



Global Watch Daily – January 27, 2026

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

Israel & Jerusalem

Violence continues to escalate in Arab Israeli communities, with a recent shooting in Yarka resulting in one fatality and another injury, bringing this year's death toll in the region to 24 ([Times of Israel](#)). Meanwhile, diplomatic and security efforts persist as the U.S. Secretary of State commended Iraq's leadership for accelerating the transfer of ISIS detainees to secure facilities, underscoring ongoing regional counterterrorism cooperation ([JNS](#)). Reports indicate that the IDF has issued evacuation orders for Tehran in anticipation of potential strikes, amid disturbing footage showing bodies stacked in Tehran hospitals, highlighting the tense situation in Iran ([Jerusalem Post](#); [BBC News](#)).

The geopolitical landscape is further complicated as former President Trump was briefed that the Iranian regime is at its weakest point since 1979, with U.S. forces repositioned closer to Iran, signaling potential shifts in diplomatic and military strategies ([Times of Israel](#)). This dynamic unfolds amid ongoing unrest and heightened international scrutiny.

Wars & Security (Israel and Region)

Israeli military operations against Hezbollah in Lebanon have intensified, targeting assets and personnel north and south of the Litani River between January 19 and 25, reflecting sustained efforts to curtail militant activities ([Long War Journal](#)). The IDF's recent assassination of a Hezbollah local liaison officer underscores a strategic focus on disrupting the group's regeneration and its civilian connections ([Long War Journal](#)).

In Gaza, the recovery of the last Israeli hostage marks a critical milestone, paving the way for the next phase of ceasefire negotiations and potential stabilization ([FDD](#)). Concurrently, concerns about Hamas financing, Iranian street protests, and lawfare in Northern Ireland illustrate the complex security environment across the region ([FDD](#)).

On the international stage, Chatham House Director Bronwen Maddox warns that current geopolitical shifts, including U.S. policy under President Trump, may signal the potential



end of the Western alliance, emphasizing challenges posed by superpower competition and the erosion of international law principles ([Chatham House](#)). Analyses also focus on how U.S. power is reshaping the new world order, with significant implications for Greenland, Venezuela, and Iran ([Chatham House](#)).

Global Macro & Geopolitics

The U.S. decision to deploy ICE agents to the upcoming Winter Olympics in Milan-Cortina has sparked diplomatic tensions with Italy, though the agency clarified it will not engage in immigration enforcement during the event ([BBC News](#)). Meanwhile, a massive landslide in Sicily following Storm Harry has forced the evacuation of over 1,000 residents, underscoring the region's vulnerability to extreme weather events ([BBC News](#)).

In China, President Xi Jinping's purge of a top military leader is viewed as a significant consolidation of his power, occurring amid rising diplomatic tensions in Europe, including disputes between Italy and Switzerland ([France24](#)). Human rights reports reveal that Iran's crackdown on protests has resulted in over 6,000 deaths and tens of thousands of arrests, highlighting the regime's harsh response to dissent ([France24](#)).

Southeast Asia's largest nation, Indonesia, experienced stagnation in relations with the U.S. during 2025, reflecting broader challenges in the Trump administration's foreign policy approach ([The Diplomat](#)). Positive developments include the USS Cincinnati's first port call at Cambodia's Ream Naval Base, signaling warming ties between the two countries ([The Diplomat](#)).

Pestilence & Global Health

Research in Guatemala's Western Highlands reveals that bottled water from refillable jugs, often trusted as safe, is frequently contaminated with harmful bacteria, whereas protected municipal wells provide cleaner water, raising concerns about public health standards ([ScienceDaily](#)). Meanwhile, studies show that nasal cells serve as a crucial first line of defense against the common cold, with a rapid antiviral response preventing symptom development ([ScienceDaily](#)).

Innovative approaches to combating antibiotic-resistant bacteria include the synthetic engineering of bacteriophages targeting *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, offering new hope against superbugs ([ScienceDaily](#)). Additionally, micro-doses of THC demonstrate potential benefits in mitigating long-term side effects of HIV treatment, including reducing



inflammation and protecting liver function ([ScienceDaily](#)).

Researchers have identified that chronic wounds resist healing because bacteria release harmful molecules that overwhelm skin cells, but antioxidant treatment may restore healing capacity ([ScienceDaily](#)). A global DNA study of E. coli strains in diabetic foot infections reveals diverse antibiotic resistance genes, explaining the severity and treatment challenges of these infections ([ScienceDaily](#)).

Natural Disasters & Signs in the Heavens

Recent seismic activity includes a magnitude 1.7 earthquake near Volcano, Hawaii, and a 1.1 magnitude event near Livengood, Alaska, reflecting ongoing tectonic movements monitored by the USGS ([USGS](#); [USGS](#)). A smaller 1.3 magnitude quake was also recorded near Toyah, Texas ([USGS](#)).

Southern Mozambique faces severe flooding after weeks of intense rainfall overwhelmed rivers and reservoirs, displacing hundreds of thousands and prompting an urgent humanitarian response (NASA). Technological advances include the successful testing of a NASA-GE Aerospace hybrid engine system, which could revolutionize airliner propulsion ([NASA](#)).

Weather forecasts warn of extreme cold in late January and the possibility of another East Coast storm threat, emphasizing the need for preparedness ([weather.gov](#)).

Middle Eastern Artifacts

Excavations in Be'er Sheva's Neve Noy neighborhood uncovered Chalcolithic subterranean units with complex tunnel systems, providing valuable insights into ancient settlement patterns and architectural practices ([Israel Antiquities Authority](#)). Earlier excavations in the city revealed Byzantine-period graves featuring distinctive stone crosses, highlighting the region's rich historical layers ([Israel Antiquities Authority](#)).

The Khirbat 'Amra site in the Be'er Sheva Valley presents extensive remains from the Hellenistic to Early Islamic periods, contributing valuable knowledge about the area's history, economy, and daily life over many centuries ([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.