



Global Watch Daily – June 24, 2026

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

Israel & Jerusalem

Recent developments include Gilad Erdan’s resignation from the Israel Aerospace Industries board. Erdan, a former United Nations ambassador and senior Likud member, stated that he is now concentrating on “significant decisions.” Security concerns have risen after police discovered a tunnel near a Jerusalem-area security checkpoint, leading to arrests. Authorities suspect the tunnel was recently dug with the intent to facilitate terror attacks and smuggle Palestinians into Israel. Meanwhile, the United Nations announced plans to evacuate sailors stranded in the Strait of Hormuz, as U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio warned Iran against imposing tolls on ships passing through this vital waterway ([JNS](#); [JNS](#); [BBC News](#)).

In the south Lebanon region, Israeli troops killed two men identified by the military as Hezbollah operatives, though the Iran-backed group accused Israel of violating a ceasefire. In U.S. domestic politics, candidates supported by Zohran Mamdani achieved significant victories over pro-Israel lawmakers in recent primaries. Additionally, the U.S. Senate approved a resolution on Iran war powers, with four Republicans crossing party lines to support the measure ([BBC News](#); [Al Jazeera](#); [Al Jazeera](#)).

Additional reports highlight the sentencing of an Israeli citizen in Arizona after admitting involvement in a semiconductor trade-secret scheme. The individual, formerly a manager at Green Technology Investments, allegedly shared confidential information and software with an associate linked to a competing Taiwanese company. Meanwhile, Noam Shapira, a former Israel Defense Forces officer and public diplomacy strategist, was appointed director of Israel’s National Public Diplomacy Staff, serving under Tzipi Hotovely. Maritime traffic through the Strait of Hormuz has increased following a U.S.-Iran agreement aimed at ending conflict, with 42 ships passing through on Saturday alone ([JNS](#); [JNS](#); [BBC News](#)).

In broader regional news, Iran’s foreign ministry said no new commitments were made regarding nuclear inspections following talks in Switzerland, despite U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken’s statement inviting inspectors back. Meanwhile, North Korea



commissioned a new warship as leader Kim Jong Un signaled intentions to equip the navy with nuclear weapons, marking a strategic shift in military capabilities ([BBC News](#); [Al Jazeera](#)).

Wars & Security (Israel and Region)

Analysis indicates that Iran's Supreme Leader, Ali Khamenei, has cautiously accepted a recent U.S. memorandum of understanding aimed at ending the conflict, even as hardliners in Tehran debate its implications. Concurrently, Iran appears to be preparing to bolster support for Hezbollah. Efforts to advance a U.S.-backed peace plan for Gaza have made slow progress following Hamas meetings in Cairo, with negotiations focusing on disarmament and the enclave's future security arrangements. In Ukraine, sweeping military reforms have been unveiled to address chronic manpower shortages by clarifying terms of service and improving pay, although plans to discharge long-serving troops and reform mobilization procedures raise questions about implementation ([Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#)).

Reports also highlight a resurgence of pirate attacks in the Gulf of Aden. Since late April, armed assailants in small skiffs have targeted vessels off Yemen's southern coast and surrounding waters near the Horn of Africa at a frequency not seen since 2011. The United States has eased oil sanctions on Iran amid ongoing talks in Switzerland. Additionally, concerns have been raised about potential threats from Houthi forces to Israel ([Long War Journal](#); [FDD](#); [FDD](#)).

Further coverage notes Pakistan's growing favor with former President Trump as a mediator in Iran negotiations, though historical concerns about its reliability persist. Israel's Shin Bet security agency revealed that Hamas operatives based in Turkey have directed dozens of thwarted terror attacks in the West Bank over the past year. In Iraq, Prime Minister Ali al-Zaidi met with U.S. envoy Tom Barrack to discuss strengthening security cooperation and political reform amid pressure from militias ([FDD](#); [FDD](#); [Long War Journal](#)).

In summary, a memorandum of understanding between the U.S. and Iran has been signed to end hostilities and reopen the Strait of Hormuz, though skepticism remains about the durability of peace. The Israel Defense Forces confirmed the killing of Ali Mousa Daqduq, a prominent Hezbollah commander responsible for establishing Iran-backed militias in Iraq and orchestrating attacks inside Israel ([Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#)).



Global Macro & Geopolitics

France is experiencing power outages affecting approximately 68,000 homes in Brittany amid a record-breaking heatwave expected to peak soon. In sports diplomacy, England escaped punishment in a match against Ghana despite controversial fouls, while Colombia secured advancement to the knockout round, and Cristiano Ronaldo became the first player to achieve a notable milestone. Strategically, India's tilt toward the United States continues to yield limited leverage, with Washington perceiving the relationship as imbalanced and lacking sufficient incentives for India ([BBC News](#); [France24](#); [The Diplomat](#)).

