



Global Watch Daily – October 2, 2026

Global Watch Daily – October 2, 2026

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

Israel & Jerusalem

Turkish and Jordanian claims on Jerusalem remain contested, with overlapping assertions that complicate the city's status. A pilot has been arrested and is under investigation following the stabbing of another pilot, according to officials.

Additional coverage from Al Jazeera further explores the complex dynamics surrounding Jerusalem's contested claims and recent security incidents involving airline personnel.

Wars & Security (Israel and Region)

On September 29, Syria's Internal Security Forces, in coordination with the General Intelligence Directorate, announced the foiling of a sabotage plot in the Yarmouk Basin in Daraa, resulting in the arrest of a three-member cell affiliated with Hezbollah. The operation reportedly targeted Israeli interests.

US and coalition forces completed their withdrawal from Iraq on September 30, marking the end of Operation Inherent Resolve. Baghdad hailed this as a restoration of Iraqi sovereignty, though concerns persist regarding Iran-backed militias and vulnerabilities in air defense.

Reflecting on the US invasion of Afghanistan launched in October 2001, terrorism expert Thomas Joscelyn discussed with Generation Jihad host Bill Roggio the shortcomings of Operation Enduring Freedom, particularly in achieving its objectives to eliminate Al Qaeda leadership and remove the Taliban from power.

The US-backed Board of Peace unveiled a \$2.45 billion plan to rebuild Gaza over six months. However, disagreements over Hamas's disarmament and the conditions for an Israeli withdrawal continue to impede progress. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu addressed the United Nations General Assembly the following day.



Fighting between Pakistan and the Taliban has persisted, including airstrikes, cross-border attacks, targeted operations, and a car bombing. This resurgence ended a nearly three-month lull in hostilities between the former allies. Meanwhile, Iraqi Prime Minister Ali al Zaidi proposed a plan to disarm Iran-backed militias by June 2027, coinciding with an agreement for Turkey to gradually transfer control of its Bashika-Zilkan military base to Iraq.

Global Macro & Geopolitics

Washington's reliability as an ally appears to be wavering, prompting Tokyo and Canberra to deepen their mutual dependence. Japan and Australia are advancing toward a more autonomous and resilient partnership, reflecting shifting strategic calculations amid great-power rivalry and evolving alliance dynamics.

AI Dominion, Deception & the Antichrist System

A Legislative Decree amending the Artificial Intelligence Act took effect in Italy this week, establishing harmonized rules on the use of artificial intelligence systems, including live biometric recognition technology. A report from 24 (translated from Italian using artificial intelligence) frames Italy's approach as human-centric in nature (biometricupdate.com).

Facial recognition results are never "matches." Independent investigation is required, said the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) in response to a lawsuit filed this summer against the Jacksonville Beach Police Department (JBPD) and PCSO. Now, three months later, another incident in the Jacksonville, Florida area has come to light. The state attorney general issued a subpoena to OpenAI as part of a broader inquiry into potential security vulnerabilities. California's attorney general has issued an investigative subpoena to OpenAI, starting an investigation into the startup as part of a broader inquiry into potential cybersecurity vulnerabilities and incidents related to its artificial intelligence models, his office said on Thursday. Last month (biometricupdate.com; [The Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com)).

Sri Lanka's emerging digital public infrastructure, including its Unique Digital Identity, National Data Exchange and National Payment Platform, could open new opportunities for fintech beyond traditional payments, according to Dr. Hans Wijayasuriya, chief advisor to the president on the digital economy (biometricupdate.com).

International Identity Day has evolved into something a little different from what ID4Africa Executive Director Dr. Joseph Atick had in mind when he first introduced the idea of



observing the importance of identity every September 16th. The Trump administration has launched America.gov as a single artificial intelligence-powered gateway to federal information and services with an unusually explicit privacy promise. But the authentication system the new portal is ordered to use already contains recently added Login.gov code supporting a National Design Studio experiment (NDS) that creates a long-lived browser identifier and incorporates it into Login.gov analytics (biometricupdate.com).

Today, Boston Dynamics is announcing a redesigned hand for its Atlas robot. The previous generation could do some crazy superhuman things with its three fingers, but it was never intended for mass production in the tens or hundreds of thousands ([IEEE Spectrum](https://www.ieee-spectrum.org)).

Pestilence & Global Health

Scientists in China have identified a new tick-borne virus causing flu-like symptoms, including fever, fatigue, digestive issues, and low platelet counts. Most patients infected with this virus recovered, but coinfections with another dangerous tick-borne virus increased severity. Additionally, researchers have resurrected antimicrobial peptides from ancient mammals and found some to be more effective against drug-resistant bacteria than modern human peptides. These evolutionary relics offer promising avenues for developing new treatments amid rising antibiotic resistance.

Natural Disasters & Signs in the Heavens

The US Geological Survey recorded a magnitude 1.7 earthquake near Volcano, Hawaii, and a magnitude 5.0 earthquake near Panguna, Papua New Guinea.

Additional seismic activity included a magnitude 4.2 earthquake near Wauna, Washington, and a magnitude 5.0 earthquake at a depth of 38.25 km in Papua New Guinea, affecting an area with approximately 200,000 people within 100 km.

Middle Eastern Artifacts

Archaeologists in Turkey have identified another fragment of the treaty between Pharaoh Ramesses II and Hittite King Hattusili III; a larger photo is available. South of the Temple Mount in Jerusalem, excavations uncovered a monumental complex featuring three ritual baths, a rectangular pool, an elaborate drainage system, and two nearby plastered vats, shedding light on ancient religious practices and the city's historical landscape.