



Global Watch Daily – October 4, 2026

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

Israel & Jerusalem

“Straight Up,” the unfiltered news show hosted by Danny Seaman, former director of Israel’s Government Press Office, offers incisive analysis on Israel and the Middle East, drawing on his extensive experience in Israeli media and public diplomacy. Israelis marked the third anniversary of the October 7 attacks by celebrating the Torah with renewed spirit and unity. Meanwhile, Israeli state police and security agencies are investigating the co-pilot who attempted to seize control of a Flydubai flight bound for Israel, an incident that was averted thanks to the efforts of ordinary Israelis onboard ([JNS](#); [JNS](#); [BBC News](#)).

Israel’s Tax Authority confirmed it received a list of foreign flight crews but checked only criminal records, raising questions about vetting procedures for personnel involved in flights to Israel ([JNS](#)).

The National Insurance Institute reported that terror attacks over the past three years have claimed 1,029 civilian lives and wounded tens of thousands. Among recent incidents, Captain Smit Machchhar was assaulted by another pilot aboard the Flydubai flight to Tel Aviv, underscoring ongoing security challenges ([JNS](#); [BBC News](#)).

Wars & Security (Israel and Region)

Syrian authorities have repaired a sabotaged gas pipeline near Deir Ezzor and are working on restoring another near Damascus amid ongoing threats to the country’s energy infrastructure. These efforts occur against a backdrop of persistent Islamic State activity and widespread shortages of electricity, water, and fuel. In September, U.S. federal prosecutors filed three cases related to alleged support for Middle Eastern terrorist groups: one against a Department of Energy engineer accused of aiding the Houthis, and two others involving Louisiana brothers and a Florida beauty-store owner charged with financing Hamas. On September 29, Syria’s Internal Security Forces, collaborating with the General Intelligence Directorate, announced the arrest of a three-member Hezbollah-affiliated cell that had plotted sabotage in the Yarmouk Basin in Daraa ([Long War Journal](#);



[Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#)).

The United States and coalition forces completed their withdrawal from Iraq on September 30, concluding Operation Inherent Resolve. Baghdad hailed the move as a restoration of Iraqi sovereignty, though concerns remain about the influence of Iran-backed militias and gaps in air-defense capabilities. In Middle Eastern societies, revenge remains a culturally accepted response to grief and wounded pride, a dynamic that has shaped Iranian foreign policy since 1979 ([Long War Journal](#); [FDD](#)).

On October 2, the Syrian Petroleum Company announced the restoration of a gas pipeline near Deir Ezzor following sabotage. The company reported on Telegram that crews replaced an 18-meter section of the damaged pipeline, a critical step amid ongoing infrastructure challenges ([FDD](#)).

Reflecting on the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan launched in October 2001, terrorism expert Thomas Joscelyn discussed with Generation Jihad host Bill Roggio the shortcomings of Operation Enduring Freedom in achieving its goals of eliminating Al Qaeda leadership and removing the Taliban from power. Meanwhile, the U.S.-backed Board of Peace unveiled a \$2.45 billion plan to rebuild Gaza over six months, though implementation remains stalled due to disagreements over Hamas's disarmament and Israeli withdrawal. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu addressed the United Nations General Assembly the following day ([Long War Journal](#); [Long War Journal](#)).

Global Macro & Geopolitics

A drone strike recently hit the Pivnichyi (Northern) Bridge, igniting a large fireball as vehicles crossed. In France, Dafoza Gauthier, who spent nearly 30 years tracking Rwandan refugees suspected of involvement in the 1994 Tutsi genocide, passed away in Reims. Taiwan's Republic of China Air Force has finally received aircraft it awaited for two decades, raising questions about their strategic role in regional security ([BBC News](#); [France24](#); [The Diplomat](#)).

Anthony Di Paola, Bloomberg's Middle East Energy Correspondent, explained that the G7's release of 100 million barrels of emergency fuel is already easing prices but will likely offer only temporary relief. Persistent refinery constraints and disruptions in the Middle East continue to tighten diesel supplies, sustaining pressure on global fuel markets ([Bloomberg](#); [Reuters](#)).



AI Dominion, Deception & the Antichrist System

The value of biometric credentials for verification is helping drive digital ID, and this week's top stories on Biometric Update show governments and industry taking concrete steps to make digital identities useful. Travel has become one of the clearest sectors where technical interoperability and regulatory consistency have to come together, but ICAO and industry groups are still pushing for greater alignment. By his own admission, David Robinson is "something of a cliché": an employee at a leading artificial intelligence company who issues a dire warning while resigning (biometricupdate.com; [TechCrunch](https://techcrunch.com)).

Pestilence & Global Health

Researchers have identified five seemingly unrelated conditions—including long Covid, myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome, and post-traumatic stress disorder—that disrupt overlapping biological networks involved in immunity, metabolism, and cellular energy. These insights may explain shared symptoms and pave the way for new blood tests. Separately, scientists in China discovered a novel tick-borne virus that causes flu-like symptoms and may account for previously unexplained cases of fever, fatigue, digestive issues, and low platelet counts. Most patients infected with this virus recovered, but coinfections with another tick-borne pathogen increased risk. 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 could inform new treatments as antibiotic resistance escalates ([ScienceDaily](https://www.sciencedaily.com); [ScienceDaily](https://www.sciencedaily.com); [ScienceDaily](https://www.sciencedaily.com)).

Natural Disasters & Signs in the Heavens

The United States Geological Survey recorded a magnitude 5.2 earthquake near Feke, Turkey, and a magnitude 4.6 earthquake near Kokopo, Papua New Guinea. Additionally, a magnitude 4.2 earthquake was detected near Wauna, Washington, United States. The Papua New Guinea quake occurred at a depth of 162 kilometers and affected approximately 140,000 people within 100 kilometers of the epicenter ([USGS](https://www.usgs.gov); [USGS](https://www.usgs.gov); [USGS](https://www.usgs.gov); [GDACS](https://www.gdacs.org)).

Middle Eastern Artifacts

A recent study analyzing the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in AD 79 aims to improve the accuracy of dating other ancient volcanic events. The Kelsey Museum of Archaeology at



the University of Michigan has opened new exhibits related to this research. Archaeologists in Turkey have uncovered an additional fragment of the treaty between Pharaoh Ramesses II and Hittite King Hattusili III, shedding light on ancient diplomatic relations. Furthermore, researchers have identified an ancient fortress that once guarded Egypt's western frontier, providing new insights into the region's historical defenses ([BiblePlaces](#); [BiblePlaces](#)).