Goldman Sachs lowered its crude oil price forecast for the fourth quarter to \$80 per barrel, citing three key factors driving the rapid decline in prices following the interim peace agreement between the U.S. and Iran. Analysts and investors had underestimated the flexibility inherent in global oil markets. Concurrently, the European Union proposed tax simplification measures to reduce regulatory burdens and stimulate business activity across member states ([IMF](#); [Bloomberg](#); [Bloomberg](#)).

Hungary announced plans to publish secret service files from the communist era as part of Prime Minister Peter Magyar's initiative to confront the country's past. In sustainable finance, green bond standards are expanding globally, yet fragmentation across legal frameworks poses challenges for cross-border capital flows. Meanwhile, former President Trump launched the America 250 kickoff event on the National Mall, adopting a campaign-style rally format ([Bloomberg](#); [Bloomberg](#); [Google News](#)).

Stock markets have stabilized as technology sectors recover, and the U.S. dollar has strengthened. In Washington, Adeboye called for a global coalition to defeat terrorism in Nigeria, emphasizing the region's ongoing security challenges ([Google News](#); [Google News](#)).

AI Dominion, Deception & the Antichrist System

Google News reported that artificial intelligence success in finance will depend on trust, governance and human oversight: WEF - Economy Middle East. Google News reported that iIlTH's TechForward roundtable defines Agentic artificial intelligence as an ecosystem rather than just a chatbot or model - The Hans India. ([Google News](#); [Google News](#))



Google News reported that London cops bring live facial recognition to West End - The Register. ([Google News](#))

Pestilence & Global Health

Scientists have finally uncovered why the H5N1 bird flu virus targets the udders of dairy cows rather than their lungs. The virus's preferred receptors are concentrated in mammary tissue, a discovery that may aid in predicting future cross-species transmissions and identifying atypical infections before widespread outbreaks occur. Additionally, research reveals that glyphosate, one of the world's most widely used herbicides, may contribute to the survival and spread of highly drug-resistant bacteria beyond hospital environments. This finding suggests agricultural herbicides could be a factor in the proliferation of antibiotic-resistant microbes. Meanwhile, Ebola and hantavirus have returned to prominence, reminding health officials of their rapid progression from flu-like symptoms to deadly complications. Hantavirus, often associated with rodents, can cause severe cardiac and pulmonary complications and currently lacks specific treatments or vaccines; some strains are capable of human-to-human transmission ([ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#)).

Further studies reveal that plague was already affecting humans 5,500 years ago, long before the development of cities, agriculture, or rat infestations typically linked to historic outbreaks. Ancient DNA analysis from Siberian hunter-gatherer cemeteries found early plague strains in nearly 40% of individuals tested. In medical innovation, a new experimental vaccine developed by Scripps Research shows promise in preventing fentanyl overdoses by training the immune system to recognize a broad range of fentanyl-related compounds before they reach the brain. Additionally, a deadly tapeworm, *Echinococcus multilocularis*, associated with severe, cancer-like disease, has been detected in wild animals in the Pacific Northwest for the first time, with 37% of coyotes tested around Puget Sound carrying the parasite ([ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#)).

Natural Disasters & Signs in the Heavens

Recent seismic activity includes a magnitude 1.7 earthquake located 17 kilometers east of Pāhala, Hawaii, at a depth of approximately 39.7 kilometers. Additionally, a magnitude 4.5 earthquake struck 64 kilometers west-northwest of Catuday, Philippines, at a depth of 10 kilometers. These events are documented by the United States Geological Survey ([USGS](#); [USGS](#)).



Additional reports note that a magnitude 6.6 earthquake occurred 133 kilometers east-southeast of Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, Russia, at a depth of 10 kilometers on June 19, 2026. The earthquake in the Philippines on June 24 potentially affected 460,000 people within a 100-kilometer radius. These events remain under monitoring for potential impacts ([USGS](#); [GDACS](#)).

Middle Eastern Artifacts

Archaeological work continues to shed light on the region's rich history. In March 2010, a trial excavation was conducted approximately 100 meters north of the Be'er Sheva North Railroad Station in the Ramot neighborhood of Be'er Sheva (Permit No. A-5896). Additionally, archaeologists recently uncovered two well-preserved marble busts from the Roman era within a Byzantine winepress near the coastal town of Binyamina. Ariel David reported on a recently discovered mother-of-pearl seal from Tel, adding to the corpus of artifacts illuminating the area's past ([Israel Antiquities Authority](#); [BiblePlaces](#)).

Further documentation includes detailed maps and plans from excavations on Ben Gamli'el Street in Yafo (Permit No. A-8559), providing valuable insights into the area's urban layout and architectural features ([Israel Antiquities Authority](#); [Israel Antiquities Authority](#)).