



Global Watch Daily – August 9, 2026

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

Israel & Jerusalem

Hamas has expressed willingness to proceed with the second stage of the U.S.-brokered framework, urging Washington to apply pressure on Jerusalem to advance the process. Meanwhile, the Houthis reported launching missiles and drones targeting Saudi military build-ups in the central provinces of Marib and Hadramawt. Danny Seaman, former director of Israel's Government Press Office, hosts "Straight Up," a JNS news show that offers incisive analysis of Israel and Middle Eastern affairs, drawing on his extensive experience in Israeli media and public diplomacy. In a separate legal development, Yinon Levy faces charges of reckless manslaughter related to the July 2025 shooting of Odeh Hathaleen. ([JNS](#); [JNS](#); [BBC News](#); [BBC News](#); [Al Jazeera](#))

Wars & Security (Israel and Region)

North Korea is reportedly sending up to 120 additional ballistic missiles to Ukraine as Kyiv seeks effective means to neutralize Russian missile launchers. In Sudan, the military's recapture of the Al Sadarat highway marks its most significant achievement against the Rapid Support Forces during the ongoing civil war's fourth year. However, the RSF's increasing reliance on tribal mobilization and foreign-backed drone warfare complicates the conflict dynamics. In Afghanistan, three anti-Taliban resistance groups launched coordinated operations across Badakhshan province over two weeks, temporarily seizing a district center and attacking Taliban positions in multiple districts, though no direct coordination among the groups has been confirmed. Yemen's Houthis claimed attacks on eight Saudi-linked vessels, as well as energy facilities and an airport, to enforce their blockade of Saudi Arabia. Riyadh is reportedly exploring diplomatic efforts to de-escalate the conflict while maintaining military options if necessary. Iraq faces mounting pressure to control militias amid tensions with neighboring countries, the United States, and Iran. The Kurdistan Region of northern Iraq has endured nearly 1,000 drone and missile attacks by Iran and its proxies since late February, highlighting the growing threat posed by these forces. US President Donald Trump announced a 15-point Board of Peace roadmap that



transfers Gaza's governance and security responsibilities, linking verified Hamas disarmament to phased Israeli withdrawal; however, the sequencing of these steps remains disputed. ([Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#); [FDD](#); [FDD](#); [Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#))

Global Macro & Geopolitics

The appointment of a former ambassador to Mongolia indicates a strategic shift in diplomatic engagement, although its impact may be limited. U.S. consumer prices likely increased slightly last month, ending six years of decline, reflecting a moderation of inflationary pressures driven by ongoing conflicts. These developments occur amid broader tensions involving great-power rivalry, shifting alliances, and challenges to global governance. Energy and shipping chokepoints remain critical concerns, with sanctions and trade disruptions affecting sovereign debt and migration patterns. Religious liberty and Christian persecution continue to face threats in various regions, while civil unrest and state instability persist as significant factors in the international system. ([The Diplomat](#); [Bloomberg](#); [Bloomberg](#))

Pestilence & Global Health

Research indicates that low arginine levels may enable cancer cells and viruses to evade the immune system by reducing the production of a critical cellular warning protein. In mouse studies, diets rich in arginine resulted in fewer colon tumors and milder viral infections, suggesting that a simple dietary supplement could offer significant therapeutic benefits. ([ScienceDaily](#))

Natural Disasters & Signs in the Heavens

The United States Geological Survey recorded a magnitude 0.7 earthquake near Ocotillo Wells, California. Additionally, a magnitude 5.2 earthquake occurred near the Galapagos Triple Junction region, followed by a magnitude 6.3 earthquake near Sarangani, Philippines. The Galapagos event, occurring at a depth of 10 kilometers, did not affect any population within 100 kilometers. ([USGS](#); [USGS](#); [USGS](#); [GDACS](#))

Middle Eastern Artifacts

The glass assemblage excavated from Oboda spans approximately four centuries of production in the Eastern Mediterranean, ranging from the Early Roman to the early Byzantine periods. The collection features forms characteristic of Palestine. Excavations in



Oboda, located in the Negev Highlands, uncovered faunal remains dating to the Roman and Early Byzantine periods, from the late third to early fifth century CE, revealing that the site's economy in both periods was reliant on these resources. Archaeologists also discovered a Ramesside-era tomb belonging to "Paser" on Luxor's west bank. Additionally, an Egyptian archaeological mission uncovered three New Kingdom rock-cut tombs at the Bubasteion Necropolis in Saqqara. ([Israel Antiquities Authority](#); [Israel Antiquities Authority](#); [BiblePlaces](#); [Israel Antiquities Authority](#))