



Global Watch Daily – June 25, 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 highlight deepening naval cooperation between Israel and Germany, with the Israeli Navy hosting a German warship in Haifa for a port visit, joint exercises, and high-level meetings to strengthen operational and professional ties. Meanwhile, Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Sa'ar marked Slovenia's Statehood Day by congratulating its leaders and emphasizing a "new chapter" in relations between Ljubljana and Jerusalem. On the diplomatic front, the International Atomic Energy Agency's chief, Rafael Grossi, announced plans for inspectors to visit Iranian sites as part of the ongoing war deal negotiations, although Iranian officials maintain that such access will only be granted as part of a final agreement with the United States ([JNS](#); [JNS](#); [BBC News](#)).

In other regional news, Secretary of State Marco Rubio's Middle East trip aims to reassure Gulf allies regarding the Iran deal designed to end the conflict, as reported by BBC correspondent Daniel Bush. Concurrently, a U.S.-backed initiative to unify Libya's divided institutions is testing political loyalties among factions in Tripoli. Across the Atlantic, political instability in the United Kingdom is underscored by a pattern of short-lived prime ministerships, driven not only by weak leadership but also by restless members of parliament and volatile voter sentiments ([BBC News](#); [Al Jazeera](#); [Al Jazeera](#)).

Additional reports reveal controversy in the United Kingdom, where the British Medical Association has called for the removal of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's definition of antisemitism, citing concerns over its potential to chill political speech. This stance has drawn strong criticism from Jewish medical groups and Holocaust educators. Meanwhile, former U.S. President Donald Trump praised Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan as a "strong man" and suggested that Erdoğan would be "very happy" with a proposed \$750 million sale of jet engines to Turkey, which Washington is reportedly seeking to advance by bypassing congressional review. Trump also noted that Turkey refrained from involvement in the Iran war at his request. In the Strait of Hormuz, the United Nations announced plans to evacuate sailors stranded due to ongoing tensions, while Secretary Rubio warned Iran against imposing tolls on ships transiting the strategic



waterway ([JNS](#); [JNS](#); [BBC News](#)).

The security situation remains tense as Israeli forces reportedly killed two Hezbollah operatives in southern Lebanon following a lull in fighting, an action the Iran-backed group condemned as a violation of the ceasefire. Additionally, Israeli troops conducted a raid resulting in the death of a Palestinian man during an operation at his home ([BBC News](#); [Al Jazeera](#)).

Wars & Security (Israel and Region)

In the broader Middle East, the Kurdistan Region of Iraq is actively seeking to acquire air-defense systems to counter persistent missile and drone attacks targeting energy infrastructure and Iranian opposition groups across northern Iraq. U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio has issued warnings regarding the ongoing threat posed by Iranian-backed proxies in the region. Meanwhile, following a memorandum of understanding between Tehran and Washington aimed at ending recent hostilities, Iran's new supreme leader appears cautious, distancing himself from the agreement amid internal disputes among hardliners. Reports also indicate Iran is preparing to bolster support for Hezbollah. Efforts to advance a U.S.-backed peace plan for Gaza continue amid challenging negotiations in Cairo involving Hamas, Egyptian officials, and peace representatives, with a focus on disarmament and the enclave's future security arrangements ([Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#)).

Ukraine has unveiled a series of reforms intended to address its chronic manpower shortages by clarifying terms of service and improving compensation. However, plans to discharge long-serving troops and reform mobilization procedures have raised questions about the feasibility of these measures. In a strategic analysis, the Foundation for Defense of Democracies (FDD) cautions against enabling Iran to strengthen Hezbollah through the current memorandum of understanding, highlighting the complexities of the ceasefire clause that Tehran has demanded. The FDD also questions the viability of the memorandum in achieving lasting peace ([Long War Journal](#); [FDD](#); [FDD](#)).

Further reports reveal Iran's attempts to link the Lebanon conflict to its own agreement with the United States, a move analyzed by FDD. Additionally, former President Trump has advocated for Syrian attacks on Hezbollah, though experts argue such a strategy is unlikely to succeed. Maritime security concerns are rising as pirate attacks in the Gulf of Aden have increased sharply since late April, with armed assailants targeting vessels off Yemen's southern coast and surrounding waters at levels not seen since the peak of piracy



in 2011 ([FDD](#); [FDD](#); [Long War Journal](#)).

Amid ongoing militia pressures, Iraqi Prime Minister Ali al-Zaidi met with U.S. envoy Tom Barrack on June 15 to discuss efforts to support stability, security cooperation, and political reform in Iraq. The discussions underscored Washington's commitment to strengthening ties with Baghdad despite regional tensions. Meanwhile, the FDD's Generation Jihad podcast explores the implications of the recently signed two-page memorandum of understanding between the U.S. and Iran, questioning whether it will bring lasting peace or merely a temporary pause in conflict ([Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#)).

