Global Watch Daily – November 23, 2026

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

Israel & Jerusalem

Otzma Yehudit lawmaker Tally Gotliv told JNS on Sunday that she was appalled by what she described as attempts to equate Jews living in Judea and Samaria with terrorists. Her comments followed House Democratic leader Hakeem Jeffries's support for a bill targeting settler violence. Separate reporting describes signs of possible contamination across much of Gaza following Israel's military campaign, while BBC coverage also follows seven people trapped in Taiz, Yemen, which has been cut off from the outside world for weeks. (JNS; BBC News; BBC News)

Wars & Security (Israel and Region)

Iran is expanding its neighborhood intelligence capabilities through a nationwide platform intended to map local communities and identify influential residents. The initiative reflects a broader effort to strengthen the regime's loyalist support base and increase surveillance amid fears of renewed protests. In the United States, the FBI arrested a Lavonia, Georgia, resident accused of transferring funds to Islamic State-linked individuals and groups from 2021 to 2026. The case followed a years-long investigation that examined cryptocurrency transactions and suspected extremist ties. (Long War Journal; Long War Journal)

Ukrainian strikes on the Crimean Bridge damaged a prominent symbol of Russian occupation and increased Moscow's reliance on alternative logistics routes through southern Ukraine. Restrictions on Ukraine's access to Starshield, however, have hampered efforts to disrupt those routes. Syria, meanwhile, stepped up diplomatic and military engagement with Western countries in mid-November, hosting an EU coordination forum, a French naval delegation, and a senior U.S. commander in the anti-Islamic State coalition. Damascus continues to face threats from the Islamic State and challenges involving Kurdish forces. (Long War Journal; Long War Journal)

A report on a major U.S. weapons transfer to Israel highlights the continuing scale of bilateral military support. Turkey is also seeking closer defense ties with Egypt: on

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November 9, Turkish Naval Forces Commander Adm. Ercüment Tatlıoğlu proposed joint warship construction under Ankara's MILGEM program, extending cooperation from arms sales toward co-production. (FDD; FDD)

Hezbollah parliamentarian Ali Mokdad rejected calls for the group to disarm, saying it would not do so "not today, not tomorrow, not in a hundred years" while Israel remains a threat. In Turkey, police raided the Istanbul headquarters of Sozcu TV, a prominent opposition broadcaster, in a move that could further weaken independent opposition media. Analysts also assess that U.S. operations have damaged Iran's military capabilities but have not ended Tehran's willingness to fight; Iran's strategy includes threats to regional energy infrastructure and maritime commerce. (FDD; FDD; Long War Journal)

Yemeni government-aligned forces have redeployed from the western coast to help defend the interim capital, Aden. The Houthis have retaken territory along the Bab al-Mandeb Strait and in mountainous areas near the Taiz-Lahj border, bringing them within roughly 40 miles of the city. In Lebanon, the U.S. Treasury Department sanctioned Wa Ta'awanu Association on November 18 over allegations that Hezbollah uses its charitable network to fund the group, raising concerns that donations intended for relief may be diverted. (Long War Journal; FDD)

Global Macro & Geopolitics

Washington state's governor called federal immigration agents "out of control" after officers arrested two people at Seattle's main airport on Saturday. The arrests occurred amid Immigration and Customs Enforcement raids across the country as President Donald Trump's immigration crackdown continues, fueling tensions between federal authorities and state leaders. (France24; AP News)

Pestilence & Global Health

Researchers in Japan have developed a potential gum-disease treatment combining egg-yolk antibodies with near-infrared light to target harmful bacteria while preserving beneficial microbes. The approach aims to avoid disrupting the mouth's natural bacterial balance, unlike some conventional treatments. (ScienceDaily)

The United States has lost its measles-elimination status after more than 25 years. A new survey also found that more than one-third of Americans either believe or are unsure about debunked claims concerning measles and its vaccine, as cases rise. (ScienceDaily)

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A study of more than 2,500 people found that medications taken years earlier may leave lasting changes in the gut microbiome. Common drugs, including antidepressants, blood-pressure medications, and anxiety treatments, were associated with long-term microbial “fingerprints.” (ScienceDaily)

Natural Disasters & Signs in the Heavens

The U.S. Geological Survey recorded a magnitude 3.2 earthquake near Newport Beach, California, and a magnitude 4.8 earthquake near Tobi Village, Palau. (USGS; USGS)

The U.S. Geological Survey recorded a magnitude 3.9 earthquake near Commerce, California. Ireland also received a green flood alert. (USGS; GDACS)

Middle Eastern Artifacts

Two Israel Antiquities Authority publications by Romi Shnabel, published on November 22, 2026, are included in the latest archaeological record. (Israel Antiquities Authority; Israel Antiquities Authority)

A series reflecting on Israel’s history concludes with a discussion of the value of archaeology and extrabiblical records for understanding the biblical account, particularly during the reigns of Hezekiah and Manasseh. (BiblePlaces; BiblePlaces)

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