Expect an escalation of drone strikes on U.S. "logistical support centers" in Kuwait and Bahrain. The ["Operation NAS 2"](#) campaign is likely to target U.S. aircraft carriers if they enter the 1,000 km range.

Medium Term (1-6 Months): Formalization of the **CPEC 2.0** medical and technological corridor between Iran, Pakistan, and China as

a means to survive a permanent blockade. The U.S. may face [legal challenges in international courts](#) brought by the Mexican government over ICE deaths.

Long Term (1-5 Years): The "Atlantic Era" in West Asia is likely concluding. Alliances are shifting toward a "native security" architecture where [regional powers manage the Strait of Hormuz](#) without foreign fleet presence.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The current environment presents a unique set of high-impact risks that could reshape global stability.

- **Global Economic Collapse:** Triggers: Permanent closure of the Strait of Hormuz and Bab-el-Mandeb. Likelihood: High. Impact: Catastrophic global depression and supply chain breakdown. Mitigations: Diplomatic return to the Islamabad MOU and lifting of oil sanctions [as requested by Asia](#).
- **Regional Infrastructure War:** Triggers: Iranian strikes on Saudi/UAE oil facilities in retaliation for U.S. bridge bombings. Likelihood: Moderate. Impact: Total loss of energy production capability in the GCC. Mitigations: Removal of U.S. bases from Gulf territories [as warned by General Shakarchi](#).
- **Nuclear Proliferation Escalation:** Triggers: U.S. "Operation Midnight Hammer" strikes on Iranian nuclear sites. Likelihood: Moderate. Impact: Potential radioactive contamination and Iran's final withdrawal from the NPT. Mitigations: International oversight and guarantee of peaceful activities [modeled on the de Gaulle-Peres negotiations](#).

- **U.S. Domestic Fragmentation:** Triggers: Implementation of the "Voter Restriction Act" and midterm election results. Likelihood: High. Impact: Wide-scale civil unrest and institutional decay. Mitigations: Independent verification of election infrastructure [to counter Trump's claims](#).
- **Ethnic Cleansing in Gaza:** Triggers: Realization of the "Cats Plan" for settlements in Northern Gaza. Likelihood: High. Impact: Permanent displacement of 2 million Palestinians and expansion of the war into Egypt. Mitigations: Recognition of an independent Palestinian state with [1967 borders](#).

GAPS & BLIND SPOTS

- **The Precise Cause of Khamenei's Death:** Transcripts repeatedly cite "assassination" by the U.S. and Israel but provide **zero tactical details** on how such a secure target was reached.
- **Iranian Economic Resilience:** While "Resistance Economy" is discussed theoretically, there is a lack of data on how Iran is handling its own [spiking internal fuel and food costs](#) during the blockade.
- **U.S. Public Opinion Data:** The broadcast claims Americans are "massively opposed" to the war, but fails to account for the political strength that [Trump's nationalist rhetoric](#) often maintains in rural constituencies.
- **Russian/Chinese Strategic Limits:** There is no discussion of the **breaking point** where Russia or China might cease support for Iran if global trade losses become too severe for their own economies.

CONTRARIAN NARRATIVE SCENARIOS

The "Managed Escalation" Hypothesis

The apparent failure of the MOU and the ensuing "air war" may be a **mutually beneficial theater**. For Trump, it justifies a wartime footing and voter restrictions. For the Iranian leadership council, the crisis consolidates national support during a precarious leadership transition. The targeting of "non-functional" bridges and "vicinities" of hospitals suggests a calibrated conflict meant to avoid a "big war" while reaping [domestic political capital](#).

The "Assassination as Internal Purge" Hypothesis

Given the emphasis on how "the state functioned perfectly" without a leader, the assassination could potentially have been an internal reorganization framed as external aggression to **purge moderate factions** that favored the "JCPO-style" deals that "hurt Iran in the past" [as mentioned by Dr. Marandi](#).

