



## Global Watch Daily – September 3, 2026

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

### **Israel & Jerusalem**

The council of Al-Mughayyir claims its members were attempting to prevent settlers from stealing sheep, while the Israeli military reports that its troops were pelted with stones during the incident. ([BBC News](#); [Al Jazeera](#))

The death toll from a recent natural disaster has surpassed 1,200 confirmed fatalities. ([JNS](#))

### **Wars & Security (Israel and Region)**

The United States is reportedly reducing funding for the Kurdistan Regional Government's Peshmerga forces as it prepares to withdraw troops from Iraq. This move occurs amid ongoing drone and missile attacks by Iran targeting the Kurdistan region. Meanwhile, President Donald Trump announced on August 28 a comprehensive oil agreement with Venezuela, granting American interests majority control over more than 65 billion barrels of proven reserves, as part of a 25-year strategy to expand U.S. energy influence. Additionally, experts from the Foundation for Defense of Democracies discussed the latest United Nations Monitoring Team report, highlighting the current status of Al Qaeda, the Islamic State, and their affiliates. ([Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#))

Abu Hudhayfah al Ansari, who served as the official Islamic State spokesman for three years, was reportedly killed during a joint Saudi-Yemeni special forces operation in Hadhramaut Governorate. The Islamic State has not yet confirmed his death. ([Long War Journal](#); [FDD](#))

On August 29, the BBC reported plans by the United States to end military support for the Kurdistan Regional Government's Peshmerga forces as American troops withdraw from Iraq. Concurrently, the Trump administration's expected reduction of U.S. forces in Europe encountered challenges, including overlapping missions such as CIA Director John Ratcliffe's visit to Moscow. In Iraq, efforts to bring Iranian-backed militias under state control face resistance, with groups like Kataib Sayyid al Shuhada setting conditions for



disarmament amid U.S. pressure on Baghdad. ([FDD](#); [FDD](#); [Long War Journal](#))

China, Russia, Iran, and North Korea have intensified their cooperation, described as “unprecedented,” which bolsters Russian military operations in Ukraine and strengthens Iran’s regime resilience. In Iraq, political resistance is growing against disarmament of Iranian-backed militias, with some factions seeking to delay or avoid a September deadline, despite ongoing U.S. diplomatic pressure to consolidate weapons under state control. ([Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#))

## **Global Macro & Geopolitics**

Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez addressed parliament to deny any government complicity in the Ceuta migrant crisis, calling it absurd to suggest the government knew of and ignored the situation. His comments followed widespread protests across Spain criticizing his handling of the migrant influx. Meanwhile, human rights organizations warn that 1,476 Myanmar nationals face high risks of torture, mistreatment, and forced conscription if repatriated. ([BBC News](#); [France24](#); [The Diplomat](#))

U.S. equity futures showed volatility while a global bond sell-off eased as higher yields attracted investors. The Japanese yen strengthened amid speculation over possible market intervention, with the Bank of Japan reportedly favoring a quarter-point interest rate increase this month. President Trump commented on recent strikes against Iran. U.S. diesel prices reached new highs. In Poland, interest rates are expected to remain steady through the rest of the year or longer, as inflation may temporarily exceed the central bank’s target range, according to policymaker Iwona Duda. ([Bloomberg](#); [Bloomberg](#); [Reuters](#))

## **Pestilence & Global Health**

A year-long study found that omega-3 supplements combined with low-dose aspirin matched the effectiveness of antibiotics in treating severe gum disease, with approximately 58% of patients reaching the treatment goal using either approach. This unexpected finding suggests potential new treatment pathways that could reduce reliance on antibiotics. Additionally, older adults vaccinated with Shingrix for shingles showed a 24% lower incidence of dementia diagnoses over four years in a study involving over 500,000 participants, indicating a possible protective effect. In Australia, backyard bird feeders are emerging as hotspots for H5N1 avian influenza transmission, as they congregate species that rarely interact naturally. Experts recommend ceasing feeding to



minimize risk, or alternatively, reducing food quantities, avoiding hand-feeding, and maintaining strict hygiene. ([ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#))

Researchers have shown that artificial intelligence can predict an individual's likely strength of response to vaccines by analyzing antibody patterns before vaccination. In a study of over 4,000 people, researchers identified markers of "immune readiness" that distinguished strong from weak responders, offering potential for personalized vaccination strategies. ([ScienceDaily](#))

## **Natural Disasters & Signs in the Heavens**

The United States Geological Survey recorded a magnitude 3.6 earthquake near Nikolski, Alaska, followed by a magnitude 4.9 earthquake in the same area. ([USGS](#); [USGS](#))

A stronger magnitude 6.3 earthquake struck near Nikolski, Alaska, with a depth of 35 kilometers, registering a Modified Mercalli Intensity of 5 or greater for approximately 5,000 people. ([USGS](#); [GDACS](#))

## **Middle Eastern Artifacts**

Recent excavations include a location map and views of the dig site looking northwest. ([Israel Antiquities Authority](#); [Israel Antiquities Authority](#))

Archaeologists uncovered a burial cave dating to the Second Temple period beneath a building in Jerusalem's Silwan neighborhood. All Israel News has summarized evidence supporting the identification of el-Araj as biblical Bethsaida, including recent findings from this excavation. Detailed plans and sectional views of the excavation area have been published. ([BiblePlaces](#); [Israel Antiquities Authority](#))