Global Macro & Geopolitics

Europe faces a shifting heatwave as temperatures move eastward, with Germany experiencing highs near 40°C and France raising its health alert to the highest level amid reports of heat-related deaths, including among young people. In the Gulf region, the International Maritime Organization has launched a complex, multinational operation to evacuate approximately 11,000 commercial sailors stranded due to ongoing mine-clearing challenges and logistical bottlenecks. Meanwhile, efforts to resolve the Thai-Cambodian border dispute are complicated by hyper-nationalistic rhetoric, making a peaceful resolution difficult ([BBC News](#); [France24](#); [The Diplomat](#)).

Additional developments include Europe's heatwave exerting pressure on power markets, with record temperatures in France and the United Kingdom driving up electricity prices and straining grid capacity. In South America, Brazil's central bank has raised its 2026 economic growth forecast, citing a robust labor market and government spending that support activity, even as monetary policy remains tight to control inflation ([IMF](#); [Bloomberg](#); [Bloomberg](#)).

In Kenya, police have blocked major roads into Nairobi and cordoned off parliament buildings ahead of marches commemorating the two-year anniversary of deadly anti-government protests that resulted in over 60 deaths, many from police gunfire during attempts to storm parliament. Additionally, the Trades Union Congress General Secretary, Paul Nowak, discussed political matters on a Bloomberg podcast. Venezuela continues to grapple with the aftermath of powerful earthquakes that have caused at least 164 deaths and injured 971 people, according to the acting president ([Bloomberg](#); [Bloomberg](#); [Google News](#)).



Taken together, these events illustrate ongoing challenges to stability and governance: Kenyan police dispersed groups marking the deadly 2024 protests, while in Germany, a theologian is working to foster unity between Protestant and Catholic communities ([Google News](#); [Google News](#)).

AI Dominion, Deception & the Antichrist System

digital payment credential Biometric Update ([Google News](#)).

Pestilence & Global Health

Scientists have made a significant breakthrough in understanding how the H5N1 bird flu virus evades detection in dairy cows by preferentially infecting mammary tissue rather than lungs. This insight may improve predictions of future zoonotic transmissions and enable earlier identification of unusual infections. Concurrently, research indicates that glyphosate, a widely used herbicide, may contribute to the proliferation of antibiotic-resistant bacteria beyond hospital settings, raising concerns about agricultural practices fueling the spread of superbugs. Additionally, renewed attention is focused on Ebola and hantavirus, both of which can initially present with flu-like symptoms but rapidly progress to severe and often fatal complications. Hantavirus, associated with rodent exposure, lacks specific treatments or vaccines and poses a serious public health threat ([ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#)).

Further findings reveal that plague was already a significant cause of mortality 5,500 years ago, well before the rise of urban centers or the presence of rats typically linked to historic outbreaks. Ancient DNA analysis from Siberian hunter-gatherer cemeteries identified early plague strains in nearly 40% of individuals studied. 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 spectrum of fentanyl-related compounds before the drug reaches the brain. Meanwhile, a dangerous tapeworm, *Echinococcus multilocularis*, associated with severe, cancer-like disease, has been detected for the first time in wild animals in the Pacific Northwest, with 37% of coyotes tested around Puget Sound found to carry the parasite ([ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#)).

Natural Disasters & Signs in the Heavens



Recent seismic activity includes a magnitude 1.9 earthquake located 20 kilometers east-southeast of Balmorhea, Texas, recorded on June 25, 2026, at 12:21 UTC, with a shallow depth of 0 kilometers. More significantly, a magnitude 7.5 earthquake struck 28 kilometers southeast of Yumare, Venezuela, on June 24, 2026, at 22:05 UTC, at a depth of 10 kilometers, triggering a red alert and intensity levels rated IX on the ShakeMap and DYFI scales ([USGS](#); [USGS](#)).

Additional reports note that a magnitude 6.9 earthquake occurred 30 kilometers east-northeast of Kuji, Japan, on June 24, 2026, at 22:30 UTC, with a depth of approximately 51 kilometers and moderate shaking intensity rated VI. Another significant tremor, measuring magnitude 7.2 at a depth of 20.3 kilometers, struck Venezuela on June 24, 2026, at 22:04 UTC, potentially affecting nearly one million people with shaking intensity of VII or greater ([USGS](#); [GDACS](#)).

Middle Eastern Artifacts

Archaeological work continues to shed light on the region's ancient 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; map reference 182129-67/574498-530). Additionally, recent discoveries include two well-preserved marble busts from the Roman era found in a Byzantine winepress near the coastal town of Binyamina. Ariel David has also reported on the recent publication of a mother-of-pearl seal discovered at Tel ([Israel Antiquities Authority](#); [BiblePlaces](#)).

Further documentation includes detailed location maps and excavation plans for Yafo, Ben Gamli'el Street (Permit No. A-8559), providing valuable insights into the area's urban development and historical layers ([Israel Antiquities Authority](#); [Israel Antiquities Authority](#)).