



Global Watch Daily – July 5, 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 in Belgium reveal that the Antwerp city council voted narrowly to retain the Israeli flag at city hall, rejecting a left-wing proposal to remove it. This decision highlights internal coalition divisions and exposes broader tensions regarding Belgium's policy toward Israel. In a historic first in two millennia, Israel is undertaking conservation work at the Tomb of the Patriarchs. A representative of Hebron's Jewish community emphasized that the government is committed to preserving Jewish heritage against efforts to erase its history and identity. Meanwhile, humanitarian conditions in Gaza remain dire; according to Hamas-run health authorities, approximately 300 Palestinians referred for medical treatment abroad have died since the ceasefire began, underscoring agonizing delays in patient evacuations ([JNS](#); [JNS](#); [BBC News](#)).

Wars & Security (Israel and Region)

Between 2024 and 2026, Iran conducted at least fifteen ballistic missile operations from its territory targeting foreign entities, marking a resurgence in missile activity following a pause in 2023. This escalation contributes to ongoing regional instability. In Syria, the political landscape is shifting as the country completes the formation of its new People's Assembly, appointing the final seventy members of parliament in the aftermath of the Assad regime's fall. Despite this political transition, security tensions persist along the Israeli border, with recent clashes and Israeli responses continuing to raise concerns. In Iraq, the government has launched a comprehensive anti-corruption campaign resulting in numerous arrests of politicians and senior officials across the political spectrum. These operations, conducted by elite security forces, form part of Prime Minister Ali al Zaidi's broader strategy to consolidate authority and address militia disarmament ([Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#)).

In Gaza, Hamas has actively suppressed protests planned for June 26, employing arrests, threats, and armed patrols to reduce turnout among anti-Hamas organizers. The Israel Defense Forces reported seventeen strikes and multiple ceasefire violations between June



10 and 29, reflecting ongoing hostilities despite ceasefire efforts. The United Nations continues to exhibit pronounced hostility toward Israel, exemplified by Special Rapporteur Reem Alsalem's reticent demeanor during recent sessions, which has fueled pro-Hamas sentiments among left-wing factions. Meanwhile, strategic analysis suggests NATO should recalibrate its focus toward economic security, emphasizing critical minerals, maritime insurance, and export controls, as adversaries including China, Russia, Iran, and North Korea increasingly leverage economic tools in geopolitical competition ([Long War Journal](#); [FDD](#); [FDD](#)).

Additional reports include the Trump Administration Foreign Policy Tracker for July, which offers expert assessments of recent diplomatic trends and policy shifts. The Department of Homeland Security has announced renewed efforts to restore formal government-industry collaboration on critical infrastructure cybersecurity after a hiatus of more than one year. In Syria, a precision strike eliminated a senior Islamic State leader, underscoring ongoing U.S. counterterrorism operations. Concurrently, U.S. President Donald Trump has urged Syria's new government to consider intervention against Hezbollah in Lebanon, a proposal rejected by Syrian President Ahmed al ([FDD](#); [FDD](#); [Long War Journal](#)).

Further analysis highlights the fragility of the recent Memorandum of Understanding signed by President Trump with Iran, as the 60-day negotiation window faces mounting pressure and accumulating concessions, raising questions about the agreement's viability. In northern Iraq, the Kurdistan Region is seeking to acquire drone defense systems following sustained missile and drone attacks targeting energy infrastructure and Iranian opposition groups. U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio has warned that Iranian-backed militias continue to pose significant threats to regional stability ([Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#)).

Global Macro & Geopolitics

The upcoming NATO summit in Turkey is overshadowed by concerns of a potential conflict involving Iran. President Trump's visit coincides with critical discussions among alliance leaders regarding regional security and strategic alignment. Concurrently, Ukraine has intensified its campaign against Russian-occupied territories by targeting sixteen power substations in Crimea and other annexed regions over the past two days, exacerbating the energy crisis in the Black Sea area. President Trump's July 4th speech and NATO preview have placed him at the center of international attention during this volatile period ([Bloomberg](#); [Bloomberg](#); [Bloomberg](#)).



In a related development, Iranian authorities have threatened the forced confiscation of a historic Protestant church in Tehran, signaling increased pressure on Christian communities and raising concerns about religious freedom within the country ([Christianity Daily](#)).

AI Dominion, Deception & the Antichrist System

With the technology fast becoming popular in GP surgeries, regulators are monitoring its implementation and potential pitfalls. The federal health department has raised concerns about doctors' use of artificial intelligence scribes, as the health regulator considers safeguards for the technology. ([The Guardian](#)).

Pestilence & Global Health

Scientists at Johns Hopkins have developed a novel intranasal DNA vaccine aimed at tuberculosis. This vaccine enhances the immune response by targeting bacteria that evade antibiotic treatment. Animal studies demonstrated accelerated infection clearance, reduced lung inflammation, and prevention of relapse after therapy. Additionally, the vaccine boosted the immune system's ability to combat the disease. In a separate discovery, researchers identified a previously unknown antiviral defense mechanism in sea anemones that operates differently from human immune responses, suggesting multiple evolutionary pathways for virus resistance. Furthermore, scientists have elucidated how the H5N1 bird flu virus infects dairy cows by targeting receptors concentrated in mammary tissue rather than the lungs, a finding that may improve prediction and detection of future zoonotic transmissions ([ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#)).

Additional reports indicate that glyphosate, a widely used herbicide, may contribute to the proliferation of deadly superbugs. Researchers found that drug-resistant bacteria prevalent in hospitals also resist glyphosate, suggesting that agricultural herbicides could facilitate the survival and spread of antibiotic-resistant microbes beyond clinical settings. Meanwhile, renewed attention has focused on hantavirus and Ebola, both capable of initially presenting with flu-like symptoms but rapidly progressing to severe, often fatal conditions. Hantavirus, linked to rodent exposure, can cause critical heart and lung complications and currently lacks specific treatments or vaccines. Certain Ebola strains also demonstrate potential for rapid transmission, underscoring the need for vigilant global health monitoring ([ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#)).

Natural Disasters & Signs in the Heavens



Recent seismic activity includes a magnitude 1.3 earthquake that occurred on July 5, 2026, at 12:23 UTC, 12 kilometers east of Yucaipa, California, with a depth of approximately 16.9 kilometers. Additionally, a magnitude 4.5 quake struck 71 kilometers west of Ovalle, Chile, on the same day at 11:57 UTC, at a depth of 17.7 kilometers ([USGS](#)).

Additional events include a magnitude 3.8 earthquake 2 kilometers east of Oak Harbor, Washington, recorded on July 2, 2026, at 06:35 UTC, with a depth of 25.4 kilometers. Meanwhile, a forest fire was reported in the Democratic Republic of Congo, igniting on July 2 and continuing through July 5, 2026 ([USGS](#); [GDACS](#)).

Middle Eastern Artifacts

Archaeological work in Jerusalem's Old City continues to yield significant findings. The Archaeological Park (A-9477) has been documented with detailed plans, including a general site layout and the configuration of Building II, specifically Rooms II1 through II3. These discoveries contribute to a deeper understanding of the area's historical architecture and urban development ([Israel Antiquities Authority](#); [Israel Antiquities Authority](#)).

Further research has uncovered twenty columns of previously hidden text on one of the oldest Herculaneum scrolls, a remarkable recovery prompted by reports of illegal digging on the rural outskirts of Rome. Additionally, excavations in Jerusalem's Old City have revealed structural details, such as cell walls adjoining the southern wall of the Temple Mount precinct, providing valuable insights into the precinct's construction and historical context ([BiblePlaces](#); [Israel Antiquities Authority](#)).