Black Swan Event: The **artificial intelligence centers** in Bahrain being targeted by Iran [reveals a new vulnerability](#). A cyber-kinetic collapse of regional navigation AI could lead to multiple accidental ship collisions in Hormuz, making the "tears of the gate" a literal maritime graveyard beyond any nation's control.

RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLICATIONS

For Statecraft/Public Sector:

- **Security:** Neutral nations should prepare for "Fire Department" style rapid reaction forces to secure civilian maritime transit outside the Hormuz conflict zone.
- **Economic:** Accelerate the transition to a **non-dollar settlement system** to prepare for the likely scenario where Hormuz remains contested for 1-5 years.
- **Diplomatic:** Empower **Pakistan or Oman** to initiate an "Islamabad MOU 2.0" that prioritizes "Article 5" maritime coordination before nuclear issues.

For Private Sector/Investors:

- **Supply Chain:** Diversify away from reliance on West Asian oil and Bab-el-Mandeb transit; the "billions in costs" [due to detours](#) will likely be permanent.
- **Regulatory:** U.S.-based companies must prepare for a "harsher climate" for journalism and information flows [as seen in Germany's new media laws](#).
- **Capital Allocation:** Invest in **RMB-denominated sovereign bonds** or regional industrial ventures in Pakistan/Iran as part of the emerging "multipolar" economic architecture.

LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP

The legislative focus remains on **executive war powers** and the **militarization of election law**. Key themes include the use of "War Powers Acts" to circumvent congressional oversight and the "Save America Act" to restrict voting rights under the guise of national security. Iranian

legislation is focused on **retaliatory protocols** for infrastructure damage.

BILLS DISCUSSED/DEBATED:

- **Voter Restriction Act (Save America Act):** Proposed U.S. legislation aimed at [eliminating votes of young people and women](#) to maintain executive power.
- **War Powers Act Resolution:** A resolution passed by the U.S. Congress seeking to [invoke the law passed in the wake of Vietnam](#) to curb Trump's military operations.
- **German Freedom of Information Amendment:** Proposed law to [weaken press freedom](#) and allow monitoring of journalists.

HEARINGS & PRESS EVENTS:

- **Trump Geneva Statement:** Press event where Trump claimed he would not be ["like Herbert Hoover"](#) by allowing a domestic depression due to energy costs.
- **IRGC Central Headquarters Warning:** Official statement declaring any hit on Iranian infrastructure will [trigger the destruction of regional infrastructure](#).

KEY STORIES

- **The Funeral of Ayatollah Khamenei:** Massive regional turnout totaling over [15 million people](#) across Tehran and Iraq, framing the leader's death as a martyrdom that unifies the "Resistance Axis."
- **Operation NAS 2 Wave 15:** Iranian IRGC Aerospace strikes on **Al-Udaid airbase in Qatar**, destroying a long-range radar and refueling aircraft in [retaliation for civilian infrastructure hits](#).

- **Strait of Hormuz Closure:** Iran asserts full control, charging fees for transit and demanding that [U.S. naval units stay out of the strait](#).
- **Gaza Settlement Plan:** Israel War Minister Gantz announces the creation of [three new military outposts](#) and settlements in Northern Gaza.
- **U.S. Election Integrity Claims:** President Trump declassifies intelligence alleging [280,000 non-citizens](#) are on voter rolls, sparking national controversy.
- **Bolivian General Strike:** COB union confederation paralyzes Bolivia with [75 highway barricades](#) against the pro-Israel administration.
- **CPEC 2.0 Launch:** Pakistan and China initiate high-tech industrial integration and [non-dollar trade settlement](#).
- **Venezuelan Earthquake Response:** Fatalities climb to [4,900](#) following twin earthquakes on June 24th.
- **ICE Extrajudicial Killings:** 52 people have died in ICE custody since January 2025, sparking a [formal request for criminal charges](#) by the Mexican president.
- **Targeting of AI Hubs:** Iran successfully destroys a [U.S. artificial intelligence center in Bahrain](#) that was facilitating targeting in Iran.

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 dominant 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.

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