



Global Watch Daily – January 20, 2026

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A concise summary of significant developments in Israel and the world through a grounded Christian worldview.

Israel & Jerusalem

Israeli Defense Minister Katz delivered a subtle warning to Turkey during discussions with the Greek defense minister in Athens, stressing that Israel will not tolerate terrorism that threatens regional stability. The meeting also highlighted growing strategic cooperation between Athens and Jerusalem in anti-drone technology and cybersecurity ([Times of Israel](#) ; [JNS](#)).

Meanwhile, tensions remain high as the IDF has issued evacuation orders for Tehran in anticipation of possible strikes, underscoring ongoing security concerns. Additionally, two minors were arrested for an alleged attack on the son of a Shas MK, linked to the contentious Haredi draft exemption bill, reflecting internal societal divisions within Israel ([Jerusalem Post](#); [Times of Israel](#)).

Wars & Security (Israel and Region)

The IDF reported a notable decline in terrorist activity in the West Bank throughout 2025, attributing it to sustained counterterrorism efforts. Nevertheless, indications suggest terrorist groups are attempting to regroup, maintaining a fragile security environment. Concurrently, Syrian government forces have advanced into eastern Syria, seizing oil-rich areas formerly controlled by Kurdish-led forces and taking control of prisons holding Islamic State detainees, raising concerns about their fate and regional stability ([Long War Journal](#); [Al Jazeera](#)).

Analyses from FDD and Chatham House emphasize the shifting geopolitical landscape, with the United States under President Trump undergoing a revolutionary transformation in foreign policy that challenges traditional alliances and international law. This realignment carries significant implications for NATO and global security, especially considering US intentions toward Greenland and strained relations with Venezuela and Iran ([FDD](#); [Chatham House](#)).



Global Macro & Geopolitics

Recovery efforts continue in Spain following a severe train crash, with investigators examining a possible infrastructure gap that complicated rescue operations. In East Jerusalem, Israeli authorities plan to demolish a UN compound, drawing international attention to the ongoing tensions in the city. French President Emmanuel Macron delivered a keynote address at the Davos Forum, discussing global economic and political challenges amid shifting world dynamics ([BBC News](#); [France24](#)).

US President Donald Trump's first year back in office has been described by experts as faster and more shocking than anticipated, with a focus on overturning traditional domestic and foreign policies. Meanwhile, Southeast Asia faces ongoing unrest, with political neglect in Thailand's deep south and the Communist Party of Vietnam convening under tight security to set the country's policy direction for the coming decade ([France24](#); [The Diplomat](#)).

Pestilence & Global Health

Recent scientific studies have revealed why some chronic wounds fail to heal, showing that bacteria in these wounds release harmful molecules that overwhelm skin cells. This discovery opens new avenues for antioxidant-based treatments. Additionally, global DNA analyses of diabetic foot infections reveal diverse E. coli strains harboring antibiotic resistance genes, complicating treatment and increasing the risk of amputation ([ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#)).

Space experiments sending viruses to the International Space Station have uncovered unique evolutionary changes in microgravity, potentially enhancing phage therapies against drug-resistant infections. Meanwhile, research into vitamin A byproducts shows they can suppress immune responses, enabling cancers to evade detection; however, new drugs targeting this pathway show promise in slowing tumor growth. Advances in antibiotic testing now allow precise identification of drugs that effectively kill bacteria, improving treatment outcomes for diseases such as tuberculosis ([ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#)).

Natural Disasters & Signs in the Heavens

Seismic activity continues, with several minor earthquakes recorded in Alaska and California, including a 1.4-magnitude quake near Cantwell, Alaska, and a 1.0-magnitude



event near Indio, California. NASA's 2025 NESC Technical Update highlights ongoing engineering and safety advancements, while preparations for humanity's return to the Moon proceed under the leadership of Jaclyn Kagey. Weather forecasts predict lake-effect snow and whiteout conditions across the Great Lakes region, along with below-average temperatures across the eastern United States ([USGS](#); [NASA](#)).

Middle Eastern Artifacts

Archaeological excavations continue to illuminate the region's rich history. Recent salvage digs at the eastern cemetery of Achziv have uncovered significant finds spanning various periods. Trial excavations near the Tiberias hot springs and extensive salvage work at Khirbat 'Amra reveal architectural remains from the Hellenistic to Early Islamic periods, enriching understanding of the area's cultural heritage ([Israel Antiquities Authority](#); [Israel Antiquities Authority](#)).

Reflection

We should interpret these developments soberly, resisting both panic and apathy while attending to what is true. Our aim is prayerful discernment—grounding convictions in Scripture and keeping watch with steadiness and hope.