

THE YOUNG GLOBAL CITIZEN

DAILY

"News that helps you think like a global thinker."

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TOP STORY • SAUDI ARABIA AND YEMEN

Riyadh's Airport Is Hit Again as Yemen's War Widens

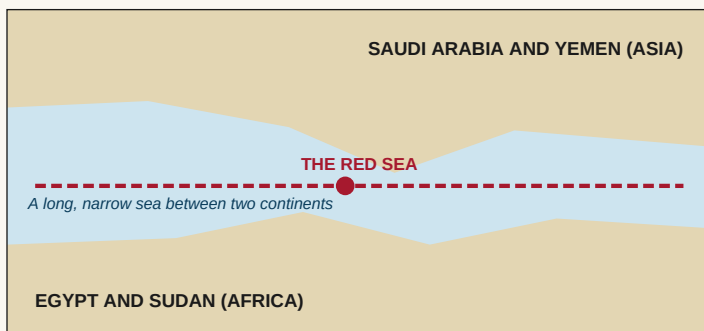
Saudi Arabia says a missile killed 12 people at its capital's main airport on Saturday. A second strike followed on Sunday evening.

Written and fact-checked by AI • News Pebbles

On Saturday a missile struck King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh, killing 12 people and wounding 309, Saudi aviation officials said. Those killed came from many countries: four were Saudi, two Bangladeshi, and others were from the United States, Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Palestine and Sudan. It was the deadliest attack on the kingdom in more than a decade.

On Sunday the Houthis, an Iran-backed movement that controls much of northern Yemen, claimed attacks on the airport, and a second strike hit it that evening, causing injuries. Flights have been suspended, and schools in Riyadh have moved online for a week. Saudi Arabia has promised to retaliate "firmly". The fighting grew after the Saudi-backed Yemeni government launched an offensive on October 4 to retake Houthi-held land, and a UN-brokered truce that had largely held since 2022 has collapsed.

President Trump said on Saturday the United States "may" join Saudi operations against the Houthis. Senator Chris Murphy, a Democrat, warned on television that the war is "spiraling out of control". The US war with Iran, which began with strikes in late February, is part of the backdrop.



Saudi Arabia and Yemen sit on the eastern shore of the Red Sea.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Yemen's war used to be fought mostly inside Yemen. Now it is reaching a capital city and one of the Gulf's biggest airports, and the Houthis have also imposed a maritime embargo on Saudi Arabia since July. Each step makes it harder to go back to the 2022 truce and easier for outside powers to be pulled in. It also sits inside a bigger fight: the US-Iran war, in which talks to end the war are stalled.

WORLD • RUSSIA AND UKRAINE

Trump Announces an 'Energy Ceasefire'. Neither Side Has Confirmed It.

President Trump says Russia and Ukraine agreed to stop hitting energy sites, but he gave no details and fighting continued.

On Sunday President Trump announced that Russia and Ukraine had agreed to an "energy ceasefire" taking effect immediately. A ceasefire is a halt in fighting. He gave no details, and neither Moscow nor Kyiv immediately confirmed it. Ukraine's president, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, said Ukraine would stop striking Russian refineries if Russia stopped attacking Ukraine's energy system.

The announcement came after a tense weekend. On Saturday Mr Trump said it was time for Ukraine to get a new president. Ukraine's constitution bars elections under martial law, in place since February 2022, and Mr Zelenskyy said a vote during the war would be unlawful. On Friday Mr Trump had struck a deal for Russia to supply diesel to the US. Ukrainian and European officials criticised it, saying it helps fund Russia's war. Mr Zelenskyy said Ukraine could hold elections if Russia agreed to a 60-day ceasefire, and that it would need security guarantees so people could vote safely.

A White House official said a deal to stop hitting power plants and energy grids could come next if refinery attacks stop. Meanwhile Ukraine's drones keep reaching Russian targets: a drone attack on Sunday shut a data centre run by the tech company Yandex, the third strike on its facilities in four days. Roughly a fifth of Ukraine remains under Russian occupation, and the armies on the ground are largely deadlocked, so the war is increasingly fought from the air.



Both sides have been striking each other's energy sites from the air.

CONNECT THE DOTS

This is economics and geography in one story. Oil is pumped in one place, refined in another and burned far away, so a drone hitting a refinery in Russia can change what a truck driver in the United States pays. Diesel averaged \$6.28 a gallon in the US on the latest AAA figures, against \$3.68 a year earlier. That is why leaders talk about fuel in the middle of a war, and why a diesel deal with the country at war with Ukraine is so controversial.

