



Global Watch Daily – September 4, 2026

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

Israel & Jerusalem

Israeli forces apprehended five terrorists in the Qabatiya area and more than ten near Nablus amid ongoing security operations. This diplomatic and security activity coincides with Israel's continued pressure on Hezbollah to disarm ([Al Jazeera](#); [JNS](#); [JNS](#)).

The Israeli military has not publicly commented on recent detentions reported to the US-led International Monitoring and Implementation Mechanism. Meanwhile, the council of Al-Mughayyir claims that residents were attempting to prevent settlers from stealing sheep, whereas the Israeli military states that the detainees threw stones at troops during the incident ([BBC News](#); [BBC News](#); [Al Jazeera](#)).

Wars & Security (Israel and Region)

Israeli special operations forces captured a senior Hamas security official during a September 1 raid in the Katiba area of western Gaza City. This operation occurred amid the US-backed Board of Peace's stabilization plan and an agreement for Hamas disarmament, which had led Israel to reduce its strikes in Gaza. Concurrently, the United States is reportedly cutting funding for the Kurdistan Regional Government's Peshmerga military forces as Washington prepares to withdraw troops from Iraq. This reduction comes amid intensified drone and missile attacks by Iran against the Kurdistan region, raising concerns about the stability of the area ([Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#)).

Edmund Fitton-Brown, senior fellow at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies and former coordinator of the United Nations Monitoring Team, discussed with Colin Smith, the current coordinator, the latest 1267 report detailing the status of Al Qaeda, the Islamic State, and their affiliates. Their analysis highlights ongoing threats and the evolving global jihadist landscape ([Long War Journal](#); [FDD](#)).

Abu Hudhayfah al Ansari, the official Islamic State spokesman for the past three years, was reportedly killed during a joint Saudi-Yemeni special forces raid in Hadhramaut



Governorate. The Islamic State has not yet confirmed his death ([Long War Journal](#)).

Iraq's efforts to consolidate control over Iranian-backed militias face new challenges as Kataib Sayyid al Shuhada, one of the prominent groups, has set conditions for disarmament. This development occurs amid sustained US pressure on Baghdad to disarm these militias. Meanwhile, China, Russia, Iran, and North Korea have intensified their cooperation, strengthening Russian military actions in Ukraine and enhancing Iran's regional influence and resilience. Bradley Bowman, senior director of the Foundation for Defense of Democracies' Center on Military and Political Power, has analyzed these dynamics and their implications for regional security ([Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#)).

Global Macro & Geopolitics

Strategic tensions continue to shape the global order as great-power rivalries intensify. Shifts in alliances and military postures reflect ongoing competition between major states. Sanctions regimes remain a tool of economic pressure, while energy and shipping chokepoints pose risks to global supply chains. Sovereign debt concerns and trade disruptions contribute to economic instability, and migration flows challenge regional governance. Religious liberty and Christian persecution persist as critical issues amid rising antisemitism and civil unrest. These systemic pressures underscore the fragility of state stability and the complexity of global governance ([AP News](#)).

AI Dominion, Deception & the Antichrist System

Results are emerging from the latest challenge in the Liv Det biometric liveness detection competition series, with Mitek Systems reporting strong results in the category that most closely matches real-world applications of its technology. The company reports that its biometric facial liveness detection algorithms produced the three highest results in the image category of the 2026 Liv Det-Face competition ([biometricupdate.com](#)).

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. This finding suggests a potential alternative treatment approach that could reduce reliance on antibiotics. Additionally, older adults vaccinated with the Shingrix shingles vaccine showed a 24% lower incidence of dementia diagnoses over four years in a cohort of more than 500,000



individuals. Researchers estimate that vaccinating 17 people could prevent one case of dementia. Meanwhile, Australia's ongoing bird flu outbreak raises concerns as backyard bird feeders become potential hotspots for H5N1 transmission. Experts recommend ceasing feeding to minimize risk, while smaller food quantities, avoiding hand-feeding, and thorough cleaning can reduce transmission dangers ([ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#); [ScienceDaily](#)).

Natural Disasters & Signs in the Heavens

The United States Geological Survey recorded a magnitude 5.4 earthquake near the Kermadec Islands region and a magnitude 4.8 earthquake near Salamanca, Chile. Another magnitude 5.4 earthquake was reported near Jiangyou, China. These seismic events highlight ongoing tectonic activity in multiple regions ([USGS](#); [USGS](#)).

The Kermadec Islands earthquake, recorded at a depth of 10 kilometers, was classified as a green-level event by the Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System. The event occurred on September 4, 2026, at 11:59 UTC ([USGS](#); [GDACS](#)).

Middle Eastern Artifacts

Recent archaeological work includes a location map and excavation site images looking northwest, provided by the Israel Antiquities Authority. These findings contribute to understanding the region's historical landscape ([Israel Antiquities Authority](#); [Israel Antiquities Authority](#)).

Archaeologists discovered 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 the biblical Bethsaida, incorporating recent excavation data. Detailed plans and sections of the excavation area further illuminate the site's significance ([BiblePlaces](#); [Israel Antiquities Authority](#)).