



Global Watch Daily – September 29, 2026

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

Israel & Jerusalem

The Sukkot celebration drew many Israelis and visitors for a day of cultural events and activities, highlighting the enduring spirit of Israeli society ([JNS](#)). Meanwhile, Israel's attorney general has urged the Supreme Court to uphold the disqualification of Sami Abu Shehadeh from the Knesset race due to his published article praising the October 7 terrorist attack, reinforcing the state's stance against endorsing violence ([Al Jazeera](#); [JNS](#)).

A team of engineering students from Afeka Academic College of Engineering in Tel Aviv made history this month by becoming the first Israeli team to compete in the iLumen European Solar Challenge in Belgium, a demanding 24-hour solar-powered endurance race. Competing as AFEKA Racing, the students successfully completed 197 laps, showcasing Israeli innovation and determination in sustainable technology ([JNS](#)).

Wars & Security (Israel and Region)

Hostilities between Pakistan and the Taliban have persisted into a second week, marked by airstrikes, cross-border attacks, targeted operations, and a car bombing. This resurgence ended a nearly three-month ceasefire between the former allies and intensified regional instability ([Long War Journal](#)). In Iraq, Prime Minister Ali al Zaidi has proposed a plan to disarm Iran-backed militias by June 2027, aligning with preparations for the withdrawal of U.S. forces. This timeline coincides with an agreement for Turkey to gradually transfer control of its Bashiqa-Zilkan military base to Iraq, reflecting shifting military dynamics in the region ([Long War Journal](#)).

Authorities in four countries have recently announced arrests, charges, and extraditions related to alleged Islamic State activities, including plots for assassination, chemical attacks, propaganda dissemination, and financing travel to Syria. These coordinated efforts demonstrate ongoing international cooperation to counter terrorist threats ([Long War Journal](#)).



The Kurdistan Regional Government has completed a long-standing initiative to unify the Peshmerga armed forces under the Ministry of Peshmerga Affairs, effectively ending divisions between units affiliated with the Kurdistan Democratic Party and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan. This unification aims to strengthen regional security and governance ([Long War Journal](#); [FDD](#)).

U.S. sanctions have effectively deterred Iranian airlines from operating in Iraq, the United Arab Emirates, and Oman; however, flights from Iran continue to arrive in Turkey, indicating a partial circumvention of restrictions. Meanwhile, the conflict in Yemen persists, with the Houthis and Yemeni Armed Forces, alongside allied militias, engaged in fighting across multiple fronts. The Houthis maintain their focus on the highlands inland from recent coastal advances and continue launching attacks on Saudi Arabia ([FDD](#); [Long War Journal](#)).

The Kremlin's recent election strategy appears to eliminate genuine competition by removing opposition candidates, ensuring predictable outcomes. Despite President Putin's claims of a landslide victory, skepticism remains regarding the transparency and fairness of the electoral process in Moscow ([FDD](#)).

Global Macro & Geopolitics

Proposed measures in Israel include a ban on evictions until 2030 and the automatic renewal of tenant contracts, reflecting growing concerns over housing security. Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu held a confidential hour-long meeting with the UAE's president, focusing on intelligence reports related to the October 7 attack, underscoring ongoing strategic cooperation between the two nations ([BBC News](#); [France24](#); [AP News](#)).

AI Dominion, Deception & the Antichrist System

The artificial intelligence safety debate has raged in recent weeks, with Amodei, Musk, and OpenAI CEO Sam Altman calling for a slower pace of frontier-model development ([biometricupdate.com](#); [cnbc.com](#)).

After her grandfather was scammed by a deepfake of his brother's voice, Tarini Padmanabhuni founded Detectif artificial intelligence, a San Francisco startup building artificial intelligence models small enough to run directly on smartphones and flag fake voices in real time, and it's now one of the companies competing in Startup Battlefield at TechCrunch Disrupt ([TechCrunch](#)).



TOTM Technologies and its Indonesian subsidiary PT International Biometrics Indonesia (Inter Bio) have entered a one-year partnership with Dubai-based Crescotec L.L.C. FZ to jointly develop customized identity solutions. New South Wales has passed legislation to crack down on organized crime, which will also facilitate NSW's participation in the Commonwealth's biometric face-matching regime. A release says the Crimes and Other Legislation Amendment (Further Organized Crime Reforms) Bill 2026 extends new powers to the NSW Crime Commission and NSW Police, introduces tougher penalties for "those who plan and facilitate organized crime murders," and makes children (biometricupdate.com).

Pestilence & Global Health

Researchers in China have identified a new tick-borne virus responsible for flu-like symptoms, including fever, fatigue, digestive issues, and low platelet counts. While most patients infected solely with this virus recovered, coinfections with another dangerous tick-borne virus have raised concerns about diagnostic challenges and treatment strategies (ScienceDaily).

Scientists have successfully resurrected antimicrobial peptides from mammals that lived millions of years ago and found that some of these ancient peptides are more potent against drug-resistant bacteria than their modern human counterparts. These evolutionary relics offer promising avenues for developing new treatments amid rising antibiotic resistance (ScienceDaily).

A large Swedish study involving 3.7 million individuals has found that rare TORCH infections transmitted from pregnant women to their fetuses significantly increase the risk of autism and intellectual disability in later life. Children with congenital TORCH infections were about three times more likely to develop these neurodevelopmental conditions, underscoring the importance of preventing prenatal infection (ScienceDaily).

Natural Disasters & Signs in the Heavens

The United States Geological Survey recorded a magnitude 2.5 earthquake near Round Valley, California, and a magnitude 4.7 earthquake near Petrolia, California, indicating ongoing seismic activity in the region (USGS; USGS).

A magnitude 6.6 earthquake struck near Tadine, New Caledonia, while a magnitude 4.5 earthquake occurred in Mexico at a depth of 41.479 km, affecting approximately 40,000



people within 100 kilometers. These events highlight ongoing tectonic activity across diverse regions ([USGS](#); [GDACS](#)).

Middle Eastern Artifacts

Archaeologists in Turkey have uncovered another fragment of the treaty between Pharaoh Ramesses II and Hittite King Hattusili III, shedding further light on ancient diplomatic relations. A larger photograph of the fragment is available for study ([BiblePlaces](#)).

South of the Temple Mount in Jerusalem, excavations have revealed a monumental complex featuring three ritual baths, a rectangular pool, an elaborate drainage system, and two nearby plastered vats. This ancient fortress once guarded Egypt's western frontier, providing valuable insights into the region's historical defenses and religious practices ([BiblePlaces](#)).