INDIA • DEMOCRACY

After Delhi's Lockdown, 'Cockroach' Leaders Walk Free

More than 2,000 people were detained at Saturday's protest over voter lists. A court released the movement's founder on Sunday.

The Cockroach Janta Party began online in May as a joke with a serious point. Its young supporters want Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar to resign over a revision of the voter lists that reportedly removed roughly 130 million names. They say it favours the BJP of Prime Minister Modi. The Commission and the BJP deny wrongdoing; the Commission says it is removing duplicate and ineligible entries.

On Saturday police sealed off the protest site at Jantar Mantar in Delhi, closed dozens of metro stations and cut mobile internet nearby. More than 2,000 people were detained in Delhi, according to Reuters. Founder Abhijeet Dipke and two other leaders were released on Sunday on condition they keep the peace for a year.

A BJP spokesman called the demonstrators "anarchic elements". Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge accused the government of muzzling democracy.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Protest and policing are both part of how a democracy tests its rules. Each side says it is defending voters. The test will come at the ballot box: Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat vote in 2027, and the next national election is not due until 2029.

Also in India

- The UN Human Rights Office voiced concern about the detentions. India's UN mission said it was misplaced.
- The RBI expects 7.1% growth and 5.2% inflation this year after its rate rise to 5.50%.

ONE-LINE BRIEFS

- Iran: Iran's security chief called the latest US reply to its peace proposal "insufficient".
- Israel: A general election is set for October 27, and Prime Minister Netanyahu's corruption trial continues. He denies wrongdoing.

VOCABULARY BUILDER**Words that unlock today's news****Ceasefire**

An agreement to stop fighting, for a time or for good. Today: Mr Trump announced an energy ceasefire that Russia and Ukraine have not confirmed.

Midterms

Elections held halfway through a US president's four-year term. Today: voters choose the House, 35 Senate seats and governors on November 3.

Refinery

A factory that turns crude oil into fuels such as diesel. Today: Ukraine says it will stop hitting Russian refineries if Russia stops attacking its energy system.

Embargo

An official ban on trade with a country. Today: the Houthis imposed a maritime embargo on Saudi Arabia in July.

DID YOU KNOW?

Diesel fuel is named after Rudolf Diesel, the German engineer who invented the diesel engine in the 1890s.

UNITED STATES • THE MIDTERMS

Weeks Before the Midterms, Costs Weigh on Trump's Poll Numbers

A Reuters/Ipsos poll puts the president's approval at 32 percent, matching his lowest.

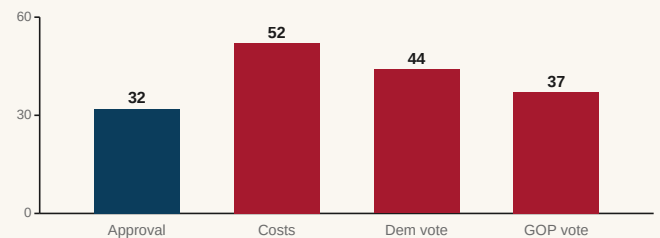
On November 3 Americans vote for all 435 seats in the House of Representatives, 35 Senate seats and 39 governorships. Midterms fall halfway through a president's term and are often a verdict on the president.

A Reuters/Ipsos poll published on October 5 found Mr Trump's approval at 32 percent, matching the record low first reached in September. Asked what matters most, 52 percent named the cost of living. Among registered voters, 44 percent said they planned to vote for Democrats and 37 percent for Republicans.

Prices are also in the news from the pump: diesel averaged \$6.28 a gallon, according to AAA, against \$3.68 a year earlier. Mr Trump has blamed Ukraine for high diesel prices rather than the US-led war in Iran.

WHAT THE POLL SAYS

Reuters/Ipsos, percent. Costs = top issue



Published October 5. The last two bars are registered voters.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Congress writes the laws and approves spending, so who wins the midterms shapes what a president can do in his last two years. Polls are a snapshot, not a prediction of what happens on election day.

THINK LIKE AN ANALYST

Think like an analyst: the last two bars count registered voters only, while the first two may count everyone polled. Why might that matter? And what else, besides prices, could move voters before November 3?

SPORTS CORNER**India lead the T20 series**

India beat the West Indies by 14 runs in the third T20 international in Indore on Sunday. **Abhishek Sharma** hit 69 off 30 balls and **Arshdeep Singh** took 3 wickets for 44. India lead the five-match series 2-1.

WHAT TO WATCH NEXT

- Whether Russia and Ukraine confirm the energy ceasefire, and whether attacks on energy sites stop.
- Whether the US decides to join Saudi strikes on the Houthis.

"Before you pick a side, check what each side is counting." — The Editor

You are not just reading the news — you are learning to think about it. See you in two days.